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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
FOR THE YEAR  
1949

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BY  
ROBERT HEYWOOD WILSHAW,  
M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

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# LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

10, BULKINGTON AVENUE,

WORTHING.

June, 1950.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1949, which has been compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 2/50, issued by the Ministry of Health on the 25th January, 1950.

The rates for 1949 as compared with the average rates for the past ten years are as follows:—

	Average, 1939-48	1949
Birth Rate, per 1,000 population ...	18.4	17.8
Death Rate, per 1,000 population ...	13.9	11.7
Corrected Death Rate, per 1,000 population ...	—	10.3
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 births	40	25

These rates have been calculated on the estimated resident population for the mid-year 1949 supplied to me by the Registrar General.

The Corrected Death Rate (10.3) is obtained by multiplying the uncorrected rate by the factor of correction for Littlehampton, viz., 0.88. The corrected death rate represents what the death rate for Littlehampton would be if the population contained proportionately the same number of males and females in each of the age groups as enumeration in the 1931 census revealed in England and Wales as a whole. The factor of correction being less than 1, indicates that the population of Littlehampton consists of a larger proportion of people at the ages at which death is more likely to occur than does the population of England and Wales as a whole.

The various mortality rates of the district during the past year as compared with the corresponding rates for England and Wales and the urban and rural districts of West Sussex are shown in a comparative table on page 24.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ROBERT HEYWOOD WILSHAW.

*The Chairman and Members of the  
Littlehampton Urban District Council.*



## THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

**Chairman :**

Councillor : P. J. SPROULE.

Councillor : S. T. GRIFFIN (Chairman of Council).

Councillor : C. J. GLADDEN.

Councillor : J. H. LEWIS.

Councillor : H. W. TOWNSEND.

Councillor : E. M. WEST, J.P.

Councillor : F. W. WHEELER.

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## STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

**Medical Officer of Health :**

ROBERT HEYWOOD WILSHAW, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Chief Sanitary Inspector :**

Mr. J. L. MCGARRY, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

**Outdoor Assistant :**

Mr. L. E. SANDFORD.

**Clerk :**

Miss B. REEVE.

**Junior Clerk :**

Mr. D. KING.



## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

Littlehampton is a small town situated on the South Coast, about half-way between Worthing and Bognor. It is here that the River Arun, coming down from Pulborough through Arundel, enters the sea, and has given the town the facilities of a port for many centuries.

The underlying geological stratum is brick-earth.

Industrial employment is chiefly in connection with fishing, boat building, brick making and engineering. The letting of apartments to, and the catering for the needs of visitors, provide the main source of income to many of the inhabitants. There are also a number of farms in the district.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres), 2,720.

Resident Population (1949), estimated by Registrar General, 13,620.

Population (1931) Census, 10,178.

Rateable Value (1949), £138,253.

Sum represented by rd. Rate, £530.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1949 according to Rate Book—3,631.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live Births—	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate ...	228	116	112	—Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 17.8.
Illegitimate ...	15	5	10	
Stillbirths ...	4	2	2	—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 16.2.
Deaths ...	160	75	85	—Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11.7.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth:—  
 From sepsis—None.                      From other causes—None.



Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 25.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 26.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, None.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 21.

Deaths from Measles (all ages), None.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages), None.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), None.

Particulars of any unusual or excessive mortality, during the year which has received or required comment :—

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

### Comparative Statistics, 1949.

			England and Wales,	West Sussex Urban.	West Sussex Rural.	Littlehampton U.D.
Birth Rate ... ..	...	...	16.7	13.6	16.2	17.8
Death Rate ... ..	...	...	11.7	14.9	12.5	11.7
Infantile Death Rate	...	...	32	25	28	25
Pulmonary Tuberculosis						
Death Rate ... ..	...	...	0.4	0.3	0.24	0.29
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	—	0.02	0.01	0.0
Cancer Death Rate	...	...	1.9	2.6	2.2	1.5
Maternal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 births	...	...	0.98	0.8	1.2	0.0
Scarlet Fever—Incidence Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	—	—	—	1.8
Diphtheria — Incidence Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	—	—	—	0.0
Enteric Fever — Incidence Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	—	—	—	0.0

### EXCEPTIONAL CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

No special causes of sickness or invalidity have evidenced themselves during the past year.



## INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The causes of death and the ages of the six children who died under one year of age, are as follows :—

CAUSE OF DEATH					Age	Sex
1.	Broncho-Pneumonia	...	...	...	3 months	M.
2.	Marasmus	...	...	...	8 months	M.
	Absence of thymus.					
3.	Prematurity	...	...	...	6½ hours	M.
4.	Subarachnoid Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	5 days	M.
5.	Meningo-Myelocoele	...	...	...	3 weeks	F.
	Spina bifida.					
6.	Asphyxia due to acute bronchitis aggravated by enlarged thymus gland	...	...	...	8 months	F.
	(Post-mortem).					

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### Public Health Staff.

Littlehampton is one of the Constituent Authorities in the West Sussex (Southern) United M.O.H. Districts.

The Public Health Staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. L. McGarry. Mr. Sanford is the Outdoor Assistant.

### National Health Service Act, 1946.

Since the National Health Service Act came into force on July 5th, 1948, the following services are the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, which is the West Sussex County Council :—

The Care of Mothers and Young Children,  
Domiciliary Midwifery,  
Health Visiting,  
Home Nursing,  
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care,  
Home Help,  
Mental Health,  
Ambulance and Hospital Car Service,  
Vaccination against Smallpox,  
Immunisation against Diphtheria.



## I. Local Health Authority Services.

### (a) *Nursing.*

General District Nurses, Midwives, Health Visitors and School Nurses are employed by the County Council to serve in the area.

### (b) *Maternity.*

A Maternity and Child Welfare centre and Ante-Natal Clinic are provided at Littlehampton Health Centre, Elm Grove Road.

### (c) *School Clinics.*

School Clinics for minor ailments are held at Littlehampton Health Centre.

An Eye Clinic is held when required at the Health Centre.

Dental Clinics are held periodically at Littlehampton and Lyminster for the treatment of children with decayed teeth.

Ear Clinics are held from time to time at the Chichester Health Centre, and appointments are made for children suffering from ear disease to attend.

### (d) *Orthopædic Clinics.*

These are held at Chichester Health Centre to which Littlehampton School children are taken by appointment for treatment of crippling defects. The Orthopædic Nurse supervises children who have been prescribed exercises at these Clinics.

### (e) *Tuberculosis Clinics.*

The West Sussex County Council hold a Tuberculosis Clinic at the Worthing Hospital, and at Health Centre, Chapel Street, Chichester, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.

### (f) *Venereal Disease.*

The West Sussex County Council have made arrangements entitling residents in the district to attend the Clinics for Venereal Diseases held at Worthing Hospital.

### (g) *Ambulance Service.*

Acting as agents for the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society operate the Ambulance and Hospital Car Service in the County. Calls for an ambulance are made through the doctor or nurse in attendance on the case, or through the Police.

Lists showing names and addresses of midwives, health visitors and general nurses may be seen at County Libraries, Town Halls



or Offices of local District Councils, and the Public Health Department, County Hall, Chichester. Information as to the situation of clinics and times of sessions may be obtained from the same sources, or from the local midwife, health visitors or general nurse.

## II. Hospital and Specialist Services.

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Doctors can arrange whatever forms of treatment are needed for their patients in general or special hospitals, whether as in-patients or out-patients; Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges. All types of cases are thus provided for — medical, surgical, maternity, infectious diseases, and those requiring sanatorium or mental hospital treatment.

The Worthing Group Hospitals comprise Worthing, Southlands, Swandean, Littlehampton and Arundel Hospitals, Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington, and certain Convalescent Homes.

## III. General Medical and Dental Services.

Everyone is entitled as part of the arrangements for the National Health Service to General Medical Care, and dental care when this can be arranged, to receive necessary medicines and appliances, and to be supplied with glasses if necessary. Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 63 South Street, Chichester.

## LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Bye-laws relating to the public health have come into force during 1949.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Infectious Diseases Generally.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

The 25 cases occurred during the year as follows :—

Jan.	Feb.	May	June	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	1	1	2	3	1	9	5	2



## DIPHTHERIA.

No cases occurred during the year.

No return cases of either Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria occurred.

The following figures indicate the use that has been made of the facilities for the examination of pathological specimens.

	Total	Positive	Negative
Throat Swabs (Hæmolytic Streptococci) ... ..	35	11	24

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council. At the end of the year the position was as follows :—

	Estimated population mid-year 1949	Total number of children immunised
Under 5 years of age	1,183	596
5-14 years of age ...	2,217	1,320

In addition, 84 children received a third reinforcing dose during the year.

## POLIOMYELITIS.

One case of Ac. Poliomyelitis was notified in the district during the year. This was a boy, aged 3 years. He was admitted to Brighton Isolation Hospital and was removed in September to Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton, for further treatment.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

	Total Cases notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ... ..	25	15	0
Erysipelas ... ..	6	0	0
Pneumonia ... ..	7	0	7
Measles ... ..	366	1	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	18	1	0
Ac. Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	1	0



NOTE.—The ages of the cases notified were as follows :—

	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	4	1	12	5	3	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1
Ac.												
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	14	35	49	30	50	175	7	2	4	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	4	1	4	4	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

#### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No case was notified during the year.

#### Scabies.

No cases of Scabies were brought to the notice of the Health Department during the year.

### TUBERCULOSIS. New Cases and Mortality.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	13	3	1	1	4	—	—	—

No persons died from Tuberculosis who had not been notified during life.



## PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS

It has not been necessary to serve any notice under these Regulations which prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis taking part in the production of milk.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 172.

No action has had to be taken by the Council under this section, which gives power to Sanitary Authorities to apply in special cases for a magistrate's order for the removal of Tuberculous persons to an Institution for isolation.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### Water.

There is an abundant supply of pure water obtained from deep well boring in the Downs at Burpham. The supply is constant and all the houses in that area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

14 Samples of raw water and 37 samples of water after chlorination were sent for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory. Five samples were sent for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Extensions of mains during the year :—

Chaucer Avenue	—	70 yards.
Arundel Road	—	6 yards.
South Terrace	—	8 yards.

#### Sewers.

Extension of sewers during the year :—

(a) WEST WICK HOUSING SCHEME.

1. Storm water culvert.

159 lin. yds.	—	33" diameter.
109 lin. yds.	—	30" diameter.
152 lin. yds.	—	27" diameter.

2. Surface Water Sewers.

57 lin. yds.	—	12" diameter.
633 lin. yds.	—	9" diameter.

3. Soil Sewers.

320 lin. yds.	—	12" diameter.
35 lin. yds.	—	10" diameter.
215 lin. yds.	—	9" diameter.



**Admiralty Housing Estate.**

220 lin. yds.	—	9" diameter	} combined sewers.
95 lin. yds.	—	6" diameter	

**(b) MEWSBROOK SURFACE WATER SEWER.**

410 lin. yds.	—	24" diameter.
120 lin. yds.	—	21" diameter.

**Schemes now under consideration :—**

- (a) Pumping Station on Green.
- (b) Sewage Disposal Works.
- (c) Rising main from (a) to (b)—2 miles.
- (d) Reconstruction of Water Lane Pumping Station.
- (e) Horsham Road Diversion—surface water sewer.
- (f) Extension of Worthing Road surface water sewer.
- (g) Surface water sewers for Lansdowne Road, Stanley Road and North Street (Part of) under Private Street Works Act.

**Rivers and Streams.**

Observations are kept on the river Arun, as it passes through the town to prevent offal and waste materials being thrown into the river.

**Swimming Baths.**

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

**SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**

The report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector is printed from page 15 to the end of this report, and contains a detailed account of the sanitary inspections made during the past year.

**SCHOOLS.**

There are six Primary and Secondary schools in the district. All are provided with water closets and with the town water supply.



## HOUSING.

## HOUSING STATISTICS, 1949.

Nine new houses were erected during 1949 by private enterprise and forty-eight by the Local Authority.

## 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) ... ..	275
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	722
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	184
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	532
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	2
(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 ... ..	208

## 2.—Remedying 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 ... ..	200
--	-----

## 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

Statutory action was taken under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of one unfit house.



**4.—Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding :—**

(a)	i. No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	1
	ii. No. of families dwelling therein ... ..	1
	iii. No. of persons dwelling therein ... ..	14
(b)	No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	2
(c)	i. No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	2
	ii. No. of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	6
(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 ... ..	None

**Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restriction) Act, 1920.**

During the year no application has been made for a certificate under the above Act.

**Houses let in Lodgings.**

No action has been necessary under the Bye-laws in force in the district.

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937.****1.—Inspections.**

PREMISES	No. on Regis- ter.	Inspec- tions.	No. of Written Notices.	Occu- piers Prose- cuted.
(i) Factories in which Sec- tions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	19	108	8	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	82	217	31	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	101	325	39	—



## 2.—Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were Instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanliness ...	48	48	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ...	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient...	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	19	19	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	10	10	—	—	—
Total ...	81	81	—	—	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.



## THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR—1949.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Littlehampton Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you a report of the work carried out during the year 1949, this being my seventeenth Annual Report.

### Inspection of the District.

During the year 10,157 inspections and visits have been made as follows :—

Infectious diseases and contagious diseases (including	
Tuberculosis           ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	455
Nuisances and complaints   ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	160
Revisits to property under notice ...     ...     ...     ...	637
Revisits where work was in progress     ...     ...     ...	258
Interviews with owners, agents or builders...     ...     ...	374
Drainage inspections, smoke and water tests to drains ...	568
Slaughterhouses and butchers' shops     ...     ...     ...	295
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops   ...     ...     ...     ...	187
Bakehouses           ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	104
Factories           ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	221
Workplaces         ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	41
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences ...     ...	278
Re overcrowding         ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	24
Ice cream premises   ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	333
Refreshment rooms   ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	556
Cinemas           ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	15
Fried Fish shops     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	42
Food Preparation premises ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	482
Re Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919...     ...     ...	2,297
Re tents, vans, sheds and similar structures     ...     ...	162



Re swine and fowls	...	...	...	...	...	...	77
Re water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Public conveniences and urinals	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	...	269
Refuse accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	323
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	331
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	...	184
Re Shops Act, 1934	...	...	...	...	...	...	227
No. of houses measured and recorded under the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
No. of rent books examined for permitted number	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
No. of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	175
Mosquitoes	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Smoke observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Visits re state of garden, keeping of poultry, dustbins, and rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	951

#### Samples taken :—

Water : Bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	...	71
Chemical analysis	...	...	...	...	...	9
Milk samples	...	...	...	...	...	184
Cream samples	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ice cream samples	...	...	...	...	...	115

#### Notices served :

Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	—
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	661

#### Outstanding Notices.

At the end of 1949, 39 informal notices had not been complied with, but in all cases instructions had been given by the owners to builders.



**Complaints.**

During the year a total of 251 complaints were received, and had reference to the following matters:—

Condition of house	...	...	...	...	...	12
Defective floors and doors	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective roofs, chimneys and gutters	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	6
Defective condition of fireplaces, cooking ranges, boilers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective and choked condition of W.C's.	...	...	...	...	...	12
Defective and choked condition of drains	...	...	...	...	...	19
Defective condition of dustbins, and need for new or additional	...	...	...	...	...	10
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	11
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	108
Smells	...	...	...	...	...	7
Animals and swine	...	...	...	...	...	3
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	34
Dangerous structures	...	...	...	...	...	2
Smoke nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	4
Committing of nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	3

**Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:—**

	1949	1926-49 (24 yrs.)
Roofs repaired	133	1,398
Windows repaired	233	1,646
Floors relaid and repaired	76	1,068
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	150	1,757
Staircases repaired	21	128
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	46	616
Walls repaired and repointed	346	4,271
Insufficient ventilation remedied	25	131



	1949	1926-49 (24 yrs.)
Insufficient lighting remedied ... ..	18	135
Dampness remedied ... ..	157	2,634
Washing coppers provided or repaired ... ..	4	220
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired ... ..	92	760
Doors provided or repaired ... ..	98	558
Chimney stacks repaired ... ..	67	597
Cupboard cleansed or repaired ... ..	3	17
Defective flues repaired ... ..	2	60
Wash-houses built ... ..	—	1
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns ... ..	59	1,086
Additional water closets ... ..	—	61
Privy middens abolished ... ..	—	5
Ashplaces abolished ... ..	—	7
New dustbins and covers provided ... ..	80	1,036
Drains opened and cleansed ... ..	60	835
Drains relaid and repaired ... ..	28	371
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps pro- vided to drains ... ..	49	503
Overflowing cesspools ... ..	1	167
Sanitary sinks provided ... ..	2	190
Sink or bath wastes repaired ... ..	31	232
Defective sink waste channels repaired ... ..	19	100
Baths provided ... ..	—	31
Urinals, etc.—cleansed, repaired, reconstructed or fitted with automatic flushing apparatus ... ..	28	183
Soil pipes repaired ... ..	9	59
Yards paved or yard paving repaired ... ..	5	242
Yards cleansed ... ..	14	176
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed ... ..	—	340
Overcrowding remedied ... ..	1	156
Rooms cleansed ... ..	143	2,914
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed ... ..	52	707
Offensive or stagnant water drained from ponds, tanks, etc. ... ..	2	19
Nuisances abated from the keeping of animals and swine ... ..	2	110



Caravans : insanitary sites and providing of W.C's. etc. ... ..	28	94
Smoke nuisances abated ... ..	4	19
Water removed from cellars ... ..	—	—
Town's water laid on ... ..	—	790
Wells closed ... ..	—	10
Water pumps repaired, pipes cleansed, etc. ...	—	41
Cinemas : dressing room accommodation improved or cleansed or urinals provided, etc. ...	—	19
Pantries provided and ventilated to the open air...	—	108
Sewage works reconstructed or installed ... ..	—	2
Food Premises : Drains cleansed and sanitary accommodation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired ... ..	87	576
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 — contra- ventions ... ..	19	234
Dairies, cowsheds and milkshops : cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied, etc. ...	11	467
Bakehouses : cleansing, repairs, etc. ... ..	14	253
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contra- ventions ... ..	6	208
Slaughterhouses : removal of refuse, cleansing or repairs ... ..	—	133
Fried Fish Shops : walls and ceilings cleansed, premises repaired, additional drainage provided etc. ... ..	—	63
Factories : sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed ...	81	350
Ice Cream Premises : cleansed, repaired, dirty and uncovered containers, etc. ... ..	5	202
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions ... ..	19	104
Housing Act, 1936 : Section 62—contraventions ...	—	35
Workplaces—(P.H.A. 1936) ... ..	—	14



## Housing.

Details showing the number of houses inspected, and the action taken under the Housing Acts and Public Health Acts for the remedy of defective or unsatisfactory conditions of dwelling houses are to be found at the end of the Medical Officer of Health's Report. It will be seen that 275 houses have been inspected under the Housing Acts and Public Health Acts for defective or unsatisfactory conditions.

Two houses were found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. An undertaking under Sub-Section 3 of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, was accepted in one case, but in the other case Statutory action was taken and the house was demolished.

## Moveable Dwellings.

There are 4 permanent sites for Moveable Dwellings in Littlehampton. 3 are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed for 100 tents and trailers.

All sites are provided with towns water, water closets or Elsan closets, and were maintained in a fairly good condition throughout the year.

Notices were served on owners of camping sites for the following :—

Caravans on unlicensed ground	...	...	...	4
Siting of caravans without licence	...	...	...	3
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	3
Bonfires on site	...	...	...	1
Unsatisfactory condition of site	...	...	...	1
Unclean and unsatisfactory condition of caravan	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	6
Need for additional sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	6
Need for extension of water supply on site	...	...	...	1
Need for dustbins	...	...	...	2



### Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

At the end of 1949 there were 6 cowkeepers, all of whom sold their milk wholesale.

There are 5 retailers on the register, 4 resident in the district, and one who sells milk in the district from premises outside, and milk was sold from 4 premises.

The approximate number of milking cows in the district is 162.

187 inspections were made during the year, and contraventions of the regulations as detailed below were observed :—

Cowshed in need of cleansing...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient ventilation in cowshed	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of windows in cowshed	...	...	...	1
Premises in need of cleansing	...	...	...	1
Insufficient covering for milk	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of W.C.	...	...	...	3
Dirty condition of W.C.	...	...	...	3

On the 1st October, 1949, the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, came into force, and the duties in respect of cowsheds were transferred from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

On the 1st October, 1949, the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, came into force.

The following licences were granted during 1949 under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations.

To retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	4
To Pasteurise and retail as Pasteurised	...	...	...	3
To retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	...	1

153 Samples of designated milk (96 Pasteurised or Heat-treated, and 39 Tuberculin Tested and 18 Accredited have been sent for bacteriological examination. 2 samples of Pasteurised milk and 5 samples of Accredited Milk fell below the standard prescribed by the Regulations.



### Clean Milk Production.

During the year 192 samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination—153 of designated milk and 39 of ordinary.

The following tables give the number of samples which did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test, and also the number which failed the Coli Test.

#### Produced in Littlehampton.

Grade of Milk :	No. of samples:	No. which did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test:	No. which failed the Coli Test:
Ordinary ...	2	—	—
Pasteurised or Heat-Treated...	92	2	—
Accredited ...	5	—	—
Tuberculin-Tested	4	—	—

#### Produced and sent in from outside the District.

Grade of Milk :	No. of samples:	No. which did not satisfy the Methylene Blue Test:	No. which failed the Coli Test:
Pasteurised ...	4	—	—
Tuberculin-Tested	35	2	—
Accredited ...	13	5	—
Ordinary ...	37	11	—

Where a sample is found to be deficient in fat, the matter is reported to the Food and Drugs Authority.

The average percentage of fat per sample was 3.86%.

The following tables show the years 1926 to 1949 inclusive the number of samples which failed to comply with the prescribed conditions, and of these the number which failed the Coli Test. (The standard for Accredited milk is taken for Ordinary milk).



**Produced in Littlehampton.**

Grade of Milk:	No. of samples :	No. which did not comply with the prescribed conditions:	No. of these which failed the Coli Test:
Accredited ...	186	46	48
Tuberculin-Tested	12	4	3
Pasteurised or Heat-Treated...	514	61	16
Ordinary ...	232	60	55

**Produced and sent in from outside the district.**

Grade of Milk:	No. of samples :	No. which did not comply with the prescribed conditions:	No. of these which failed the Coli Test:
Accredited ...	98	32	33
Tuberculin-Tested	128	14	8
Pasteurised or Heat-Treated...	37	7	6
Ordinary ...	322	127	102

From 1926 to 1949 inclusive, the number of samples of Ordinary milk which gave results equal to the standard Accredited were as follows :—

Produced in Littlehampton ... 172 or 74.8%

Produced and sent in from outside the district ... 195 or 60.56%

All milk sold in Littlehampton, with the exception of bottled Tuberculin-Tested milk, is Pasteurised.

Steam for sterilizing churns, cans, measures, etc., is in use at all Dairies and Farms.



### Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

There has been no slaughtering in this district since the Government Controlled Slaughtering ceased on March 14th, 1942.

During the year 295 visits were paid to Butcher's shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :

Premises in need cleansing	...	...	1
Refrigerator in need of cleansing	...	...	1
Need for the provision of new dustbins	...		3
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	1

The following weights of meat and offal were surrendered as unfit for food :—

378 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lbs. Corned Beef.
18-lbs. Corned Mutton.
412-lbs. Beef — 20-lbs. Beef Offal.
151-lbs. Mutton.

### Food Preparations Premises.

During the year 482 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Need for the provision of new dustbins	...	9
Need to cleanse yard	...	3
Need for cleansing and re-decoration	...	5
Accumulations of refuse	...	6
Defective condition of roof...	...	1



All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited.  
The following were surrendered as unfit for food :—

10 stone headless Cod.	5 stone Torbay Soles.
15 stone 3-lbs. Cod Fillets.	3 stone Skinned Cat Fillets.
3 stone Bream Fillets.	2 cwt. 5 stone Skate Wings.
1 cwt. Herrings.	2 stone headless Halibut.
6½ stone Halibut.	6 stone headless Haddock.
2 stone Dabs.	7 lbs. Rainbow Trout.
1 cwt., 2 stone, 12 lb. Prawns.	4 stone 1 lb. Salmon.
5 stone Megrims.	7 stone Haddock.
8 lbs. Dover Soles.	4½ stone Dried Haddock Fillets.
1 cwt. Plaice.	6 stone Whiting.
4 stone Lemon Soles.	5 stone pieces Napes.
3 stone Mackerel.	3 stone Dog Fish.
14 lbs. Kippers.	4 stone Hake.
3½ cwt., 6½ lbs. Bacon.	102 lbs. Becona.
6 dozen Pork Pies.	1¼ cwt. 1 lb. Gala Pie.
20 lbs. Mushrooms.	10 lbs. Tomato Sausages.
9 lbs. Pork Sausages.	3 lbs. Pork Meat.
48 Palonies.	410 boxes Pears.
1 case Ducks.	2 cases, 9 chickens.
6 lbs. Dutch Jellied Veal.	5 dozen Eggs.
68 packets Spaghetti.	23 packets Macaroni.
4½ lbs. Vermicelli.	81 lbs. Barley Flakes.
13 bags Flour.	236 lbs. Sugar.
20 packets Scotch Oats.	12 packets Puffed Wheat.
140 lbs. Butter.	1 cwt. Sausage Rusk.
142 lbs. Margarine.	4,320 Torox Cubes.
10½ lbs. Cheese.	16 lbs. Atora Suet.
6 lbs. Typhoo Tea.	4 Gouda Cheeses.
29 packets Soup Powder.	42 packets Vanilla Puddings.
17 packets Pea Flour.	10 packets Dehydrated Rhubarb
59 packets Onion Powder.	35 packets Cocoa.
280 lbs. Flour.	2 barrels Tomato Ketchup.
112 lbs. Dates.	



- 96 jars Mixed Pickles.
- 9 jars Silver Skin Onions.
- 5 gallon tins Faversham  
Bramley Apples.
- 45 tins Full Cream Milk.
- 1 tin Golden Plum Jam.
- 15 tins Veal Loaf.
- 14 tins Marmalade.
- 12 tins Skimmed Milk.
- 318 tins Evaporated Milk.
- 24 tins Processed Peas.
- 1 jar Thick Honey.
- 11 jars Tomato Sauce.
- 4 tins Red Plums.
- 1 tin Meat Roll.
- 1 tin Melon Jam.
- 2 tins Ambrosia Pudding.
- 1 tin Walls Sausages.
- 1 tin Minced Beef Loaf.
- 1 bottle Pickled Red Cabbage.
- 2 tins Pears.
- 4 tins Xmas Puddings.
- 12 tins Rock Cod.
- 1 tin Jamaican Orange Juice.
- 12 tins Tomato Sauce.
- 1 tin Green Pea Soup.
- 1 tin Grapes.
- 4 tins Spaghetti in Meat Sauce.
- 2 tins Rabbit.
- 1 tin Blackberries.
- 144 jars Plum Jam.
- 36 jars Damson Jam.
- 36 jars Apricot Jam.
- 5 tins Beetroot.
- 8 tins Keep Fit Salts.
- 1 tin Dried Egg.
- 1 tin American Pork & Gravy.
- 2 jars Hors d'Œuvres.
- 2 jars Kipper Paste.
- 76 tins Smoked Herring Spread.
- 6 jars Piccalilli.
- 2 jars Capers.
- 1 jar Garden Mint.
- 29 jars Salad Cream.
- 55 tins Peas.
- 15 tins Salmon.
- 8 tins Pork Brawn.
- 10 tins Diced Carrots.
- 1 jar Strawberry Jam.
- 21 tins Luncheon Meat.
- 1 tin Ox-Tongue.
- 3 tins Apricot Jam.
- 1 tin Grapefruit.
- 16 tins Baked Beans.
- 4 tins Mussels.
- 22 tins Snoek.
- 2 tins Tomato Soup.
- 6 tins Peaches.
- 1 jar Meat Paste.
- 2 tins Silks.
- 9 tins Strained Prunes.
- 2 tins Vegetable Soup.
- 4 tins Pilchards in Tomato.
- 2 tins Spaghetti in Tomato  
Sauce.
- 1 tin Jounberry Jam.
- 25 tins Crayfish.
- 4 tins Prawns.
- 15 tins Barracouta.
- 11 tins Herring Roes.
- 2 tins Jellied Veal.
- 3 tins Fizzy Salts.
- 4 tins Mixed Vegetables.
- 3 tins Tomatoes.
- 1 tin Sausages in Brine.



### Food Poisoning.

There have been no notified cases of Food Poisoning during 1949.

### Restaurants and Cafés.

There are at present 55 premises on the register and 556 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Unsatisfactory boilers causing condensation	...	1
Need for new dustbins	... ..	7
No means of sterilization	... ..	1
Need for new electric boiler	... ..	1
Premises in need of cleansing and re-decoration	...	19
Dirty condition of yard	... ..	9
Defective condition of walls	... ..	1
Defective condition of floor	... ..	1
Smoking in kitchen	... ..	1
Dirty condition of floors	... ..	1
Need for additional sanitary accommodation	...	2
Need for wash-hand basins	... ..	1
Need for better and larger kitchen	... ..	1
Accumulations of refuse	... ..	8
Choked and defective condition of drains	... ..	5
Defective condition of roof	... ..	1
Insufficient covering for foods	... ..	1
Defective condition of ceiling	... ..	1

Restaurants are being gradually improved in construction as well as amenities.

Samples of washing-up water were taken during the year at restaurants and licensed premises in an endeavour to further educate the staff in cleanliness. Satisfactory results were obtained.

### Ice Cream Premises.

During the year there were 74 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 333 inspections were made.



The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found and in each case the necessary work was carried out :—

Ice Cream preparation room in need of cleansing ...	1
Need for the provision of a new pasteuriser... ..	2
Uncleanly handling of ice cream ... ..	1
Need for the provision of a new cooler ... ..	1

115 Samples of ice cream were taken and sent for bacteriological examination during the year, and the results are given as follows :—

No. of Samples:	Grade:	Average Bact.	Coliform present Type 44° Neg.	Average Fat:
59.	I	32,100	3	7.0%
29.	II	69,285	4	6.54%
10.	III	106,333	3	6.67%
17.	IV	159,750	4	7.00%

The average fat content of all samples was 6.92%.

### Clean Food Campaign.

No lectures, classes or exhibitions have been held in Littlehampton for food traders, employees and the general public, and no clean food guides or codes of practice have been formulated.

During 1949, 1,999 visits were paid to the different food premises and improvements carried out where possible. There is, therefore, no additional information other than was given in the reply to the Ministry of Food Circular M.F.12/49, which stated as follows :—

“As a result of visits many improvements have been made and are still being made. Samples of washing-up water, not only in cafés, etc., but in hotels and public houses have been taken with a view to obtaining hygienic methods. The fullest co-operations has been given to the Council by both proprietors and staff of food premises in endeavours to obtain a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene.”



**Bakehouses.**

There are seven bakehouses in the district, two of which are underground.

104 Inspections have been carried out, and the following unsatisfactory conditions were observed :—

Bakehouse in need of cleansing	...	...	...	7
Accumulations of refuse	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of W.C.	...	...	...	1
Dirty condition of W.C.	...	...	...	1
Dirty condition of wash-hand basin	...	...	...	1
Smoking in bakehouse	...	...	...	3

**Fried Fish Shops.**

There are four fried fish shops operating in the district at present.

42 Visits have been paid to fried fish shops, and conditions were maintained in a satisfactory manner.

**Shops Act, 1934.**

During the year 227 visits have been paid to shops, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found :—

Need for separate sanitary accommodation for females	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	1
Need for washing accommodation	...	...	...	...	2
Need for additional urinal	...	...	...	...	1
Need for new W.C. for males	...	...	...	...	2
Need for separate and screened entrances to sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	1
Premises in need of cleansing	...	...	...	...	6
Defective condition of roof	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of floor	...	...	...	...	1



### **Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936.**

All inns, public houses and beer houses have been inspected during the year in an endeavour to obtain hygienic conditions. At several of the premises improvements were made to the sanitary accommodation, and at three premises more suitable and additional accommodation was provided for the different sexes.

### **Public Health Act, 1936—Sections 83, 84 and 85.**

During the year it was necessary to have six verminous rooms cleansed. No bedding was removed for destruction and no person removed to a Cleansing Station.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47.**

It has not been necessary to take any action under the above section.

### **Disinfection.**

During the year 175 rooms have been disinfected.

By arrangement with the West Sussex County Council, steam disinfection can be carried out at the Central Laundry, Chichester.

### **Rag Flock Act.**

No premises have been found where Rag Flock is in use or on sale.

### **Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.**

108 complaints were received and dealt with during the year. In each case visits were paid until the rats or mice were exterminated.

The only major infestation in the district is on land used for controlled tipping on the West Bank of the River Arun. This area receives constant attention. The sewers also receive systematic treatment, and infestations found on Agricultural land are referred to the West Sussex War Agricultural Executive Committee.



A free service is given in respect of private dwelling houses, but charges are made in respect of business premises.

Extermination work is successfully accomplished by the use of Zinc Phosphide, Red Squill Arsenious poison baits, "Horo Tube" and "Cynogas" Fumigation and trapping. The estimated number of rats killed during the year was 1,450 (Ministry of Food Formula).

### **Eradication of Bed-bugs.**

...

Three non-Council and 1 Council house were found to be infested with bed-bugs. These were disinfested by the Council by the use of D.D.T. insecticides.

No houses were disinfested by the use of Hydrogen Cyanide, nor has it been necessary to disinfest the furniture of prospective tenants to Council houses.

### **Sanitary Accommodation.**

The approximate number of water-closets in the district at the end of the year was 4,277.

There are approximately 16 pail-closets in use, but these are situated at Toddington, and other parts of the district which are not connected to the sewers. The scheme for sewage in the Eastern Area which was in progress, was temporarily suspended because of the war.

House refuse is collected weekly by the use of covered lorries, and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on the West side of the River Arun.

### **Public Conveniences.**

There are ten Public Conveniences, eight Ladies', and nine Gentlemen's, and they have been maintained in a satisfactory condition during the year.



## Sunshine and Rainfall Statistics.

Month:	SUNSHINE (Hours)			RAINFALL (Inches)		
	1949	1948	Average for 35 years	1949	1948	Average for 35 years
January ...	85.1	46.2	65.0	1.05	5.32	3.08
February ...	137.2	79.9	82.8	1.09	1.49	1.99
March ...	119.6	182.3	140.3	1.18	0.32	1.68
April ...	215.0	242.1	174.8	0.99	0.98	1.85
May ...	254.3	262.5	226.6	1.56	1.81	1.86
June ...	247.3	219.5	236.7	0.42	1.87	1.54
July ...	292.2	202.3	219.6	0.22	1.06	2.08
August ...	239.9	181.2	213.4	1.22	4.46	2.20
September ...	165.6	152.4	164.3	1.54	1.82	2.17
October ...	126.9	128.6	124.2	9.15	1.71	3.02
November ...	89.3	89.6	74.8	3.46	2.33	3.27
December ...	68.9	76.9	59.1	1.95	3.05	2.97
TOTALS:	2041.3	1863.5	1781.6	23.83	26.22	27.71

I wish to express my gratitude to the Members of the Public Health Committee and to Councillor Mr. Sproule, the Chairman of the Committee for assistance and co-operation given me during the year. To Dr. Wilshaw, I am indebted for the valuable guidance and assistance he gave me during the year. To Miss B. Reeve, Mr. L. Sandford and Mr. D. King, I am grateful for their loyal support and the conscientious manner in which they carried out their duties.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. McGARRY.