

[Report 1916] / Medical Officer of Health, Halifax County Borough.

Contributors

Halifax (England). County Borough Council. nb2008024085

Publication/Creation

1916

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF HALIFAX
HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

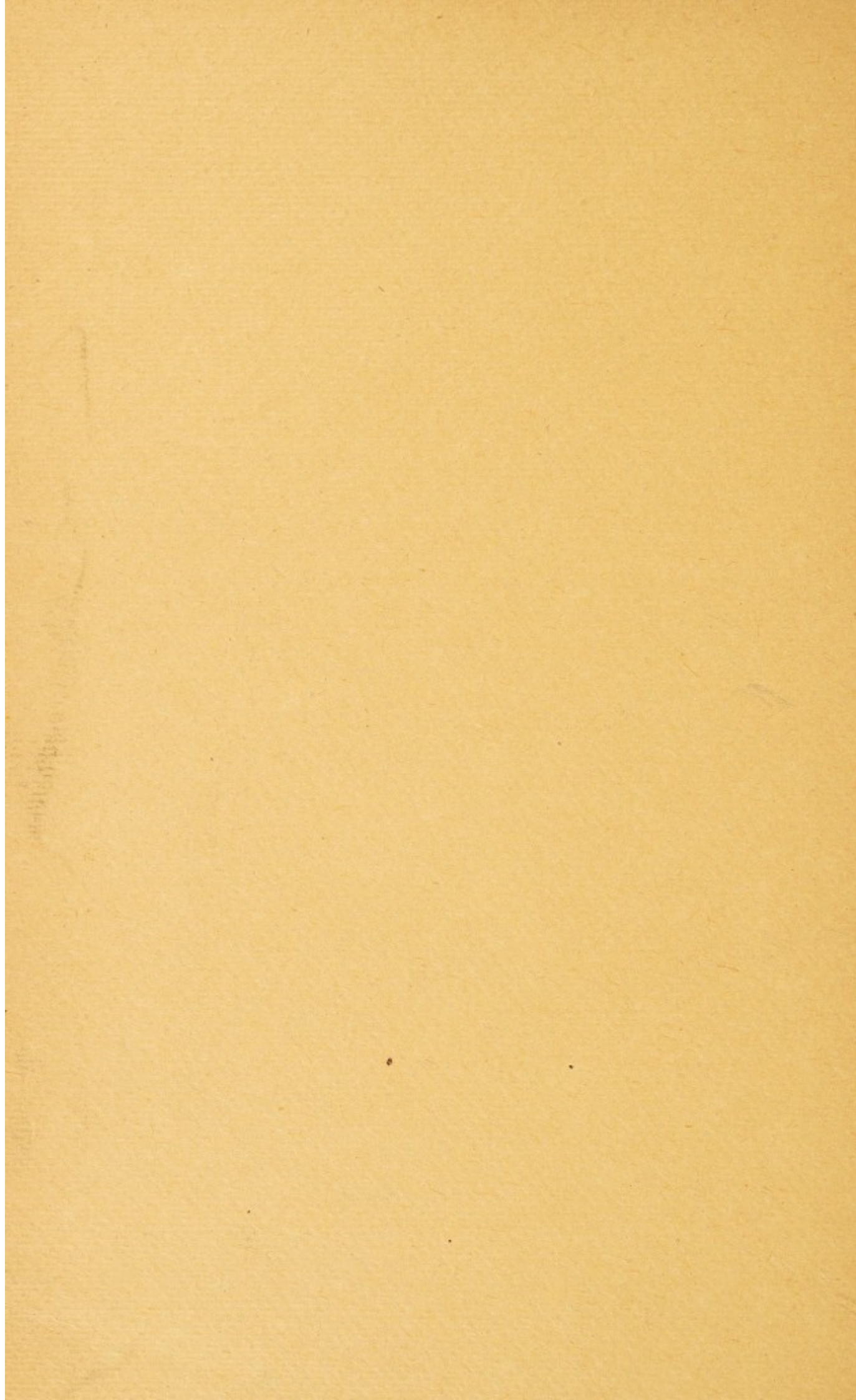


ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE HEALTH
OF THE BOROUGH
For the 52 weeks ended Dec. 30th,
1916.

*Printed by Order of
the Health Committee.*

HALIFAX:
Messrs. E. MORTIMER Ltd., Printers, Regent Street.

1917.



Compliments.



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HEALTH DEPARTMENT.



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Health Committee.

Mayor.

COUNCILLOR RICHARD HODGSON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR T. HEY, J.P., *Chairman.*

COUNCILLOR W. M. BRANSON *Vice-Chairman.*

Alderman SIR F. W. THOMSON, J.P. Coun. J. H. WADDINGTON.

„ J. F. COE, J.P. „ F. SLATER.

„ G. T. RAMSDEN, J.P. „ D. HANSON.

„ A. TAYLOR, J.P. „ F. DENTON.

Councillor H. TURNER. „ T. N. HELLIWELL.

„ J. FOSTER. „ J. HORSFIELD.

Sub-Committees

Appointed by the Health Committee.

Hospital Sub-Committee.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN COE.

THE CHAIRMAN.

„ TAYLOR.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

COUNCILLOR HANSON.

COUNCILLOR WADDINGTON.

Cleansing Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

COUNCILLOR FOSTER.

COUNCILLOR DENTON.

„ HELLIWELL.

Accounts Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN.

ALDERMAN SIR F. WHITLEY THOMSON.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

COUNCILLOR DENTON.

ALDERMAN RAMSDEN.

„ HELLIWELL.

COUNCILLOR HORSFIELD.

Buying Sub-Committee.

THE MAYOR.

COUNCILLOR TURNER.

THE CHAIRMAN.

„ DENTON.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

„ HORSFIELD.

Housing Sub-Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN.

ALDERMAN RAMSDEN.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

„ TAYLOR.

COUNCILLOR FOSTER.

COUNCILLOR WADDINGTON.

COUNCILLOR SLATER.

Sanatorium Sub-Committee.

THE MAYOR.

ALDERMAN COE.

CHAIRMAN.

COUNCILLOR DENTON.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.

COUNCILLOR WADDINGTON.

Special Committee re Venereal Diseases.

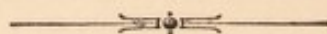
CHAIRMAN.

ALDERMAN COE.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

„ TAYLOR.

Staff of the Health Department.



JAS. T. NEECH, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health, Superintendent of the Borough Fever Hospital, and Chief Tuberculosis Officer.

* D. M. TAYLOR, M.A., M.D., D.P.H.,

Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Clinical Tuberculosis Officer and Resident Medical Officer, Sanatorium.

F. VAN DEN WYNGAERT, M.D.,

Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Clinical Tuberculosis Officer and Resident Medical Officer, Sanatorium.

J. A. DEWHIRST, F.I.C., F.C.S., Public Analyst.

DAVID TRAVIS, A.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Scavenging Superintendent.

* J. POLLARD, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.,
Veterinary and Meat Inspector.

G. ELLISON, Temporary Meat Inspector.

J. E. FIRTH. * H. G. CLINCH. F. TEAL.
* J. G. WALSHAW. R. PICKARD (Temporary).

District Sanitary Inspectors.

* T. FEARNLEY, Shops Inspector.

ALICE M. THOMPSON, C.M.B., Lady Health Visitor.

O. BELL, Assistant Lady Health Visitor.

E. G. TINDLE, Tuberculosis Nurse.

R. TRAVIS., Assistant Scavenging Superintendent.

J. W. JACKSON, Chief Clerk.

CHARLES CARLTON. * HARRY LEAPER.
Assistant Clerks.

M. ROBISON, Matron of the Borough Hospital.

W. GUEST, * (Vacant)
Laundry Engineer and Disinfecter. Porter.

W. DAVIDSON, Matron, Sanatorium.

T. S. MUMBY, W. FLEMING,
Gardener. Porter.

A. GREENWOOD, Caretaker, Smallpox Hospital.

Gour Department.

D. TYSON, Yard Foreman.

J. HEATH, H. DAWRANT,
Inspectors.

W. WHITELEY, * ERNEST W. SMITH,
Clerk. Assistant Clerk.

F. HAIGH, Temporary Assistant Clerk.

* The above are on Military Service.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF HALIFAX.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

JAS. T. NEECH, M.D., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1916.

INTRODUCTION.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health
Committee.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the 44th Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Borough. Owing to existing conditions, the Report has been cut down and greatly reduced.

There are several important points connected with vital statistics, which are worthy of attention. While the birthrate continues to fall, there was a great improvement in the deathrate, and the infant deathrate was very satisfactory.

Infectious disease was much less prevalent. No death resulted from scarlet fever, which is very unusual. The number of cases of typhoid fever notified was the lowest on record, and the zymotic deathrate was the lowest ever recorded.

An Assistant Health Visitor was appointed, and this was the only change in the Staff during the year.

In conclusion I have to acknowledge the assistance rendered by Dr. Wyngaert, Mr. Travis, the District Sanitary Inspectors, and Messrs. Jackson and Carlton, and I have to thank your Committee for its generous support.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Jas. T. Neech M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
HALIFAX,
19TH SEPT., 1917.

REPORT.

Area of Borough	...	...	...	13,984 acres.
Registrar's estimate of Civil Population	...		...	97,000
Do.	Total	do.	...	105,500

The birthrate is calculated upon the latter, and the deathrate upon the former figure.

The total corrected number of births registered was 1,590, which gives a birthrate of 15'1 per 1,000, the lowest on record.

There were 72 illegitimate births registered, against 94 during the previous year.

The corrected number of deaths registered, belonging to the borough was 1,462, giving a deathrate of 15'0 per 1,000.

The deaths from the principal zymotic diseases numbered 38, against 81 during the previous year, giving a deathrate of '39, against '81 for the year 1915. This is the lowest zymotic deathrate ever recorded in the borough.

There were 137 deaths of infants under one year of age, against 157 during the previous year, giving an infant mortality of 86 deaths per 1,000 births. Only on one occasion has a lower infant deathrate been recorded in the borough.

Infectious disease was generally much less prevalent in the borough than usual, there being a total of 327 cases notified, against 448 during the previous year.

No case of smallpox occurred during the year, nor had we any notification of any contact having visited the borough.

There were 166 cases of scarlet fever notified, against 269 during the previous year, and no death from this disease was registered. It is 20 years since a complete year passed, without a death from this disease.

There were 12 cases of enteric fever notified, the lowest number that has ever been recorded.

One case appeared to be due to the eating of shell fish, and another caught the infection from a "carrier" case.

There were 2 deaths from the disease, giving a deathrate of '02, and a case mortality of 16 per cent. This is the lowest deathrate that has ever been recorded in the borough from this disease.

There were 80 cases of diphtheria reported during the year, of which 14 died, giving a deathrate of '13 per 1,000, and a case mortality of 17 per cent.

There were 49 cases of erysipelas reported, but no death was registered therefrom during the year.

The Public Health (Measles and German Measles) Regulations, 1915, came into operation on January 1st of the year under review, making the notification of the first cases of these diseases compulsory.

There were notified during the year 478 cases of Measles, and 158 of German Measles.

One death only from measles occurred during the year, giving a deathrate of '01 per 1,000.

Whooping Cough was much less prevalent, only 3 deaths resulting therefrom, giving a deathrate of '03 per 1,000.

There were 26 deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis, giving a deathrate of '26 per 1,000.

Influenza caused 9 deaths, against 21 during the previous year.

The number of deaths from respiratory diseases showed a marked fall during the year under review, there being 271 registered, against 354 during the previous year, giving a deathrate of 1'27 per 1,000.

It is also satisfactory to note that there was a reduction in the number of deaths from Phthisis, 97 having been registered against 113 during the previous year, giving a deathrate of 1'0 per 1,000.

From other forms of tubercular disease there were 35 deaths, bringing the total number of deaths from the various forms of tuberculosis to 132, giving a deathrate from all tubercular diseases of 1'3 per 1,000, against 1'6 for the previous year.

The causes of death from tubercular disease other than phthisis were as follows:—

Tubercular Meningitis	...	...	7
Tuberculous Peritonitis			
Tabes Mesenterica	...	...	18
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	10

There were 221 notifications of tuberculosis received, among which however were included 36 duplicate reports, consequently the total number of primary cases notified was 185 for the year.

Of these, 104 were pulmonary, and 81 non-pulmonary cases. There were therefore 38 less cases of phthisis reported than during the previous year.

Dr. Wyngaert has submitted to me the following particulars regarding the work done at the Dispensary and Sanatorium.

The number of visits paid by the Tuberculosis Nurse was as follows:—

	Insured	Non-Insured	Total
Notified persons visited	66	33	99
Repeat visits to Notifications	357	130	487
	423	163	586

The number of new cases examined at the Dispensary was 129, of which 73 were insured, and 56 non-insured.

The total number of attendances at the Dispensary for the examination and treatment of these were 1,395, insured 1,017, non-insured 378.

There were 316 pathological specimens examined in the laboratory at the Dispensary, including 273 sputa, of which 96 were positive, and 177 negative.

From January 1st to Dec. 31st, 1916, 170 cases were admitted to the Halifax Sanatorium, Shelf.

The total number discharged during that time was 175, of which 169 were pulmonary, and 6 non-pulmonary cases.

There were 5 deaths in the Institution during the year.

From the various forms of malignant disease, there were 119 deaths registered during the year, giving a deathrate of 1.2 per 1,000.

One case of anthrax was reported, the infection having been caught through the use of a shaving brush. The patient recovered.

The Coroner held 92 inquests, which included 15 on persons not belonging to the borough, and there were 4 inquests held outside the borough on persons belonging thereto.

The scavenging of the paved streets has been carried out as efficiently as possible under the conditions which now exist, and with regard to the removal of night soil, there are 17,949 goux closets and 703 privy middens in the Borough, and notwithstanding the reduction of the staff, it has been necessary to keep the full number of men, horses and vans employed on this work.

There were 8 privies, and 21 goux closets converted into water closets during the year.

On the 31st December there were 7,987 water closets in the Borough, an increase of 262 during the year.

Owing to the shortage of men, great difficulties were experienced during the winter months in the removal of house refuse, and the prolonged and severe winter added thereto. The work was fully two months in arrear.

The house refuse is disposed of at Birks Hall tip, which is being rapidly filled up, and some further provision will be absolutely necessary in the near future.

The garbage from the Slaughterhouse and Market Hall has been dealt with at the Manipulator works, at Charlestown.

The following table gives the amount of refuse so dealt with during the year.

			Loads.
House Refuse	...	...	235
Market Garbage	...	...	458
Fish Garbage	...	...	154
Slaughterhouse Garbage	...	...	219
Sundry Refuse	...	...	285
Total			1,351

There are now 10 Common Lodging Houses registered in the Borough, which accommodate 698 lodgers.

Their conduct has been satisfactory.

The following table shows the number of visits paid by the District Sanitary Inspectors to the Factories and Workshops during the year.

District	Number of Visits made to Factories	Number of Visits made to Workshops
B	141	158
C	72	124
D	74	68
Total ...	287	350

The decrease in the number of visits paid is due to the fact that the staff is short of one District Inspector, who is serving in the Army.

There were 197 nuisances and sanitary defects dealt with against 152 during the previous year.

There remained 36 sanitary defects unabated at the end of the previous year, which together with the above referred to, make a total of 233, of which 106 were remedied, and 127 remained unabated at the end of the year.

Great difficulties have been experienced in getting defects remedied, owing to the shortage of men.

There were 32 notices of sanitary defects received from the Factory Inspectors, of which 30 were in connection with factories, and 2 with workshops.

Due attention was given to the notices, and after being remedied, notice thereof was sent to the Factory Inspectors. The number of such notices sent was 31.

Of the defects reported by the Factory Inspectors, 13 remained unabated at the end of the year.

The number of lists of outworkers sent in was 10, and the number of outworkers reported as being employed was as follows :

	Tailors	Shoe-makers	Seam-stresses	Knitters	Total
No. of Outworkers	5	6	3	2	16

The Sanitary Inspectors paid 42 visits to the outworkers.

Notices of 2 outworkers were received from Bradford, who reside in Halifax.

The number of Bakehouses on the register is 138, and the number of underground bakehouses 26.

The District Inspectors paid 149 visits to the bakehouses during the year.

The following table gives the number and character of the defects reported, and the number remedied.

Nature of Defects.	Number Reported	Number Remedied.
Bakehouses requiring limewashing ...	17	17
Offensive accumulations ...	2	2
Sink pipe to disconnect ...	1	1
Defective drain ...	3	3
Dirty floors ...	3	3
Total ...	26	26

There were 27 inspections of the premises of Ice Cream makers and vendors, and no cause for complaint was found.

The number of offensive trades carried on in the borough was as follows :—

Bone Boilers	3
Blood Boilers	1
Soap Boilers	2
Tripe Boilers	10
Total	16

The premises were kept under supervision, and found generally satisfactory.

There were 316 specimens examined in the Public Health Laboratory, against 295 the previous year.

The following table gives details regarding the specimens examined.

Disease	Number of Specimens	Hospital Sanatorium and Dispensary		Sent by Doctors	
		Positive	Negative	Positive	Negative
Tuberculosis (Sputum)...	273	72	95	24	82
„ (Urine) ...	4	...	2	...	2
„ (Faeces)...	1	...	..	...	1
Diphtheria (Swabs) ...	34	...	4	10	20
Typhoid (Widal's) ...	3	...	1	...	2
Blood ...	1	...	...	1	...
Total ...	316	72	102	35	107

The number of dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops on the register is as follows:—

Cowsheds ...	...	...	...	502
Milkshops ...	...	...	...	46
Dairy Farmers and Purveyors of Milk ...	...	...	...	353

The Inspectors responsible for the supervision of the above, paid 860 visits during the year, and the District Sanitary Inspectors paid 114 visits to the registered milkshops.

The number of defects discovered and reported was 35, of which 28 were remedied.

The estimated number of milch cows kept in the Borough was 2,410.

The private slaughterhouses have been kept in a generally satisfactory condition. There are now 7 situated within the Borough.

The following table shows the number of visits paid by the Meat Inspector to the Slaughterhouses, Butchers' Shops, Markets, etc.

Description of Premises			Number of Visits
Public Slaughterhouses	...	...	726
Private Slaughterhouses	...	...	164
Borough Market	...	...	672
Wholesale Market	...	...	496
Fasting Sheds...	...	...	569
Potted Meat Houses	...	...	221
Tripe Boiling Houses	...	...	200
Butchers' Shops	...	...	962
Cowsheds	...	...	330
Other Visits	...	...	287
Total	...	...	4,627

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered during the year.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSES				
Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
9,350	1,450	19,859	4,803	35,462
PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES (Approximate)				
345	9	860	79	1,293

Shops were opened during the year for the sale of horse flesh, and 30 horses were slaughtered in the public slaughterhouse for human food.

There were 471 separate seizures of meat and offal, and the following table shows the number of carcasses condemned, and the total weight of the same.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number of Animals killed	9,695	1,459	20,719	4,882	36,755
Do. condemned	9	7	13	30	59
Weight of those condemned in lbs. ...	5,135	400	1,068	3,716	10,319

In addition to the above there were 24 seizures of fish, fruit, &c., and the following table shows the weight of the various kinds of food destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

Kinds of Food Destroyed				Quantity in lbs.
9 Carcasses of Beef	...	...	...	4340
Beef not in Carcase	...	...	...	950
Carcasses of Veal	...	...	...	388
Carcasses of Mutton	...	...	...	1171
Carcasses of Pork	...	...	...	3836
Pork not in Carcase	...	...	...	168
363 Rabbits	...	...	...	908
Fish	...	...	...	5008
Fruit	...	...	...	3125
Other Foods	...	...	...	252
Offal	...	...	...	12755
Total	...	...	...	32901

In addition to the foregoing, two carcasses of horses, weighing 1,280 lbs., and 50 lbs. of offals were destroyed.

The meat etc. destroyed during the year, was, with three exceptions, voluntarily surrendered by the owner for destruction. In three cases only was it necessary to obtain a Justice's Order.

In one case a prosecution was instituted for having in his possession, with a view to preparation for sale, a hind quarter and fore quarter of beef, which was unsound, unwholesome, and unfit for human food, and a penalty of £10 was inflicted, with £2 5s. 0d. costs.

The steam disinfecter, which is situated at the Borough Fever Hospital, had become worn out, and a new high pressure apparatus was installed during the year.

There were 5,918 articles of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected during the year.

There were 547 rooms in private houses fumigated, and 89 library books disinfected.

There were 200 gallons of disinfecting fluid distributed free of charge in connection with cases of notifiable infectious disease.

The number of furnished rooms, and houses let in lodgings on the register was 179, to which 109 visits of inspection were paid during the year.

There were 10 found to be in a dirty condition, with in 7 cases the ceilings defective. These were cleansed, and the defects remedied.

The number of houses inspected and reported on during the year, in house to house inspection, was 121, of which 44 were found to be more or less defective, while 77 were in a satisfactory condition.

The following is a list of the chief defects found :—

Nature of Defects	Number Reported
Defective Drainage and Sanitary Fittings	18
Defective Flagging in yards	3
Structural Defects	31
Dampness	2
Others	17
Total ...	71

Of the houses in connection with which defects were found, 35 were remedied, and in 9 the necessary work had not been completed by the end of the year.

A Closing Order was made in connection with one house which was considered to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health, as to warrant this procedure.

The following is a summary of the work done in connection with house to house inspection during the year.

Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	121
Number of houses in which defects were found to exist				44
Number of houses found to be in a satisfactory condition				77
Number of houses in which defects were not remedied at the end of the year	...	...	...	9
Number of houses considered to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	1
Number of representations with a view to the making of closing orders	...	...	...	1
Number of closing orders made	...	...	...	1
Number of houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of closing orders	...	...	...	35
Number of houses which, after the making of closing orders, were put into a fit state for human habitation.				1

The following table gives a general summary of meteorological observations carried out by Mr. Green, at the Belle Vue Library'

Rain fell on 207 days during the year, and the amount collected was 37'6'' against 35'9'' during the previous year.

The number of patients which remained in the Borough Hospital on January 1st, 1916, was 5 cases of Scarlet Fever.

There were admitted during the year a total of 146 cases, including 26 from outside districts.

Mr. Green has supplied me with a general summary of his observations as follows:—

General Summary of Meteorological Observations taken at the Public Library, Belle Vue, from January 1st, 1916, to December 31st, 1916.

By E. GREEN, LIBRARIAN.

LATITUDE OF STATION = 53° 43' N.

LONGITUDE = 1° 52' W.

HEIGHT ABOVE SEA LEVEL = 425 FEET.

Month.	Pressure of Atmosphere in Month.		Temperature of Air in Month.							Mean Temperature.		Vapour.		Mean degree of Humidity in Month.	Mean Weight of water in cubic foot of Air.	Mean Reading of Thermometer.			Wind.										Mean amount of Cloud.	Rain.		Remarks.
	No. of Days in Month.	Range.	Highest.	Lowest.	Range.	Of all Highest.	Of all Lowest.	Daily Range.	Mean.	Air.	Dew Point.	Elastic Force.	In a cubic foot of Air.			Mean.	Sat. at Mean.	Maximum.	Minimum.	Estimated Strength.	Relative proportion of											
																					N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.		Calms.		
January	30-226	1-274	54-2	30-9	23-3	47-4	39-9	7-5	44-3	40-2	-238	2-5	0-7	76	532	59-3	36-1	3-0	1	4	1	0	2	22	15	6	1	8-3	17	3-03	The observations have been reduced to mean values by Glaisher's Barometrical & Diurnal Range Tables, and the Hygrometrical results have been deduced from the seventh edition of Hygrometrical Tables, after corrections for Index errors of the Instruments employed.	
February	29-707	1-508	55-8	28-6	27-2	40-5	32-2	8-3	36-9	33-5	-182	2-1	0-5	83	541	61-9	30-2	2-1	1	14	2	3	1	12	8	4	5	8-5	25	5-74		
March	29-704	1-092	54-8	26-6	28-2	38-7	30-9	7-8	36-6	32-2	-179	2-3	0-3	91	541	62-0	29-6	2-0	4	26	1	1	0	9	2	6	3	8-4	22	3-79		
April	29-830	1-174	66-2	31-5	34-7	49-9	36-4	13-5	46-2	38-5	-224	2-7	1-0	73	530	90-1	33-6	2-4	2	7	1	1	2	7	8	19	1	6-2	15	1-89		
May	29-904	1-036	75-8	33-6	42-2	57-0	41-8	15-2	52-5	43-9	-226	3-0	1-7	64	522	93-1	39-5	1-5	1	13	1	7	4	9	8	5	5	7-3	13	2-56		
June	29-871	1-154	70-5	37-7	32-8	55-7	43-7	12-0	52-6	44-3	-267	3-1	1-4	69	523	100-0	42-9	2-3	7	9	0	1	0	9	13	14	0	6-8	15	2-06		
July	30-006	1-246	76-4	46-9	29-5	59-9	48-2	11-7	57-9	49-0	-344	4-0	1-6	71	522	100-1	47-1	1-7	5	7	3	2	2	2	14	14	1	6-8	18	1-71		
August	28-898	0-978	76-5	46-1	30-4	65-3	51-9	13-4	61-7	44-3	-385	4-0	2-4	63	516	106-0	49-9	1-7	2	5	5	1	5	11	13	7	4	6-3	11	2-02		
September	30-021	0-882	69-0	37-6	31-4	59-1	46-5	12-6	55-1	42-5	-321	3-7	1-2	75	537	93-5	43-9	2-0	7	7	1	5	1	7	4	11	9	7-3	9	1-72		
October	29-613	1-402	82-8	28-5	54-3	54-8	42-6	12-2	50-3	44-9	-276	3-4	0-8	80	525	78-6	40-7	2-5	1	6	2	8	4	19	7	3	3	7-2	24	6-82		
November	29-684	1-774	55-7	28-2	27-5	46-2	38-6	7-6	43-2	39-1	-231	2-6	0-7	77	533	57-8	35-9	1-6	0	2	2	8	1	19	8	5	6	8-0	16	3-18		
December	29-563	1-276	50-9	23-6	27-3	39-8	31-5	8-3	36-2	34-2	-204	2-1	0-5	83	508	46-1	28-6	1-0	6	2	1	3	0	8	3	8	20	8-0	22	3-08		
Annual Means	29-752	1-233	65-7	33-3	32-4	51-1	40-3	10-9	47-7	42-2	-256	2-9	1-0	75	527	79-0	38-0	1-3	3	8	1	3	1	11	8	8	4	7-4				

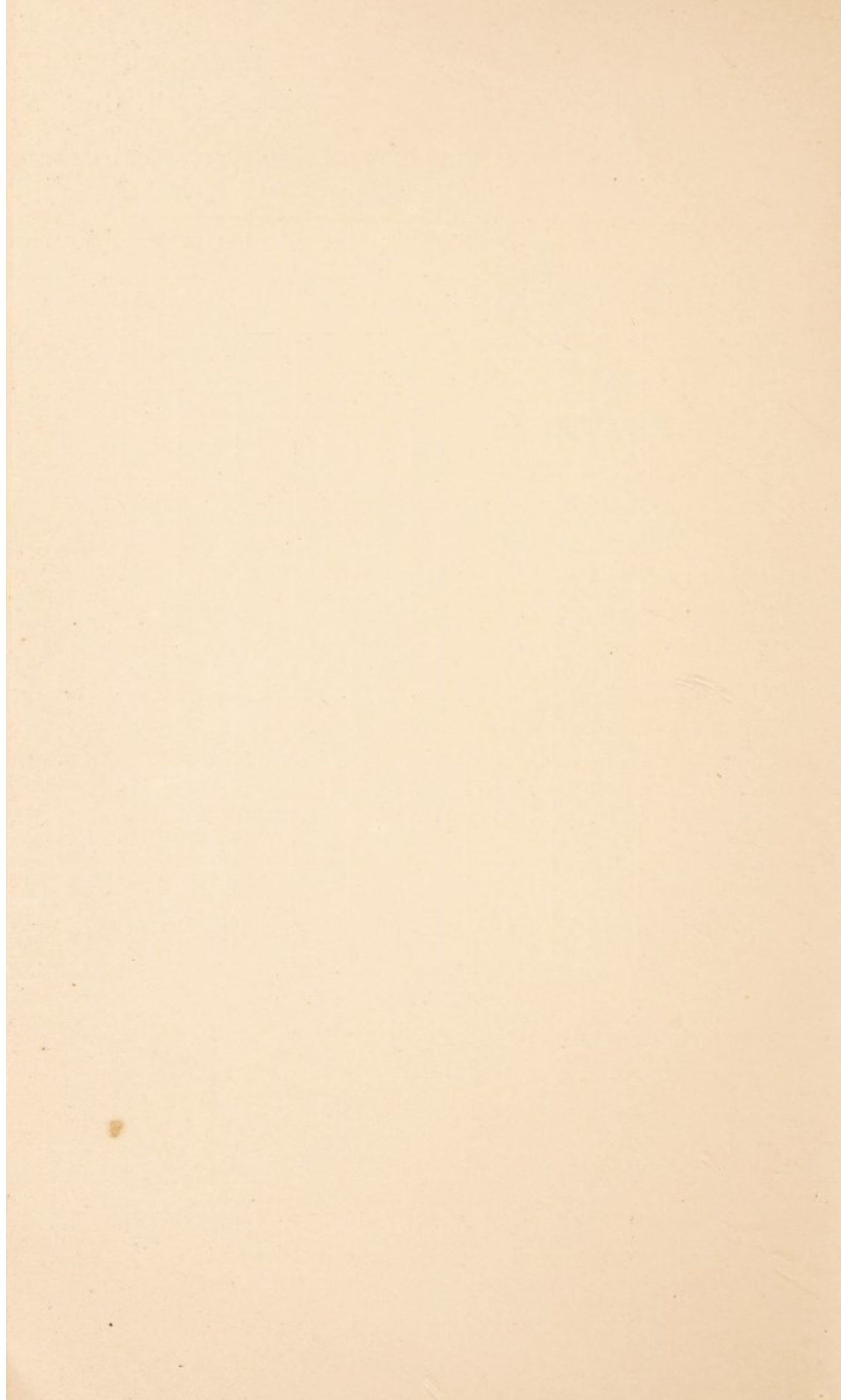
The Mean Monthly Readings of the Earth Thermometer, four feet below the surface, were as follows:—

January, 43° March, 40° May, 46° July, 52° September, 54° November, 47°
February, 42° April, 42° June, 49° August, 56° October, 51° December, 42°

Highest Readings = 58° on August 15th and 16th.

Lowest Readings = 40° on February 20th to March 6th.

Rain fell on 207 days, and measured 37-60 inches.



The following table shows the number of cases admitted of each kind, and the mortality from the same.

Disease	Number Admitted	Deaths	Case Mortality per cent.
Diphtheria	40	9	22.5
Scarlet Fever	97	1	1.0
Enteric Fever	9	2	22.2
Pneumonia	1	1	100.0
Total ...	146	13	8.9

Three cases of diphtheria died within 24 hours of admission.

The number of births notified during the year were 1,378, and the number registered 1,590, so that 86% only were reported against 85% during the previous year.

There were 52 notifications of still-born infants.

The Lady Health Visitor paid 1,434 visits to notified births, and 139 to guild cases and others, and the voluntary lady visitors paid 1,736 to notified births.

Of the births notified, 688 were attended by medical men and 690 by midwives.

Of the 690 midwives cases 660 were breast fed at birth, and only 30 fed with the bottle.

The Maternity Centre was opened on Nov. 8th, 1915, and during the year under review 229 mothers had attended the clinics held there, and the total number of visits paid to the clinics by these mothers, during that period, was 894.

There are now 16 midwives on the local roll, a diminution of 4 during the year. To these Miss Thompson paid 18 visits, and the following particulars relative to their case books were obtained.

Number on Register	Case Books		
	Well kept	Fairly well kept	Not Up-to-date
16	12	2	2

There were 6 notices received during the year of sending for medical aid.

The following is a list of the Midwives registered at the Health Office during the year.

Name	Address
Ogden Emma ...	42, Burnley Road, Halifax
Marsland Emma ...	16, Cherry Street, Halifax
Connew Sarah ...	23, Clay Street, Halifax
Shelley Emelina ...	6, Ellen Royd, Halifax
Wilson Elizabeth Ann ...	1, Shoemith's Buildings, Hx.
Sutcliffe Ellen ...	6, Spindle Street, Halifax
Lake Lucy ..	14, Bolton Street, Halifax
Halstead Frances Ellen ..	3, Aspinall Street, Halifax
Wood Mary ...	12, Fern Street, Halifax
Hoyle Elizabeth ...	27, Copley Hall Street, Halifax
Dakin Elizabeth ...	13, Church Hill, Luddenden, Hx.
Woodhead Fanny ...	40, Chestnut Street, Halifax
Blakey Louisa ...	33, Commercial Road, Halifax
Aaron Hannah ...	7, Lane Ends, Wheatley, Hx.
Arnold Mary Ann ...	14, Exchange Street, Halifax
Wade Hannah ...	18, Westfield Terrace, Halifax

SHOP INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Deputy Shop Inspector has submitted to me the following Report for the year 1916.

Registration visits to shops (being visits for particulars to enter in Register, and general inspection visits ...	368
Special visits (being interviews and inspection visits) ...	565
Half-holiday visits (being entries into shops on the day selected for the half-holiday, total or partial) ...	590
Assistants Half-holiday visits (being entries into shops and refreshment houses for assistants' half-holiday ...	361
Children's Bye-Law visits (being interviews or entries into shops to explain or ascertain if bye-laws are being observed)	928
Visits re Fabrics (Misdescription) Act	103
Shops without Assistants Half-holiday Notice	
(Sec. 1, Form 1.) ...	33
Do. Young Persons' Notice, (Sec. 2.) ...	18
Do. Mixed Business Notice	32
Do. Seats for Female Assistants, (Sec. 3.).....	11
Contravention of Mealtime Provisions	
Do. Assistants Half-holidays	12
Do. Early Closing Orders	39
Do. Young Persons' Hours	4
Do. Children's Bye-Laws	51
Special Notices sent	25
Prosecutions under Shops Act	2
Do. Bye-laws	1
Shops which have changed the Half-holiday ...	9
Shops without, or not exhibiting No. 4R Notice ...	75
Shops not altered Notice for Half-holiday ...	7

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1975 to 1907.

"THE SALE OF MILK REGULATIONS, 1901."

"THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM)
REGULATIONS, 1912." AND

"THE SALE OF MILK REGULATIONS, 1912."

Mr. J. A. Dewhirst, F.I.C., F.C.S., Ph.C., the Borough Analyst, has submitted to me the following report upon the samples he has analysed for your Committee during the year 1916.

There were 252 samples of food and drink taken under the Food and Drugs Acts and the above-named regulations during the year.

The following table gives the number analysed per 1,000 of the population in recent years, and the percentage of adulteration.

YEAR	Number of Samples Analysed	Percentage Adulterated or unsatisfactory	Estimated Population of the Borough	Number of Samples Analysed per 1,000 of the Population
1910	251	6·0	101,500	2·47
1911	246	4·9	102,000	2·41
1912	250	5·6	102,000	2·45
1913	243	4·9	102,000	2·38
1914	250	3·2	103,000	2·42
1915	248	8·0	100,000	2·48
1916	252	10·7	105,000	2·40

The percentage of adulteration is higher again this year, only four articles being found blameless, namely—butter, margarine, cheshire cheese, and dried fruits.

The following table shows the kind of sample dealt with, together with the results of the analyses.

Article	Total	Genuine	Adulterated	Doubtful	Percentage adulterated or unsatisfactory.
Milk	159	146	11	2	8.2
Butter	13	13	0	0	0.0
Margarine	12	12	0	0	0.0
Vinegar	8	7	1	0	12.5
Baking Powder	8	3	0	5	62.5
Cream	12	10	2	0	16.6
Cheshire Cheese.. ...	8	8	0	0	0.0
Dried Fruits	8	8	0	0	0.0
White Pepper	8	6	0	2	25.0
Cream of Tartar... ..	8	5	1	2	37.5
Sausages	8	7	0	1	12.5
Totals ...	252	225	15	12	10.7

Eleven different classes of commodity were sampled, as against twelve last year, and thirteen the year before. No Drugs were sampled.

This year Boric Acid has been found in milk, an unusual occurrence, indicating an awakening of the agricultural mind to the benefits of science in a direction which is not commendable.

The two adulterated samples of Cream contained considerable quantities of Boric Acid. I have persistently reported here and elsewhere that 0.5 % Boric Acid was too much to allow in Cream, even if declared on the label, and now I am glad to say that an order has been issued making 0.4 % the limit for the future.

Baking Powders continue to be the most unsatisfactory article examined, and again 5 out of the 8 samples were so low in "raising" power as not to deserve the name of Baking Powder. At present there is no legal standard, but in time no doubt one will be made, and it should be not less than 10 % of available carbonic acid gas. In the meantime the housewife should see that the article she purchases effervesces freely when a small quantity is mixed with a little water.

A sample of Vinegar was found not genuine, and the vendor was duly haled before the bench and fined.

A sample of Sausage contained excess of the inevitable Boric Acid. Is it possible that eventually the human economy will become immune to the action of this daily administered drug?

White Pepper continues to afford examples of inferior quality. The two cases this year were obviously not "white" to the eye, and the purchaser could form his own judgment thereon.

Of the samples of Cream of Tartar, one was entirely fictitious, and in consequence the vendor was fined. Two others were very inferior. It is an article which the war has rendered rather scarce and costly, hence the liability to substitution by the cheaper acid phosphate of lime.

RAG FLOCK ACT, 1911.

No samples were taken this year under this Act.

THE FERTILISERS & FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1906.

Three samples were taken and examined in 1916. Two were Fertilisers, and were found to conform to the percentages of active ingredients as stated on the label or invoices. The other sample, a poultry food, made by a well known firm, although being a compound of unknown value, contained no analysis. The buyer should insist on being supplied with certificate of analysis, and accustom himself to judge of relative values, otherwise he is buying in the dark, and may not be getting his money's worth.

