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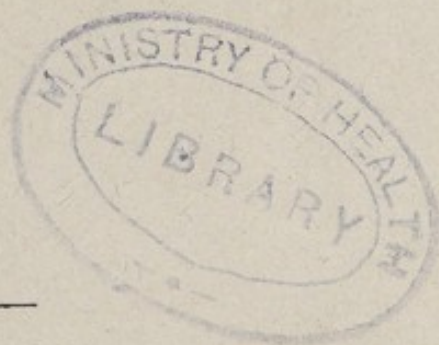
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1955




BY

FRANK COCKCROFT

M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

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LITTLEHAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL OFFICES,
MANOR HOUSE,
LITTLEHAMPTON.

May, 1956.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1955.

In 1955 there were 15 fewer live births and 13 more deaths than in 1954. The death rate is almost the same as that for England and Wales, but the corrected rate is much lower. The birth rate is higher than that for England and Wales and the corrected rate higher still. There was no significant change in the remaining vital statistics of the district.

Water.

During the year pumping tests were carried out at Burpham. At a high rate of extraction there was evidence of intermittent contamination of the water supply. The report of the Geological Survey indicated two possible sources, the sewage from Burpham village and the river Arun. During the tests there were complaints of the town's water being effervescent. This was quite harmless and due to air mixed with the water. The water is chlorinated and reached the consumer free from bacterial contamination. In order to be as certain as possible of a pure water reaching the consumer the apparatus used for chlorination should be the best and most efficient for the job.

There has been a considerable amount of discussion and criticism of fluoridation of public water supplies. It is quite clear from the evidence already obtained that controlled fluoridation of water supplies, where necessary, will have a beneficial effect on the children's teeth, without any harmful effects to them or anyone else. Certain towns have fluoridation of their water supply. When the beneficial results from these towns are published, Littlehampton and other towns will be able to consider doing the same to their public supply.

Milk.

The chance of milk-borne disease to-day is very unlikely. Most milk consumed in the district has been efficiently pasteurised and rendered safe, and this milk can safely be given to small children without boiling it. It is possible to get Tuberculin Tested Farm-bottled milk which is not pasteurised, but I do not consider this milk as safe as ordinary pasturised milk, although it costs the consumer more and this type of milk does require heat treatment before giving it to small children.

Clean Food.

During the year new Food Hygiene Regulations were made in order to try and improve standards where food is concerned. They come into force in 1956. The customer in many cases has the remedy in his own hands by avoiding places where low standards are adopted. The Regulations, apart from adding new requirements, are extended to cover practically all premises where food is prepared for human consumption. The public must also play its part and not take dogs or other animals into food shops, nor allow animals to leave their excreta on the pavements and thus create a possible danger to health.

Housing.

There have been a number of families found accommodation by the Council but there are still many requiring the Council to rehouse them. There is no doubt a satisfactory home is essential to the general well-being of every family.

The programme, required by the Ministry, of dealing with unfit houses was commenced.

Immunisation.

It is still necessary for babies and children to be artificially protected against Diphtheria if we are to be sure of preventing any chance of a sudden epidemic. I also consider all children should be protected against Smallpox by vaccination, and Whooping Cough by immunisation. In addition there is Poliomyelitis immunisation. This, too, should give protection probably as great as for the other immunisable diseases.

The Council has a duty to its visitors to provide the necessary amenities for their personal comfort. This entails, inter alia, the adequate provision of public conveniences and the control of their refuse. We are not a litter minded nation but, unless enough receptacles are available, there is little hope of improvement. The temporary conveniences on the West Beach are not, in my opinion, satisfactory as they are at present.

I should like to record my thanks to Mr. McGarry, the Sanitary Inspector, for carrying out a great amount of work during the year. Mr. King, who hopes to qualify during 1956, has made himself very useful and worked hard during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

FRANK COCKCROFT,

Medical Officer of Health.

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

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres), 2,915.

Resident Population (1955), estimated by Registrar General, 14,760.

Population (1951) Census, 13,948.

Rateable Value (1955), £156,870.

Sum represented by 1d. Rate, £625.

No. of inhabited houses end of 1955 according to Rate Book, 4,264.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Births	TOTAL	M.	F.	
Legitimate ...	219	117	102	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 15·9. Corrected Rate, 16·6.
Illegitimate ...	15	8	7	
Stillbirths ...	9	3	6	—Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 37·03.
Deaths ...	174	74	100	—Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 11·8. Corrected Rate, 9·5.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth: None.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age, 5.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All Infants per 1,000 live births, 21·4.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, 18·3.

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births, 66·7.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages), 33.

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

Comparative Statistics, 1955

	England and Wales	West Sussex Urban	West Sussex Rural	Littlehampton U.D.
Birth Rate ...	15·0	11·7	15·2	15·9
Death Rate ...	11·7	15·4	11·6	11·8
Infantile Death Rate ...	24·9	24	19	21·4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate ...	0·13	0·10	0·09	
Cancer Death Rate ...	2·05	2·7	2·1	2·2
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births ...	0·64	0·0	0·37	0·0

Comparative Statistics, 1901—1955

	1901	1905	1910	1920	1925	1935	1945	1955
Population	7,363	8,165	8,800	8,593	9,020	10,178	10,890	14,760
Birth Rate	20.9	20.8	19.6	20.1	14.8	13.2	19.3	15.9
Death Rate	13.7	11.8	12.2	11.7	11.3	12.1	17.5	11.8
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	143	105	81	52	59	63	33	21
No. Inhab- ited Houses	1,504	—	1,806	—	1,785	3,308	3,480	4,264
Average No. of persons per house	4.9	—	4.6	—	5.1	3.1	3.1	3.5

DEATHS, AGE GROUPS—1955

AGE.	DEATHS.		AGE.	DEATHS.	
	M.	F.		M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	1	4	35—44 years ...	3	1
1—2 years ...	—	—	45—54 ..	5	3
3—4 ..	—	—	55—59 ..	4	3
5—9 ..	—	—	60—64 ..	8	6
10—14 ..	—	—	65—69 ..	7	8
15—19 ..	1	—	70—79 ..	30	32
20—24 ..	—	—	80—89 ..	12	37
25—34 ..	—	—	90 years and over	3	6

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

COUNCILLOR E. W. CUFF MILLER.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health:

FRANK COCKCROFT, M.A., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

MR J. L. MCGARRY, C.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Worthing Rural District and Assistant County Medical Officer.

The Port Health District work is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector.

Most of the public health matters with which the Council is concerned are dealt with in the Public Health Committee. To some extent the following Committees are concerned with public health:

Town Planning, Housing and Buildings Committee.

Water and Lighting Committee.

Highways and Works Committee.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

(a) Nursing.

4 General District Nurses, 2 Midwives, 2 Health Visitors and 1 School Nurse are employed in the area.

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.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

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

The following figures have been provided by the County Medical Officer showing the attendances at the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

ANTE NATAL		POST NATAL	
No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.	No. of Women attending.	Total attendances.
240	635	96	104

CHILD WELFARE

No. of Children
attending.
566

Total attendances.
4,978

A Birth Control Clinic is provided by the County Council at Shoreham Health Centre and a Family Planning Association operates one at the Health Centre at Bognor Regis.

(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. Expectant and nursing mothers may also receive free treatment at the Dental Clinics. Dental anæsthetics are given by the Medical Officer when required.

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.

Speech Therapy Clinics are held regularly at Chichester and Bognor Regis Health Centres and as required at the Littlehampton Health Centre.

Orthopædic Clinics are held at the Littlehampton Health Centre to which children are taken by appointment for treatment of crippling defects. The orthopædic nurse holds physiotherapy sessions at the Littlehampton Health Centre and also supervises children who have been prescribed exercises by the orthopædic surgeon.

(d) *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 or public in case of accidents or other emergencies.

(e) *Health Education.*

The County Council are responsible for this service, a great amount of which is done by the Health Visitors both in the homes and at the Clinics.

(f) *Mental Health.*

The County Council is responsible for a domiciliary mental welfare service, but institutional and out-patient treatment is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

(g) *Home Help Service.*

This continued to be carried out very efficiently by the Women's Voluntary Service on behalf of the County Council.

Meals are provided and delivered to old people in their homes on Tuesdays and Thursdays, approximately 60 meals a week being delivered at a cost of 1/3d. per meal to the consumer.

Hospital and Specialists' Services

A comprehensive hospital and specialist service is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. Hospital accommodation of a private nature is available in certain circumstances subject to appropriate charges.

Mass Radiography Units are stationed at Portsmouth and Brighton where members of the public may have their chests X-rayed at regular intervals.

Chest Clinics are held at Worthing Hospital and at Aldingbourne House Sanatorium, both of which are available to the residents of Littlehampton.

Venereal Disease.

Residents may attend Clinics at Worthing Hospital, St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, the Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton, or St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth.

General Medical and Dental Services

Local arrangements for these services are organised through the National Health Service Executive Council for West Sussex, 175, Broyle Road, Chichester.

Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratories are available for the examination of specimens:

The Public Health Laboratory, Brighton.

The Worthing Hospital Laboratory.

The Public Analyst's Laboratory, Lewes.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE

No Local Acts, Special Orders, General Adoptive Acts or Byelaws relating to the public health have come into force during 1955.

PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1947.

SECTION C

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 the area are served direct. The water is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

Eighteen samples of raw water and 22 samples of water after chlorination were sent for bacteriological examination. All the results were satisfactory. Three samples were sent for chemical analysis and proved satisfactory.

Nine houses are not supplied from the public mains.

There were no extensions of mains during the year.

Sewers

There were no extensions of soil or surface waters sewers.

Work on the new pumping station has been in progress during the year.

Sanitary Accommodation

All dwelling houses in the district have proper water closets, with the exception of 19 which use pail closets and these are situated at Toddington on nursery land, which part of the district is not connected to the sewer. There are also 81 cesspools mainly in the Eastern area.

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.

House Refuse

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

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.

Schools

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

There are six private schools in the district. All have satisfactory water supply and sanitation.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

During the year 6,494 inspections and visits have been made as follows:—

Infected diseases and contagious diseases (including Tuberculosis)	194
Nuisances and complaints	262
Revisits to property under notice	534
Revisits where work was in progress	138
Interviews with owners, agents or builders	529
Drainage inspections, smoke and water tests to drains .	240
Butchers' shops	342
Dairies and milkshops	105
Bakehouses	66
Factories	66
Workplaces	15
Re refuse receptacles and sanitary conveniences ...	320
Re overcrowding	5
Ice cream premises	108
Refreshment rooms	327
Cinemas	16
Fried Fish Shops	28
Food preparation Premises... ..	277
Re smoke observations	16
Re tents, vans, sheds and similar structures	87
Re swine and fowls	29
Re water supply	39
No. of houses measured and recorded under the Housing Act, 1936, for overcrowding	0
Vermin	147
Refuse accumulations	115
Miscellaneous	160
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Act, 1936 .	129
Re Shops Act, 1950	894
No. of rooms disinfected	122
Rag Flock Act, 1951... ..	0
Visits re state of garden, dustbins and rats	1305
Notices served	
Statutory	8
Informal	264

Outstanding Notices

At the end of 1955 seven 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 213 complaints were received and had reference to the following matters:—

Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Vermin and insects	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Animals and swine	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Noise	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smells	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Flooding	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke rising through floorboards	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sewage on beach	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Seaweed flies in shelter	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Choked drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective or unsatisfactory condition of toilets	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective kitchener	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need to empty dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Defective dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Unclean handling of glasses	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Unclean handling of butter	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sanitary improvements and defects remedied during the year:

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Floors relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Ceilings repaired and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fireplaces and cooking ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Walls repaired and repointed	...	...	...	...	...	...	155
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Washing coppers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Eaves or downspouting provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Doors provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Sanitary conveniences repaired or provided with cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
New dustbins and covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Drains relaid and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Inspection chambers, interceptors and traps provided to drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sanitary sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sink or bath wastes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	8

Insufficient light	8
Town's water supply	1
Verminous rooms cleansed and bedding destroyed ...	4
Overcrowding remedied	2
Rooms cleansed	151
Accumulations of rubbish and manure removed ...	27
Soil pipes repaired	1
Caravans: insanitary sites and providing of W.C.'s, etc.	6
Yards paved or yard paving repaired	10
Yards cleansed	13
Food Premises: Drains cleansed and sanitary accommodation repaired, walls and ceilings repaired ...	54
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949—contraventions	4
Bakehouses: cleansing, repairs, etc.	20
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—contraventions	11
Factories: Sanitary accommodation improved or repaired, rooms repaired or cleansed	20
Ice Cream Premises: Cleansed, repaired, dirty and uncovered containers, etc.	3
Shops Act, 1934—contraventions	16
Smoke nuisances abated	4
Nuisance abated from the keeping of animals and swine	3
Dairies and milk shops cleansed or repaired and contraventions remedied	4
Stagnant water removed from ponds and ditches ...	4

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

1. INSPECTIONS.

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	27	53	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	64	94	8	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	91	147	11	—

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	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	15	15	—	1	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences:—					
(a) Insufficient ...	3	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	13	13	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences	8	8	—	—	—
Total	40	40	—	1	—

There are two Outworkers in the district.

Shops Act, 1950

There are 328 shops in the district and during the year 894 visits have been paid, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were found:—

Dirty condition of sanitary conveniences	3
Need for additional dustbins	6
Defective condition of w.c.'s	1
Need for hot water over sink for staff	1
Need for provision of washing-up facilities	1
Defective condition of roof	2
Dirty condition of yard	1
Insufficient ventilation	1

Moveable Dwellings

There are five permanent sites for Moveable Dwellings in Littlehampton. Four are situated on the West side of the River Arun and are licensed under the Public Health Act for a total of 47 trailer caravans.

The largest site is situated at the North of the district and is licensed for 100 tents and trailers.

All sites are provided with town's water, and water-closets or Elsan-closets, and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed during the year:—

Need to remove refuse from site	1
Caravans on unlicensed site	3

Need for town's water	...	...	...	...	...	1
Need for new drain for disposal of waste water	...	...	...	...	...	1

Smoke Abatement

No. of observations made	...	...	...	...	...	16
No. of notices served	...	...	...	...	...	3
No. of nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	3

Eradication of Bed-bugs

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

Section 89, Public Health Act, 1936

All inns, public houses and beer houses, cinemas and places of public entertainment have been inspected during the year. At several of the premises improvements were made to sanitary accommodation, kitchens and washing facilities. Both owners and tenants co-operated in the work.

Public Health Act, 1936—Sections 83, 84 and 85

During the year it was necessary to have 57 verminous rooms cleansed. In two cases bedding was removed for destruction.

Disinfection

During the year 122 rooms have been disinfected.

Rag Flock and Other Fillings Act, 1951

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

Mosquitoes

No complaints were received in respect of mosquitoes.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There are two premises licensed under this Act.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

One hundred and six 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 tipping on the West Bank of the River Arun. This area receives constant attention. The sewers also receive systematic attention, and inspections are carried out on agricultural land.

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, Warfarin, "Horo Tubes", Antubaits and "Cyanide" fumigation and trapping.

The following tables show statistics in respect of works carried out during 1955.

	Type of Property.				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District ...	22	4264	13	485	4784
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1955 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise ...	(a) 3	92	—	11	106
	(b) 11	326	11	1148	1496
III. Number of properties found to be infested by rats	Major	1	—	—	1
	Minor	4	117	12	134
IV. Number of properties found to be seriously infested by mice	—	3	—	2	5
V. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	4	120	—	14	138
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:— (1) Treatment (2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	2	1	—	3
	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4 ...	—	—	—	—	—

VIII. Number of "block" control schemes carried out—26.

SECTION D

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD. CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The number of food premises in the area is as follows:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Food preparation premises	...	...	...	...	62
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	7
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	11
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	7
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	65
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	97

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act is as follows:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Pies and Sausages	...	...	...	...	14
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	97

The number of Dairies registered under Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949 is eight.

Number of inspections of registered food premises:

Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	28
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	108
Dairies	...	...	...	...	105

The food premises registered for Pies and Sausages were also visited many times.

The principal means of educating food handlers has been by the personal visit of the Sanitary Inspector during his routine inspection.

Any meat found unfit in a butcher's shop is returned to the central meat depot at Worthing if practicable, otherwise all foods are buried in the Tip in lime.

It has not been necessary to carry out special examinations of any large consignment of food.

Ice Cream

There are two manufacturers of Ice Cream in the district and they both comply with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-1952.

Dairies and Milkshops

At the end of 1955 there were five cowkeepers, all of whom sold their milk wholesale.

There are seven retailers on the register, six resident in the district, and one who sells milk in the district from premises outside.

One hundred and five inspections were made of dairies during the year when the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:

Inefficient cleansing of milk bottles and utensils	...	2
Churned milk allowed to remain in sun for long periods		1
Accumulations	... ..	1

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations

The following licences were granted during 1955 under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Tuberculin-tested	... ..	6
Dealer's licence authorizing the use of the special designation Pasteurised	... ..	4

Clean Milk Production

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

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

Eighty-nine samples of designated milk (82 Pasteurised or Sterilised, three Tuberculin-tested, and four Raw) have been sent for bacteriological examination. All samples satisfied the standard prescribed by the Regulations.

Sixty-five samples of milk were taken during the year for biological examination. The presence of Tubercle bacilli was detected in one of these by the Laboratory. The sample was taken prior to pasteurisation and the consumers did not receive any infected milk. All reports on biological examination of milk are sent to the responsible authorities.

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 343 visits were paid to butchers' shops and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for cleansing of refrigerator	... ..	1
Accumulation of refuse on premises	... ..	2
Dirty yards	... ..	2
Dirty premises	... ..	5
New dustbins	... ..	1

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

1,564 lbs. Beef.	15 lbs. Sausages.
82 lbs. Mutton.	240 lbs. Sausage Meat.
262 lbs. Offal.	63 lbs. Pork.

Food Preparation Premises

During the year 277 visits were paid to food preparation premises and the following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty condition of yard	...	...	...	...	...	3
Foods open to contamination on display stands	...	...	...	...	...	2
Needs for redecoration of premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
Need for new dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	3

All premises where food is prepared are periodically visited.

The following were surrendered as unfit for food:—

24 stone Fish.	56 lbs. Milk Powder.
49 tins Fruit.	8 jars Jam.
92 tins Meat.	12 stems Bananas.
49 tins Miscellaneous Foods.	8 dozen Eggs.
61 tins Vegetables.	2 bottles Sauce.
33 packets Cheese.	3 packets Porridge Oats.
50 lbs. Currants.	12 lbs. Cake.
20 lbs. Smoked Ham.	

Restaurants and Cafes

There are at present 65 premises on the register and 277 inspections of these premises have been made.

The following defective or unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Need for larger kitchen	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dirty condition of yard	...	...	...	...	...	5
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	4
Kitchen in need of cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	6
Need for additional dustbin	...	...	...	...	...	16
Smoking in kitchen	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective condition of fireplace	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ovens in need of cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	1
Need to cleanse and repair sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	2
Need for additional sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	1
Need to close unsatisfactory w.c.	...	...	...	...	...	1

Ice Cream Premises

During the year there were 97 premises at which ice cream was prepared, stored or offered for sale, and in connection with these premises 108 inspections were made.

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

Need to provide sink and washing facilities	...	...	...	...	2
Need to repair sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	...	1

Eighteen 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 fat content.
10	I	11.9%
4	II	9.8%
4	III	10.8%

The average fat content of all samples was 11.2%.

Bakehouses

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

Sixty-six inspections have been carried out, and the following unsatisfactory conditions were observed:—

Defective condition of drains	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty condition of floor and walls	...	...	...	...	14
Need to exterminate vermin	...	...	...	...	1

Fried Fish Shops

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

Twenty-eight visits have been paid to fried fish shops, and conditions were maintained in a satisfactory manner.

SECTION E

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases

	Und. 1 year	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	1	3	7	—	—	—	12
Whooping Cough ..	—	8	6	12	—	—	—	26
Ac. Poliomyelitis:								
Paralytic ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Non-Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	5	30	51	143	3	1	2	235
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Und. 5 years	5—14	15—44	45—64	65 and over	Total
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	1	1	—	2
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	12	3	—
Whooping Cough ...	26	2	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis ...	1	1	—
Measles ...	235	15	—
Pneumonia ...	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	—	—
Erysipelas ...	2	1	—
Ac. Encephalitis ...	1	1	—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation has again been carried out during the year by the County Council.

During the year 269 children completed a full course of primary immunisation, and 137 children received a third reinforcing dose.

The last case of Diphtheria to be notified in the district was in 1947.

The following table shows the decline in notifications of Diphtheria and deaths from the disease since the beginning of the century.

	1901-10	1911-20	1921-30	1931-40	1941-50	1951-55
No. cases notified	182	211	89	73	17	0
No. deaths ...	31	10	6	9	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS**New Cases and Mortality**

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

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

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.

SUNSHINE AND RAINFALL STATISTICS

		SUNSHINE (Hours)		RAINFALL (Inches)	
Month		1955	Average for 40 years	1955	Average for 40 years
January	...	39.0	65.6	3.97	2.98
February	...	108.9	83.1	1.69	2.12
March	...	181.7	139.7	0.95	1.83
April	...	184.9	178.3	0.24	1.79
May	...	234.3	225.6	3.09	1.88
June	...	220.8	237.1	2.24	1.58
July	...	282.1	219.9	0.40	2.09
August	...	228.8	210.7	1.94	2.22
September	...	181.7	163.6	2.05	2.31
October	...	138.4	123.8	2.67	2.92
November	...	55.5	74.1	1.29	3.35
December	...	47.1	58.7	3.86	2.91
		<u>1903.2</u>	<u>1780.2</u>	<u>24.39</u>	<u>27.98</u>

Years.	SUNSHINE			RAINFALL	
	No. of hours.	Daily Average.	No. of days on which sun was recorded.	No. of inches.	No. of days on which rain was recorded.
1923	1831.5	5.02	209	30.10	185
1924	1789.5	4.80	307	31.10	153
1925	1915.2	5.25	326	33.30	159
1926	1681.8	4.61	296	28.70	175
1927	1691.4	4.63	312	33.90	190
1928	1945.5	5.32	311	31.50	179
1929	2068.1	5.67	316	30.04	152
1930	1808.1	4.95	319	31.43	183
1931	1633.4	4.48	300	24.42	216
1932	1558.5	4.29	315	27.09	194
1933	2062.8	5.65	318	23.08	155
1934	1758.5	4.82	297	28.09	166
1935	1771.8	4.85	311	36.01	182
1936	1679.9	4.59	304	28.63	182
1937	1691.6	4.63	304	33.51	176
1938	1809.7	4.96	311	24.51	183
1939	1828.9	5.01	203	34.89	211
1940	1876.8	5.12	309	29.46	164
1941	1641.3	4.49	296	25.06	160
1942	1647.9	4.51	294	27.03	137
1943	1818.0	4.97	294	25.21	175
1944	1665.1	4.54	296	23.54	169
1945	1672.2	4.58	301	28.72	173
1946	1692.8	4.63	297	32.11	211
1947	1812.9	4.96	287	26.74	175
1948	1873.5	5.09	299	26.22	137
1949	2041.3	5.59	319	23.83	91
1950	1738.4	4.76	303	27.79	166
1951	1819.2	4.98	294	38.22	190
1952	1864.8	5.09	314	29.02	166
1953	1813.1	4.96	300	22.55	135
1954	1583.0	4.33	292	32.05	177
1955	1903.2	5.22	305	24.39	146

