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BOROUGH OF HARWICH

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR 1946

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR

BOROUGH OF HARWICH

HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

J. ROLAND HETHERINGTON,

L.R.C.P. and S.E., L.R.F.P. and S.G., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part-time): KIERAN PHELAN, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O.

Sanitary Inspector:

A. E. PRICE, CERT. R.S.I. and S.I.J.E.B.

M. and C.W. Dental Officer (part-time):

L. G. WHELPTON, L.D.S., R.C.S. ENG.

Health Visitors:

Miss F. CORRAN, S.R.N., S.C.M.
Miss E. A. THURSTON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Clerk:

Miss R. M. WHITMORE (up to July 6th, 1946). S. J. ROSE (from July 22nd, 1946).

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1946

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF HARWICH

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1946.

Comments on the various aspects of the work of the Health Department will be found in the relevant sections of the Report.

In presenting this Report it again gives me much pleasure to express my thanks for the helpful co-operation of the various officials of the Council and also the continued loyal support of the members of this Department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. ROLAND HETHERINGTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

MAIN ROAD,

DOVERCOURT.

October, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1946

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the Borough is 1,512 acres.

Population (Census 1931) was 12,700.

Registrar General's Estimated Population (mid-1946), 11,250.

Rateable Value, £80,256.

The sum represented by a Penny Rate, £294 12s. 0d.

VITAL STATISTICS

	VITAL STATISTIC	S		
1.	Birth Rate			
	Live births, legitimate	-	F. 121 5 126	248 18 266
2.	Infant Mortality			
	Death of infants under one year Death rate of all infants under one year per 1,000 live births Death rate of legitimate infants under one year per 1,000 live legitimate births Death rate of illegitimate infants under one year per 1,000 live illegitimate births	55.6	F. 8	TOTAL 14
3.	Deaths	M.	F.	TOTAL
	Deaths during year	79	66	145
	Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population	12.89		-

CAUSES OF DEATH

				M.	F.	TOTAL
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers			0	0	0
	Cerebro-Spinal Fever			0	0	0
	Scarlet Fever			0	0	0
	Whooping Cough			0	0	0
	Diphtheria			0	0	0
	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System			4	1	5
	Other forms of Tuberculosis			0	0	0
	Syphilitic Diseases			0	Õ	0
	Influenza			1	ő	1
	Measles			Ö	ő	Ó
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencepha	litie		0	0	0
12	Acute in-Encephalitis	11113		0	Õ	Ů.
13	Cancer of Buccal Cavities and Oesop	hamis		U	U	U
15.	Uterus		anu	0	2	2
14	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum			1	1	2
	Cancer of Breast		•	Ó	0	0
	Cancer of all other sites			13	4	17
	Diabetes			0	1	1
	Intracranial Vascular Lesions			7	15	22
	Heart Disease	* *		22	19	41
				3	17	3
	Other Diseases of Circulatory System Bronchitis			7	2	0
				2	2	1
				1	1	2
	Other Respiratory Diseases			0	0	0
	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum			1	1	2
	Diarrhoea under two years			-0	0	0
	Appendicitis			0	0	0
20	Other Digestive Diseases	• •		0	1	0 3
20.	Nephritis	••		0	,	0
20.	Puerperal and Post Abortional Sepsis	• •		0	0	0
200	Other Maternal Causes	••		0	0	0
	Premature Birth	• •	.:	U	1	1
54.	Congenital Malformation, Birth Inju	ries,	and	2	2	,
22	Infantile Diseases			3	3	0
	Suicide	• •		0	1	1
	Road traffic accidents			0	0	0
	Other violent causes			4	10	5
30.	All other causes			8	10	18
139			-	70		1.45
130				79	66	145
			100	-	-	

DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1946 Under 1 year 1 and under 2 2 and under 5 5 and under 15 ... 15 and under 25 25 and under 35 0 35 and under 45 10 45 and under 55 8 55 and under 65 31 65 and under 75 52 75 and upwards 145

TABLE I - VITAL STATISTICS (1945 AND 1946)

	LINGI	mil					
	AND V	WALES	ESSI	EX	HARWICH		
	1945	1946	1945	1946	1945	1946	
Birth Rate	16.1	19.1	17.3	20.6	21.78	23.64	
Death Rate	11.4	11.5	11.5	10.4	12.45	12.89	
I.M. Rate	46	43	39	33	36.86	52.6	

TABLE II VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1946 AND CERTAIN PREVIOUS YEARS

						INFANT
YEAR			В	IRTH RATE	DEATH RATE	MORTALITY RATE
1910		 		27.2	10.1	80
1915				23.4	12.3	108
1920				31.1	11.6	81
1925				20.2	10.6	50
1930	100			16.9	10.3	48.5
1935				16.4	10.1	47.8
1936				14.72	11.39	15.9
1937				14.81	11.79	31.9
1938				15.21	11.49	35.3
1939		 		15.51	12.80	20.21
1940	• •			15.26	12.67	42:45
		 		20.39	13.93	60.24
1941		 		21.38	12.29	36.31
1942		 		18.99	13.07	39:11
1943		 			11.72	52.43
1944		 		28.7		Market and the Control of the Contro
1945		 		21.78	12:45	36.86
1946		 		23.64	12.89	52.6

Comment

- (1) The estimated population for the middle of 1946 shows a further step towards the pre-war population, and reflects on the restoration of the trade conditions of the Borough.
- (2) In common with England and Wales as a whole, there has been another sharp increase in the number of births. The birth rate of 23.64 is the highest recorded for the Borough since 1921 (with the exception of the phenomenal rate of 1944).

The Harwich birth rate compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales, and for the administrative County of Essex.

(3) The death rate for the year shows a slight increase over the previous year, and is also higher than that for England and Wales, and definitely more than the death rate for the administrative County of Essex.

The principal differentiated causes of death during the year were :-

Diseases of Heart and Circulation	66
Diseases of Respiratory System (including Pneu-	
monia in infants, but excluding Tuberculosis)	15
Cancer in all forms	21
Tuberculosis in all forms	5

These groups together account for 75 per cent. of all deaths. It is gratifying to note that more than 50 per cent. of the deaths in the Borough were of persons age 65 and over, and more than 35 per cent. were over 75 years of age.

Twenty-seven had attained the age of 80, and two died at 90 or over.

(4) STILL BIRTHS AND INFANTILE DEATHS.

The mortality before, during, and shortly following birth continues at an unsatisfactorily high level. During the year under review, three still births were recorded, and fourteen infants died before reaching the age of twelve months. The causes of death were as follows:-

TABLE III

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1946

CAUSE OF	DID NOT	LIVED OVER ONE	SURVIVED ONE	
DEATH	SURVIVE	WEEK BUT LESS	MONTH, DIED	TOTAL
	ONE WEEK	THAN FOUR WEEKS	UNDER ONE YEAR	
Prematurity .	. 1	1	- 1	2
Birth injuries .	. 1	1	-	2
Malformation	_	_	-	-
Overlaying .		-	-	-
Bronchitis and				
Pneumonia.		1	1	2
Marasmus .	. –	1		1
Gastro-Enteriti	is —	_	2	E 2
Other Cause	n	-	<u>~</u>	3
Will be a second	4	5	5	14
				1

It is significant that of the three Still Births and fourteen Infantile Deaths, Ante-Natal supervision is recorded in only six cases. Amongst those infants who were either still-born or who did not survive four weeks (eight in all), four received Ante-Natal supervision. Of the four infant deaths from Prematurity or Birth Injury, one received Ante-Natal supervision.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Staffing

(i) The Medical Officer of Health holds the following appointments, the apportionment of duties being as indicated:—

BOROUGH OF HARWICH.

Medical Officer of Health 15 per cent.

Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer .. 2 ,, ,,

ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL.

Assistant School Medical Officer 25 per cent.
Assistant V.D. Medical Officer 11

HARWICH PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer 5 per cent. Medical Inspector of Aliens 42 ,, ,,

- (ii) Sanitary Inspector.—The Sanitary Inspector carries out all the duties imposed by statute, including the inspection of shops. In addition he holds the post of Shop Inspector under the Shops Act, 1934. He also carries out the necessary duties under the Rat and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and is appointed to carry out inspections under the Housing Acts. In co-operation with the Borough Engineer and Surveyor he supervises the Scavenging of the district.
- (iii) HEALTH VISITORS.—Both Health Visitors are also School Nurses under the Essex Education Authority. In addition they attend as necessary at the sessions of the V.D. Clinic.

(b) Laboratory Facilities

There are no local facilities for laboratory work. Arrangements have been made with the County Council for the examination of all pathological specimens, including those connected with venereal disease, at the Essex County Public Health Laboratory, Colchester.

(c) Ambulance Facilities

The Town Ambulance is the property of the Borough Council and is manned by three full-time drivers. When not engaged on the Ambulance these drivers undertake gardening and other similar duties at the Harwich and District Hospital, the Hospital making a financial contribution in respect of such work. When the necessity for an attendant in the Ambulance arises, this duty is carried out by a voluntary helper. The services of these helpers, frequently called for at inconvenient times and nearly always at very short notice, is very much appreciated.

During the year the following journeys were undertaken:-

		MAT	ERNITY	OTHER	TOTAL
Local		 	1	275	276
Rural		 	38	_	38
Colchester		 	12	26	38
Ipswich		 	-	39	39
Mistley		 	-	1	1
Black Notle	ev	 	_	2	2
Chelmsford		 	1	_	1
Great Bent		. 19.0	4		4
Clacton			.2	_	. 2
					1 1 1 1 1
			58	343	401

Total mileage: 5,650.

Average mileage per journey: 14'08.

The Ambulance has done yeoman service since it was originally made available for the general public some fourteen years ago.

(d) Hospital Facilities

"The Harwich and District Hospital and Fryatt Memorial," situated at Dovercourt, contains 24 beds and 2 cots, and provides facilities for

all general, medical, and surgical treatment.

The Hospital has an endowment, but is mainly dependant on voluntary contributions, donations, patients' payments, and a workmen's contributory scheme. A reciprocal arrangement is in force, whereby treatment for residents in the Borough is available at the East Suffolk and Ipswich

Hospital, and also at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

There are no Hospital or Nursing Home facilities in the Borough for Maternity cases. A Private Nursing and Maternity Home was opened in November, 1946, but staffing difficulties led to its closure within a very short time. Those patients requiring hospitalisation have to be conveyed to either the Essex County Hospital at Tendring (a distance of about eleven miles) or to the Colchester Borough Maternity Home, which involves a journey of some twenty miles. The absence of local facilities is very regrettable and definitely adds to the risk of maternal morbidity and infantile survival.

There are no facilities for dealing with complicated obstetrics at the Tendring Hospital, which fact further aggravates the unsatisfactory position.

(e) Nursing in the Home

(1) DISTRICT NURSES, MIDWIVES.—There are three District Nurse Midwives in the Borough, who are appointed and controlled by the

Harwich and District Nursing Association. This is a voluntary organisation, supported by voluntary contributions, and has a committee of ladies under the able chairmanship of Mrs. R. A. Ward, J.P. It is affiliated to the Essex County Nursing Association, which makes an annual grant towards the nurses' salaries.

The Supervising Authority under the Midwives Act, 1902 and 1918,

is the Essex County Council.

(2) Home Helps.—In spite of persistent efforts it has not been found possible to establish a "Home Help" Service, with any degree of success. As indicated in the circulars issued by the Ministry of Health, it is intended that a Home Help shall be able to look after an invalid at home (apart from duties which are definitely the work of a trained nurse). The Home Help should also be available to look after the husband or children of a mother who is sent to hospital or convalescent home. Diligent enquiries have so far failed to attract suitable persons to the service. This is regrettable, as it is felt that the use of such helps would relieve the pressure upon hospital beds, both medical, surgical, and maternity.

(f) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

(1) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(a) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics are held at "Tower House" on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 2.15 p.m.

(b) Infant and Toddler Clinic.

(i) "Tower House" each Tuesday at 2.15 p.m.

(ii) All Saints' Church Hall each Monday at 2.15 p.m.

Dental inspection and treatment facilities are available for all expectant mothers, infants, and toddlers.

Orthopædic and eye defects in young children are dealt with at

the respective clinics indicated below.

(2) DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Facilities for this are available at the Infant and Toddler Clinics.

(3) School Medical Service (under the County Council).

(a) School Clinic at "Tower House" each Tuesday and Friday at 10 a.m. Treatment of minor ailments daily at 9.30 a.m.

(b) Dental Clinic at "Tower House" each Thursday and Friday at 2 p.m.

(c) Ophthalmic Clinic at "Tower House" by appointment.(d) Orthopædic Clinic at "Tower House" by appointment.

(4) Tuberculosis (under County Council).

This Clinic, under the auspices of the County Council, is held at the Health Department, Old Isolation Hospital, on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m.

(5) VENEREAL DISEASES (UNDER COUNTY COUNCIL). Treatment is given at the Health Department on: Monday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Wednesday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Or by appointment.
(g) Maternity and Child Welfare.
(1) Notification of Births.
Number of births notified in the area during the year (Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936):
Live births
Total 278
By midwives 162 By doctors 116
(2) HEALTH VISITING.
(a) Number of Health Visitors employed at the end of the year: (i) by the Council
(b) Equivalent of whole-time services devoted by the whole staff to health visiting (including attendance at Infant Welfare Centres):
(i) in the case of Health Visitors employed by the Council
(ii) in the case of Health Visitors employed by voluntary associations nil
(c) Number of visits paid during the year by all Health Visitors: (i) to expectant mothers—
First visits 29
Total visits 35
(ii) to children under one year of age—
First visits
(iii) to children between the ages of one and five years—
Total visits 956

(3) Infant W	VELFARE CENT	RES.			
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	7	and maintained b	70	2
	nber of Cent luntary associa		ed and maintained		nil
(c) Tota	l number of a	ttendances	at all Centres during	g the ye	ar:
	(i) by childs	en under or	ne year of age		2030
	(ii) by child	ren betwee	n the ages of one	and	
					638
(d) Tota	al number of	children wh	no first attended at	the Ce	ntres
du	ring the year	and who o	n the date of their	first att	end-
an	ces were:				
			ge		214
	(11) between	the ages of	one and five years		67
att		Centres du	under five years or tring the year and		
	(i) under on	e year of ag	ge		209
	(ii) over one	year of age			282
			ths represented	7.8 per	cent.
The shows a	number of at most gratifyi	tendances a	t both Centres dur details being:	ing the	year
	UNDE	ER TWELVE	OVER TWELVE		
		MONTHS.	MONTHS.	TOTA	L
~		. 419	152	571	
	ond quarter .		137	511	
	rd quarter .		132	690	
rou	irth quarter .	. 679	217	896	
Т	otal 1946 .	. 2030	638	2668	
120		. 1547	562	2109	
			Andrew Marie Tolland		

(4) ANTE-NATAL and POST-N	NATAL SUPERVISION.
	ANTE- POST
	NATAL. NATAL
(a) Ante-natal and Post	t-natal Clinics (whether
	fare Centres or at other
premises):	
	Clinics provided and
	the Council 1
	Clinics provided and
2222	voluntary associations — —
	r of attendances at all
A	g the year 479 —
	of women who attended
at the Clinics	during the year 93 8
(b) Total number of ex	xpectant mothers ante-
natally examined an	nd of cases post-natally
	ne year, under arrange-
	e Council with private
	ners, excluding cases
	nil nil
(c) Percentage of notifie	
	total numbers of women
) (iv) and (5) (b) 36.2 per cent.
(d) Number of women	
	year to other maternity
institutions	39
(5) SUPPLY OF MILK AND O	THER FOODS.
	TINS,
	PACKETS, ETC. FREE.
National Dried Milk, H	
	Full Cream 2401 —
Cow and Gate	2477 6
	818 —
Ostermilk	
rutood	
Trufood	454 1
Lactagol	175 —
Lactagol	175 — 579 1
Lactagol	175 — 579 1 273 —
Lactagol	175 — 579 1
Lactagol	175 — 579 1 273 —
Lactagol	175 — 579 1 273 — 351 — 45 1
Lactagol	175 — 579 1 273 — 351 — 45 1 n 55 4
Lactagol	
Lactagol	
Lactagol	

(5) SUPPLY OF MILK AN	DOTHER FO	oods—continued		
Roboleine		64	3	
77. 1		571		
0 1.		11/00		
		1770		
		57/		
A and D. Capsul		574		,
I am indebted to t				
information indicating during the year.	the percen	tage uptake of	Welfare Fo	ods
	ORANGE	COD LIVER	A. AND D.	
	JUICE.	OIL.	TABLETS.	
	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	PER CENT.	
January	. 27.7	18.2	26.3	
T I	. 30.8	19.8	26.3	
7.7 1	41.5	17.8	35.1	
-	27:0	12:3	33.6	
_ 1				
	. 38.2	14.5	49.5	
-	. 39.0	12.0	26.0	
July	. 50.7	15.4	40.9	
August	. 45.2	16.5	38.2	
September .	. 35.6	22.2	48.5	
October	. 31.9	27.9	51.7	
November .	. 29.8	31.8	32.5	
D 1	. 30.9	32.6	37.5	
(6) CHILD LIFE PROTE				blic
Health Act, 19				
(a) Number of p	persons who	were receiving	children for	
		year		6
(b) Number of c				
		ar		4
		e year		nil
	_	were held during		nil
				m
(c) Number of C		on visitors at the	e end of the	
year who w	2020			2
A COLOR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PRO				2
		Health Visitors		nil
(iii) Male				nil
(d) Number of p	ersons (in ad	dition to or in lie	u of visitors	
under (c) al	bove, or socie	ties authorised to	visit under	
		209 (2) of the Pu		
Act, 1936)				nil
(e) Proceedings		-		
				nil
		which proceeding		
rict and St	cotion under	men proceeding	o were taken	

COMMENTS

The proportion of confinements attended by midwives acting as such (i.e. medical help being called in only if the necessity arose) has shown during the past fifteen years, a slight but definite increase. This is more marked during the past two years, and as the use of analgesics by midwives in the absence of medical practitioners becomes more widely practised, will doubtless still further increase.

The re-establishment of a daily session of the Minor Ailment Clinic for school children has materially reduced the time available for home visits. To this cause is due a reduction of some 20 per cent. in the number of home visits paid. Other arrangements have now been made in respect of part of the duties hitherto carried out by the School Nurse, and this should relieve them for additional Infant Welfare work.

It is a matter for regret that in less than two-fifths of the notified births is there any record of the mother having received ante-natal supervision. Out of one hundred and sixty-two births notified by midwives, eighty-three (51 per cent.) attended the Borough's Ante-natal Clinic, the fact that only nine expectant mothers from one hundred and sixteen (8 per cent.) attended the Authorities Ante-natal Clinic, is partly offset by the knowledge that some practitioners undertake ante-natal supervision of their own patients. In spite of this, however, there is little doubt that many expectant mothers do not receive the ante-natal supervision to which they are entitled.

During the year, thirty-nine mothers were sent by the Authority to one or other of the hospitals in the neighbourhood, being 14 per cent. of the total confinements. The reduction compared with the previous year, when 21 per cent. of births took place in maternity institutions, is due to a more thorough investigation of applications, due to the marked shortage of hospital accommodation. In more than half of the cases sent in during the year, the unsatisfactory home conditions was the deciding factor.

The outstanding event of the year was the opening of the Infant Welfare Centre at All Saints' Church Hall, Dovercourt. A weekly session was arranged and the success of the venture is ample justification for the effort made.

The success of the Infant Welfare Centres is in no small measure due to the valued assistance given by the voluntary workers. Their presence and help so ungrudgingly given is very much appreciated, not only by the staff but also by the mothers of the children attending.

Dried milks and others preparations have been supplied as required to both expectant mothers and to infants, in necessitous cases no charge being made. Supplies were somewhat better maintained than in the previous years.

The fact that over six thousand tins or packets of dried milk have been sold during the year (apart from sales through ordinary channels), would seem to indicate a considerable amount of artificial feeding, with a correspondingly small proportion of breast feeding. It is found that many mothers are definitely anxious to breast feed; failure to do so arises from a variety of causes, amongst which may be mentioned the continual strain of shopping and household worries. A further important factor is the lack of sufficient rest to both body and mind.

Statistics regarding the take-up of orange juice, cod liver oil, and vitamin tablets reveal a regrettable reduction. It is estimated that the number of children under five years of age has increased by about sixty during the year, yet there is a reduction of three thousand in the number of bottles of orange juice taken, and also a drop of nearly five hundred in the number of cod liver oil bottles supplied. This unsatisfactory state of affairs has one redeeming feature, a most gratifying increase in the take-up of vitamin capsules. The need for these vitamin-containing preparations cannot be too highly stressed where the normal food supplies are subject to the limitations of rationing.

Work in connection with Child Life Protection continues to occupy an increasing proportion of the time and energies of the visitors during the year.

This work is very exacting, calling for the exercise of considerable tact, and it is gratifying to record that in practically every instance the visitors have been able to establish friendly relationship with foster parents.

Several instances of boarded-out children have been discovered during the course of their normal routine work by the health visitors, and it is desirable that the attention of the public be frequently drawn to the legal enactment which requires that any person, accepting the care of a child under the age of nine, shall inform the Welfare Authority BEFORE receiving such child.

Ba

SANITARY CONDITIONS

I. WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied by the Tendring Hundred Water Company and is satisfactory both as regards quantity and quality. Bacteriological and chemical examinations are made monthly at the Company's pumping station. The result in all cases has been satisfactory. There is no plumbo solvent action and no contamination of any kind has been detected.

The majority of the houses in the Borough are supplied from the public water main direct into the houses, and a few standpipes at the back of the houses. There are a few local wells supplying isolated houses.

Routine inspection of these is carried out.

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000.

icilical Acousts in Lait	o per	100,00				
						RESULTS FOR
The state of the s				TWEL	VE M	onths, 1946.
Turbidity						Nil
Colour						Normal
Reaction Ph						7.3
Electric conductivity at 2	20 deg	rees C.				1890
Chloride in chlorides						46.8
Hardness, Total						39
" Temporary						26.4
" Permanent						12.6
Nitrogen in nitrates						Absent
Free ammonia						0.104
Albuminoid ammonia						0.0015
Oxygen absorbed in 4 h	ours a	t 20 des	grees C.			0.050
3 f 1						0.022
Odour						Nil
Free CO ₂						1.7
Total solids dried at 180	degre	ees C.				121
Alkalinity as calcium can						27.3
						_
Ammoniacal nitrogen						-
D les						
acteriological Results.			-			
Presumptive coliform re	action		Presen		1	* 100
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,,		_	100 c.	c.	In 100 per
Bact. Coli			Presen		1	cent. of
.,, ., .,			_	t 100 c.	c.	samples
Cl. Welchii reaction			Presen			taken.
,, ,, ,,			Absent	t 100 c.	.c.	

This water is reasonably clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction, and contains a trace of iron. The water is normal in respect of hardness and salinity, and is of a high standard of organic and bacterial purity.

All samples were analysed by the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

II. SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

The Borough (except a few low lying parts) is sewered, but owing to the town's growth, it is necessary to provide a new sewerage system and treatment works for the Upper Dovercourt and part of the Lower Dovercourt area. The present treatment works are unsatisfactory and a new scheme has been prepared and approved by the Ministry of Health and will be given some priority for post-war works.

Closet Accommodation.

The approximate number is as follows:

Water closets .			 4,877
Pail closets .			 39
Houses with ce	esspool dra	ainage	 71

Most closets in the Borough are of the wash-down type, flushed by cisterns. There are still a few hand-flushed closets and if nuisances arise owners are called upon to provide and fix flushing cisterns.

The emptying of cesspools and pail closets is the responsibility of the owners, although the Council arrange for emptying at the expense of and

on request of the owners.

III. SCAVENGING

Household refuse is collected once weekly, together with all types of salvage by the Council, by direct labour, and is disposed of as far as practicable by controlled tipping.

Salvage.

The following is the weight and value of all salvage collected and sold during the year, and the figures for 1945 are shown for comparison.

		-								
		1945					1946			
	TONS.	CWT.	£	s.	d.	TONS.	CWT.	£	s. d.	
Waste paper .	. 43	12	285	18	6	48	10	306	4 6	
Metals	. 2	0	38	19	0	4	0	4	0 0	
Rags and sacking	2	134	33	10	0	1	18	30	8 0	
Kitchen waste .	. 39	113	60	6	1	32	7	47 1	5 6	
Bones	. 2	14	13	15	9	1	13	8	6 10	
	89	19½	£432	9	4	88	8	£396 1	4 10	
					-					

IV. (A) DISINFECTION

At the old Isolation Hospital, Main Road, Dovercourt, there is a disinfecting station fitted with a Thresh Steam Disinfector, which is used for the steam disinfection of bedding and clothing. This apparatus is a modern direct steam disinfector, housed in what was the hospital laundry, and is capable of dealing with any steam disinfection that may be required. In the case of infectious diseases the room or rooms occupied by the patient are fumigated by means of formalin, either in the form of spray, or gas, or both, and when necessary the bedding, etc., is removed for steam disinfection.

(B) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS AND SCABIES

In the case of bed bugs, the co-operation of the property owner is sought. Skirting, architraves, etc., are removed and paper stripped off the walls of the infested room and burnt. The walls, ceilings, and floors are then sprayed with an approved disinfectant which now contain a percentage of D.D.T. and either formalin or sulphur gas released in the room, and the room hermetically sealed and left for at least twelve hours. The bedding, etc., afterwards being removed and steam disinfected. The room may have to receive this treatment a second or third time. Treatment was carried out in seven cases. In the case of scabies, the treatment is the same, without recourse to stripping the walls, etc. There were no cases of scabies requiring treatment during the year.

V. RAT DESTRUCTION

It is the policy in this area to continually attack and destroy the rat population, and to this end the Council employ rat catchers who are available at any time to deal with the rat nuisance. During the year these men have trapped 1381 rats. Poison baits are also used in certain positions and judging by the take of baits, and the decrease in the number of rats seen after the laying of baits, the total number of rats destroyed would appear to be far in excess of the number stated.

WASP NESTS.

During the Summer sixteen wasp nests were destroyed in the Borough.

VI. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's visits and notices served.

Nature	of visits of inspections:		TOTA	L VISITS
1.	Water supply and wells		 	1
	Drainage		 	41
3.	Infectious diseases		 	18
	Under Housing Acts		 	118
	Miscellaneous housing visits	3	 	57
	Tenancy applications		 	107
	Verminous premises		 	5
	Rabbit infestation		 	
	Rat and mice destruction		 	71
	Cowsheds and dairies		 	12
	Food inspection		 	81
	Bakehouses		 	14
	Factories		 	12
	Workshops		 	32
15.	Outworkers		 	3
				575
Notice	s served :			
	ormal notices			73
	ormal notices complied with		 	68
~	tutory notices			Nil
	tutory notices complied with		 	Nil
Dia	tatory notices complied with		 	1 411

SECTION D

HOUSING

I. Number of new houses erected during the year	10
II. 1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects, excluding Council Houses and War Damaged Houses (under Public Health or Housing Acts) (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 (b) Number of inspections made for this purpose 3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation	191 191 118 118
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	73
III. Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their Officers	68
A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936: 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which	
notices were served requiring repairs 2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered	Nil
fit after service of formal notices	Nil Nil
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts	Nil
Act, 1936	Nil 1
Demolition	
A Demolition Order was made and carried out in respect of Cottage, Rowlands Yard, Dovercourt.	Chase
The following houses were voluntarily demolished: No. 3, Myrtle Cottages, and 4, Myrtle Cottages, at the re Canning Street, Harwich.	ear of
Nos 21 22 23 and 24 Coke Street Harwich	

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

I. MILK SUPPLY

There are five registered cowkeepers in the Borough. In every case the cows are brought in only for milking.

The greater part of the milk consumed within the Borough is imported

from outlying areas.

The number of purveyors of milk, registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, at 31st December, 1946, was 17.

Of the above purveyors of milk, only eight are now supplying milk

by licence from the Ministry of Food.

Frequent visits are made to all cowsheds, milkshops, and the premises

are found to be kept in a clean condition.

The supply of milk is of great importance, and I feel that until all dairies, cowsheds, and milk shops are licensed annually and power given to Local Authorities to refuse licences where the premises are not in all respects scrupulously clean, the milk supply will not be beyond reproach.

Three cow keepers who purvey most of their milk in the Borough supply Accredited Milk under licence from the County Council, and one retailer holds a licence to purvey Accredited Milk, one Tuberculin Tested

Milk, and three hold licences for Pasteurised Milk.

II. MEAT INSPECTION

As from February, 1940, all slaughtering came under Government control, and since 10th April, 1942, slaughtering of animals has ceased in the Borough, as all slaughtering for this area is carried out at Colchester.

III. FOOD SHOPS

Frequent inspections are made of all shops, stores, and vehicles where food is stored for sale. These premises are found to be in a clean condition and to comply with the regulations.

IV. FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED DURING 1946:

WET FISH	
Herrings	73 stone
Haddock	1 cwt.
Fresh Meat	
Beef, English	186 lbs.
Ox tails	158 lbs.
Pork	$23\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Sausage meat	3 lbs.

IV. FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED DURING 1946—continued: TINNED MEATS Corned beef 26 tins 26 lbs. Stewed steak 20 tins 20 lbs. Brisket beef 1 tin lbs. 4 . . Tongue 2 tins 63 lbs. . . Luncheon meat 6 tins 6 lbs. Sausage meat ... 6 tins 6 lbs. 1 tin Minced beef 12 . . ozs. Chopped ham ... 12 2 tins ozs. Cooked meat 1 tin 6 lbs. . . TINNED FISH Pilchards 18 tins 16 lbs. . . Sardines 34 tins 8 lbs. 71 tins 35 lbs. Salmon ... Crawfish 1½ lbs. 3 tins MILK. TINNED Milk, full cream 15 tins 11½ lbs. .. 490 tins Milk, evaporated 399 lbs. OTHER TINNED FOODS 45 tins 53 Peas lbs. 92 Beans .. 77 tins lbs. Steak and kidney pudding ltin 1 lb. 5 tins lbs. Pineapple 8 tins lbs. Damsons Plums .. 5 tins lbs. 14 Peaches 14 tins lbs. Fruit cocktail ... 1 tin 1 lb. Meat and vegetables 11 tins 11 lbs. . . 4 tins lbs. Spaghetti in tomato 4 tins lbs. Carrots ... 1 tin lb. Soup ... 3 tins lbs. Beetroot 12 Tomatoes 1 tin ozs. OTHER FOODS 1 ton 1 cwt. 2 grs. Bread Bacon 24½ lbs. .. 40 lbs. Cheese ... Sugar 2 cwts. 1 lb. 31 lbs. Tea Cocoa .. 493 lbs. Coffee ... 6½ lbs. . . 2 pkts. Dried milk 3 lbs. Butter 1 cwt. 5 lbs. Margarine 25 lbs. Lard . .

Golden syrup				6 lbs.
Various jams				7 lbs.
Y 1				1 lb.
		 	1	400 200 0000000000000000000000000000000
Marmalade		 	I CW	t. 3 grs.
Salt		 		46 pkts.
Soap flakes		 		8 lbs.
Date puddings	99	 		2 lbs.
Cornflower		 		8 lbs.
Cake		 		1 lb.
Cake mixture				4 lbs.
		 		22 lbs.
Custard powder		 		
Pickles		 		2 lbs.
Sauce		 		2 btls.
Dried egg		 		1 tin
Chocolate (bars,	3d. each)	 		480
Sweets		 		15 lbs.
Self raising flour				21 lbs.
D				60 lbs.
		 	+	
Sultanas		 		60 lbs.
Bisto		 		144 pkts.
Eggs (Australian)		 		72
Biscuits, assorted		 		14½ lbs.
Shredded wheat		 		16 pkts.
Pudding mixture		 		98 lbs.
- dading minetic				, , , , , , , ,

V. BAKEHOUSES

There are seven bakehouses in operation and frequent visits are made. All are kept in clean condition. All premises have been hot lime-washed at least twice during the year. There are no underground bakehouses in use in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACT

Report on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, and the Factories Act, 1937.

Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspection made by Sanitary Inspector.

	WRITTEN	OCCUPIERS
PREMISES INSPECTIONS	NOTICES	PROSECUTED
Factories with mechanical power 12	-	_
Factories without mechanical power 32	_	
Other premises under the Act in-		
cluding works of building and		
engineering construction	-	-

44

Defects found Nil

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The year was singularly free from all infectious diseases.

TABLE IV

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED DURING THE YEAR

PRIMARY IMMUNISATION				REINFORG	CING IN	NJECTI	ONS
Under five			225	Prior to 1st Jar	nuary.	1946	398
Five to fifteen			39	During 1946			
Total			264	Total			578

TABLE V

PROPHYLACTIC IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946:

	and the same of							and the same of
AGE AT 31/12/46 i.e. BORN IN YEAR	UNDER 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5 то 9 1937-41	10 то 14 1932-36	TOTAL UNDER 15
Number Immunised	3	138	149	129	147	777	724	2,067
Estimated mid-year population 1946	1,020				1,6	560	2,680	
Estimated percentage Immunised	55.49 per cent.				90·42 r	per cent.	77.7 per cent.	

Prophylactic Immunisation against Diphtheria has been steadily advocated throughout the year. It is recommended that a course of two injections be given between the age of eight and twelve months, followed by one reinforcing dose at five years, and another at the age of ten.

In the main the response is due to the continuous efforts made by the Health Visitors. It is felt that personal persuasion yields much better return than other methods of propaganda. The increased Continental traffic through the Port of Harwich renders more than usually necessary the protection of the local community against possible infection from overseas.

During the year fifteen children were also inoculated against whooping cough.

TABLE VI

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculossi) during the year 1946 TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED

DEATHS	11111111111111	1
CASES AD- MITTED TO HOSPITAL	=-11111111111	13
TOTAL	<u>5-∞5</u> ∞ 1	49
-69-	111111111111111	1
45-64	111111111111111	1
25-44	211121111-111	5
YEARS 15-24	111111111-	3
AGE IN 10-14	211111111111111111111111111111111111111	5
5-9	∞ ν	17
3-4	0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	=
1-2	011011111111111	5
0-1	11121111111-1	3
DISEASES	Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Measles Whooping Cough Pneumonia Cerebro Spinal Fever Acute Poliomyelitis Polio-Encephalitis Enteric Fever, including Paratyphoid Dysentery Smallpox Erysipelas Puerperal Pyrexia Ophthalmia Neonatorum Infective Jaundice	Total

MONTHLY NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1946 TABLE VII

TOTAL	12-62851-5
DEC.	111-1-11
NOV.	12-11111
OCT.	1-111111
SEPT.	1211-111
AUG.	111-1-01-
JULY	121-12-11
JUNE	11111-111
MAY	11111111
APRIL	11111111
FEB. MAR. APRIL	12111111
FEB.	1111-1-11
JAN.	14
	atorum
DISEASES	Starlet Fever
	Smallpox Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Pneumonia Erysipelas Measles Whooping Cophthalmia Infective Jaur

TABLE VIII

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND TUBERCULOSIS CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS

(Figures in parenthesis indicate Number of Deaths during each year)

1946	17 (0) 1 (0) 2 (0) 2 (0)	1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	929
1945	16 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	266 0 1 2 4 4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	2004 3€€
1944	38	27.000	00° 000 000
1943	12 (0)	11 9 6 9 (2) 1 - 1	1 (3)
1942	2000 0000 1	156 (0) 50 (0) 6 (0) 1 - 1	3 (0)
1941	2(0)	- 828 639 6399	6 (3)
1940	97-1-8		7 (4)
1939	3.00	e. – 7(2)	11 (10)
1938	©© ©	Not notifiable.	3(0)
1937	2 (0)	Not 16 (3) "	1 (6)
	:::::	р::::Е:	::.
DISEASE	Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Puerperal Sepsis Erysipelas Cerebro Spinal Fever	Paratyphoid Measles Whooping Cough Pneumonia Ophthalmia Neonatorun Puerperal Pyrexia	Infective Jaundice T.B.—Pulmonary T.B.—Non-pulmonary

TABLE IX
TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality During 1946

	NE		NOTIFIE G YEAR.	D	DEATHS DURING YEAR.			
AGE		NON-		NON-				
PERIODS.	PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.		PULMONARY.	
	M.	F.	м.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	_	_	_	_	_	_		_
1-5	_	_	_	1	_	_	_	-
5-15	1	_	_	1	-	_	_	_
15-25	3	2	_	_	1	1	_	_
25-35	1	2	_	_	1	_	_	_
35-45	1	-	1	-	1	_	_	_
45-55	2		_	_	_	_	_	
55-65	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_
65 and up	, —	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	4	1	2	4	1	18-	_

METEOROLOGICAL READINGS FOR THE YEAR 1946

These are given, together with the yearly amounts of sunshine and rainfall from the year 1925, when this Authority first started its meteorological station.

YEAR			SUNSHINE HOURS	RAINFALL INCHES
1925			1698.5	20.18
1926			1625.1	20.78
1927			1551.6	20.57
1928			1906.8	24.50
1929		1	1816.2	22.80
1930			1726.5	23.65
1931			1614.3	17:35
1932			1437.6	19.52
1933			1908.4	15.67
1934	• • •		1792.0	19.57
1935			1910.0	24.75
1936	•		1/17:4	23:39
1937			1554.1	27.50
1938	••		1780.9	27.50
1939			1773.7	29.92
1940			1816.5	20.76
1941			1426.5	22.14
0.000				
1942			1631.0	23:70
1943			1858.5	16.65
1944	••		1649.0	22:74
1945			1584.3	19.77
1946			1701.9	25.92

The coldest days during 1946 were 20th January and 13th December, 34 degrees.

The warmest day during 1946 was 24th July, 78 degrees.

The day with the most sunshine during 1946 was 8th July, 14.0 hours.

The wettest day during 1946 was 4th July, 1.23 inches.

1946

TEMPERATURES

		ME	ANS.		HIGH	HEST.	LOW	EST.	GRASS
MONTH.	DRY.	WET.	MAX.	MIN.	MAX.	MIN.	MAX.	MIN.	MIN.
January	37.8	40.2	42.8	35.0	56	46	34	28	22
February	43.1	41.8	47.9	38.2	56	51	37	25	12
March	41.6	40.0	46.2	36.0	59	45	34	29	23
April	51.7	48.6	57.5	41.6	70	49	48	32	23
May	53.7	50.9	58.9	45.4	70	52	50	35	27
June	59.05	55.03	64.6	50.3	72	56	59	44	34
July	64.0	60.3	70.0	55.3	78	64	63	46	38
August	61.5	59.4	67.8	53.8	75	60	61	48	43
September	59.4	57.9	64.4	53.0	73	60	39	46	41
October	52.8	50.8	56.8	47.9	67	60	48	36	31
November	47.7	46.9	51.1	42.7	63	50	43	35	27
December	37.4	37.1	41.8	32.8	48	39	34	23	18

BRIGHT SUNSHINE

		н	OURS BRIGHT	DAILY	NUMBER OF	
MONTH.		8	SUNSHINE.	AVERAGE	SUNLESS DAYS	
January			63.6	2.1	10	
February			71.3	2.5	12	
March			110.3	3.6	11	
April			234.7	7.7	3	
May			224.3	7.2	1	
June			201.6	6.72	-	
July			238.9	7.7	1	
August			187.8	6.05	1	
September			142.3	4.7	2 6	
October			102.3	3.3		
November			51.8	1.7	10	
December			73.0	2.35	11	
Motela			1701.9	4.63		
Totals			1701.9	4.09	68	

RAINFALL

		3.73	OTAL FALL	GREATEST FALL	
MONTH.		IN INCHES.		IN 24 HOURS	DATE.
January			1.20	0.38	28
February			1.72	0.33	26
March			1.35	0.35	5
April			0.98	0.34	28
May			2.50	0.89	26
June			2.44	0.48	15
July			2.21	1.42	4
August			3.99	1.23	9
September			1.82	0.34	9 2
October			1.11	0.37	26
November			3.66	0.70	14
December			2.94	0.60	8
Total			25.92	_	



