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BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE.

ANNUAL REPORT

on the work of the

Public Health Services
1946

A. J. MUIR, M.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

W. A. SHARP, M.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector

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BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE.

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Chief Sanitary Inspector

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Miss F. WILLES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss A. MATTHEWS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Miss M. O'CALLAGHAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

(left October, 1946)

Miss M. PADFIELD, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

Mrs. V. DREWETT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., commenced
December, 1946.

Dental Surgeon for Maternity and Child Welfare :

Miss H. M. SHERRY, L.D.S.

Consultant Obstetrician : A. MORRIS JOHNS, M.D., F.R.C.O.G.**Public Analyst : ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.****Senior Clerk : Miss L. M. URIDGE.**

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

Total Number of Deaths	11
Death Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births	14.99
Number of legitimate infant deaths	11
Legitimate death rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	15.99 *
No. of illegitimate infants' deaths	0
Illegitimate death rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	47
Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1
Total Tuberculosis Deaths (all cases)	19
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all cases)	0.48
Total Deaths—Respiratory Tuberculosis	18
Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.46
Total Deaths—Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	1
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate	0.03
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding Tuberculosis)	1.02

CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death :

	1945		1946	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—
2 Measles	—	—	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
5 Diphtheria	1	—	—	—
6 Influenza	1	1	—	1
7 Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—
8 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	8	8	11	7
9 Other Tuberculous diseases	2	1	—	1
10 Syphilis	2	—	3	—
11 General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	—	—	—	—
12 Cancer, malignant disease	26	33	23	24
13 Diabetes	1	3	2	1
14 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	14	22	12	23
15 Heart Disease	42	60	38	51
16 Other circulatory diseases	6	11	3	10
17 Bronchitis	15	8	10	8
18 Pneumonia (all forms)	9	8	8	5
19 Other respiratory diseases	3	4	9	—
20 Peptic Ulcer	4	1	5	—

	1945		1946	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
21 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ..	1	1	1	—
22 Appendicitis	2	1	1	—
23 Acute infantile encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—
24 Other digestive diseases	2	8	5	4
25 Acute and chronic nephritis ...	3	1	7	7
26 Puerperal sepsis	—	—	—	—
27 Other Puerperal causes	—	1	—	—
28 Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	7	6	7	3
29 Suicide	3	2	4	—
30 Other deaths from violence	12	2	3	3
31 Other defined diseases	36	16	26	20
32 Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	—	—	—	—
All Causes	<u>200</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>168</u>

Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality during the Year, 1946.

	Rate per 1,000 total population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population							Rate per 1,000 live Births		
	Live-Births	Stillbirths	All causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	19.1	0.53	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.15	4.4	43
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	22.2	0.67	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.13	6.1	46
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	21.3	0.59	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.14	2.8	37
High Wycombe	18.72	0.59	8.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.4	14.99
The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales (per 1,000 Total Births)			Puerperal sepsis	Other	Total							
			0.18	1.06	1.24							
The Maternal Mortality Rates for High Wycombe (per 1,000 Total Births)			Nil	Nil	Nil							

SECTION II.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Hospitals.

These are as described in previous reports.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

This is undertaken by the Local Nursing Association who employ Queen's Nurses—two of whom are engaged on general nursing work and three on midwifery.

Ambulance Facilities.

An ambulance service is provided by the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The ambulance headquarters are at the Municipal Offices. There are 4 ambulances and one sitting case car, and most of the work is done voluntarily by members of the Brigade. Cases of infectious disease are conveyed in the ambulance belonging to the Fever Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.**(a) Administered by the Local Council.**

Ante-Natal Clinic	... Municipal Maternity Home, Shrubbery Road Thursdays and Fridays, 2—4 p.m.
Women's Advisory Clinic	Municipal Maternity Home, Shrubbery Road, Tuesdays, 2—4 p.m.
Infant Welfare Centres	Municipal Health Centre, Dyke Meadow, Tuesdays and Fridays, 2—4 p.m. Methodist Schoolroom, Chapel Lane, Sands. Tuesdays, 2—4 p.m. Methodist Schoolroom, West Wycombe 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m. Turner's Sports Pavilion, Totteridge, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 2—4 p.m. St. Anne's Church Room, Wycombe Marsh. Every Thursday, 2—4 p.m. St. Birinus' Church Hall Booker. Every Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.

(b) Administered by Bucks County Council.

Tuberculosis Clinic	... 49a Frogmoor. Fridays, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
---------------------	---

Venereal Diseases Clinic 49a Frogmoor.

Mondays, 4—5 p.m. Males

Mondays, 3—4 p.m. Females

Thursdays, 5.30—6.30 p.m. Females

Thursdays, 6.30—7.30 p.m. Males

Dr. Korn is in attendance.

Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities are provided by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Oxford. Results on 144 specimens sent during 1946 were received.

SECTION III.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Ante-Natal Services.

During 1946, 344 mothers attended the Ante-Natal Clinics. 114 of these were confined in their own homes and were attended by the District Nurses.

Midwives.

The local Supervising Authority for midwives is the County Council. Three full time midwives are employed by the Nursing Association. They are accommodated at the Municipal Maternity Home.

Home Help.

A home help was appointed in September, 1946. One maternity case was provided with help during the year.

Maternal Mortality.

In 1946, there were no deaths from puerperal causes in High Wycombe. The following table gives the number of maternal deaths in High Wycombe and England and Wales for the last ten years:—

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
High Wycombe										
Deaths from puerperal sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from other puerperal causes	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	3	1	—
Rate per 1,000 Births (live and still) ..	1.7	0.0	1.9	1.7	0.0	1.5	0.0	3.7	1.5	0.0
England and Wales										
Rate per 1,000 Births (live and still) ..	3.11	2.97	2.82	2.16	2.23	2.01	1.84	1.53	1.46	1.24

Infantile Mortality.

The following table gives the infantile mortality rate per 1000 live births for High Wycombe and England and Wales for the last ten years:—

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
England and Wales .	58	53	50	55	59	49	49	46	46	43
High Wycombe ...	25	26.5	40.3	50.6	31.5	35.6	24.6	34.7	31.9	14.9

Maternity and Nursing Homes in the Borough.

The following are statistics for the year 1946, for the Municipal Maternity Home, Shrubbery Road, and "The Grange" Emergency Maternity Home, Amersham Hill.

	Municipal Maternity Home	"The Grange"
Number of maternity beds ...	16	10
Number of maternity cases admitted during the year ...	380	193
Number of cases delivered by:—		
Midwives ...	272	192
Doctors ...	108	1
Average duration of stay of cases in the lying-in wards ...	10.6 days	13.2 days
Number of cases in which medical assistance was sought by a midwife in emergency ...	57	69
Number of cases admitted after delivery ...	—	8
Number of infants wholly breast fed on leaving the Home ...	313	167
Number of maternal deaths ...	—	—
Number of Stillbirths ...	13	5
Causes of still-births—		
Prematurity ...	3	1
Ante-partum haemorrhage ...	1	—
Maternal diabetes ...	1	—
Difficult delivery ...	—	1
Macerated foetus ...	2	1
Intracranial haemorrhage ...	2	—
Malpresentation ...	2	—
Maternal asphyxia ...	1	—
Cause unknown ...	1	2
Number of infant deaths within 10 days of birth ...	7	4

The Nursing Staff at the Maternity Home consists of a Matron, Assistant Matron, two Sisters, two Staff midwives and one Assistant Nurse. In addition there are six pupil midwives doing their training for their Part II Certificate. Two of these pupils are at the Home, two are at the Grange, and the other two are on the District. The arrangement whereby medical students from St. Mary's did their training at the Home terminated during the year.

380 births took place in the Home during the year, 277 to Borough residents, 78 to County residents, and 25 to patients admitted through the Government Evacuation Scheme.

The Ante-Natal supervision is done by Dr. Morris Johns—consultant obstetrician.

The Grange Emergency Maternity Home is under the general supervision of the Matron of the Municipal Maternity Home. There is a sister in charge with two midwives plus the pupil midwives.

In addition to the above Maternity Homes, "Wymers" Ante-Natal Hostel, Handy Cross, is run by the Borough Council for the Ministry of Health. The Staff at "Wymers" consists of a Matron, who is a S.R.N., S.C.M., one domestic worker and one handyman.

The following are a few statistics in respect of the Hostel for the year 1946—

Number of beds in the Hostel	...	...	...	21
Number of cases admitted to Wymers during 1946				211
Number of cases in Wymers 31st December, 1945				15
Number of cases transferred from Wymers to "The Grange," or Municipal Maternity Home	...			217
Number of cases discharged to own homes at own request	...	...	...	2
Number in hostel on 31st December, 1946			...	7

Besides the Homes given above, there are three Nursing and/or Maternity Homes in the Borough.

The Willows, 147 West Wycombe Road.	Registered to receive Maternity and Surgical cases.
St. George's, 123 London Road.	Registered to receive Medical, Minor Surgical, Aged and Infirm Cases.
The Sefton, 113 Totteridge Road.	Registered to receive Medical, Minor Surgical, Maternity, Acute Surgical, Aged and Infirm Cases.

During 1946 88 births occurred in "The Willows" Nursing Home—45 to Borough residents, 43 to County residents, and 93 births occurred at "The Sefton" Nursing Home—71 to Borough residents, 22 to County residents.

Post Natal and Gynaecological Clinics.

Gynaecological and post natal cases are seen at the ordinary ante-natal clinics after the pre-natal patients have been seen. Patients on discharge from the Maternity Home are given appointments for their post-natal examinations. 227 patients so attended in 1946—a highly satisfactory number, and a special meed of praise is due the Matron for her efforts in this direction.

In addition, a Women's Advisory Clinic is held weekly by Dr. Marjorie Edwards at the Municipal Maternity Home.

Infantile Mortality.

Eleven infants under the age of twelve months died during 1946, giving an infantile mortality rate of 14.99 per 1,000 live births.

Total number of neo-natal deaths (1-4 weeks) 8

Total number of infants' deaths under 1 year 11

The neo-natal deaths were made up as follows:—

Prematurity 6

Foetal exhaustion 1

Myelocoele 1

The deaths in the first year, excluding those given above, were due to:—

Enteritis 1

Marasmus 1

Congenital duodenal atresia 1

Still-births.

During the year there were 27 still-births, giving a still-birth rate of 35.47 per 1000 births (live and still).

Sunlight Clinic.

This clinic was held twice weekly during the year at the Health Centre except for a period of ten weeks during the summer when it was closed. 76 children under school age made 799 attendances for treatment.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During 1946, some 462 children, not in school attendance, completed the full course for immunisation against diphtheria.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Clinics were held at The Municipal Health Centre, on Tuesday and Friday afternoons in each week, at the Methodist School Room, Chapel Lane, Sands, and St. Birinus' Church Hall, Booker, every Tuesday afternoon, at St. Anne's Church Room, Wycombe Marsh, every Thursday afternoon, at the Methodist School Room, West Wycombe, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons, and at Turners' Sports Pavilion, Totteridge, on the 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoons in each month. A record of work done in 1946 is given in the following table:—

	Health Centre	Sands	West Wycombe	Totteridge	Marsh	Booker	Total
No. of Sessions ...	115	51	23	23	43	45	300
No. of children who attended during the year and who, at the end of the year were:—							
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	251	83	14	22	144	100	614
(2) 1—5 years of age ...	321	113	38	45	77	123	717
No. of attendances by children:—							
(1) Under 1 year of age ...	6074	1641	207	324	1288	1296	10830
(2) 1—5 years... ..	2740	627	263	414	385	656	5085
Total Attendances	8814	2268	470	738	1673	1952	15915
Average attendance per session ...	77	44	20	32	39	43	53

Dental Clinic.

The following table gives a record of the dental work done under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme.

	Nursing and Expectant Mothers	Children under school age
Number	9	88
Total Attendances ...	30	119
Permanent Teeth extracted .	7	—
Permanent Teeth filled ...	31	—
Temporary Teeth extracted	—	87
Temporary Teeth filled ...	—	145
Other operations	15	4
Dentures supplied—complete	—	—
—partial	—	—

Ophthalmic Clinic.

Any child under five years of age suffering from eye defects may be referred to Dr. Stallard, the School Eye Specialist. During 1946, 32 children under school age were seen by him, 17 for the first time and 15 for re-examination.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.

Any child under five years of age suffering from ear, nose or throat defects may be referred to Dr. Wells, the School Consultant. During 1946 32 children under school age were referred to him for consultation.

Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids.

Nine children under the age of five years and not attending school received operative treatment at The School Clinic for tonsils and adenoids.

Provision of Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc.

Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices and National Dried Milk are distributed at Sands, Booker, Marsh, West Wycombe and Totteridge Clinics under the supervision of the local Food Office. Proprietary brands of different foods (Cow & Gate Food, Ostermilk, Groats, Horlicks, Virol, Farex) are sold at all the Clinics. I.C.D. Tablets are also available, both at the Welfare Centres and at the ante-natal clinics.

It is estimated that the overall uptake of vitamin products issued by the Ministry of Food is approximately 90% of those entitled to them.

Child Life Protection.

A register is kept in the Public Health Department as required by the Public Health Act, 1936, of all persons resident in the Borough who receive children for reward, together with the names of the children concerned. On the 31st December, 1946, there were seven foster children on the register.

Home Visiting by Health Visitors.

Home visiting is an essential part of a Health Visitor's duties. In the course of a year a large number of visits are paid as can be seen

from the following table:—

No. of Ante-Natal Visits:—					
First Visits	...	...	...	...	346
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	103
No. of Visits to Children under 1 year:—					
First Visits	...	...	...	...	754
Subsequent Visits	...	...	...	...	3,112
No. of Visits to Children 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	4,927

Voluntary Helpers.

The following ladies assisted in the work of the Infant Welfare Clinics and their help was greatly appreciated:—

Health Centre—

Miss Allard	Mrs. Grace	Miss Nicholson
Mrs. Baxter	Mrs. Hall Patch	Mrs. Simpson
Mrs. Beauchamp	Mrs. Harris	Mrs. Tilbury
Mrs. Bexon	Mrs. Harriman	Mrs. Ward
Miss Birch	Mrs. Herbert	Mrs. Williams
Mrs. Fitch	Mrs. Moss	

West Wycombe—

Mrs. Bird	Mrs. Phillips	Mrs. West
Mrs. Elliott	Mrs. Watson	

Sands—

Mrs. Davis	Mrs. Line	Mrs. Newell
Mrs. Ensor	Mrs. Lovegrove	Mrs. Walters

Totteridge—

Mrs. Harris	Mrs. Hoing	Mrs. Puddiphatt
Mrs. West		

Marsh—

Mrs. Gibbs	Mrs. MacLeod	Mrs. Schofield
Mrs. Jeffries	Miss Nicholson	Mrs. Simmonds

Booker—

Mrs. Brake	Mrs. Kenny	Mrs. Stevens
Mrs. Bodfish		

SECTION IV.

PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

(a) Notifiable Diseases.

The table on the following page gives the number of cases during the year.

(b) Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The antigen used was Alum Precipitated Toxoid. The first dose was 0.2 c.c. and the second 0.5 c.c. was given a month later.

During 1946, 568 children (462 under school age and 106 of school age) completed the course of immunisation. It is estimated that 55% of all children in the Borough under five years of age are immunised and 86% of all school children.

(c) Scabies.

92 children received in-patient treatment and 463 children and 550 adults received out-patient treatment for scabies at "The Mount." These numbers include cases from the areas of the Wycombe Rural District, and Marlow Urban District, and the other surrounding districts.

(d) Isolation Hospital.

All cases of infectious disease needing hospital treatment are sent to the Booker Isolation Hospital, which is run by the Wycombe and District Joint Hospital Board.

The number of patients admitted and discharged from the Isolation Hospital from the Borough during 1946 is set out in the following table:—

Disease	Remaining 31st Dec. 1945	Admitted during 1946	Discharged during 1946	Died during 1946	Remaining 31st Dec. 1946
Scarlet Fever ...	4	28	28	—	4
Diphtheria ...	—	1 case	7	—	—
	—	6 carriers		—	—
Measles ...	—	2	1	—	1
Erysipelas ...	—	3	3	—	—
German Measles ...	—	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	3	3	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	1	2	4	—	—
		1 (suspected)			

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE FOR 1946.

Disease	Total cases Notified	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25 and over
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	29	—	—	3	13	4	3	6
Diphtheria ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Typhoid and Para-typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia ...	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Erysipelas ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	48	3	6	10	26	2	1	—
Whooping Cough ...	17	4	4	7	2	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	14	—	—	—	1	1	4	8
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	4	—	1	—	—	—	2	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
	135	12	12	20	43	10	12	26

SECTION V.

Tuberculosis.

The tuberculosis service is administered by the County Council. A Clinic is held weekly on Friday mornings at the County Clinic at Frogmoor.

The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in High Wycombe in 1946:—

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Totals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. on Register on 1st January, 1946 ...	73	62	135	34	35	69	204
No. first notified during 1946 ...	8	6	14	3	1	4	18
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ...	9	6	15	0	1	1	16
No. removed from Register during 1946:—							
(a) Died ...	11	7	18	0	1	1	19
(b) Removed from district ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(c) De-notified ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No. remaining on Register, 31/12/46 ...	79	67	146	37	36	73	219

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1946 are given in detail in the following table:—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	2	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
20—25 ...	1	3	1	1	—	2	—	1
25—35 ...	6	3	—	—	3	4	—	—
35—45 ...	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 ...	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55—65 ...	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and over ...	1	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
Totals ...	17	12	3	2	11	7	—	1

SECTION VI.

Prevention of Blindness.

During 1946 four cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified. An agreement is in force with the Oxford Eye Hospital whereby they will take any cases of ophthalmia neonatorum needing hospital treatment, providing they have accommodation. During the year one case was so admitted.

SECTION VII.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for the year 1946

Municipal Offices,
High Wycombe.

November, 1947.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN
and
COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF
HIGH WYCOMBE.

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1946, and in doing so I wish again to express my appreciation for the consideration I have received from you during the past year.

The work of the Department, in common with that of other Departments, has been handicapped by existing conditions and has once again been concerned with the present and not with the future, and the work carried out is not easy to record.

It is to be hoped that in the near future the work of improving conditions in existing houses may be begun in earnest, and that the time is not far off when quality and not quantity will be the main consideration.

The poor condition of many houses of the older type is well known, and a large number will be found to be beyond repair at reasonable expense. It is not very satisfactory to know that such conditions exist and to be unable to remedy them. They will, however, receive attention at the first opportunity.

I again desire to thank my Staff for their continued loyalty and enthusiasm and to all the Officials for their co-operation.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. A. SHARP,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Infectious Diseases.						
Visits paid	...	...	...	...	...	411
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	107
Disinfection of Rooms.						
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	7
Non-Notifiable Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	16
Disinfection—Bedding.						
Private Houses—No. of Articles	...	...	...	...	...	473
No. of Articles for Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	456
Other articles removed on request and for which payment was made:—						
Neighbouring Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	144
Private Firms	...	...	...	...	...	865
Disinfestation.						
			No. of Houses	No. of Rooms	2nd Treat- ments	
Eradication of the bed-bug						
Private Houses	...	26	83	5		
Council Houses	...	8	20	2		

Verminous Conditions.

The disinfestation of verminous premises has been carried out as in previous years and during the year experiments with insecticides containing D.D.T. which were brought to the notice of the Department were carried out, and it was decided that the results of these experiments justified the decision that only insecticides containing a percentage of D.D.T. would be used in the future for the disinfestation of verminous premises.

This method of disinfestation would have been carried out earlier, but the instructions received from the numerous makers was so conflicting, that a final decision was not arrived at until official instructions were received as to the precautions to be taken in its use.

Disinfection.

The steam disinfector has been in constant use during the year for purposes of disinfection after Infectious Diseases, and it is also used in cases of verminous bedding.

Several applications have been made by adjoining Authorities for the use of the machine. All applications for such work to be done have always been complied with, the work carried out, and the cost charged to the Applicants.

Water Supply.

The quality and quantity of the water supply has been satisfactory throughout the year.

Twenty-seven samples of piped water supply were taken and submitted for Chemical and Bacteriological Examination. The supply proved to be consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes. Twenty-three samples were from the supply at various premises throughout the Borough, whilst the remaining four were of raw water, prior to treatment, at the pumping station. One of these latter samples showed very slight contamination, but a following-up sample showed it to be of a temporary or localised nature.

In addition, a sample of water after boiling was taken, and on analysis proved to be quite satisfactory.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvency.

Statistics.

The public supply to the area is as follows:—

	No. of Houses piped supply	No. of Houses by standpipe	Estimated Population Served
Borough of High Wycombe Supply by Corporation Works to places outside area of Borough	10,550	15	39,220
Borough	904	58	4,136

Milk Supply.

Milk Special Designations : Regular supervision and sampling of milk has been maintained during the year on premises where milk is prepared and bottled under a Special Designation, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that only a small percentage of the samples submitted for examination have failed to pass the prescribed test for their particular Designation.

Owing to the number of samples of a particular designation which were adversely reported upon in the latter part of 1945, steps were taken in the early part of this year by the Health Committee to ascertain the reason for such a large proportion of the samples submitted being unsatisfactory. Meetings were arranged between the Producers and the Committee and certain guarantees were given.

It is now pleasing to report that, except for an odd sample or two, the majority of samples submitted have been satisfactory, and where samples have been unsatisfactory every endeavour has been made by the Producer and the Officers of your Department to ascertain the cause.

The good results now obtained are due to the installation of modern machinery and to the closest co-operation of all concerned. Although one would not say that all conditions are satisfactory, in fairness to the Producers, one would have to admit that the conditions are entirely due to the shortage of vehicles and equipment which, although ordered, have not been delivered.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936

Licences granted by the Town Council under the above Order, during 1946, are:—

Pasteurised	1
Tuberculin Tested (Bottling)	3
Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary)	9

Results of Samples Taken.

	No. of Samples Taken	Result	
		Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Pasteurised	17	16	1
Pasteurised (School)	6	5	1
Tuberculin Tested	28	26	2
Heat-Treated	1	1	—
Total	52	48	4

Meats and Foods Inspection.

The work of meat inspection continues to be carried out by your Officers by arrangement with the Ministry of Food. All slaughtering is centralised as in previous years at premises in Easton Street.

Slaughtering is undertaken by a Contractor on behalf of the Ministry of Food, the distribution by a Company also on behalf of the Ministry of Food.

The animals are inspected by your Officers and condemnations made as required, the condemned meat being collected and disposed of by outside Contractors.

The above method of slaughtering, inspection, distribution, and the disposal of condemned meat, has in the past been fairly satisfactory when considered as a war-time measure, but one would hesitate to say that the meat is produced and distributed under ideal hygienic conditions or that the statutory requirements with regard to preparation and distribution are carried out.

Full co-operation is given by all concerned and every endeavour is made to avoid contamination, but owing to the meat passing through many hands before reaching its final destination (the retailer) thorough supervision is impossible.

The premises used for the purpose of slaughtering are far too small for the number of animals killed. No provision is made for the hanging of meat in a separate room after slaughter, and it is impossible for the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 to be carried out in a satisfactory manner.

The work of inspection is carried out under conditions which are far from satisfactory, and although it is the aim of this Department to carry out a 100% inspection, it is difficult, and next to impossible, to identify any particular organ as related to a particular animal should the Inspector be absent for any length of time whilst slaughtering is in progress. It is therefore necessary for one member of your Staff to be available at all times during slaughtering.

It would appear from the foregoing that although full co-operation exists between the persons concerned in the local production of meat for human consumption, the conditions which exist in the Borough—although considered satisfactory as a war-time measure—are not considered as satisfactory at the present time.

It is therefore to be hoped that if centralised slaughtering is to be continued, early endeavours will be made to provide adequate and suitable premises for the hygienic production and preparation of meat for human consumption.

Slaughter of Animals.

The total number of animals slaughtered at the Government Controlled slaughterhouse during 1946 was:—

Oxen	...	...	...	...	...	1,308
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	392
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	1,575
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	5,475
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	68
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	8,818
						<hr/>

The weight of condemned meat and offal for the year was as follows:—

Beef in Carcase	7,160 lbs.
Beef not in Carcase	3,334 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
Mutton in Carcase	277 „
Mutton not in Carcase	178 „
Pork and Pig Meat	156 „
Offals	10,127 „
Total	21,232$\frac{1}{4}$ „

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	1308	392	1575	5475	68
Non-Tuberculosis :					
Whole Carcases condemned .	2	5	2	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	275	50	5	59	4
Percentage of the number killed affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	21.1%	14.0%	0.43%	1.09%	7.35%
Tuberculosis Only :					
Whole Carcases condemned .	3	7	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	160	72	—	—	—
Percentage of number killed affected with Tuberculosis	12.46%	20.1%	—	—	—

Table Showing Condemned Organs of Animals.

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Hearts	Skirts	Livers	Spleens	Tripes	Cauls	Intestines	Mesenteries	Kidneys	Uteri	Bones	Udders	Totals
Cattle																
Tuberculosis	71	159	164	16	14	56	13	16	11	11	11	11	9	11	9	582
Emaciated	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	45
Actinomycosis	16	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
Echinococcus	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Abscess	5	1	2	1	2	18	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Septicaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
Dropsy	5	2	3	2	2	4	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	37
Flukes	—	—	—	—	—	324	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	324
Pneumonia	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18
Growth	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Inflammation	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oedema	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cavernous Angioma	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Anaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cystic	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Pyæmia	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Obstruction	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Sheep																
Anaemia	1	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	9
Dropsy	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	8
Abscess	4	2	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Strongylosis	3	3	3	3	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
Tenuicollis	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Flukes	—	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
Cystic	4	4	4	4	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27
Pneumonia	5	5	5	5	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Pigs																
Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	10
Totals	122	205	197	43	26	541	22	29	19	21	20	22	16	19	16	1318

Other Foodstuffs Condemned.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during the year ended 31st December, 1946:—

Beans/Peas, 452 tins	Meat, paste, 30 jars
Biscuits, 34 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Milk, tinned, 720 tins
Chicken, 1 at 2 lbs. 13 ozs.	Oats, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Corned Beef, 188 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	Peaches, 25 lbs.
Corned Beef, 414 tins	Peanut Butter, 1 lb.
Eggs, 158	Preserves, 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Fish, 260 tins	Preserves, tinned, 39 tins
Fish, wet, 172 stones 4 lbs.	Pickles, 3 jars
Fish, other, 1 bag Whelks	Sauce, 1 bottle
Fruit, dried, 22 lbs.	Soups, 48 tins
Fruit, tinned, 120 tins	Stewed Steak, 93 tins
Meat, tinned, 60 tins	Sugar, 16 lbs.
Meat, tinned, 22 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Tea, 9 lbs.
Meat, Imported Mutton, 17 lbs.	Tomatoes, 19 tins
Meat, extract, 3 jars	Vegetables, 251 tins

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The number of samples taken for analysis has been maintained, much work, however, had to be carried out at the beginning of the year in connection with adverse reports received at the latter end of 1945.

It is with satisfaction that I have to report that a long investigation and the result of enquiries left no doubt in the minds of your Officers that an ingenious scheme had been devised in order to create difficulties as to who was responsible for the printing and fixing of a certain label to a spurious concoction labelled "Finest British Wine—Port Style."

The proceedings, although prolonged, were successful in every instance.

The results of these proceedings are set out elsewhere.

Cocktails.

As a result of a report on samples submitted of Non-Alcoholic Cocktails to your Analyst, and as such mixtures could not be defined, representations were made to the Labelling Division of the Ministry of Food for some guidance or legislation to be made in order that a cocktail could be properly labelled and, if possible, to give a definition of a "cocktail."

Copies of the Analyst's Certificate, labels and correspondence were forwarded to the Labelling Division, Ministry of Food, at their request and suitable legislation has now been passed.

The "cocktails" in question have now ceased to be manufactured.

Legal Proceedings for the year ended 31st December, 1946.

Acts, Orders and Regulations under which Proceedings were taken	Default or Offence	Result	Fines & Costs
Food & Drugs Act, 1938, Section 3.	Sale of Milk to which Water had been added.	Probation of Offenders Act.	£1/1/0 costs £2/2/0 special costs 4/- Court costs
Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations 1943, Article 1 (1).	Giving with a certain food ("Finest British Wine—Port Style") a label which falsely described that food.	Conviction.	Fine £150
Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations 1943, Article 1 (1).	Conspiring together and with persons unknown to contravene Article 1 (1) of the Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations 1943 by selling a food under the label "Finest British Wine—Port Style" when the said label falsely described the said food.	Conviction.	Fine £200 Costs 50gns.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, with the results shown:—

Article	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Cake Flour and Mixtures ...	9	1	10	—
Condensed Milk ...	1	—	1	—
Honey ...	2	—	2	—
Milk ...	70	1	61	8
				(2 broken in transit)
Sauces and Relish ...	3	—	3	—
Sausages and Sausage-meat ...	6	1	7	—
Sweets ...	4	—	4	—
Tea ...	3	—	3	—
Vinegar ...	4	—	4	—
Mustard and Mustard Compound ...	3	—	3	—
Coffee ...	1	—	1	—
Butter ...	1	—	1	—
Ground Ginger ...	1	—	1	—
Jam ...	1	—	1	—
Sugar ...	1	—	1	—
Paste, Meat and Fish Flavours and Essences ...	2	—	2	—
Baking Powders ...	3	1	3	1
Flavoured Crystals ...	1	—	—	1
Cold Mix ...	—	3	3	—
Ice Cream Mix ...	—	1	1	—
Fat Extender ...	—	1	1	—
Gelatine ...	—	1	1	—
Jellies and Jelly Crystals ...	3	—	3	—
Cloves ...	1	—	1	—

Article	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Black Pudding	1	—	1	—
Meat Patties	1	—	1	—
Stuffing	1	—	1	—
Camphorated Oil	1	—	1	—
Head and Nerve Powders	1	—	1	—
Tonics	2	—	2	—
Aspirin Tablets	1	—	1	—
Epsom Salts	1	—	1	—
Fruit Salts	1	—	1	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	—	1	—
Syrup of Figs	1	—	1	—
Boracic Powder	1	—	1	—
Vapour Ointments	1	—	1	—
Totals	135	10	133	10

(2 broken
in transit)

Ice Cream.

Regular and thorough inspections have been carried out of premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold.

In the absence of any official standard for the quality of Ice Cream or of a recognised test for its cleanliness, a number of samples were submitted for examination and report.

A similar bacterial standard as for Pasteurised Milk was taken as an indication that precautions had been taken in the manufacture of the samples submitted.

Only one sample was returned with a high bacterial count and this particular consignment was purchased outside the Borough from a firm which had all modern equipment and took every precaution.

Ice Cream was a subject to which special consideration was given by the Health Committee and the following resolution was submitted and passed to the Council:—

“ Resolution

- (1) that the Government be asked to introduce legislation at an early date containing provisions
 - (a) prescribing a minimum standard of content
 - (b) prescribing a standard of cleanliness not less than that contained in the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1946 and
 - (c) that ice cream sold from shops and in the open air shall be properly wrapped in suitable wrappers containing a printed statement as to its true contents :
- (2) that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Food, the Members of Parliament for the Division, and the Association of Municipal Corporations.”

The effect of the above resolution, if put into Law would be that:—

All Ice Cream sold to the public would have to be untouched by hand and all premises where Ice Cream is manufactured would be subject to an Annual Licence and would have to comply with the conditions as set out in the Milk (Special Designations) Orders.

Table Showing Condemned Organs of Animals.

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Hearts	Skirts	Livers	Spleens	Tripes	Cauls	Intestines	Mesenteries	Kidneys	Uteri	Bones	Udders	Totals
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Actinomycosis	16	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36
Echinococcus	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Abscess	5	1	2	1	2	18	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Septicaemia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	15
Dropsy	5	2	3	2	2	4	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	37
Flukes	—	—	—	—	—	324	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	324
Pneumonia	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18
Growth	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Inflammation	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oedema	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cavernous Angioma	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Anaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cystic	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Pyæmia	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Obstruction	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Sheep																
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General Statistics.

Table showing the number of Inspections made during the year:—

Houses under Public Health Acts	731
Verminous Premises	52
Water Samples	28
Common Lodging Houses	1
Schools	10
Entertainment Houses	8
Accumulations	18
Animals and Birds	33
Stable Premises and Piggeries	2
Yards, Courts, etc.	13
Drainage Inspected	197
Cowsheds	24
Milkshops and Dairies	183
Markets	182
Slaughterhouse Visits	855
Private Slaughter Visits	5
Food Preparing Premises	299
Meat Shops	228
General Food Premises	174
Ice Cream Premises	101
Stalls and Hawkers' Carts	870
Shops Acts	306
Fish Shops and Fish Mongers	29
Grocers	102
Greengrocers	46
Fried Fish Shops	29
Factories	468
Outworkers	3
Bakehouses	25
Infectious Diseases	311
Overcrowding	38
Smoke Abatement	20
Rats and Mice	394
Miscellaneous Visits	277
Interviews	634
Rivers, Streams and Watercourses	47
Factory Canteens	40
Squatters Camp	81
Licensed Premises	7
Police Court Visits	9
Rag Flock Visits	15



