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Contributors

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Hitchin Urban District Council.



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ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1956

Ans.

67327

Witcham Urban District Council



ANNUAL

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1966

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1956 - 1957

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHARTERED

T. BROOKS, J.P.

Chairman of the Council

ANNUAL REPORTS

G. B. J. CHERRY

Vice-Chairman

OF THE

Chairman - MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH Russell

W. G. Aldrey

AND THE

J. C. Maxwell

J. T. Barker

P. A. Millard, J.P.

F. B. Bowyer, M.P.

H. Russell

Mrs. L. T. B.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

L. Selinger

G. P. Budge

J. T. Thake

K. A. Hall

K. B. Zardak

FOR THE YEAR 1956

V. WILSON, F.R.S.B.

Clerk of the Council

WITHIN VARIOUS DISTRICT COURTS

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1954

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1956 - 1957

COUNCILLORS:

T. BROOKER, J.P.

Chairman of the Council

G. R. J. CHENERY

Vice-Chairman

Chairman - Public Health Committee - D. J. Russell

W. C. Ainsley

J. T. Barker

F. B. Bowker, M.B.E.

Mrs. L. T. Butler

G. F. Hendry

W. A. Hill

J. C. Lindsell

F. A. Millard, J.P.

H. Rudall

Mrs. E. L. Swinburne

G. W. Thake

K. B. Warwick

W. WILSON, F.C.C.S.

Clerk of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF, 1956

Medical Officer of Health:

VICTOR R. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.
(Also Divisional M.O. for North Herts.)

Senior Public Health Inspector:

NORMAN HOLT, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.
Certs.R.S.Health (1. Meat and Foods 2. Smoke)

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

TREVOR HUBERT CUTLER, M.A.P.H.I., (Up to 19th July, 1956).
Certs.R.S.Health (1. Meat and Foods 2. Smoke).

JOHN SAVILLE, M.A.P.H.I., (As from 16th July, 1956).
Certs.R.S.Health (Meat and Foods)

Clerical Staff:

MRS. D. A. READ

MISS D. E. LITTLE

Offices:

Medical Officer of Health:

Divisional Health Office, 12 Brand Street, Hitchin.

Tel. 3757

Senior Public Health Inspector:

Council Offices, Brand Street, Hitchin.

Tel. 4471-5

HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1956

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mrs. Swinburne and Gentlemen,

I submit the above report prepared on the direction of Ministry Circular 19/56.

For the year 1956 the higher local birth rate (14.8) approximates to that for England and Wales (15.7) while the local death rate (10.8) is again favourable, having regard to the age distribution of the local population on the supplied comparability factor (0.91). Stillbirth and infant mortality rates added together correspond closely with the sum of the national figures.

On the instruction of the Ministry effort is made to amplify reports on food inspection, registration of food premises and on measures to improve food hygiene.

I would acknowledge having received during the year every assistance from your Council and its chief officers, particularly from Mr. Holt, your Senior Public Health Inspector, who is responsible for the attached report on sanitary matters.

Your obedient servant,

V. R. WALKER

District Medical Officer of Health

June, 1957.

SECTION A.

LOCAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,850
Home population - Registrar General's Estimate for mid-1956									20,640
Number of inhabited houses at 1st April, 1957	..	..	..						6,773
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£	270,564
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate for 1957/58	..	..	..					£	1,134

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956

<u>LIVE BIRTHS:</u>	Totals	Males	Females	HITCHIN URBAN DISTRICT	Comparable Rates for England and Wales
Legitimate	288	147	141		
Illegitimate	18	5	13		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
All	306	152	154		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	..	14.8	15.7		

STILLBIRTHS:

Legitimate	9	4	5		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
All	9	4	5		
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	..	28.6	23.0		

<u>DEATHS:</u>	223	123	100		
Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	..	10.8	11.7		

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births	..	19.6	23.8
Rate for legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	..	20.8	
Rate for illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	..	NIL	

Actual number of such deaths:

(a) Under 4 weeks and (b) Under 1 year

Legitimate	..	..	..	..	6	6
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	-	-
					<hr/>	<hr/>
All					6	6
					<hr/>	<hr/>

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth or abortion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Deaths from Cancer (all sites)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Deaths from Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Deaths from other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

COMMENT ON LOCAL VITAL STATISTICS

The estimate by the Registrar General of local mid-year population shows a further rise of 180.

Only two deaths were finally allocated to Tuberculosis (all forms).

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

These are unchanged.

SECTIONS C - E.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, HOUSING AND INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Full reports on the above are contained in the attached report of your Senior Public Health Inspector.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

For the year total notifications of acute infectious diseases (after correction) were: Measles 96, Infective Hepatitis 41, Whooping Cough 8, Scarlet Fever 16, Acute Pneumonia 7, Erysipelas 1, Meningococcal Infection 1, Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) 1, and Food Poisoning 1.

Measles was almost confined in its incidence to the last quarter.

Infective hepatitis (quarterly incidence 34, 6, 0, 1) continued the prevalence of the previous year, with three quarters of notified cases at or under school age. With a slow incubation period of roughly 4 weeks, considerable spread of infection could be traced within households and schools, with many (un-notified) cases of gastro-enteric upset (without jaundice) very definitely due to the same infection. The almost complete decline of the infection coincided with the long summer school vacation, while the peak incidence was in the later months of the previous winter.

Scarlet fever (quarterly incidence 9, 4, 0, 3) was almost confined to the Walsworth area, cases being again reported uniformly mild and the incidence confined to children under 10 years. This infection continues to show a low striking power.

Whooping cough notification is seen to have been most infrequent.

Acute Poliomyelitis incidence was confined to one adult (paralytic) case in the early Autumn whose infection must have been contracted outside the area, since the number of days of previous local residence was shorter than the minimum incubation period.

Only one notification of Food Poisoning was received. The presumptive vehicle was minced steak (which had been slowly undercooked) but attempts to find a specific organism failed.

Diphtheria was again absent from the district during the year. Nevertheless the ^{OFFER}acceptance of immunisation for protection against this formerly dreaded disease continues to be accepted by a good proportion of parents; for infants under two years the offer of combined immunisation against both diphtheria and whooping cough continued particularly popular.

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TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Deaths during the year 1956

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	4	4(2)	1	1(1)	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	4(3)	3(3)	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	2	1(1)	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 - 55	3(1)	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
55 - 65	2(1)	1(1)	-	-	-	-	-	-
and over	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	18(5)	9(7)	1	2(1)	2	-	-	-
Deaths allocated by the Registrar General after final transfers					1	-	1	-

Foot note: Figures of new cases include inward transfers from other areas, the numbers of such being shown separately in brackets.

Comment: New notifications in locally domiciled persons (as distinct from inward transfers) numbered 15 respiratory cases (against 12 for the previous year) and two non-respiratory (against 1 for 1955).

Two deaths (one respiratory and one non-respiratory) were finally allocated to the district.

V. R. WALKER.

District Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1957.

ANNUAL REPORT
of the
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1956

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Mrs. Swinburne and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fifteenth Annual Report upon the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year ending December 31st, 1956.

The Department functioned throughout the year minus one Additional Public Health Inspector and the amount of work carried out in connection with the new Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, which came into operation at the beginning of 1956, was negligible. The routine inspections of shops and factories also suffered. It is hoped, however, that with a full complement of inspectors, 1957 will see an improvement on the good standards of food hygiene operating in food premises prior to 1956.

A further thirty-six houses were inspected and reported upon to the Housing Committee as unfit for human habitation and, with the exception of eight houses where the owners had given written undertakings to demolish on obtaining vacant possession, it was decided to deal with the houses by the making of individual demolition orders in accordance with Section 11, Housing Act, 1936.

I again express my thanks to the staff for their valuable assistance, and to all the Council's officials for their continued co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

N. HOLT

Senior Public Health Inspector.

June, 1957.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' VISITS

AND NOTICES SERVED DURING

THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st 1956

NATURE OF VISIT OR INSPECTION

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply	102
Drainage	757
Public Conveniences	5
Stables and Piggeries	36
Common Lodging Houses	4
Houses let in Lodgings	1
Moveable Dwellings	63
Factories	9
Workplaces	1
Outworkers	8
Refuse and Salvage Collection	501
Refuse Disposal	146
Rats and Mice	109
Smoke Observations	16
Boiler Plants	4
Schools	3
Shops	22
Petroleum Installations	16
Swimming Pools	19
Pet Shops	6
Miscellaneous Visits	722

HOUSING

Under Public Health Acts-

Number of houses inspected	314
Visits paid to above houses	1,392

Under Housing Acts-

Number of houses inspected	35
Visits paid to above houses	451

Overcrowding-

Number of houses inspected	5
Visits paid to above houses	38

Verminous Premises-

Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	25

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Inquiries in cases of I.D.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Visits re: Disinfection	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Visits in connection with Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	30

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Inspection of Meat-

Visits to Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	527
Visits to Shops and Stalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8

Food Inspection-

Visits to Shops and Stalls	43
----------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Visits to-

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	36
Fishmongers and Poulterers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Fish Friers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Dairies and Milkshops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Food Preparing Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
Market Stalls	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	205
Restaurants, Canteens, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Street Vendors and Hawkers Carts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Visits in Connection with Sampling (Bacteriological)-

Milk..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	115
Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	137
Miscellaneous Food Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10

NOTICES SERVED

Number of Informal Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	339
Number of Informal Notices complied with	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	403
Number of Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Number of Statutory Notices complied with	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

HOUSES, ETC.

Dangerous structures demolished	5
Houses painted externally.. .. .	6
Roofs repaired	50
Flashings repaired or replaced	14
Chimney stacks pointed or repaired.. .. .	16
Chimney pots provided	19
Chimney flues repaired	2
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	21
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	22
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drain	4
Rainwater butts provided	5
Walls where damp-proof course provided	1
Walls pointed or repaired.. .. .	13
Yard surfaces drained, repaired or relaid	10
Fuel stores provided.. .. .	3
Door steps provided or repaired	1
Doors repaired or replaced (external)	17
Doors repaired or replaced (internal)	5
Windows made to open.. .. .	1
Windows repaired or replaced	32
New window sashcords provided	13
New window fasteners provided	5
Rooms where lighting improved	3
Rooms where ventilation improved	4
Rooms where dampness remedied	11
Rooms where wall plaster repaired or replaced	18
Rooms where skirting board repaired or replaced	4
Rooms where walls cleansed	8
Rooms redecorated	17
Rooms where ceiling plaster repaired or replaced	16
Ceilings cleansed	5
Additional bedrooms provided	2
Floors relaid or repaired.. .. .	26
Staircases repaired	1
Ranges repaired or replaced	1
Firegrates provided or repaired	11
Houses where water supply provided inside the house	21
Hot water systems provided or repaired	20
Houses where water service pipes repaired	14
New baths provided	20
Trapped bath waste pipes provided or repaired	20

New wash basins provided	30
Trapped wash basin waste pipes provided or repaired	34
New sinks provided	34
Trapped sink waste pipes provided or repaired	23
Sinks repaired	1
Additional sculleries provided	3
Ventilated food stores provided	7

Drainage-

New drains constructed	44
Old drains reconstructed	29
Drains repaired	7
Drains ventilated	8
Drains cleansed	40
Sink gully surrounds repaired	2
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	53
Inspection chamber covers provided	40
Self cleansing gullies provided	37
Soil pipes provided or repaired	13
Vent pipes provided or repaired	11
Fresh air inlets provided or repaired.. .. .	1

Water Closets-

Urinals provided.. .. .	9
W.Cs. where walls repaired	7
New basins fixed	58
W.Cs. where connections repaired.. .. .	8
Cisterns repaired or renewed	29
New flush pipes fixed.. .. .	18
W.Cs. provided with a sufficient supply of water	4
W.C. seats repaired or replaced	24
W.Cs. ventilated	1
W.Cs. decorated	12
W.Cs. where lighting improved	2
Floors repaired	7

MISCELLANEOUS

New dustbins provided.. .. .	349
Accumulations of refuse removed	1
Pigsties - means of drainage provided.. .. .	2

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (i) Water.

With the exception of one or two outlying houses, which have a satisfactory private supply, Hitchin obtains water from a piped supply controlled by the Council. I am indebted to Mr. S. Davey, Water Engineer, for the following information.

Water is obtained, at the present time, from three wells, Well Head and Temple End, situated in the village of Charlton within the Urban District, and Oughton Head situated on the boundary of Pirton just outside the Urban District. An adequate supply is maintained from the above sources and no restrictions on supply are in force or anticipated. The subsoil of the district is mainly chalk.

The Council supply water in bulk to the Hitchin Rural District Council for the areas of Ickleford and Cadwell, and also give supplies when required, for St. Ippolyts, Gosmore, Pirton and Holwell areas.

The highest standard of purity has been maintained throughout the year. Regular samples are sent to the Council's analysts in London and also to the Public Health Laboratories at Luton.

The water from Well Head and Temple End wells is chlorinated and de-chlorinated at the Queen Street Pumping Station before being pumped into supply. The water from Oughton Head is chlorinated and a residual of .15p.p.m. is passed into supply.

During the past year the Council have sunk another bore at Offley Bottom and are now awaiting sanction to proceed with the scheme.

The water from the wells being hard, no trouble is experienced due to plumbo-solvency.

The number of dwelling houses supplied with water from public mains direct into the house is 6,609, serving approximately 20,137 persons, whilst the number of dwelling houses supplied with water from public mains by means of stand-pipes is 123, serving approximately 379 persons. In the case of 40 houses the water supply is provided in an outbuilding. One house obtains its water supply from a well.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage:

Extensions to the sewers during the year were on the Oakfield, West-mill and Willows housing estates.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No action taken.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

With the exception of 22 of the 32 houses comprising the main village of Charlton, and a few outlying premises, the whole of the district is provided with waterclosets, which, excluding a few waterclosets discharging into cesspools, are connected to the Council's sewers. The 22 houses mentioned above are provided with pail closets.

(ii) Public Cleansing.

A regular weekly collection of refuse was maintained throughout the greater part of the year. Only following Bank holiday periods and when sickness affected two or three workmen was the regularity of the service disturbed. Difficulty was again experienced in employing and retaining suitable labour. House and trade refuse continues to be disposed of by controlled tipping with the aid of mechanical equipment. The Council decided during the year to tip refuse on a portion of Walsworth Common and this action should eventually provide a much improved open space in Walsworth. Approximately 417 tons of wastepaper were collected and sold to the board mills during the financial year 1956/57 despite further restrictions on sales imposed by the mills as from 1st January, 1957.

(iii) Public Health Inspection of the Area. See pages 7, 8, 9 and 10.

(iv) Shops and Offices.

Regarding shops, five sanitary conveniences were decorated and one watercloset basin was provided.

(v) Camping Sites.

At 31st December, 1956, there were 4 sites in the area where moveable dwellings were stationed under licence of the Council.

1. Two sites licensed to stand 48 and 19 mobile trailer caravans respectively, provided with waterclosets, main drainage, bathrooms and laundries. Water and electricity are laid on into each caravan.
2. One site licensed to stand 10 mobile trailer caravans provided with waterclosets, main drainage and water supply.
3. One site licensed to stand 2 mobile trailer caravans provided with main drainage and water supply.

Three persons were each licensed to stand a mobile trailer caravan and were provided with a main water supply and a readily accessible drainage system.

(vi) Smoke Abatement.

16 smoke observations of factory chimneys were made during the year, special attention being given to four particular chimneys. Advisory visits were made to the four boiler plants concerned.

(vii) Swimming Baths.

There are two swimming baths in the district, (a) a public open-air swimming bath maintained by the Council, comprising a main pool and a children's pool, and (b) a private open-air swimming bath at the Girls' Grammar School.

128 samples of water in the two pools at the Council's bath were taken, 64 being submitted to a bacteriological examination and 64 to a residual chlorine test. With the exception of 3 bacteriological failures all the samples were reported upon as satisfactory. On one or two occasions the chlorine content was found to be high.

The County Health Department took samples of the water in the Girls' Grammar School bath during the year.

(viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action taken.

4. Schools.

No action taken.

SECTION D.

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)	..	..	..	349
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	1,843
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	..	..	..	31
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	..	..	..	31

(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	31
(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.. ..	62

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.. ..	112
--	-----

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.. .. .	-
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners.. .. .	1
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	-

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.. ..	6
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners.. .. .	6
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	-

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11, 13 and Part 3 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	-
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	-
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Orders.. .. .	-

- (D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:
- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | - |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit | - |
- (E) Proceedings under Section 10, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:
- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | - |
|-----|--|---|

4. OVERCROWDING.

- | | | | |
|-----|--|--|-----|
| (a) | (1) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.. | 15 |
| | (2) | Number of families dwelling therein | 22 |
| | (3) | Number of persons dwelling therein.. .. . | 106 |
| (b) | (1) | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 3 |
| (c) | (1) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 3 |
| | (2) | Number of persons concerned in such cases | 18 |
| (d) | Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding: | | |
| | (1) | Number of cases.. .. . | - |
| | (2) | Number of families concerned | - |
| | (3) | Number of persons | - |

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

Six persons carry on the trade of distributors of milk in the district and four premises are used as dairies. All are registered with this authority in accordance with the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

The table below shows the annual licences issued by this authority for the sale of designated milk:

Dealer's Licences.

Tuberculin Tested (bottled at dairy)	..	..	..	..	3
Sterilised (received in bottles)	..	..	..	..	1

Supplementary Licences.

Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

In addition three dairies in the district hold licences granted by the County Council to pasteurise milk. One dairy pasteurises by the 'High Temperature Short Time' method and the other two by the 'Holder' method. All the milk retailed in the district is heat treated.

Numerous inspections of dairies were made during the year under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

During the year 102 samples of milk were taken and were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results:

Number of Samples	Class of milk	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Percentage Satisfactory
50	Pasteurised	48	2	96%
45	Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	40	5	88.8%
7	Sterilised	7	-	100%

The majority of the samples were bottled milks taken in course of delivery to the consumer.

(b) Meat and Foods.

Two slaughterhouses are licensed by the Council to slaughter animals, (a) the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory where extensive slaughtering of pigs is carried out, and (b) a slaughterhouse where a small number of cattle, sheep and pigs are slaughtered annually. 55,455 pigs were killed and inspected at the Bacon Factory during the year. A system of detention is in operation at this slaughterhouse. Animals showing any disease or abnormality in carcase or organs are detained and brought to the attention of the meat inspector whilst he is engaged on routine meat inspection.

This system of detention is the best that can be adopted, and obviates appointing a full-time meat inspector, working well in practice.

The following table gives details of the number of animals killed, inspected and found to be diseased or unsound and unfit for food. The diseased or unsound meat is voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as not to be used for human consumption.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	92	1	-	433	55,508
Number inspected	92	1	-	433	55,508
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	-	-	-	-	175
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	37	-	-	21	5,065
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	40.21	-	-	4.84	9.43
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	-	-	-	-	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	2	-	-	-	1,403
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	2.17	-	-	-	2.53
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ..	1	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

The following table gives summarised information relating to the carcasses, offal, etc., condemned:

(a) Private slaughterhouse

Tuberculosis						LBS
2	Beasts' mesenteric fats	..	..	..	..	62

Other Diseases

1	Beast's head.....	Cysticercus Bovis	30
1	Beast's liver.....	Angioma	14
9	Beasts' livers.....	Flukes	108
17	Beasts' livers (part).....	Flukes	96
7	Beasts' livers.....	Cirrhosis	94
1	Beast's lung.....	Abscess	10
2	Beasts' lungs.....	Echinocosis	14
7	Sheeps' livers.....	Cysts	14
8	Sheeps' livers.....	Flukes	16
2	Sheeps' livers.....	Fatty Degeneration	4
1	Sheep's liver (part).....	Necrosis	1
3	Sheeps' lungs.....	Congestion	6
3	Pigs' lungs.....	Congestion	6

413

Total: 3 cwt 2 qrs 21 lbs

(b) Herts. and Beds. Bacon Factory

Tuberculosis

9	Pigs' carcasses	1,396
858	Pigs' heads and tongues	11,164
60	Pigs' plucks	336
462	Pigs' mesenteric fats	3,563
23	Pigs' miscellaneous fores and collars.. .. .	182

16,641

Other Diseases

22	Pigs' carcasses.....	Pneumonia	898
1	Pig's carcass.....	Gangrenous Pneumonia	138
18	Pigs' carcasses.....	Septic Pneumonia	2,033
22	Pigs' carcasses.....	Fevered	2,357
34	Pigs' carcasses.....	Moribund	4,665
1	Pig's carcass.....	Carcinoma	279
1	Pig's carcass.....	Septic Mastitis	257

2	Pigs' carcasses.....	Septic Pericarditis	272
3	Pigs' carcasses.....	Septic Peritonitis	501
1	Pig's carcass.....	Peritonitis	69
17	Pigs' carcasses.....	Generalised Oedema	1,113
5	Pigs' carcasses.....	Pyæmia	774
7	Pigs' carcasses.....	Jaundice	2,005
6	Pigs' carcasses.....	Pathological Emaciation	959
3	Pigs' carcasses.....	Extensive Bruising	247
8	Pigs' carcasses.....	Swine Erysipelas	505
13	Pigs' carcasses.....	Septicaemia	1,773
2	Pigs' carcasses.....	Multiple Abscesses	749
9	Pigs' carcasses.....	Swine Fever	1,188
	Miscellaneous fores, hindquarters and collars..	Abscesses, etc	315
14	Pigs' heads.....	Abscesses	172
31	Pigs' legs.....	Bruising, Abscesses, etc	612
51	Pigs' legs.....	Injury	598
116	Pigs' hocks.....	Arthritis	283
852	Pigs' plucks.....	Cirrhosis	5,117
2251	Pigs' lungs.....	Congestion	6,622
1493	Pigs' kidneys.....	Nephritis	415
254	Pigs' stomachs.....	Inflammation	2,032
	Miscellaneous parts.....	Injury	1,810
	Miscellaneous parts.....	Melanosis	14
	Miscellaneous parts.....	Inflammation and Adhesions	126
			<hr/> 38,898

Total: 24 tons 15 cwts 3 qrs 15 lbs

Numerous visits were made to butchers' shops, food shops and other food preparing premises. The following quantities of foodstuffs were also found to be unsound and unfit for food, were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and disposed of so as not to be used for human consumption.

Meat from Butchers' Shops.

Rib of Beef.....	Injury	15
Shin of Beef.....	Decomposition	70
		<hr/> 85

Total: 3 qrs 1 lb

General.

Bacon	3
Miscellaneous tinned meats	201
Miscellaneous tinned and packed foods	972½
Fish	65

Tinned Ham	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48 $\frac{3}{4}$
										<hr/> 1290 $\frac{1}{4}$

Total: 11 cwts 2 qrs 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs

Grand total of Foodstuffs condemned (all Classes)

25 tons 11 cwts 3 qrs 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs

ICE CREAM:

The number of premises registered under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the storage and sale of ice cream is 62. Frequent visits were made to the foregoing premises to enforce the provisions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, and for the purpose of sampling. 105 samples were taken, the results of which follow:

Grade 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	102	} Satisfactory
Grade 2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	
Grade 3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	} Unsatisfactory
Grade 4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

2 cream lollies and 3 ice lollies were also taken and bacteriologically examined and were found to be satisfactory.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

1. There are 272 food premises in the area consisting of 66 grocers, 23 confectioners (sweets), 9 confectioners (cakes, etc.), 20 green-grocers, 5 fish-friers, 7 fishmongers, 2 poulterers, 21 butchers, 52 restaurant kitchens, 6 food factories, 8 bakehouses, 50 licensed premises and 3 warehouses, the latter being used for the storage of food only.

2. The following premises are registered under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, 17 butchers (for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved food), 1 butcher, (for the pickling of meat), 2 fishmongers (for the preservation of fish), 4 food factories (for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted pickled, pressed or preserved food).

Regarding ice cream, the following are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, 27 grocers, 4 greengrocers, 18 confectioners, (sweets), and 13 general premises.

Four dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

3. Regarding inspection of food premises see below.
4. Condemned food is disposed of at the premises of the Herts. and Beds. Co-operative Bacon Factory, where it is processed in a digestor plant.
5. The following improvements were carried out during the year to premises used for the preparation, sale, etc., of food :-

Washing facilities.

Number of new sinks provided	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of trapped waste pipes provided	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of new washbasins provided	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of defective washbasins renewed	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of new draining boards provided	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of fitments provided with running hot and cold water						7

Structural Work.

Number of rooms where walls repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	3
Number of rooms where ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	1
Number of rooms where ceilings repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	3
Number of rooms where floor repaired or improved	..	..	..	..	2
Number of rooms where walls decorated	..	..	..	..	8
Number of rooms where ceilings decorated	..	..	..	..	8
Number of rooms where woodwork decorated	..	..	..	..	2
Number of rooms where new floor coverings provided	..	..	..	..	1
Number of rooms where lighting improved	..	..	..	..	1

Equipment.

Number of premises where new equipment provided	..	..	..	..	3
Number of premises where equipment renovated	..	..	..	..	3
Number of premises where food storage improved	..	..	..	..	1
Number of premises where new counter tops installed	..	..	..	..	1
Number of premises where new shop fronts provided	..	..	..	..	1

Food Hygiene.

Number of premises where glass screening provided	..	..	..	..	2
Number of premises where new nail brushes provided	..	..	..	..	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1956

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	33	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	144	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	5	-	-	-
Total	182	-	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK (SECTIONS 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	Number of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)c	Number of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	Number of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Number of instances of work in unwholesome premises	No-tices served	Pro-secu-tions
Wearing apparel making, etc.	71	-	-	-	-	-

