

**[Report 1950] / Medical Officer of Health, High Wycombe Borough.**

**Contributors**

High Wycombe (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1950

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/ckmdb8um>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

HEALTH  
G-7 NOV 51  
C.R. 53

LIBRARY

BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE



# ANNUAL REPORT

on the work of the

## Public Health Services 1950

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

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



**BOROUGH OF HIGH WYCOMBE**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**


on the work of the

**Public Health Services**

**1950**

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

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



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29427757>



---

## CONTENTS

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AS TO PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES (GENERAL) 1950	<i>Pages</i> 5—12
REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AS TO THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH, 1950                   ...                   ...                   ...	13—27

---

**STAFF :**

**Medical Officer of Health :**

A. J. MUIR, M.B., B.Hy., D.P.H.

**Chief Sanitary Inspector :**

W. A. SHARP, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat Certificate.

**Additional Sanitary Inspectors :**

R. F. SHAPTER, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat Certificate.

N. F. COLLIER, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Meat Certificate.

**Public Analyst :**

ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.

**Senior Clerk :**

Mr. A. G. HALL.

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of High Wycombe.**

I submit my seventh annual report on the Health Services of the Borough.

During 1950 there were 618 live births giving a birth rate of 15.07 per 1,000 of the resident population. This was 94 fewer than in the previous year and 202 less than in 1947 which was the year which showed the highest birth rate since 1922. The post-war increase was therefore temporary and the trend in the birth rate now approximates to that prevailing before the war.

There were 397 deaths compared with 404 in 1949—of the total number approximately one-fifth were due to malignant disease. There were only 9 deaths from tuberculosis compared with 14 in 1949, 16 in 1948 and 22 in 1947. These figures are very satisfactory and show the progress which has been made with modern methods of treatment. There has been no decrease in the number of notified pulmonary cases—on the contrary these have increased from 21 in 1947, 30 in 1948, 35 in 1949 to 47 in 1950. Earlier diagnosis and better treatment have reduced the fatality rate.

The infantile mortality rate for the year was 24.27 per 1,000 live births—this compares favourably with the average in recent years.

There was no major outbreak of infectious disease. Scarlet Fever accounted for 79 cases and for the fourth year in succession there was not a single case of diphtheria.

Results of recent investigations on the efficacy of whooping cough vaccines suggest that the incidence of this disease can be reduced materially by immunisation of infants in the first year of life and the time has now come for this to be encouraged in the same way as was and is being done in the case of diphtheria prophylaxis.

In conclusion I thank my fellow Officials and my staff for their co-operation throughout the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. MUIR,  
Medical Officer of Health.



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Health Centre,  
High Wycombe,  
September, 1951.

## SECTION I

### Statistics :

Area ... ..	7,091 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate) ...	41,010
Number of dwelling-houses ... ..	11,850
Rateable value as at 1/4/50 ... ..	£347,308
Product of a Penny Rate (Actual 1949/50) ...	£1,375 . 6 . 11½

### Rainfall :

Pann Mill, Easton Street ... ..	31.34 ins.
Widdenton Park, Lane End ... ..	33.56 ins.

### Summary of Vital Statistics :

Live Births	Total	M.	F.	
Legitimate	587	285	302	
Illegitimate	31	12	19	
	—	—	—	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Total Births	618	297	321	—15.07
	—	—	—	
Still Births	14	9	5	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—22.15
Deaths ...	397	210	187	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
				—9.68

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

	Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	Nil	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	1.58

### Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age :

Total Number of Deaths ... ..	15
Death Rate for all infants per 1,000 live births ...	24.27
Number of legitimate infant deaths ... ..	15
Legitimate death rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	25.55
Number of illegitimate infants' deaths ... ..	Nil
Illegitimate death rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	79
Measles (all ages) ... ..	Nil
Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..	Nil
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ..	1
Total Tuberculosis Deaths (all cases) ... ..	9
Tuberculosis Death Rate (all cases) ... ..	0.22
Total Deaths—Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	7
Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate ... ..	0.17
Total Deaths—Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	2
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis Death Rate ... ..	0.04
Respiratory Death Rate (excluding Tuberculosis) ... ..	0.99

## CAUSES OF DEATH

				1950	
				M.	F.
1	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	7	—
2	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	2	—
3	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	2	1
4	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	—	—
9	Other Infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	6	6
11	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	8	—
12	Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	12
13	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	2
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	29	16
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	3	—
16	Diabetes	...	...	—	2
17	Vascular lesions of Nervous System	...	...	19	26
18	Coronary Disease, angina	...	...	28	19
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	7	3
20	Other Heart Disease	...	...	27	33
21	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	8	9
22	Influenza	...	...	—	1
23	Pneumonia	...	...	5	6
24	Bronchitis	...	...	17	8
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	—	5
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	3	1
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	—	1
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	1	—
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	8	—
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	—	1
31	Congenital Malformation	...	...	—	1
32	Other defined and illdefined diseases	...	...	24	22
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	2	3
34	All other Accidents	...	...	1	6
35	Suicide	...	...	3	2
36	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	—	—
Total				210	187



# Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality during the Year, 1950

	Rate per 1,000 total population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population								Rate per 1,000 live Births	
	Live-Births	Still-Births	All causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs.)	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.36	0.10	0.02	0.46	1.9	29.8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	17.6	0.45	12.3	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.42	0.09	0.02	0.49	2.2	33.8
148 Smaller Towns (estimated resident populations 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	16.7	0.38	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.33	0.10	0.02	0.45	1.6	29.4
High Wycombe	15.07	0.34	9.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.02	0.00	0.27	0.00	24.27

Abortion with Sepsis	Other Abortion	Pregnancy and delivery	Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	Other Complications of the puerperium
0.09	0.05	0.54	0.03	0.15
0.00	0.00	1.58	0.00	0.00

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales (per 1,000 Total Births)

The Maternal Mortality Rates for High Wycombe (per 1,000 Total Births)

## SECTION II

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

**Hospitals**

The High Wycombe War Memorial Hospital is situated in the town. This is a general hospital of 100 beds with an annexe at Booker which has Geriatric, and Ear Nose and Throat units comprising 46 beds. The Shrubbery Maternity Home of 20 beds is also in the Borough.

Infectious disease cases now go to Aylesbury Isolation Hospital or to the Isolation Hospitals at Maidenhead or Reading.

**Professional Nursing in the Home**

This is undertaken by the nurses stationed at the Grange, Amersham Hill—two of whom are engaged on general nursing work and three on midwifery. The Home Nursing Service is now the responsibility of the County Council.

**Ambulance Facilities**

These are provided by the Bucks County Council with the aid of the local branch of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The headquarters are at the Municipal Offices.

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

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic	Municipal Health Centre. Tuesdays, 10—12 noon, Wednesdays, 10—12 noon, 2—4 p.m.
Women's Advisory Clinic	Municipal Health Centre, Mondays, 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, Every Thursday, 2—4 p.m. St. Anne's Church Hall, Wycombe Marsh. Every Thursday, 2—4 p.m. St. Birinus' Church Hall, Booker. Every Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.

**(b) Administered by the Regional Hospital Board.**

Tuberculosis Clinic	49a Frogmoor. Fridays, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Venereal Diseases Clinic	49a Frogmoor Mondays, 2—3 p.m. Females Mondays, 3—4 p.m. Males 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.



## SECTION III

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

The following Clinics are administered by the Bucks County Council:

Sunlight Clinic.—Children under school age.

Dental Clinic.—Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under school age.

Ophthalmic Clinic.—Children under school age.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.—Children under school age.

## Infantile Mortality

The following table gives the infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births for High Wycombe and England and Wales for the last ten years:—

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
England & Wales	59	49	49	46	46	43	41	34	32	29.8
High Wycombe	31.5	35.6	24.6	34.7	31.9	14.9	28.05	20.62	25.28	24.27

## Infantile Mortality

Fifteen infants under the age of twelve months died during 1950, giving an infantile mortality rate of 24.27 per 1,000 live births.

## SECTION IV

## PREVALENCE 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 County Council are responsible for this service. Immunisation is carried out at all the Welfare Clinics and in the Schools.

## (c) Scabies

All cases are now treated by private doctors. It is thought that numbers of cases are very few.

## (d) Isolation Hospital

All cases of infectious disease needing hospital treatment are sent to Aylesbury, Reading or Maidenhead.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES TABLE FOR 1950

Disease	Total cases Notified	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25 and over	Age unknown
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	79	—	3	14	50	7	5	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Erysipelas ...	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Measles ...	12	3	6	—	2	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	19	2	2	6	9	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	47	2	2	1	—	—	13	29	—
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	9	—	1	—	5	—	1	2	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	181	8	14	22	68	7	22	40	—



## SECTION V

## Tuberculosis

The tuberculosis service is administered by the Regional Hospital Board. The following table gives at a glance the position regarding tuberculosis in High Wycombe during 1950.

	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Grand Totals
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. on Register on 1st January, 1950 ...	128	97	225	38	36	74	299
No. first notified during 1950 ...	34	13	47	5	4	9	56
No. of cases entered in Register other than by notification ...	5	2	7	—	—	—	7
No. removed from Register during 1950:— ...							
(a) Died ...	10	1	11	—	—	—	11
(b) Removed from District ...	5	3	8	1	—	1	9
(c) De-Notified ...	8	3	11	1	—	1	12
No. remaining on Register, 31/12/50 ...	144	105	249	41	40	81	330

The number of new cases and the number of deaths notified during 1950 are given in full 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	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1—5 ...	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
10—15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 ...	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 ...	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ...	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 ...	7	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—55 ...	8	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
55—65 ...	6	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
65 and over ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals ...	34	13	5	4	10	1	—	—

SECTION VI

ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the year 1950 •

Municipal Offices,  
High Wycombe.  
Sept. 1951

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

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the Borough and on the work of the department, for the year 1950.

Particular attention has been given to the sampling, inspection, preparation and the production of foods sold or prepared within the district, and it is pleasing to report that no case of illness was notified which was attributable to food. The adoption of the Model Food Byelaws by the Town Council, and the distribution of a printed copy to all engaged in the handling of food, has no doubt brought home the importance of hygiene and careful handling of food at all stages.

Special attention was given to the way in which meat was prepared and handled at the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse in Easton Street. The conditions under which animals are slaughtered and prepared for human consumption have in the past been far from satisfactory. Steps have now been taken, through the Health Committee, to have the conditions improved.

The Pests Act 1950 and the Shops Act 1950 consolidated all previous relevant legislation, and enables administration to be more effective.

My sincere thanks are tendered to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest in the various problems submitted to them during the year.

My further thanks are extended to the staff and to all officials for their co-operation and help.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. SHARP,  
Sanitary Inspector.



**Infectious Diseases**

Visits Paid	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	23

**Disinfection of Rooms**

Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	8
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	15
Non-notifiable diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6

**Disinfection—Bedding**

	Disinfected	Destroyed
From Private Houses—No. of Articles	96	13
Other articles removed on request and for which payment was made:—		
(a) Neighbouring Authorities	268	—
(b) Private firms etc.	37	—

**Disinfection**

The department is fortunate in having a very efficient disinfectant, supplied by steam from the refuse destructor, used for the disinfection of articles of clothing and bedding from cases of infectious disease.

The machine is invaluable to an Authority taking steps to prevent the spread of disease, but it is essential that it must be available at all times. The supply of steam, however, will cease when the incineration of refuse is discontinued. This will leave this Authority without the use of a disinfectant, and from a public health point of view this is a very serious situation. Steps are, however, being taken by the Health Committee to have an independent system installed for the supply of steam, but until this system is in working order, improvisation or some other Authority's disinfectant will have to be made use of.

**Disinfestation****Eradication of the Bed Bug**

	No. of Houses	No. of Rooms	2nd Treatments
Private Houses	27	58	4
Council Houses	4	18	—

**Disinfestation**

The disinfestation of premises is still carried out where vermin are found. It is significant, however, that the greater number of infestations is found in the older properties, although Council owned houses are not entirely exempt.

Experience is revealing that the public are showing more foresight than formerly, because they willingly report the presence of vermin at early stages of infestation. This is a very welcome change in the minds of the public and will help immensely in the eradication of these unwelcome visitors.



## WATER SUPPLY

The water supplied by the Corporation Water Department has been sampled at regular intervals throughout the year, and the results have shown it to be very satisfactory.

The procedure of sampling was changed from the 1st January, 1950, the samples being sent to the Public Health Laboratory Service, Oxford, instead of to a private laboratory in London. The new service provides for analysis free of charge and this means a considerable saving of expense. It was, however, impossible for the Oxford laboratory to carry out chemical examination of samples, so it was decided to send routine samples to Oxford for bacteriological examination, and to send one sample each quarter to the London laboratory for the complete test.

Sampling was carried out as follows:—

Twenty-three samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, 4 samples were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. The results were highly satisfactory.

## OTHER WATER SUPPLY

Following a complaint after a case of infectious disease, the water supply direct from a well at a private house was sampled and the results showed the water to be unsatisfactory. In view of this result, immediate action was taken to have a piped supply provided and negotiations are proceeding very satisfactorily.

## STATISTICS

	No. of Houses piped supply	No. of Houses by standpipe	Estimated population served
Borough of High Wycombe Supplied by Corporation works to places outside area of the Borough ... ..	11,273	19	44,000
... ..	1,380	57	6,000

## MILK SUPPLY

Legislation which came into force on October 1st, 1949, transferred the duties of supervision of the production of raw milk from local authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This transfer has been carried out without any complaint. This is undoubtedly due to co-operation between the Ministry's officials and your officers.

An endeavour has been made during the year to get an agreement among the various retail dairymen to pool their resources in an attempt to provide a central pasteurisation plant. Several meetings took place and were attended by your officers, but no agreement was reached.

It is regretted that the apathy of certain dairymen to any alteration in the present system is delaying the erection of a model dairy to bottle and distribute milk under the most hygienic conditions.

Individual action is now being taken by the more progressive retailers to provide their own pasteurisation and bottling plants.



The Borough is responsible for the supervision of plants dealing with the heat treatment of milk, but at present there is only one in existence. It is an extremely efficient plant. New filling and capping machinery of the latest pattern has been installed during the year. This provides for the sealing of all bottles with metal caps. Practically the whole of the school milk within this area comes from this plant.

### Designated Raw Milk (Tuberculin Tested)

The increased demand for designated milk has been maintained and although more samples were submitted for examination, the number failing to pass the prescribed tests fell from fourteen in 1949 to seven in 1950.

It is hoped that the retail sale of undesignated raw milk will soon be prohibited and that designated raw milk or heat treated milk will take its place.

### Designated Milks—Sampling

All samples of designated milks for examination were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford, where they were examined free of charge, and this allowed a greater number of samples to be submitted at very little cost to the ratepayers.

The co-operation of the Director of the Laboratories is gratefully acknowledged and has been the means of controlling the various types of designated milks so successfully throughout the year.

### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949

Licences granted by the Town Council under the above Regulations, during 1950, were:—

Pasteuriser's Licence	...	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised (Dealer's) Licence	...	...	...	...	5
Sterilised (Dealer's) Licence	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculin Tested (Dealer's) Licence	...	...	...	...	19

### Results of Samples Taken

		No. of Samples taken	Results Satisfactory	Not Satisfactory
Pasteurised	...	23	22	1
Pasteurised (School)	...	3	2	1
Tuberculin Tested	...	111	104	7
T.T/Pasteurised	...	30	30	—
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals		167	158	9
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>



## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

### Meat Inspection

The supervision and inspection of the production within the Borough of home killed meat for consumption was carried out throughout the year with a 100% inspection of animals slaughtered.

The excessive number of animals passing through the slaughterhouse in Easton Street caused great concern to your officers, and as every animal slaughtered was thoroughly inspected before being passed for consumption, it entailed late hours and Sunday work during the months of July until December. The number slaughtered during this period was such that the Health Committee's attention had to be drawn to the prevailing conditions.

The Slaughterhouse was inspected by the Health Committee and by Mr. John Haire, Member of Parliament for the Wycombe Division, as a result of which representations were made to the Ministry of Food and a scheme was put forward for the improvement of this state of affairs.

A deputation introduced by Mr. John Haire, M.P., and consisting of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Health Committee, the Vice Chairman of the Water Committee and the Corporation officials concerned, met officials of the Ministry of Food at Horseferry Road, Westminster, with a view to exploring the possibility of the erection of a modern abattoir in the High Wycombe area.

The deputation was informed that the provision of a modern abattoir was not possible at the present time, as the Ministry's policy with regard to new abattoirs was not decided.

A suggestion was made that additional facilities might be provided on land adjoining the slaughterhouse for the purpose of hanging, cooling and distribution of meat. This scheme, it was felt, would provide conditions necessary for the hygienic production, allocation, inspection and distribution of meat, and at the same time allow the Slaughterhouse to be used to its fullest capacity.

A further meeting took place on the land adjoining the Slaughterhouse to discuss the question of the erection of a building being made possible together with the availability of the land. All points were thoroughly investigated by the representatives of the Ministry of Food and Ministry of Works, together with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health and Water Committees and Corporation officials. Plans and specifications were promised by the Ministry of Works and the question of the availability and also the terms on which the land was to be leased, etc., was to be investigated by the Committees concerned.

From your officers' point of view it is hoped that the outcome of the deputations, meetings and the preparation of plans will have the effect of providing the necessary hygienic conditions for the production of meat for human consumption.



### Slaughter of Animals

The total number of animals slaughtered at the Government Controlled Slaughterhouse during 1950 was:—

Oxen	...	...	...	...	...	1,745
Cows	.....	...	...	...	...	441
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	1,579
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	5,465
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	21
Total						9,251

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	1,745	441	1,597	5,465	21
NON-TUBERCULOSIS:					
Whole Carcases condemned ...	1	1	3	4	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	531	127	3	262	1
Percentage of the number killed affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis ...	30.48	29.02	0.30	4.86	9.52
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole Carcases condemned ...	3	10	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	159	55	—	—	—
Percentage of the number killed affected with Tuberculosis ...	9.28	14.73	0.06	—	—

The weight of condemned meat and offal for the year 1950 was as follows:—

Beef in Carcase	...	...	...	10,152	lbs.
Beef NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	5,810	lbs.
Imported Beef	...	...	...	1,923½	lbs.
Mutton in Carcase	...	...	...	251	lbs.
Mutton NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	37	lbs.
Veal in Carcase	...	...	...	292	lbs.
Veal NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	24	lbs.
Pork in Carcase	...	...	...	54	lbs.
Pork NOT in Carcase	...	...	...	30	lbs.
Offal	...	...	...	15,338	lbs.
Total				33,911½	lbs.

33,911½ lbs. — 15 tons 2 cwts., 3 qrs., 3½ lbs.

Table Showing Condemned Organs of Animals

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Hearts	Skirts	Livers	Spleens	Tripes	Cauls	Intestines	Mesenteries	Kidneys	Uteri	Bones	Udders	Tails	Totals
<b>CATTLE</b>																	
Tuberculosis	150	188	243	15	16	64	14	15	13	15	15	14	13	14	15	15	819
Abscess	2	2	4	12	1	66	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	88
Actinomy- cosis	12	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	26
Anaemia	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Cav. Angioma	—	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	1	—	77	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78
Cystic	—	1	21	—	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38
Distomum Hepaticum	—	—	—	—	—	464	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	464
Dropsical	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Emaciation	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	22
Fevered	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Oedema	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	16
Pericarditis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Septic	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	61	—	70
Tenuicollis	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
<b>CALVES</b>																	
Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Cystic	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Emaciation	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Moribund	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Peritonitis	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
Umbilical	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	8
<b>SHEEP</b>																	
Abscess	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Cystic	—	—	3	3	—	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	82
Cirrhosis	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Distomum Hepaticum	—	—	—	—	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59
Dropsical	4	4	4	4	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	32
Emaciation	1	1	1	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Strongilosis	—	—	—	—	—	110	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	110
<b>PIGS</b>																	
Anaemia	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Cirrhosis	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Inflammation	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Pleurisy	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Tuberculosis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals	182	222	294	51	21	1002	28	18	21	29	18	25	16	17	78	18	2040



**OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED**

Bacon, 11 lb. 10 ozs.	Meat, 419 tins
Beans, 92 tins	Milk, 481 tins
Bunflour, 33 packets	Mincemeat, 1 jar
Butter Beans, 28 tins	Oatcakes, 18 packets
Cheese, 48 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.	Paste, 2 jars
Coffee, 5 tins	Pastry Mixture, 80 packets
Corned Beef, 143 lbs. 1 oz.	Peanut Butter, 4 jars
Chicken, 63 lbs.	Peas, 155 tins
Chocolate, 56 lbs.	Pickles, 30 jars
Ducks, 22 lbs.	Pudding Mixtures, 76 packets
Eggs, 702	Rabbit, 60 lbs.
Figs, 334 lbs.	Salad Cream, 21 jars
Fish, 194 tins	Sandwich Spread, 35 jars
Fish (Wet), 136 $\frac{1}{2}$ stone	Sauce, 169 bottles
Fishcakes, 72	Sausages, 150 lbs.
Fruit, 748 tins	Soups, 100 tins
Ham, 13 lb. 9 ozs.	Stews, 5 tins
Jam, 67 jars and tins	Sweets, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
Jellies, 147 packets	Turkey, 4 lbs. 6 ozs.
Lard, 6 lbs.	Vegetables, 157 tins
Macaroni, 1 tin	

**FACTORIES ACT 1937**

Inspection of factories has been carried out during the year, as follows:—

**Statistics**

Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	260
Number of defects found	...	...	...	...	28
Number of complaints received from H.M.					
Inspector of Factories	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Fire Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	13

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

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

Article Sampled	How Sampled		Result	
	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not Genuine
Aspirins ... ..	4	—	4	—
Bicarbonate of Soda ...	2	—	2	—
Boracic Ointment ...	1	—	1	—
Borax ... ..	1	—	1	—
Butter (Roll and Butter) ...	1	—	—	1
Cheese Spread ... ..	1	—	1	—
Coffee ... ..	9	—	9	—
Chocolate Dessert ...	1	—	1	—
Confection of Senna ...	1	—	1	—
Cordials ... ..	3	—	3	—
Cornflower ... ..	3	—	3	—
Cream of Tartar ...	1	—	1	—
Custard Powder ... ..	4	—	4	—
Dessert Powder ... ..	1	—	1	—
Dried Figs ... ..	1	—	1	—
Epsom Salts ... ..	1	—	1	—
Fullers Earth ... ..	1	—	1	—
Gelatine ... ..	5	—	4	1
Glace Cherries ... ..	4	—	4	—
Ground Almonds ... ..	4	—	4	—
Ground Ginger ... ..	1	—	1	—
Ground Nutmeg ... ..	1	—	1	—
Health Salts ... ..	1	—	1	—
Honey ... ..	2	—	2	—
Ice Cream ... ..	—	7	7	—
Jellies ... ..	5	1	6	—
Lemonade Crystals ...	1	—	1	—
Milk ... ..	80	10	84	5
			(1 broken in transit)	
Milk Whipping Compound	1	—	1	—
Mincemeat ... ..	5	—	5	—
Mixed Spice ... ..	2	—	2	—
Mustard ... ..	2	—	2	—
Pastes ... ..	3	—	3	—
Peel ... ..	4	—	4	—
Pepper ... ..	10	—	10	—
Pickles ... ..	1	—	1	—
Pork Luncheon Meat ...	1	—	1	—
Preserves ... ..	6	—	4	2
Puddings & Pudding Mixtures	6	—	6	—
Saccharine ... ..	1	—	1	—
Salad Cream ... ..	—	1	1	—
Sauces ... ..	1	—	1	—
Sausagemeat—Beef ...	4	—	4	—
Sausages—Beef ... ..	7	—	7	—
Sausages—Pork ... ..	1	—	1	—
Senna Pods ... ..	1	—	1	—
Stomach Powder ... ..	1	—	1	—
Suet ... ..	2	—	2	—
Sultanas ... ..	1	—	1	—
Sweets ... ..	9	—	9	—
Syrup of Figs ... ..	1	—	1	—
Tea ... ..	4	—	4	—
Vinegar ... ..	1	—	1	—
Totals	215	19	224	9
			(1 broken in transit)	



## LABORATORY TESTING OF MILK

An identical sample of each of the 80 formal samples of milk was tested in the laboratory and where found to be satisfactory the formal sample was not sent to the Public Analyst.

In addition 50 other samples of milk were tested in the laboratory.

### Ice Cream Sampling

Seven informal Ice Cream samples were submitted to ascertain the amount of fat content in different makes, in order to give a guide in view of forthcoming legislation. It should be noted that there is no order stipulating the fat content of Ice Cream, but legislation setting a standard, including a minimum fat content, is expected to come into force early next year.

The results were as follows:—

						<i>Fat content</i>
Sample 1	...	...	...	...	...	1.05%
Sample 2	...	...	...	...	...	3.58%
Sample 3	...	...	...	...	...	5.93%
Sample 4	...	...	...	...	...	6.04%
Sample 5	...	...	...	...	...	6.90%
Sample 6	...	...	...	...	...	7.05%
Sample 7	...	...	...	...	...	7.76%

Thirty-two samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows:—

Provisional Grade 1	...	...	...	5 samples
Provisional Grade 2	...	...	...	8 samples
Provisional Grade 3	...	...	...	14 samples
Provisional Grade 4	...	...	...	5 samples

## GENERAL REPORT ON UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

Short reports giving the reason why legal proceedings were not instituted in the cases of samples reported as "not genuine" are given below.

### Preserves

The two samples of Preserves were samples of "Lemon Butter". A second sample was taken in order that the Analyst might ascertain the amount of butter fat present, the first sample having given rise to some doubt about the fat content. The second analysis showed that the butter fat was less than 1.5 per cent. and in the Analyst's opinion the article was no more than a sample of lemon flavoured spread.

The matter was taken up with the importers and it was found that their attention had been drawn to this misleading label by another Food and Drugs Authority and that future consignments would bear a true description. The term "Lemon Butter" was that used in invoicing the commodity in bulk from the country of origin.



## Gelatine

The sample in this case was one of "Jellset" which in the Analyst's opinion was neither a sample of Dessert Gelatine nor Table Jelly Crystals, as the amount of gelatine present was less than 75%.

The view of the Ministry of Food was taken on this and other similar products with the object of having some standard in the labelling of sweetened gelatines which were neither dessert gelatines nor table jelly crystals. The opinion was expressed that whilst in some cases further clarification was not necessary the name of the product in question was open to some objection and the Ministry of Food obtained a revised label which was approved.

## HANDLING, PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD

In common with most local authorities attention has been given to this very important matter.

The publicity given both locally and nationally has been the means of making people aware of the dangers which are faced if food is not handled in a hygienic manner.

Inspections of Cafes, Canteens, Licensed Houses and food shops have been carried out, and this has brought about a great improvement in the conditions. In addition, where requests have been made, talks and demonstrations have been given.

The Ministry of Food issued a set of Model Byelaws on this subject which were considered by this Council and adopted. In order that the information contained in the Byelaws should be known to all food handlers, a printed copy was delivered by hand to all firms dealing with, or having food handled on their premises. The premises to which these were delivered included factory canteens, school canteens, licensed premises, cafes, snack bars, dairies, butchers' shops and grocers' shops.

## RAG FLOCK ACTS 1911-1912

The increase in the use of upholstered furniture has been the cause of an enormous amount of filling material being used. Under these circumstances it was obvious that the lack of legislation governing the cleanliness of filling materials, other than rag flock, was a serious drawback to those who were endeavouring to ensure that nothing but clean material was used in the manufactured articles such as bedding and upholstered furniture.

The sampling of rag flock from consignments used by local factories was continued and except for one case the samples were up to the required standard. The majority of the manufacturers are helping to keep to the standard by insisting that any consignment sold to them is covered by a guarantee that the goods conform to the standards prescribed by the British Standards Institute.

Rag Flock, however, is only a small proportion of the filling materials used in upholstery, and as no legal standard of cleanliness exists for hair, fibre and lintus and the like, these materials could be used without any legal offence being committed, although the manufacturers of these materials, within the Borough, guarantee that their finished articles comply with the standards laid down by the British Standards Institute.

In view of the weakness in existing legislation, the following resolution was passed by this Council in 1950:—

“That representations be made to the Minister of Health, the Member of Parliament for the Wycombe Division and the Association of Municipal Corporations, with a view to the introduction of legislation for the control of these products at the earliest possible opportunity.”

As a result of this, it is hoped that legislation will soon be on the Statute covering existing weaknesses and bringing all forms of filling materials under close supervision.

It was necessary to institute proceedings in one case of Rag Flock, the details will be seen under “Legal Proceedings.”

### Sampling

Details of samples of Rag Flock taken during the year, showing the chlorine content:—

2 samples contained less than 10 parts per 100,000.

1	”	”	”	”	12	”	”	”
9	”	”	”	”	15	”	”	”
6	”	”	”	”	20	”	”	”
2	”	”	”	”	25	”	”	”
1	”	”	”	”	34	”	”	”
1	”	”	”	”	114	”	”	”

### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

Acts, Orders and Regulations under which Proceedings were instituted.	Default or Offence	Result	Fines
Rag Flock Acts, 1911-1928	Unlawfully having in their possession, Rag Flock, which did not conform to the standards of cleanliness laid down.	Conviction	Fined £1 Costs— 3 guineas



## PESTS ACT 1950

The Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943, were consolidated into the above Act, which came into force during the year.

The Act compels a local authority to have a permanent organisation to deal with the elimination of rats and mice. It further places the responsibility on the occupier, of notifying the local authority of the presence of pests on their premises.

As far as this department is concerned, a rodent operator was already employed and so no re-organisation had to take place. It is however noticeable that an increasing number of complaints are being received, since the Act came into force.

It is pleasing to report that no major infestations have been discovered during the year.

Agreements with commercial firms have been the means of maintaining a regular supervision over places which are most likely to be infested.

Details of inspection and treatment are as follows:—

### Statistics

Agreements: (Current)	...	...	...	...	14
Total complaints received (each complaint requiring a minimum of 6 visits for treatment)	...	...	...	...	279
Business Premises	...	...	...	...	39
Private Houses	...	...	...	...	206
Factories	...	...	...	...	18
Not justified	...	...	...	...	16

Treatment was carried out on the Borough Sewer system in January and August. Infestation was found to be very slight.

Periodical treatment was carried out at the Sewage Disposal Works, Corporation controlled Recreation Grounds and the Refuse Tip, Booker.

## BOROUGH MORTUARY

The re-decoration, together with the installation of a Cold Room (Refrigerator) has improved working conditions beyond description. The building is now in a condition to cope with any reasonable emergency without difficulty.

The increase in the use of the mortuary by neighbouring Authorities both for depositing bodies and for post mortem examinations, necessitates the attendant being available at all times, and credit is due to him for the able assistance he has given during the year.

**NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 50**

Applications have been received during the year for assistance under the provisions of the above Act, and where it was considered justified the necessary aid was given.

The financial cost to the ratepayers is minimised by the payment of the National Insurance Grant or Death Benefit. It is, however, immediate help which is mostly desired, and is always available where the application is justified.

One application during the year was considered to be justified and assistance was given.

**SLIPPER BATHS**

The use of the baths has not shown any great increase during the year, although, in order to reduce the cost to the ratepayers consideration was given to the reduction of staff and the alteration of opening hours. This was carried out by dismissing the male attendant and closing the baths on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday of each week. Results show that no appreciable loss of revenue took place due to these alterations, but the attendance figures are still considered unsatisfactory.

The times of opening are as follows:—

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Sunday	...	8 a.m.—11 a.m.	Closed
Wednesday	...	12 noon—6 p.m.	12 noon—6 p.m.
Friday	...	10 a.m.—7 p.m.	10 a.m.—7 p.m.
Saturday	...	10 a.m.—7 p.m.	10 a.m.—7 p.m.

**HOUSING—TEMPORARY HOUSING ESTATES**

Periodical inspections of the hutted estates at Daws Hill and Chairborough Road have shown that the majority of the tenants are endeavouring to make the best of what to most residents in the Borough would seem to be an impossible situation.

Most huts have now outlived their period of usefulness, and it is satisfactory to note that demolition of those huts which are considered beyond repair is taking place as soon as they become vacant.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Table showing the number of inspections made during the year 1950:—

Accumulations, Ashes, etc.	...	...	...	104
Animals and Birds	...	...	...	34
Bakehouses	...	...	...	42
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	222
Drains cleared	...	...	...	115
Drainage inspected	...	...	...	211
Drainage Tested	...	...	...	1
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	19
Factories	...	...	...	260
Factory (Canteens)	...	...	...	43
Food Premises, Grocery Shops, etc.	...	...	...	249
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	93
Fish Shops and Fried Fish Premises	...	...	...	58
Greengrocers, etc.	...	...	...	44
Housing Act (routine inspections)	...	...	...	138
Ice Cream Premises and Sampling	...	...	...	151
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	149
Interviews	...	...	...	526
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	74
Markets	...	...	...	285
Materials—Visits for issue of permits	...	...	...	39
Milk Shops and Dairies	...	...	...	295
Overcrowding	...	...	...	39
Police Court Visits	...	...	...	7
Public Health Act (premises visited)	...	...	...	794
Rats and Mice (Inspector's Visits)	...	...	...	107
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's visits)	...	...	...	2,250
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's visits on contracts)	...	...	...	1,117
Rats and Mice (Rodent Operator's visits on Sewers and block infestation)	...	...	...	143
Rag Flock	...	...	...	82
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	113
Rivers, Watercourses, Ditches and Ponds	...	...	...	99
Sampling visits Food and Drugs	...	...	...	194
Sampling visits Water Supplies	...	...	...	32
Sampling visits Ice Cream	...	...	...	32
Sampling visits Milk (Bacteriological Samples)	...	...	...	169
Schools	...	...	...	3
Shops Act	...	...	...	135
Slaughterhouse for Meat Inspection	...	...	...	1,015
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	42
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	24
Stalls and Hawkers' Carts	...	...	...	895
Squatters Camp	...	...	...	15
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	68
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	15
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	510

Total 11,052

GENERAL STATISTICS

This shows the number of persons who have been

employed in the various occupations during the year

1900-1901. The figures are given in thousands and

are rounded to the nearest thousand. The figures are

given in the following table.

TABLE I.

Number of persons employed in the various occupations

during the year 1900-1901.

The figures are given in thousands and are rounded

to the nearest thousand.

The figures are given in the following table.

TABLE II.

Number of persons employed in the various occupations

during the year 1900-1901.

The figures are given in thousands and are rounded

to the nearest thousand.

The figures are given in the following table.

TABLE III.

Number of persons employed in the various occupations

during the year 1900-1901.

The figures are given in thousands and are rounded

to the nearest thousand.

The figures are given in the following table.

TABLE IV.

Number of persons employed in the various occupations

during the year 1900-1901.

The figures are given in thousands and are rounded

to the nearest thousand.







