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Contributors

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HEALTH
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ANNUAL REPORTS FOR THE YEAR 1943.

of the
Medical Officer of Health,
J. H. DONNELL
and the
Chief Sanitary Inspector,
E. MELSON.



Public Health Officers of the Hinckley Urban D. C.
Medical Officer of Health.
District Medical Officer under the Poor Law Acts and
Public Vaccinator:

H. SHIRLAW.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:

G. G. POPPLEWELL (In R. A. F. since 1940).

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

H. DEAMER.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector:

L. F. WHITMORE (In Army since 1940).

Clerk:

R. C. LIGGINS (In Navy since 1942).

Temporary Clerk:

MISS. T. I. BARROWCLIFFE.

General Assistant:

A. A. ENGLAND.

Vaccination Officer:

H. LOCK.

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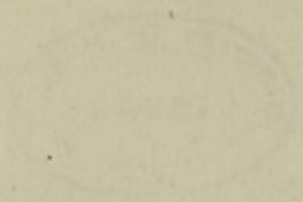
OFFICE OF THE

SECRETARY

WAR

WASHINGTON

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TO THE SECRETARY OF WAR

FROM THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1943

To the Chairman and Members of the
Hinckley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your area for the year 1943. As in the previous years it is brief, neither can I give the birth and death rate figures per 1,000 of population as in pre-war days.

There has not been any serious epidemic, the Measles epidemic of 1942 ran over into 1943. The number of cases of Diphtheria reflects the value of immunisation.

Regarding Diphtheria Immunisation we are still experiencing difficulty in getting hold of the most important group, those between the ages of one and five years.

Your Infantile Mortality rate is on the low side.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA.

Area (Acres)	11,771 acres.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942)	11,254.
Rateable Value	£189,453.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£760.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births: Legitimate -	642	345	297
Illegitimate -	39	16	23
Still Births: Legitimate -	24	10	14
Illegitimate -	1	1	-

Rate per 1,000 total (Live & Still)
births 35.4.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths.	328	170	158

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 & 30 of the Registrar General's short list;)

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (Live & Still births).
No.29.	0	0
No.30.	1	1.41.

Death rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants per 1,000 live births.	36.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	37.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births..	25.6

Deaths from Cancer (All ages)	32
Measles " "	1
Whooping Cough " "	1
Diarrhoea and Enteritis (Under 2 yrs. of age).	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i) Public Health Officers of the Authority.
(See beginning of Report).

(ii) Laboratory Facilities.

The following examinations from the area were carried out at the County Laboratory at 8, St. Martin's Lane:

Milk examinations (bacteriological)...	...	...	...	263
Sputa for T.B. ...	...	...	...	208
Swabs for Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	58
Urine (general and bacteriological)...	...	...	...	18
Urine for T.B. ...	...	...	...	16
Blood for Wassermann test. ...	...	...	...	10
Sewage and water analysis. ...	...	...	...	9
Milk for fat content ...	...	...	...	9
Films for gonococci. ...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous, ...	...	...	...	8
				<u>602</u>

PREVELANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The percentage of children immunised, based on the figures supplied by the Registrar General for the respective age groups at mid-1943, was as follows:-- under the age of 5 years. -- 52.41%, over 5 years. but under 15 years. -- 72.99%.

Notifiable diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1943.

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	67	63	0
Diphtheria	11	16	1
Pneumonia	53	6	13
Cerebro-spinal Fever	8	12	0
Dysentery	13	1	0
Erysipelas	14	4	0
Measles	607	2	1
Pertussis	62	1	1

AGE GROUPS.

	Under 65												65 and over.	Total.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Scarlet,	1	5	3	1	7	26	17	2	4	1	-	-	-	67
Diphtheria,	-	1	-	2	1	2	1	1	2	-	1	-	-	11
Pneumonia,	1	1	2	2	1	5	4	4	6	13	11	3	-	53
Cerebro-spinal,	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	8
Dysentery,	-	1	2	8	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	13
Erysipelas,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	5	3	-	14
Measles,	24	79	79	82	164	168	7	4	-	-	-	-	-	607
Pertussis.	9	9	5	9	6	23	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	62

The distribution of these diseases in the area were as follows:-

	Hinckley.	Barwell.	Earl Shilton.	Burbage.	Stoke G.
Scarlet	28	18	9	12	-
Diphtheria	-	7	2	2	-
Pneumonia	28	3	8	12	12
C.S.F.	4	3	1	-	-
Dysentery.	2	-	-	11	-
Erysipelas.	1	2	9	2	-
Measles.	425	46	30	97	9
Pertussis.	16	26	12	8	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 6 of the Public Health Act 1925.

New cases and Mortality 1943.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	-	-	4	-	-	-	2	-
5	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
15	1	4	-	1	1	1	-	-
25	3	2	-	1	1	3	-	-
35	3	2	-	-	3	1	-	-
45	4	1	-	1	2	1	-	-
55	3	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
65 & Upwards.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	15	10	5	3	9	8	2	-

22 of these new cases occurred in Hinckley; 5 in Barwell; 1 in Earl Shilton and 5 in Burbage.

I remain your obedient servant,

J. H. D. D. D.

Medical Officer of Health.

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To the Chairman and Members of
The Hinckley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report upon the administration of your Sanitary Inspectors Department.

The depleted staff, (as will be seen from the first page of the report, the Deputy Chief Inspector and the Assistant Inspector have been in the forces since 1940 and have not been replaced), have struggled manfully to maintain the necessary inspections etc. Duties have increased, records are getting neglected and at present we ought to have one additional temporary Inspector to enable some of the leeway to be made up.

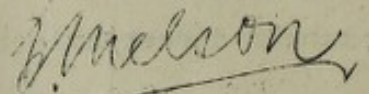
I referred last year to the difficulties encountered in obtaining the abatement of nuisances. These difficulties continued for approximately six months until the Ministry of Health issued a circular relating to the protection of immobile labour engaged on essential housing repairs which eased the position somewhat. Towards the end of the year circular 2871 was issued by the Ministry of Health relating to this problem and it should prove of definite value towards getting the available labour directed to the performance of essential works.

The standard of the housing conditions in the town have not been commented upon in my report but in view of the Governments decision that the nations homes, work and food shall be of first importance in the post-war era and that housing will be priority No.1, a few brief remarks upon this subject may be helpful to the members when considering the problems to be tackled. During 1937 a survey was made of the houses in the outer wards and 393 were scheduled to be dealt with under the provisions of the Housing Act. 41 at Stoke Golding were dealt with, 37 in Clearance Orders and 4 as Individual unfits, thus leaving 352 unfit houses.

These houses were unfit in 1937, it can be reasonably assumed they are in a worse condition now owing to the almost general cessation of repairs. The survey in Hinckley was performed in 1933, several houses were scheduled for treatment in 1939 which had not been included in the five year programme, other border line houses have now deteriorated to a condition which will place them amongst scheduled properties. Furthermore the standard by which houses are assessed was set in 1930 and in all probability this will be increased in the post-war era. Houses which were scheduled for reconditioning or repair, will certainly need more extensive repairs and in all probability several scheduled for reconditioning may not now justify the expenditure required. It will be apparent that vigorous progressive action in this field will be necessary to ensure that all people in the Urban District are satisfactorily housed.

I wish again to express my thanks to the members and officers of the Council and especially to my staff for their assistance and co-operation throughout the year.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. Melson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

3rd. July, 1944.

WATER SUPPLY.

SUFFICIENCY.

The available water supply is insufficient. The average daily yield from the Councils well and boreholes has decreased by 77,000 gallons in the past seven years, during the same period the quantity of water ^{taken} from a neighbouring authority has increased by 40%. Despite this, the available supply barely meets the consumption.

Action is being taken to improve the position and it is hoped an additional supply will be available before mid-summer.

The obtainment of new supplies from two quarries in the vicinity was examined. In one case the water was badly polluted and in the other it was excessively hard.

QUALITY.

A sample of water taken from the tap at 9, Station Road, Hinckley was reported upon as follows:--

"The analysis shows this to be a good water suitable for drinking."

A sample taken from the bulk supply at one of the control chambers was reported upon as follows:--

"This water subject to sufficient chlorination would be safe for use."

TYPE OF SUPPLY.

The supply is constant in all parts of the district.

DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLY.

	Percentage of dwelling houses obtaining water supply.
From town mains direct to houses.	93.41
From town mains to external stand-post.	5.08
From wells or springs.	1.51

	Percentage of population obtaining water supply.
From town mains direct to household.	93.08
From town mains to external stand-post.	5.25
From wells or springs.	1.67

HARDNESS OF SUPPLY.

The deep well water is very hard and the water obtained from the neighbouring authority is also hard. There is no likelihood of plumbo-solvency being set up.

EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES.

WELL AND SPRING SUPPLIES.

Two samples of drinking water were taken, one was declared unfit for drinking and one was reported upon as a "fair sample of well water and suitable for drinking." A supply of water from the town main was obtained to replace the supply from the polluted well.

PIPED SUPPLIES.

One sample was taken from the tap at:- No.9, Station Road,
Hinckley.

One sample for chemical and bacteriological examination was taken from a reservoir control chamber.

Five samples for bacteriological examination were taken from reservoir control chambers.

All samples were reported as satisfactory.

DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE.

One cesspool was abolished leaving 145 in the district at the end of the year.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

The position at the end of the year was:-

Privies.. .. .	8
Pail-closets	241
Water-closets.. .. .	8,138

Three water-closets were provided to replace two privies.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

House refuse is collected by direct labour in horse-drawn and mechanical covered vehicles and disposed of by controlled tipping at three sites in the district. The collection of salvage and pig-food together with the labour shortage have caused the collection of house refuse to be interfered with. It is now collected approximately once per three weeks instead of weekly.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Total number of complaints received.. .. .	126.
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	679.

Nature of Inspections :—

	<u>Inspections.</u>	<u>Revisits.</u>
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)	554	724
Tents, Vans etc.	9	12
Slaughter-Houses	4	5
Food Premises	518	162
Dairies & Cowsheds	196	311
Offensive Trades	5	3
Animal Keeping	22	10
Factories etc.	40	75
Shops	36	28
Milk Sampling	225	---
Other Premises	568	257
	<u>2,177</u>	<u>1,587</u>

Grand Total = 3,764.

NOTICES.

Preliminary.

	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
Outstanding on 1st. January.	5	5
Issued during year.	147	512
Complied with during year.	127	470
Statutory action necessary.	9	19
Outstanding 31st. December.	25	47

Statutory.

	<u>Housing.</u>	<u>Other.</u>
Outstanding on 1st. January.	5	5
Issued during year.	9	19
Complied with during year.	13	23
Outstanding 31st. December.	1	1

Summary Action.

Number of summonses issued during year :- 4.
Number of convictions obtained during year :- 4.

The nuisances and defects for which nine summonses were issued towards the close of 1942, which the magistrates adjourned upon the owners giving an undertaking to abate the nuisances etc., were abated during the year. The owners paying the court costs.

Summonses were taken out against one property owner under s.92 of the Public Health Act 1936, and under the Housing Act Bye-laws of the Council to abate a nuisance and defects at one dwelling house. An order was made for the work to be done in thirty-days and a fine of £1 was imposed in respect of each summons.

Summonses were also taken out against a dairy farmer and his employee under Article 33 for transporting milk in a filthy vehicle. The farmer was fined £1 and his employee had to pay costs.

SHOPS.

ACTION TAKEN.

	Outstanding from previous year.	Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding 31st. Dec.
Sanitary Conveniences	2	5	7	-
Temperature	-	1	-	1
Ventilation	1	-	1	-
Washing Facilities	-	-	-	-

82 Inspections were made at 44 shops relating to the various provisions of the Shop Acts.

TENTS, VANS & SHEDS.

21 inspections were made relating to five premises used for human habitation.

One van and the appendage vehicles was removed from Earl Shilton and one shed at Barwell was closed for human habitation, the occupier being removed to the Public Assistance Institution.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Eighty two observations and inspections were made on eleven premises. Ten nuisances were found, five being unabated at the end of the year. Conditions in general have reacted against any improvement and the results of our observations reveal an increase in the amount of smoke emitted.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Two Council houses and ten privately owned houses were found to be infested. All the houses were fumigated with Lawes special sulphur blocks and sprayed with an insecticide. In one block of property the conditions are such as to relegate our treatment to ameliorative measures only.

86 inspections were made relating to verminous premises during the year, 37 of these being when the general assistant visited to fumigate or spray the premises.

HOUSING.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 187 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 424 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932 | NIL |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | NIL |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | NIL |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 187 |

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:-

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	138
---	-----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (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. | 9 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) by owners | 8 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts: | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 19 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) by owners | 17 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | NIL |

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

CONTD:

- (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:
- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | NIL |
| (2) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. | NIL |
- (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. | NIL |
| (2) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. | NIL |

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936 - PART IV - OVERCROWDING:-

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year | 19 |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein | 19 |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein | 159 |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year | NIL |
| (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year | ONE |
| (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases | 9 |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | NIL |

(e) Condemned Houses.

Defence General Regulations 1939.

Licences have been renewed for the occupation of four condemned houses.

SWIMMING BATH.

Two samples of bath water were taken from the Council's Public bath. The analyst reporting:-

- (1) on 5.8.43. "Coliform organisms absent from 10 c.c's. Colony count several thousands per c.c. Free Chlorine less than 0.1 parts per million. The absence of coliform organisms is a good feature but the colony count is very high. As the free chlorine content is so low it would seem that the dosage could be increased to advantage."
- (2) on 19.8.43. "Coliform organisms absent from 10.c.c's. Colony count - nil and Free Chlorine well over 0.5 parts per million."

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Cowkeepers - No. on register - 71.
No. of inspections - 444.

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk,
(Other than cowkeepers).

No. on register - 59.
No. of inspections - 63.

Total Contraventions.

	Outstanding from 1942.	Found during year.	Remedied during year.	Outstanding on Dec.31st.
Cleansing	52	198	217	33
Structural Alterations	-	10	6	4
Utensils	7	16	20	3
Other	3	44	29	18
Total :-	62	268	272	58

During the year the following structural improvements were made:-

New dairies built.. .. -1.
 Dairy adapted from existing building .. -1.
 Cowsheds adapted from stables or hovels ...-5.
 Impervious yard paving and drainage provided-4.
 Water supply improved.. .. -2.
 Adaptations to existing cow-sheds... .. -2.

MILK SAMPLES.

225 samples of milk were taken, 217 for the normal milk examination and 8 for biological examination.

The analysts report on the samples being as follows:-

	No.of Samples.	Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
		M.B.	B.Coli.	M.B.	B.Coli.
Tuberculin Tested Milk	1	1	1	-	-
Accredited Milk	1	1	1	-	-
Non-designated milk.	193	164	172	29	21
Total:-	195	166	174	29	21

	No.of Samples.	Plate Count.	
		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Pasteurised Milk.	13	13	-

	No.of Samples.	Phosphatase test.	
		Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Pasteurised for Phosphatase test.	9	9	-

	No.of Samples.	NEGATIVE.	POSITIVE.	REMARKS.
For Biological Examination.	8	4	-	2 samples broken on arrival. 2 samples guinea pig died prematurely.

The plate counts of the Pasteurised milk samples were satisfactory and the samples submitted to the Phosphatase test were all placed in Group.1.

Towards the end of the year a commencement was made with the sampling of bulked milk from individual herds for biological purposes.

ADMINISTRATION RELATING TO MILK PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

Despite the accumulation of other duties, by making a special effort, the Additional Sanitary Inspector and myself have not only maintained the standard of inspections and sampling which has been set during the past few years but a commencement has been made upon the sampling of milk for biological purposes. In some cases it is only frequent inspection which maintains the necessary standards of cleanliness at producers premises. In view of the White Paper, Cmd. 6454. "Measures to Improve the Quality of the Nations Milk Supply" and the proposals to take away the administration of the law relating to the production of milk from the local authorities and pass it to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I thought it would be interesting to set out the following information relating to the aspect of our duties since my appointment as Sanitary Inspector in mid 1927. It may be regarded as an account of my stewardship of endeavour to protect the public health in this sphere.

YEAR.	DAIRY FARMS.		M I L K S A M P L E S.		
	No. in District	No. of Inspections.	No. Taken.	No. Satisfactory.	No. Unsatis:
1927	25	48	41	16	25
1928	18	69	47	36	11
1929	17	54	66	49	17
1930	15	52	36	28	8
1931	15	50	67	45	22
1932	16	50	51	37	14
1933	16	25	43	34	9
1934	16	34	69	52	17
1935	15	50	26	22	4
✓ 1936	74	137	15	14	1
1937	78	264	114	87	27
1938	73	227	36	29	7
1939	80	412	97	90	7
1940	75	274	108	98	10
1941	75	242	167	134	33
1942	73	304	151	123	28
1943	71	444	225	196	29

✓ Urban District area increased by extension from 3,705 acres to 11,771 acres.

Almost every cowshed and dairy in the Urban District has been adapted or reconstructed since the Milk & Dairies Order 1926, became law. Not all of them are of a standard as high as I should like but the standard attained is the best that was obtainable under the ambiguous provisions of the Order of 1926.

The statistics set out are a sufficient indication of the extent of our administration relating to premises where milk is produced. If the administration is placed on a national basis I cannot visualise them being performed more often or more efficiently.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1936 & 1938.

The following licences were granted:-

- One to retail Tuberculin Tested milk,
- One to Pasteurise milk and
- Three to retail Pasteurised milk.

The licensed Pasteurising Dairy has a modern APV. plant, installed in 1940, on the holder principle with a capacity of 1,400 gallons per day at its present periods of operation.

Both thermographs were out of order during the year, and the automatic gear turning apparatus for the holder tank was also out of order. Orders for the necessary works of repair were given to the specialist firms who deal with these items and letters were produced from them by the dairyman stating that there would be some delay before they could proceed with them.

As set out earlier under the heading Milk Samples, 13, samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted to the plate count test and 9 to the Phosphatase test and all were satisfactory.

There are no plants in the district for heat treating milk which are not licensed as Pasteurising Plants.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is one regional slaughter-house in the area.

Number of animals slaughtered in regional slaughter-house	= 8703
Number of animals inspected in regional slaughter-house	= 8703
Number of animals slaughtered elsewhere (cottagers pigs)	= 363
Number of animals examined elsewhere	= 14
Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter	= 404

There are no Knackers Yards in the district.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Total.
Number killed(if known).	1004	607	321	6325	446	8703
Number inspected	1004	607	321	6325	446	8703
All Diseases except Tuberculosis.						Total weight in lbs.
Whole carcasses condemned	1	10	4	9	2	3172
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	222	276	14	1211	63	10958
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	22.21	47.11	5.62	19.28	14.5	Combined Total 14130
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcasses condemned	13	25	1	-	2	22184
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	165	261 276	-	-	50	16695
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	17.72	47.11	0.31	-	11.65	Combined Total 38879

The total weight of meat condemned, surrendered and disposed of for purposes other than human consumption was 23 tons. 13 cwt. 1 qtr. 5 lbs., - slightly less than last years total of 26 tons. 6 cwt. 66 lbs.

The percentages of the animals affected by disease have not varied greatly from last years figures.

The Health and Sanitary Committee were perturbed at the high percentage of animals which were found to be infected with tuberculosis and made representation to the Urban District Councils Association that they should take up this matter with the appropriate Government Department. The Committee expressed the view that efforts should be made to detect tuberculosis as early as possible during the life of the animal and not, as experience appears to indicate at the last possible opportunity when most, if not all, the injury to the public health has already been sustained.

A quantity of other various foodstuffs were surrendered and suitably disposed of owing to being unsound or unwholesome.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

Fourteen slaughter-houses were licensed for one year subject to the same condition as specified in previous years under s. 57 of the Food & Drugs Act 1938.

Apart from the regional slaughter-house, the other slaughter-houses were only used occasionally for the slaughter of cottagers pigs.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Food Premises.

Meat Shops, Meat Stores etc.

181 inspections of 86 premises were made.

29 contraventions relating to limewashing were found.

22 contraventions relating to cleansing were found.

7 contraventions relating to structural items were found.

43 contraventions were abated during the year, plus

11 contraventions which were abated from 1942.

15 contraventions were unabated at the end of the year.

One new food room was built at a fish and chipped potato friers premises.

BAKEHOUSES.

99 inspections were made on 22 premises.

31 contraventions were found.

15 relating to the need for limewashing.

13 relating to the absence of proper cleanliness, and

3 relating to the maintenance of correct records in the general register.

31 contraventions were abated during the year, 7 being from action commenced in 1942.

FACTORIES ACT 1937, s.8. and SANITARY ACCOMMODATION REGULATIONS 1938.

96 inspections were made during the year to 39 factories.

The following contraventions were found:-

22 relating to sanitary accommodation,

1 relating to lighting of sanitary accommodation,&

5 relating to washing facilities.

24 of these contraventions were abated and contraventions outstanding from 1942 at 6 factories were also abated during the year.

SCABIES.

74 inspections were made to premises in connection with scabies.

The Millbank Portable Hot-Air Disinfector is still used but since the Stoke Golding Stick Bay ceased to be used for treating scabies, the calls upon it have decreased considerably. Bedding from houses where scabies occurs is not removed and disinfested unless the householder concerned requests it to be done. Lack of transport and staff would make it difficult to do so and research in the incidence and prevention of scabies has proved that bedding is not of importance as a source of contagion.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

185 investigations were made concerning infectious disease.

RATS & MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT 1919.

The County Council requested our Council to accept delegation of powers to administer this Act from them. After the first request they did not accept delegation but after a second request, delegation was accepted on the 21st. July. Almost immediately after a direction was received from the Ministry of Food Infestation Branch, to perform a survey of the district as to its state of infestation. The survey was proceeded with to the end of the year whenever we could spare time to do so.

Although prior to July we were not the authority for administering the Rats and Mice Act, we always investigated complaints, gave advice and supplied rat bait to occupiers who undertook to use it in accordance with our instructions.