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BOROUGH OF LEWES



*ANNUAL REPORT*

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1938

Borough of Lewes

*With the Compliments  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health*

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE  
TOWN HALL, LEWES

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,  
TOWN HALL,  
LEWES.

*June, 1939.*

MR. MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1938 drawn up in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health. The Report of the Sanitary Inspector is embodied with it.

The general health of the town continues to be satisfactory. No epidemic illness occurred during the year, and the incidence of infectious diseases was low.

The Council will be satisfied to learn that the closest co-operation exists between the respective Departments concerned with the water supply which is analysed regularly and maintains its purity and high quality.

An account of the housing activities is given on p. 11. The housing enquiries held in June and November completed the five years' Clearance Scheme programme. An interesting feature of the year's work has been the notable improvement in health in the families removed from clearance areas to the Landport Estate.

I desire to acknowledge the valuable assistance given to me during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors.

I am,  
Your obedient servant,

W. R. DUNSTAN,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

### Public Health Staff :

Medical Officer of Health (part time) : W. R. Dunstan, M.Sc.,  
M.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector (whole time) : A. L. Vigar\*†

Additional Sanitary Inspector (whole time) : K. Appleton†\*

Contribution to the salaries of these officers is made by  
Exchequer grants.

\*Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate.

†Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate.

### Hospital for Infectious Diseases

Nurse Matron : Mrs. Cowlam

Caretaker, Mr. H. A. Cowlam

### General Statistics.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	1,981 acres
Resident Population, 1938 (R.G. estimated)	...				...	11,960
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938), according						
to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	3,622
Rateable Value (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	£114,930
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£465

### Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The town is situated on the tidal River Ouse. The greater part is on the chalk, rising from the alluvium, at the lower part of the Town, 18 feet above high water mark to 380 feet above high water mark at the highest part of the Town.

The Town is largely residential, but Ironworks, Cement Works and Breweries provide occupation for a considerable industrial population.

There is no occupation particularly influencing the public health.

Unemployment in Lewes has been too slight in occurrence and degree to allow any conclusions as to its effect on nutritional state.

## Extracts from Vital Statistics.

		TOTALS		M	F		
Live Births	Legitimate	143	...	73	70	}	Birth Rate 12.12
	Illegitimate	2	...	2	0		
Total		...		145			
Still Births	Legitimate	6	...	6	0	}	Rate per 1000 live & still Total Births 46.05
	Illegitimate	1	...	0	1		
Total		...	...	7			
Deaths	...	...	...	91	86	Death Rate 11.83	
Total		...	...	177			

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :

				Deaths	<i>Rate per 1,000 Total Births</i>
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	0	0.00
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes	...	...	0	0.00
Total		...	...	0	0.00

Death Rate of infants under one year of age :

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	55.17
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	55.94
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	0.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	24
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.



## Comparative Statistics

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Population estimated to middle of year ...	11,790*	11,850	11,910	11,920	11,960
Birth-rate per 1,000 ...	10.76	11.13	13.43	13.26	12.12
Crude death-rate ...	11.36	11.30	13.77	13.50	14.79
Adjusted death-rate ...	9.09	9.04	11.02	10.80	11.83
Death-rate per 1,000 from Zymotic diseases (excluding consumption) ...	.26	.42	.33	.08	.08
Death-rate from respiratory tuberculosis ...	.85	.75	.50	.34	.50
Death-rate under 1 year to 1,000 live births ...	39.68	53.03	50.00	44.30	55.17
Deaths over 65, percentage of total deaths ...	60.09	62.12	58.53	65.21	63.27

\*The population figure for 1934 statistical purposes was 11,708. The variation was necessitated by the alteration of the Borough boundary during the course of that year.

## Causes of Death in Lewes

## CIVILIANS ONLY

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
<b>All causes</b> ...	<b>91</b>	<b>86</b>
Whooping Cough ...	—	1
Influenza ...	2	4
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	4	2
Other tuberculosis ...	—	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	11	13
Diabetes ...	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ...	7	3
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	1
G.P.I., Tabes, etc. ...	—	1
Heart Disease ...	22	26
Other circulatory diseases ...	6	4
Bronchitis ...	1	1
Pneumonia ...	8	7
Other respiratory diseases ...	2	1
Peptic ulcer ...	2	1
Appendicitis ...	3	1
Other digestive diseases ...	2	1
Other liver diseases ...	1	—
Nephritis ...	2	—
Congenital causes, etc. ...	5	3
Senility ...	6	8
Other deaths from violence ...	2	1
Other defined diseases ...	5	4
Ill defined or N.K. ...	—	1

**Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates,  
and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1938.**

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London</i>	<i>118 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).</i>	<i>London Administrative County</i>	<i>LEWES</i>
Rates per 1,000 Population					
<i>Births : -</i>					
Live ... ..	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4	12.1
Still ... ..	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48	0.58
<i>Deaths : -</i>					
All Causes... ..	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4	11.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Measles ... ..	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough... ..	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.08
Diphtheria ... ..	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.00
Influenza ... ..	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.50
<i>Notifications : -</i>					
Smallpox ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05	0.33
Diphtheria ... ..	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90	0.33
Enteric Fever ... ..	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.00
Erysipelas... ..	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46	0.75
Pneumonia ... ..	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98	0.92
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	53	57	51	57	55
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ... ..	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1	0.00
<i>Maternal Mortality : -</i>					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0.89	Not available			{ 0.00
Others ... ..	2.19				{ 0.00
Total ... ..	3.08				{ 0.00
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
<i>Maternal Mortality : -</i>					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0.86	Not available			{ 0.00
Others ... ..	2.11				{ 0.00
Total ... ..	2.97				{ 0.00
<i>Notifications : -</i>					
Puerperal Fever ... ..	14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53	{ 0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..				{ 15.46	{ 39.47

### Clinics and Treatment Centres

	<i>Name</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>Nature of accommodation</i>	<i>Provided by</i>
Maternity and Child Welfare Centre	Lewes	Town Hall	Ample	Voluntary. Nurse provided and receives grant through County Council
Infant Welfare	Lewes	Watergate	Ample	do.
School Clinic	Lewes	Market Tower	Waiting and consulting room, medical and dental	Lewes Education Authority
Orthopaedic	Lewes	Castlegate	Sufficient	East Sussex County Council
Tuberculosis	Lewes	Castlegate	Sufficient	East Sussex County Council
Venereal Disease	E. Sussex	Sussex County Hospital, Brighton	Out-patient or In-patient as required	East Sussex County Council
Nervous Disorders Clinic	Lewes	Victoria Hospital	Out-patient Department	East Sussex County Council

### Laboratory Facilities

Specimens for bacteriological examination for Diphtheria and Enteric Fever are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London ; material for Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, to the pathological department of the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. A letter sent to all medical practitioners in the Borough shewed the arrangements and procedure adopted.

The Council pay for these examinations, also for the supply of Diphtheria anti-toxin in most cases.

Examination of material for the detection of tubercle bacilli is undertaken generally by the Medical Officer of the East Sussex County Council.

Analysis of the Lewes water supply is made, bacteriologically and chemically, by Dr. S. Allinson Woodhead. Bacteriological examination of milk samples is also undertaken by him.



### Hospitals

<i>Service</i>	<i>Hospitals, etc.</i>	
General Medical...	Sussex County, Brighton Lewes Victoria, Lewes	Beds are available as requisitioned under agreements with the Hospitals
General Surgical	Lewes Victoria, Lewes	
Children ...	Alexandra, Brighton	
Maternity ...	Sussex Maternity Hospital, Brighton	
Venereal Diseases	Sussex County, Brighton	Beds available in the Lewes Isolation Hospital number 12. Permanent Staff, a matron.
Tuberculosis ...	Sanatorium, Robertsbridge	
Chronic Sick ...	Infirmery, Chailey Infirmery, Steyning	
Mental ...	Mental Hospital, Hellingly Mental Hospital, Haywards Heath	Additional nursing assistance is obtained as required
Mental Deficiency	Various Institutions	
Orthopaedic ...	Heritage, Chailey	
Ear, Nose and Throat	Sussex Throat, Brighton	

### Ambulance Facilities

Two motor ambulances are provided and maintained by the Council. One is used exclusively for infectious diseases ; the other is for non-infectious sickness and accidents.

The ambulance service is available for the use of patients in districts outside the Borough at a fixed charge per mile run. The scale of charges adopted by the Council provides for the free use of the ambulance up to twenty miles when ordered through the private medical practitioner in the case of residents of the Borough. A special rate is charged for use by other public administrative bodies.

During the year 267 journeys were made covering 3,246 miles. Receipts amounted to £109 14s. 1d. ; repairs, running costs, etc., £137 10s. 5d. Owing to special circumstances the Committee wrote off the charges in two cases.

Ambulance facilities in the Borough are adequate ; and the service includes use in Chailey Rural District, as required, by arrangement between the Council and the Chailey Rural District Council.

### Nursing in the Home

(a) General. None provided by the Sanitary Authority, but services of District Nurses from the Lewes Nursing Association are available, and are voluntarily provided in cases of necessity; in other cases fees are charged according to the circumstances of the patient.

(b) Infectious diseases (*e.g.* Measles). The Local Authority have authorised the provision of nurses in certain cases. There are private nurses residing in the town, and nurses can be obtained from Brighton and other towns, but there is no financial or other arrangements between them and the Local Authority.

### Sanitary Circumstances

*Water Supply.*—The water supply is derived almost entirely from the Lewes Corporation Waterworks. The Cliff Well and some private wells are still being used.

The Corporation Waterworks are situated at the south-west end of the Town. The water is pumped from the well into the four covered distributing reservoirs, *i.e.* Jubilee Park, The Race Hill (2) and Western Road. The supply is constant, of good quality and sufficient for the needs of the community.

Analyses of the water were made during the year. The Analyst reported that both chemically and bacterially this supply maintains its very high degree of purity and remains perfectly safe for drinking purposes and domestic use.

*Drainage and Sewerage.*—Water carriage system; a few houses only being connected to cesspools. The sewers were extended during the year on the Landport Estate.

The sewerage system provides for the converging of all sewers to a central station at Southerham, where the effluent, after the passing of the sewage through screens and settling tanks, is discharged into the River Ouse at suitable states of the tide.

*Rivers and Streams.*—No statutory proceedings to prevent pollution of rivers or streams were necessary during the year.

*Closet Accommodation.*—Practically all water closets; part hand flushed but chiefly by flushing cisterns. 14 flushing cisterns have been provided at existing premises during the year.

*Scavenging.*—The collection of house refuse is carried out once a week over the whole district by contract under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. The contract covers a five year period ending on 30th September, 1940, and provides for the use of approved motor vehicles. The annual contract price is £1,150, with an additional charge of 8s. per house per annum for every five houses erected and occupied after 1st October, 1935.

The Council authorised their contractor to make a bi-weekly collection of refuse, during the summer months, from certain premises in the Borough producing kitchen waste, *e.g.*, cafes, restaurants, etc. This was carried out under a separate contract.

The disposal of the refuse takes place at the Council's Sewage Works on the outskirts of the town. After reduction by burning the residue is utilised in the sludge drying beds, and for filling up the low-lying adjacent ground.



## REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

## Sanitary Inspection

*(a) Visits and Inspections :*

Houses and premises inspected	...	...	...	313
Houses inspected	...	...	...	252
Complaints attended to	...	...	...	139
Visits to slaughter houses, shops, etc.	...	...	...	1066
Visits to cowsheds and milkshops	...	...	...	38
Visits to bakehouses	...	...	...	10
Visits to fried fish and other food shops	...	...	...	14
Drains tested by smoke or colour	...	...	...	9
Drains tested by water	...	...	...	92
Visits for re-inspections	...	...	...	1366
Visits for sundry purposes	...	...	...	160
Visits under the Factories Act	...	...	...	79
Visits under Shops Acts	...	...	...	9
Notices to Employers, <i>re</i> Outworkers	...	...	...	17
Visits, <i>re</i> sickness	...	...	...	200
Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	8
Visits, re-disinfection	...	...	...	20
Visits to remove infected bedding, etc.	...	...	...	15
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	12
Sets of bedding, etc., disinfected	...	...	...	30
Articles disinfected	...	...	...	68
Inspections of verminous houses	...	...	...	93
Visits <i>re</i> Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919	...	...	...	55
Visits to stables	...	...	...	11
Samples of water for analysis	...	...	...	12
Samples of milk	...	...	...	31
Visits <i>re</i> house refuse	...	...	...	53
Visits to Markets	...	...	...	38
Inspections of Schools	...	...	...	8
Inspections <i>re</i> Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	78
Inspections of Marine Stores	...	...	...	3
Inspections of pig keeper's premises	...	...	...	11
Inspections of dwelling vans	...	...	...	7
Inspections of Urinals	...	...	...	36
Notices to the Secretary Education Committee	...	...	...	131
Notices to Parents	...	...	...	119
Reports <i>re</i> Infectious Sickness prepared for Medical Officer of Health	...	...	...	15
Notices served	...	...	...	180
Condemned Food notes issued	...	...	...	259

*(b) Nuisances abated and Repair Works carried out :*

Choked drains	...	...	...	18
Choked W.C.s	...	...	...	4
Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	4
Inspection chambers	...	...	...	5
Intercepting traps	...	...	...	3
W.C.s repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	7
W.C.s flushing apparatus	...	...	...	2
W.C.s cleansed	...	...	...	4

Soil pipes ... ..	2
Vent pipes ... ..	1
Fresh air inlets ... ..	7
Gully traps ... ..	10
Sinks ... ..	2
Sink waste pipes and channels ... ..	9
Eaves guttering and rain water pipes ... ..	18
Ashbins provided ... ..	37
Cesspool cleansed ... ..	1
Yard paving ... ..	6
Roofs ... ..	11
Doors and door frames ... ..	2
Windows and frames ... ..	13
Ventilation in lieu of fireplaces ... ..	5
Fireplaces and ranges ... ..	6
Washing coppers ... ..	3
Floors ... ..	16
Staircases ... ..	15
Ceilings and internal walls ... ..	40
External wall plaster ... ..	15
Brickwork ... ..	11
Domestic cistern cleansed ... ..	1
Dampness remedied ... ..	18
Overcrowding abated ... ..	28
Rooms cleansed ... ..	23
Yards cleansed ... ..	9
Verminous houses ... ..	5
Cowsheds and dairies cleansed ... ..	1
Bakehouses cleansed ... ..	1
Slaughterhouses cleansed ... ..	4
Stables cleansed ... ..	3
Fishshops cleansed ... ..	3
Urinals cleansed ... ..	3
Accumulations removed ... ..	12
Accumulations of manure removed ... ..	5
Manure conveyances not covered ... ..	7
Animals improperly kept ... ..	1

#### *Camping Sites.*

- (1) No. of sites which were used for camping purposes during 1938—Nil.
- (2) No. of camping sites in respect of which licences were issued by the local authority under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936—Nil.
- (3) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during summer season 1938—  
Campers generally reside outside the Borough boundary.

*Smoke Abatement.*—Five observations of smoke emissions were made, and 2 cautionary letters were sent. As other cases occurred in connection with exempted processes no action could be taken.

*Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.*—No upholsterer in the Borough was found to be using flock other than that supplied under warranty. No samples were taken.



*Swimming Baths and Pools.*—The open-air Swimming Bath at the Pells is Council owned. The bath capacity is 244,000 gallons, and is completely emptied and refilled fortnightly. Also the condition of the water is maintained by regular chlorination and the daily changing of a volume of the water approximating to one-sixth of the total bath capacity. Analysis of the bath water has shown it to be bacteriologically satisfactory. An open air swimming bath at the County Secondary School for Boys is used five days each week in the season. The water is changed weekly but is not chlorinated.

*Eradication of Bed Bugs.*—Five instances of bug infestation were found during the year. No case was at Council owned property. All houses were disinfested by owners to the requirements specified by the Sanitary Inspector, *i.e.* through stripping of walls, the removal of skirtings, architraves, and other wooden fixtures from walls and treatment by plumber's blow lamp, disinfestation by efficient fumigation or vermicide solution, and subsequent repair, cleansing and distempering of plasterwork and repair and replacement of wooden fixtures where necessary. The houses and belongings of tenants about to be rehoused from Clearance Areas are inspected prior to transfer to Council houses and arrangements made for disinfestation in case of any vermin found. The Council has apparatus for steam disinfestation which is available for use in disinfesting bedding. The Public Health Department utilise "Zaldecide" solution for spraying such premises.

*Schools.*—During the year the Education Committee closed the following public elementary schools:—St. John's School, the Central School for Boys, and the Central School for Girls.

In December the new Central School for Boys and Girls at Mountfield Road was opened.

There are now six public elementary schools, two secondary schools, and a number of private schools in the Borough. Defective sanitary conditions are reported to the Local Education Authority for necessary attention as they arise. Routine medical inspections are held regularly and clinics twice weekly. Exclusion from school in case of infectious disease is based on 1927 Memorandum (see Appendix on p. 22). No school closure was necessitated during 1938.

### Housing Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	195
(1) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	106
(2) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	...	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	89
(b) Additional dwellings by conversion into flats	...	...	...	...	...	3

1. *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :*

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	252
Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	564

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	151
Total number of inspections made ... ..	417
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	59
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	63
 2. <i>Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices :</i>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	54
 3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers :</i>	
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 :	
(a) by owners ... ..	9
(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 ... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :	
(a) by owners ... ..	—
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 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 ... ..	—
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 ... ..	—



4. *Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :*

A.	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	51
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...				52
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...				305
B.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	...	...	...	...	1
C.	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...		28
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases...					181
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	...	...			—

5. *Unhealthy Areas.*

Five unhealthy areas were dealt with at a Public Inquiry in June. The Minister of Health confirmed Orders requiring the demolition of 53 houses in the St. John's Street, Edward Street, Cliffe Square, Pleasant Place and South Court Areas.

One further unhealthy area comprising 2 dwelling-houses was also represented.

A second Public Inquiry was held in November, in respect of the Chapel Hill (No. 2), Walwers Lane (No. 2), St. Anne's Hill, Rusbridges Cottages, St. Nicholas Lane (No. 2), New Road and Western Road (No. 2) Areas.

One further unhealthy area comprising five dwelling-houses was also represented.

The result of this Inquiry has not yet come to hand.

Several houses on the new housing estate at Landport were completed and occupied by families from the clearance areas during the year.

### **Inspection and Supervision of Food**

(a) *Milk Supply.*—The greater supply of the milk is drawn from farms outside the Borough. There are three cow-keepers with 35 cows, and 21 retailers registered within the Borough. Four retailers held licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-8, for the sale of "Tuberculin Tested" milk. Sterilised bottled milk was sold at five premises. Premises were kept in a generally clean condition. Notices were served in two cases regarding unsatisfactory conditions. During the year attention was drawn to all milk purveyors, regarding the filling of milk bottles in the street, and of the action the Council would be compelled to take on any further repetition of this undesirable practice.



No milk was examined for visible dirt content, but 31 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination with the following results :—

Satisfied Coliform and Methylene Blue tests ...	...	17
Failed Coliform test only ...	...	5
Failed Methylene Blue test only ...	...	—
Failed Coliform and Methylene Blue tests ...	...	9

Acid fast organisms were not found in any sample.

Pus cells were present in one sample.

Streptococci present in five samples.

Staphylococci present in three samples.

Leucocytes present in two samples.

(b) *Meat and other Foods*.—Inspections of the seven registered slaughterhouses, also the butchers' and other food shops have been made regularly throughout the year, and satisfactory conditions maintained. Examination of carcasses and internal organs in the slaughterhouses was made on most occasions of slaughter, and 4 tons, 4 cwts. 2 qtrs. 15lbs. of meat found unfit for human consumption was voluntarily surrendered by the owners on condemnation.

The following table shows details of meat condemned :

<i>Description</i>		<i>Number of animals or parts of Animals</i>	
		<i>Tuberculosis</i>	<i>Other causes</i>
Beasts	(whole carcase, including internal organs) ...	4	—
..	Heads ... ..	6	1
..	Tongues ... ..	6	1
..	Lungs ... ..	10	—
..	Hearts ... ..	4	—
..	Livers ... ..	—	17
..	Other organs ... ..	—	1
Calves	(whole carcase, including internal organs) ...	5	4
..	(part carcase) ... ..	—	1
..	Heads ... ..	—	—
..	Tongues ... ..	—	—
..	Lungs ... ..	2	1
..	Hearts ... ..	2	—
..	Livers ... ..	2	2
..	Other organs ... ..	3	—
Sheep	(whole carcase, including internal organs) ...	—	1
..	(part carcase) ... ..	—	1
..	Heads ... ..	—	—
..	Tongues ... ..	—	—
..	Lungs ... ..	—	32
..	Hearts ... ..	—	2
..	Livers ... ..	—	51
..	Other organs ... ..	—	1
Pigs	(whole carcase, including internal organs) ...	13	3
..	(part carcase) ... ..	2	2
..	Heads ... ..	100	2
..	Tongues ... ..	40	2
..	Lungs ... ..	37	45
..	Hearts ... ..	34	48
..	Livers ... ..	43	138
..	Other organs ... ..	64	22

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	<i>Cattle exclu- ding cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number killed (if known)					
Estimated ... ..	236	9	1684	1979	2767
Number Inspected ..	126	9	572	1378	2441
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned ... ..	—	—	4	1	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	2	4	61	191
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	14.3%	22%	1.4%	4.5%	7.9%
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned ...	4	—	5	—	13
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	1	3	—	119
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	14.3%	11.1%	1.4%	—	5.4%

Unsound meat is either destroyed by incineration or disposed of to waste products merchants after treatment with disinfectants.

Other foods condemned and destroyed were 28lbs. Pears, 3½ lbs. Figs.

(c) *Adulteration, etc.*—Analysis under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, is undertaken by the East Sussex County Council. The Inspector, Mr. W. Chamberlain, has kindly furnished the particulars of samples taken: 11 Milks, 1 Coffee, 1 Tinned Salmon and 1 Sweets. Two milk samples were found to be incorrect, one submitted by a private purchaser was taken up by the appropriate Department of the County Council. Further samples taken from the supplier were found to be satisfactory.

No legal proceedings were taken during the year.

*Nutrition.*—The special work on Nutrition has been continued on the lines laid down in the 1933 report.

Children attending the elementary schools are provided with milk at a reduced price under the Milk Marketing Board Scheme. Pasteurised milk forms approximately half the total supplied.

**Factories Act.**

## TABLE REQUIRED BY HOME OFFICE.

1.—*Inspections.*

<i>Premises.</i> (1)	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections</i> (2)	<i>Written Notices</i> (3)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (4)
Factories with mechanical power ... ..	25	1	—
Factories without mechanical power ... ..	12	2	—
Other premises under the Act	42	4	—
Total ...	79	7	—

2.—*Defects found.*

<i>Particulars.</i> (1)	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>No. of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.</i> (5)
	<i>Found.</i> (2)	<i>Remedied.</i> (3)	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i> (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	7	7	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient unsuitable or defective (S.7) { not separate for sexes...	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total ...	7	7	—	—

3.—*Outwork in unwholesome premises, Section 111 ... Nil.*



### Petroleum Act, 1928

78 visits were paid respecting the storage of Petroleum Spirit and Carbide of Calcium.

42 licences were authorised : 35 for storage of Petroleum Spirit, and 7 for Carbide of Calcium.

The total quantities that might be kept under these licences were petroleum spirit, 68,515 gallons ; Carbide of Calcium, 2,340 pounds.

Fees amounting to £30 were received.

### Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919

55 visits were paid under the Act, and advice given as conditions indicated. Copies of the advisory leaflet issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were distributed to occupiers of rat invaded premises.

The Council's refuse tipping area and the banks of the adjoining Cockshute Stream have received routine treatment throughout the year.

### Notifiable Diseases during the Year

<i>Disease</i>				<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>
Diphtheria	...	...	...	4	4	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	4	4	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	9	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	11	—	15
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	6	—	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	1	—	1
Tuberculosis :						
(a) Pulmonary	...	Males	...	7	5	4
		Females	...	7	7	2
		Total	...	14	12	6
(b) Non-Pulmonary	...	Males	...	1	—	—
		Females	...	2	2	1
		Total	...	3	2	1

Most of the cases of Tuberculosis are notified : nearly all cases are referred by the medical attendant to the Tuberculosis Officer of the East Sussex County Council ; these receive appropriate treatment according to the circumstances of each case. The houses of all known cases are visited, and any necessary sanitary work carried out. Cases not attending the Tuberculosis Clinic are urged to take advantage of its benefits.

### Distribution of Sickness

The cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever were distributed throughout the year thus :

	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>		<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>
January ...	2	2	July ...	—	—
February ...	—	1	August ...	—	—
March ...	1	—	September ...	—	1
April ...	1	—	October ...	—	—
May ...	—	—	November ...	—	—
June ...	—	—	December ...	—	—

### Analysis of Infectious Diseases Notified and arranged in Age Groups.

	<i>Un- der 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 2</i>	<i>2 to 3</i>	<i>3 to 4</i>	<i>4 to 5</i>	<i>5 to 10</i>	<i>10 to 15</i>	<i>15 to 20</i>	<i>20 to 35</i>	<i>35 to 45</i>	<i>45 to 65</i>	<i>65 and over</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	2	4
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	4	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

### Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality

	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
25	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	1
	7	7	1	2	4	2	—	1



## Methods of Procedure in dealing with Infectious Disease

### *Notifiable Disease*

On receipt of notification the house is visited and enquiries made into all the circumstances under which the sickness has arisen ; also the conditions of the house and surroundings, milk supply, school and contacts, and any other information ascertained which would lead to the source of infection, and restrict the further spread of disease.

When the patient is removed to the Hospital for Infectious Diseases, which is always urged in the cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Enteric Fever, and generally agreed to, the room is afterwards disinfected, by either spraying or fumigation, followed by the removal of the bedding, wearing apparel, etc., to the Council's Steam Disinfecting Station with a printed list of articles removed, which is signed by the owner on their safe return.

Stripping, etc., of walls is required according to circumstances, and thorough cleansing of rooms is urged in all cases.

A card is left with the parent or guardian containing instructions *re* visiting patient at the Hospital and the symptoms which should be regarded as being suspicious of infection in other members of the family.

A certificate, excluding the patient and contacts from Day and Sunday School, is left with the parent and also sent to the Secretary of the Education Committee.

### *Non-Notifiable Diseases* (i.e. Chicken Pox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Scabies, etc.)

Notice is sent by the Head Teachers of the Elementary Schools to the Medical Officer of Health, on forms provided for the purpose, of any absentees from School owing to sickness arising from the above diseases, or other suspicious sickness.

The homes of these children are visited, the facts ascertained as nearly as possible, and exclusion certificates given to parents and teachers as the conditions indicate.

When it is found that no doctor is in attendance the parents are advised to obtain medical advice.

In the case of Scabies, special treatment of hot baths and application of Liquor Calcis Sulph. and Ung. Sulphuris (with disinfection of the clothing of School Children) is provided by the Council, the treatment being carried out by the School Nurse.

### Appendix—Incubation and Exclusion Periods of the Commoner Infectious Diseases

The following table showing the exclusion periods adopted in the Borough is included to assist head teachers and others to co-operate effectively in preventing the spread of infectious diseases. The table is adapted from that published in the Memorandum on Closure and Exclusion from School issued jointly by the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Incubation period</i>	<i>Interval between onset of illness and appearance of rash</i>	<i>Period of Exclusion</i>	
			<i>Patient</i>	<i>Contacts</i>
Scarlet Fever	1-8 days	1-2 days	Three weeks after return from hospital, or in the case of patients treated at home, three weeks after release from isolation.	Two weeks after removal of patient to hospital, or in the case of patients at home two weeks after release from isolation.
Diphtheria ...	2-10 days	—	Three weeks after end of attack; or until pronounced free from infection by a medical practitioner.	Two weeks after removal of patient to hospital, or in the case of patients treated at home, ten days after release from isolation.
Measles ...	7-21 days	4 days	Three weeks from date of appearance of rash.	Other children, who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of onset of last case in house.
German Measles ...	5-21 days	0-2 days	Three weeks from the date of appearance of rash.	Other children, who have not had the disease, three weeks from date of onset of last case in house.
Whooping Cough ...	6-18 days	—	Six weeks from commencement of cough.	Infants only, for three weeks from date of last exposure to infection.
Mumps ...	12-23 days	—	Three weeks, or until one week after subsidence of swelling.	No exclusion.
Chicken Pox	11-21 days	0-2 days	Three weeks or until all scabs have disappeared.	Other children, who have not had the disease, three weeks from the date of last exposure to infection.
Smallpox ...	10-14 but usually 12 days	3 days	Six weeks or until the patient is certified free from infection by a medical practitioner.	Sixteen days unless recently vaccinated, when exclusion is unnecessary.









