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BOROUGH OF LOUGHBOROUGH

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE

Year 1938





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BOROUGH OF LOUGHBOROUGH

HEALTH COMMITTEE

9th November, 1937 - 9th November, 1938

CHAIRMAN:

Alderman A. E. ARMSTRONG, J.P.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

Councillor J. W. BARKER

THE MAYOR (Councillor A. LACEY, J.P.)

Councillor Miss H. DORMER	Councillor A. PERKINS
„ W. G. E. DYER	„ G. READ
„ F. HOLLOWAY	„ F. L. STUBBS
„ W. JOHNSON	„ Mrs. A. M. VICKERS
„ M. A. MARTIN	„ F. C. WELCH
	(to January, 1938)
Councillor S. J. DARLASTON (from February, 1938)	

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:

Mrs J. A. SHERRIFF, J.P.

THE WHOLE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE

and

Mrs. C. JONES (from December, 1937)	Mrs. E. TURNBULL
Mrs. S. SHAWYER	Mrs. A. M. WALLIS

REPORT OF THE

COMMISSION ON THE

REVISION OF THE

CONSTITUTION OF THE

STATE OF TEXAS

FOR THE YEAR 1901

COMMISSIONERS

THE STATE OF TEXAS

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

R. CAUTLEY HOLDERNESS,	M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.
H. BINTCLIFFE,	Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent. Inspector under Shops Acts. Cert. Royal San. Inst. as Sanitary Inspector. Cert. Royal San. Inst. as Inspector of Meat and other Foods. Cert. San. Inspectors' Association Examination Board as Sanitary Inspector. Mem. Inst. Pub. Cleansing. Fellow San. Inspectors' Association.
J. S. BIRD,	Sanitary Inspector, Inspector under Shops Acts. Cert. Royal San. Inst & San. Inspectors' Joint Examination Board. Mem. San. Insp. Association.
W. J. MUNTON,	Assistant, Sanitary Department.
Nurse F. E. TOON,	S.R.N., Cert. C.M.B., Health Visitor. (Resigned May, 1938)
Nurse E. FRANCIS,	Cert. C.M.B., Health Visitor. (Resigned June, 1938)
Nurse C. E. HENDERSON,	Cert. C.M.B., Health Visitor. (Appointed June, 1938)
Nurse E. E. BELL,	Cert. C.M.B., S.R.N., Health Visitor. (Appointed October, 1938)
Nurse H. WIDDOWSON,	Cert. C.M.B., S.R.N., Municipal Midwife.
Nurse W. HUNT,	Cert. C.M.B., Municipal Midwife.
K. W. BREWIN,	Chief Clerk
Miss J. KIRCHIN,	Senior Clerk
Miss N. BARRETT,	Junior Clerk.

Report of Medical Officer

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
LOUGHBOROUGH.

June 1939.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Loughborough.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present herewith my second Annual Report on the Health of your Borough.

There are two changes of staff to be noted. In May Nurse Toon resigned from the position of Health Visitor to take up another post, and, in June, Nurse Francis resigned for the same reason. They were succeeded by Nurse Henderson and Nurse Bell.

The work of the Department has continued steadily throughout the year, and the volume of work has been well maintained.

A full year's working of the salaried Midwifery Service shews that the scheme is satisfactory and, on the whole, well received. There seems, however, to be a certain hesitancy on the part of some expectant mothers, (not only in Loughborough, but in other areas also) to employ a salaried midwife because of a dislike of anything connected with officialdom, and it is for this reason that every care must be taken to preserve the direct access of the patient to the Municipal Midwife that obtains in the case of the private midwife.

The sudden increase in the number of Births should be noted. 550 births were notified, as compared with 414 in 1937. When the figures of births registered are corrected, a Birth Rate of 16.29 is obtained, compared with an average of 12.9 for the previous 5 years. Whether this increase is merely fortuitous, or whether it will be maintained, time alone will shew.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population of Loughborough (30,370) is probably considerably below the actual figure, owing to the increasing migration into the Town which is taking place, and the census of 1941 will, in all probability, shew a considerable increase in the population.

Comment on other features of the report is contained in the various sections.

I wish to thank the members of the Council, my fellow officials and all members of the staff of the Department for their willing co-operation and support throughout the year.

I have the Honour to be, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. CAUTLEY HOLDERNESS.

GENERAL STATISTICS

AREA	....	....	....	....	9,211 acres
RESIDENT POPULATION			....	....	30,370
POPULATION (Census 1931)			....	....	26,945
NO. OF INHABITED HOUSES (1938) according to Rate Books			....	....	9,120
RATEABLE VALUE	....	....	....	....	£193,081
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE			....	....	£744

The Borough of Loughborough is situated partly in the valley of the River Soar and partly on the eastern slopes of Charnwood Forest, the ground level varying from about 110 feet to 550 feet above O.D. The old closely built-up area of the town is on the alluvial drift of the river valley, the more recent development lying to the south-west being on gradually rising and more undulating ground.

Hathern village, which was added to the Borough in 1936, is very similarly situated.

The district towards the north-east of the Midland Railway, near the town of Loughborough, is practically unbuilt upon.

The sub-soil in the lower parts of the town is drift gravel overlying the upper Keuper Marls, and varies in thickness from 5 to 20 feet, the saturation level being about 4 feet below the surface. The centre of the town is on gravel overlying Marl, but here the sub-soil water level has been reduced to the Marl level, and to the western side of the town the Marl is not overlain by gravel.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district is derived from the uplands of Charnwood Forest, a sparsely populated district, most of which is grass land. The water has no plumbo-solvent action, and is collected from the sources of supply of the Blackbrook and the Woodbrook, each stream having a separate reservoir in which water is stored. The Blackbrook is the larger, as also is the reservoir, and stands on a higher altitude, so that the water gravitates therefrom to the Woodbrook reservoir at Napantan. The water is filtered by passing through primary pressure filters, followed by slow sand filtration rendering the water of satisfactory organic quality, and of a high degree of bacterial purity.

The Corporation also supply the inhabitants of Belton, Long Whatton, Sutton Bonington and East Leake as direct consumers, and the township of Shepshed with a bulk supply.

During the year mains have been extended to a number of building estates.

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Practically the whole of the built up area is sewered, with the exception of the village of Hathern, and a scheme for the sewerage of this district has been approved by the Ministry of Health and tenders are to be invited at once for the carrying out of the work.

The town generally is sewered on the "Combined" system, but the more recently sewered districts are provided with sewers designed for the separate system.

The whole of the sewage is delivered by gravitation to the Sewage Disposal Works and afterwards pumped. Sewage up to three times the dry weather flow is subjected to full treatment by settlement in vertical flow Settling Tanks which have a capacity of half the d.w.f. and, after settlement, about one half of the sewage is treated by bacteria beds, and the effluent settled in Humus Tanks, the final effluent being discharged into the River Soar. There are fourteen 80 ft. diameter filters and six Humus Tanks.

The remaining one half of the d.w.f. of sewage is treated by broad irrigation on the Sewage Farm, the land being laid out in narrow plots and suitably under-drained.

Storm water from 3 to 6 times the dry weather flow is pumped into Storm Water Tanks and treated as storm water. Storm overflows are provided on the trunk sewers and volumes in excess of 6 times the d.w.f. are discharged into the various water courses.

Sewers have been extended during the year to new building estates.

Tenders are about to be invited for the replacement of the Derby Road and Wood Brook Main Outfall Sewer by a larger sewer, the original sewer, which was constructed in 1853, being of insufficient capacity to deal with the present flow.

RAINFALL FOR 1938

January	....	....	2.48
February	....	....	.65
March	....	....	.17
April	....	....	.02
May	....	....	1.65
June	....	....	1.31
July	....	....	1.95
August	....	....	1.79
September	....	....	1.81
October	....	....	1.83
November	....	....	2.11
December	....	....	3.34
		Total	<u>19.11</u>

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Bacteriological and Pathological work of the District is carried out by Dr. J. A. Fairer, the County Medical Officer of Health.

The number of examinations of material from Loughborough carried out during the year was 523, as follows :—

Milk Examinations (Bacteriological)	....	178
Milk for Fat Content	....	6
Sputa for T.B.	....	85
Swabs for Diphtheria	....	116
Blood for Wasserman Test	....	39
Differential Blood Counts	....	2
Urine (General and Bacteriological)	....	13
Sewage and Water Analysis	....	66
Film for Gonococci	....	5
Urine for T.B.	....	7
Miscellaneous	....	6
		523

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

NAME	SITUATION	FACILITIES	PROVIDED BY
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre	Lemyngton Street	Consultation & Treatment	Town Council
Ante-natal Clinic	Do	Consultation & Advisory	Do
School Clinic	Limehurst House, Bridge Street	Treatment of Minor Ailments Advisory	Education Committee
Tuberculosis Dispensary	John Street	Diagnosis & Treatment	Leicestershire County Council
Orthopædic Clinic, Cripples Guild	Packe Street	Consultation & Treatment	Cripples Guild

HOSPITALS

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Leicestershire Isolation Hospital Committee provides Hospital accommodation for cases of Infectious Disease. Loughborough cases are usually admitted to the Markfield Isolation Hospital, but during epidemic periods it is necessary to send cases to Melton and Blaby Isolation Hospitals. The Hospitals are situated at about 4, 16 and 15 miles away respectively.

The cases admitted during the year are shown elsewhere in the report.

LOUGHBOROUGH & DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL

This Hospital has 84 beds made up as follows :—

Medical	....	....	20
Surgical	....	....	44
Children	....	....	11
Maternity Block	....	....	9

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE HOSPITAL

85 beds, for chronic sick and infirm. No acute or emergency work is undertaken.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

(a) For Infectious Diseases these are provided by the County Council.

(b) For non-infectious and accident cases, the St. John Ambulance Association provide two Motor Ambulances.

Cases of infectious disease requiring removal to Isolation Hospital are taken away on the day of notification. Emergency calls to the St. John Ambulance are answered promptly. The service for both infectious and non-infectious cases is adequate for the area and efficient.

NURSING IN THE HOME

The Queen's District Nursing Association provide 6 nurses who give domiciliary treatment and attention to the sick poor.

Measles etc. are attended by them.

The Council subscribe £75 per annum.

**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)

	Lough- borough	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 population					
BIRTHS :—					
Live	15.73	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.56	0.60	0.65	0.6	0.48
DEATHS :—					
All causes	10.41	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.03	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.23	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	6.12	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	0.56	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.33	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	0.53	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 live births					
Deaths under one year of age	40	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	2.09	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.00	0.89			
Others	2.09	2.19	not available		
Total	2.09	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. live and still)					
MATERNAL MORTALITY :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.00	0.86			
Others	2.02	2.11	not available		
Total	2.02	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS :—					
Puerperal Fever	26.26	14.42	18.08	12.51	3.53
Puerperal Pyrexia					15.46

TOTAL DEATHS
Causes of Deaths in LOUGHBOROUGH M.B. 1938

<u>All Causes</u>	M. <u>157</u>	F. <u>159</u>
1. Typhoid Fever, etc.	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	1	—
6. Influenza	6	1
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	11	7
10. Other Tuberculosis	1	—
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the insane	—	—
13. Cancer	16	24
14. Diabetes	3	6
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	6	9
16. Heart Disease	48	48
17. Aneurysm	—	—
18. Other Circulatory	8	10
19. Bronchitis	4	1
20. Pneumonia	6	5
21. Other Respiratory	1	2
22. Peptic Ulcer	2	1
23. Diarrhœa under 2 years	1	—
24. Appendicitis	—	2
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver	1	1
27. Other Digestive	5	2
28. Nephritis	3	4
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal	—	1
31. Congenital causes, etc.	11	6
32. Senility	2	11
33. Suicide	8	—
34. Other Violence	3	4
35. Other defined causes	10	14
36. Causes ill-defined	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35)		
Smallpox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	12	7
Legitimate	11	7
Illegitimate	1	—
LIVE BIRTHS	241	237
Legitimate	234	224
Illegitimate	7	13
STILL BIRTHS	5	12
Legitimate	4	11
Illegitimate	1	1
RESIDENT POPULATION	30,370	

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

The total number of births notified in the Borough was 550 as compared with 414 in 1937.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS

The Registrar General's Returns give the number of births registered in Loughborough during the year, modified by Inward and Outward residence transfers. These are classified as Live Births or Still Births, Legitimate or Illegitimate.

The following table gives a comparison of the figures :—

	Legitimate	Illegitimate
Live Births	Male 234 Female 224	Male 7 Female 13
Still Births	Male 4 Female 11	Male 1 Female 1
% Stillbirths of Total	3.27	9.09

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	....	15.73
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	....	0.56

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 19—12 males and 7 females. This is 3 more than the previous year, and is 5.9 less than the average for the last 5 years, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 39.75 per 1,000 live births registered. The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales was 53.

Infant Mortality Rate for the past 5 years :—

1934	....	37.9
1935	....	55.5
1936	....	51.3
1937	....	43.8
1938	....	39.7

INFANT DEATHS 1938.

Congenital Defects	....	5
Prematurity	....	5
Marasmus	....	2
Diarrhoea	....	1
Birth Injuries	....	4
Convulsions	....	1
Haemolytic Anaemia	....	1

NEONATAL MORTALITY.

The Neonatal Mortality Rate is the number of deaths of Infants under 1 month per 1,000 births. Of the 19 deaths of Infants under 1 year 12 were Neonatal Deaths. This gives a rate of 25.1.

Neonatal Deaths are frequently due to the same causes as operate in the case of Stillbirths, i.e. causes operating during pregnancy or labour, and the solution of the problem of their prevention is to be sought in more intensive and extensive ante-natal and obstetric care.

It is to be noted that neonatal deaths accounted for approximately three-fifths of the deaths of infants under 1 year in Loughborough during 1938.

REGISTRATION OF DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered in Loughborough was 356. From this must be deducted 65 of persons not resident in the Borough, and 25 added of persons ordinarily resident in Loughborough who died outside the Borough. This gives a modified figure of 316. This is 4 more than last year and 9 above the average for the past 5 years, being equivalent to an annual death rate of 10.41. The Death Rate for England and Wales for the year is 11.6.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY.

Two whole-time domiciliary midwives are employed by the Loughborough Town Council under the Midwives' Act, 1936.

The full fees charged for the services of the Municipal Midwives are :—When acting as Midwife — 42/- ; when acting as Maternity Nurse — 37/-, the slight reduction in the fee being offered as an inducement to patients to engage a doctor for the confinement.

In certain cases a reduction in the fee has been made according to an income scale.

As far as possible, free choice of midwife is given to patients, but the extent to which this can be done is limited, as it is necessary to distribute the work evenly between the two Midwives : regard must also be had to the distance of the patient's home from the Midwife.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Municipal Midwives during the year :—

No. of Cases Delivered—	(a) Midwifery 84.
	(b) Maternity 60.
No. of Visits—	(a) Ante-Natal 1,143.
	(b) During Puerperium 2,607.

12 cases were booked but not eventually attended owing to transfer to Hospital for the following conditions :—

Albuminuria	....	3
Malpresentation	....	2
Placenta Prævia	....	1
Ante Partum Hæmorrhage		1
Requiring Cæsarean Section		1
Fibroid of Uterus	....	1
Requiring Induction	....	1
Other	....	2

One delivery was attended by a Municipal Midwife in an emergency, and the case was afterwards taken over by the private midwife who had previously been engaged.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

The Ante-natal Clinic is held once weekly at the Welfare Centre.

Every endeavour is made to persuade expectant mothers who have not engaged a doctor for the confinement and who are not under supervision by their own doctor to attend for examination and advice.

The Municipal Midwives are present with their patients at the clinic, and are thus enabled to note at first hand the conditions found at examination and the advice given by the Medical Officer, and can follow up their cases to see that instructions are being carried out.

The function of the anti-natal clinic is to ensure that all conditions of ill-health or departure from the normal are detected, and that appropriate measures are taken to deal with these either prior to, during or after confinement. Advice is given in all matters which are likely to affect the health of the expectant mother in order that her physical and mental well-being may be raised to as high a level as possible.

Arrangements are in force for the supply of supplementary nourishment in the form of free milk in necessitous cases.

There is a scheme for Dental Treatment in conjunction with the School Dental Service. Unfortunately, considerable reluctance is shown by many expectant mothers to undergo dental treatment during pregnancy, owing to a quite unfounded fear that some injury to mother or child may result. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that a healthy woman is as fit a subject for dental treatment during normal pregnancy as at any other time, whereas an unhealthy condition of the mouth or teeth constitutes a real danger from the possibilities of septic complications during childbirth and the lying-in period. Education is doing much to overcome this objection, though tradition dies hard in such matters.

MATERNITY HOSPITAL

The Maternity Block at the Loughborough General Hospital, opened in 1937, comprises a 6-bedded ward and 3 single bed wards. There is also a completely separate Isolation Block containing 3 beds. Some 180-200 cases a year can be accommodated.

The Medical Staff of the unit consists of 5 local practitioners who are also Honorary Surgeons to the General Hospital.

The Loughborough Town Council has an arrangement with the Hospital Committee for the use of 3 beds together with all necessary Medical and Surgical attention, to which patients requiring Hospital treatment whose income falls within a scale adopted by the Council may be admitted at proportionately reduced charges. 33 patients were admitted under the scheme during the year.

Prior to this there was no special provision for expectant mothers requiring Hospital treatment. Cases where this was urgently required were admitted into the General Hospital Medical Wards. The New Maternity Block, together with the Corporation Scheme, ensures that accommodation is available for all expectant mothers who require to enter Hospital, whether on Medical grounds or because of unsuitable home conditions.

CHILD WELFARE

The Infant Welfare Centre was fully described in the report for 1937.

The staff consists of the voluntary workers, the two Health Visitors and the Medical Officer.

The voluntary workers render invaluable assistance in keeping the attendance registers, looking after the dried milk counter and in the more social activities of the Centre. The Health Visitors are responsible for the weighing, giving advice to mothers, and referring children to the Medical Officer at their discretion. The Medical Officer also sees each child on first attendance and as a routine from time to time. A complete medical record with progress notes is now kept of every child who attends, and these records are transferred to the School Medical Department when the child attains school age. Thus when a child has attended regularly, a very useful record of his medical history from birth is available for the use of the Medical Officer.

ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CENTRE

	1936	1937	1938
First Attendances under 1 year	177	290	285
" " over 1 year	60	148	61
Other Attendances under 1 year	2323	5524	4991
" " over 1 year	3925	4028	4010
Total Attendances	<u>6485</u>	<u>9990</u>	<u>9347</u>

Emphasis is laid on the necessity for infants to be undressed for weighing and examination. Not only does variation in the clothing cause inaccuracy in weighing, but a general estimation of the infant's condition is impossible when it is swathed in numerous garments. Undressing also gives the Health Visitor an opportunity of seeing that the method of clothing is satisfactory. As I reported last year there is still a tendency on the part of some mothers to over-clothe their children. The old adage "Ne'er cast a clout till May is out," is excellent advice in a climate where the seasonal variations of temperature are more constant, but, in this country, where a spell of hot summer weather may be experienced in February or bitter cold in June, the clothing should obviously be adjusted according to the day to day conditions rather than the season of the year.

In the work of the Centre, stress is laid on the educational rather than upon the purely therapeutic aspect. Conditions which may be alleviated or prevented by advice or simple remedial measures are dealt with, but in cases of more serious illness or defect are referred to the patient's own doctor or in some instances to special agencies such as the Cripples' Guild.

CO-OPERATION WITH THE SCHOOL CLINIC

The arrangements made in 1937 for the treatment of Minor Ailments, Visual and Dental defects at the School Clinic have continued unchanged during the year, and have proved a very valuable adjunct to the work of the Department. The Dental Service in particular has proved of great value and is capable of considerable expansion. To defer the search for and treatment of any defect in a child until school age is reached is illogical, and particularly is this true of dental treatment. A very large proportion of children entering school are found to be in need of extensive treatment, much of which would have been unnecessary if earlier inspection and treatment had been available. This earlier treatment would not only lessen the work to be done at a later stage, but would ensure that the child's mouth was kept in a healthy state, and would make the work much easier. It is perhaps not generally realised that early and regular attention to the teeth, by eliminating the necessity for extensive treatment, eliminates also much of the unpleasantness usually associated with a visit to the dentist. The ideal is to keep the mouth in such a state that painful dentistry never becomes a necessity. One hears all too often the remark that "It is only the milk teeth that are decaying" or "when it aches, he shall have it out," the fact that a sound first dentition is the best insurance of a well-formed, healthy set of permanent teeth being lost sight of.

ATTENDANCES AT MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC

23 Children attended the Minor Ailments Clinic during 1938, suffering from the following defects :—

Ringworm	....	....	....	2
Impetigo and other skin disease	....	....	....	8
Scabies	....	....	....	1
Ear defects	....	....	....	3
Eye Conditions, excluding defective vision	....	....	....	2
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	7
				—
				23
				—

The total number of attendances was 271.

ATTENDANCES AT DENTAL CLINIC

No. of Children treated	....	....	....	20
Tempory teeth extracted	....	....	....	36
Dressings	....	....	....	30
Temporary teeth filled	....	....	....	—

EYE CLINIC

Five Children were referred to the Eye Clinic for examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

DRIED MILK ETC., SUPPLIED AT WELFARE CENTRE

Dried Milk, Ovaltine, Virol, Codliver Oil and similar preparations are sold at the Centre at cost price, and in certain cases are supplied free where the financial circumstances warrant it.

Amount of Dried Milk sold during the year	....	5053	packets
Amount of Dried Milk given	„ „ „	....	2071

In addition 141 gallons of liquid milk were supplied free.

Charts showing a suitable dietary for children of varying ages are issued to parents and have been most useful in supplementing the advice which is given in personal interviews.

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT

Cases of orthopaedic defect are referred to the Local Clinic of the Cripples Guild, which is in charge of an Orthopaedic Consulting Surgeon who attends once a month.

Cases are admitted to the Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital if necessary, and remedial treatment is carried out at the Local Clinic.

The Maternity & Child Welfare Committee accepted financial responsibility for the treatment of 3 cases during the year.

Cases referred to the Cripples Guild during the year :—

Congenital deformities of the limbs	....	1
Bow legs	....	2
Varus deformity of the feet	....	2
Torticollis	....	2
Spasticity of legs	....	1
	—	
Total	....	8
	—	

ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT

This is carried out at the Cripples Guild with the mercury vapour arc. 4 cases were referred for treatment during the year.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

Cases requiring In-patient Hospital treatment are referred to the Loughborough District General Hospital. Only those cases where the parent has no family doctor, and is unable to afford one, are referred direct to the Hospital.

CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT

A number of children have been admitted to the Charnwood Convalescent Home on vouchers supplied by subscribers.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Much of the reluctance experienced in the past on the part of the parents to use the facilities found at the Centre is being overcome, but there is still too large a number of families who do not attend in whose case regular supervision at the Centre would be particularly beneficial. There is also too great a falling off in attendance in the case of toddlers, thus leaving a gap in medical supervision between the ages of 2 and 5 years. There are indications, however, that this is being overcome, and a number of children are continuing their attendance up to school age.

HOME VISITS BY HEALTH VISITORS.

Month	Children under 1 yr.		1-5 years.	Exp. Mothers.	
	1st. visits.	Revisits.	Visits.	1st. visits.	Revisits.
1938.					
January	40	166	247	1	3
February	42	146	255	1	2
March	26	184	285	2	3
April	35	167	186	11	6
May	49	247	287	4	5
June	37	52	—	—	—
July	37	170	152	9	2
August	35	181	143	16	1
September	31	139	137	17	4
October	56	175	262	8	5
November	52	256	404	15	9
December	57	294	332	24	23
TOTALS	497	2177	2690	108	63
GRAND TOTAL				5535	

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

As required by the provisions of the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, relating to Infant Life Protection (now incorporated in the Public Health Act, 1936) careful inquiry is made by the officers of the Department to ascertain if any children under the age of 9 years are being nursed or maintained for reward apart from their parents by persons other than those standing in the permitted relationships.

The two Health Visitors have been appointed Child Life Protection Visitors. The sources from which information is obtained are :—

- (a) The Health Visitors, who may discover cases in the ordinary routine of visiting.
- (b) Scrutiny of advertisements in local papers.
- (c) The School Nurses and Attendance Officers.
- (d) Local N.S.P.C.C.

In the great majority of cases where children are boarded out in the Borough, the person with whom they are living is a grandmother, brother, sister, uncle or aunt, and therefore no action is required by the Department.

There were only two cases on the Register at the end of the year.

DAILY MINDING

Owing to the number of women employed in industry in the area, a considerable number of children are put out to nurse during the day while the mother is at work, and in some cases the choice of persons or environment is far from satisfactory. Great difficulty is experienced in these cases in regard to regular feeding and hours of sleep, as the children have often to be taken out early in the morning and kept up at night until their mothers are able to take them home. Moreover, a child is frequently looked after by a succession of persons. Even though the child's physical welfare may be adequately provided for by such an arrangement, the psychological effect upon a child of frequent changes in his environment may be far reaching, and may lead to many difficulties of behavior and outlook at a later age. There is no doubt that the child's own home environment, even though this may be lacking in many respects, it usually preferable to any substitute. Unfortunately no action can be taken in these cases other than to advise the mother, and to keep the child under close supervision by frequent visiting.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

The details of the work of the Sanitary Department will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector, hereto attached.

HOUSING

Total Number built during the year	....	380
By the Local Authority	....	58
By other bodies or persons	....	322
1928	....	189
1929	....	250
1930	....	192
1931	....	134
1932	....	109
1933	....	173
1934	....	129
1935	....	259
1936	....	286
1937	....	145
1938	....	380

HOUSING

Year ending 31st December, 1938

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).	....	....	....	886
b Number of inspections made for the purpose				1923

2.— <i>a</i>	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	....	....	275
<i>b</i>	Number of inspections made for the purpose			862
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	....	....	62
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	....	....	357
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices :—				
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers		....	240
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—				
	<i>a</i> 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			11
2.	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—			
	<i>a</i> By Owners	....	....	11
	<i>b</i> By Local Authority in default of Owners			None
	<i>b</i> Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—			
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	....	....	31
2.	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—			
	<i>a</i> By owners	....	....	31
	<i>b</i> By Local Authority in default of owners			None
	<i>c</i> Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.			

1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	....	....	59
2.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	None
<i>d</i> 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	....	....	None
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	....	....	None
 4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding.				
<i>a.</i> —(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	....	....	55
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	....	....	56
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	....	....	473
<i>b.</i>	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	....	....	33
<i>c.</i>	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	....	....	40
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	....	....	393
<i>d.</i>	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

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The arrangements for the routine investigation of cases of notifiable infectious disease continue unchanged. The information obtained includes particulars of the milk and water supplies, the names and ages of contacts, the schools or public places attended and the relation to other cases of the disease occurring in the neighbourhood. Opportunity is also taken to inquire as to any sanitary defects which may have a bearing upon the incidence or spread of the disease.

Information as to cases and contacts of school age and the schools which they attend is sent to the Education Department so that measures can be taken to ensure that these children are excluded from school for the necessary period of quarantine.

The Medical Officer of Health also receives from the Education Department lists of children whose absence from school is suspected to be due to infectious disease. This enables some check to be kept upon the occurrence of non-notifiable infectious diseases which otherwise might not be brought to the notice of the Department.

SCARLET FEVER

186 cases of this disease were notified during the year and of these 176 were removed to hospital. After a rise in the number of notifications during January, the incidence of the disease was low until October when the number of cases increased again, reaching the peak during November and December. At one time it appeared that a rather large proportion of cases were occurring at one school, but repeated visits and investigations at the school failed to reveal any unusual features.

It is now recognised that Scarlet Fever is merely one manifestation of infection by the Hæmolytic Streptococcus, which may also be the cause of a number of other conditions, notably tonsillitis, colds, erysipelas and puerperal fever. Moreover, it is likely that certain persons are carriers of the organism without showing any signs of ill health.

It is for this reason that the disease is difficult to control.

Cases of tonsillitis and catarrhal conditions are always found associated with outbreaks of scarlet fever, and these are likely to be more dangerous to the community than a declared case of scarlet fever, the need for isolation not being recognised. It is important, therefore, that medical advice should be sought in all cases of sore throat or general illness, particularly when cases of scarlet fever are known to be occurring. Advice to this effect is given to all families in Loughborough visited in connection with infectious disease.

DIPHTHERIA.

17 cases of Diphtheria occurred during the year. Although 23 notifications of this disease were received and the cases removed to Hospital, further investigation failed to confirm the diagnosis in 6 of the cases, although 2 of them were regarded as diphtheria carriers. In addition 3 diphtheria carriers were removed to Hospital for isolation, facilities not being available at home.

One death occurred from the disease during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The Diphtheria Immunisation Scheme, started in 1937, was continued throughout the year. It had been found that the number of children requiring to be immunised was, in the majority of schools, sufficiently large to justify a visit from the Medical Officer to carry out the immunising injections on the spot. This method was adopted for the bulk of the work.

The clinic sessions, which at first were held at the School Clinic, were later held at the Maternity & Child Welfare Centre in Lemington Street, where more waiting room accommodation is available.

After careful consideration of the merits and de-merits of the various immunising agents available, T.A.F. (Toxoid Antitoxin Floccules) was chosen as the most suitable. This preparation gives the highest degree of immunity with the least tendency to reaction, which it is desirable to avoid. Three injections of 1 c.c. of T.A.F. are given at intervals of not less than a week.

During the year 1,436 children received a full course of 3 injections.

Some 2,000 children, or approximately 28% of the children under the age of 14 years have now received a course of injections. While this figure compares very favourably with those obtained by other local authorities, there is no room for complacency or a slackening of effort, since the aim is to raise the immunity of the population as a whole (as opposed to the individual immunity conferred by the injections) and thus prevent the spread of the disease in the community. For this purpose some 50 - 60% of the child population should be treated.

There is need also for a greater number of pre-school children to be treated. It seems to be a popular tradition among parents to wait until a child commences school before having this or that "done," and one is frequently told in connection with diphtheria immunisation "He shall have it done when he starts school."

The younger the child, the less is his resistance to Diphtheria, and it is upon the pre-school child that the maximum incidence and fatality of the disease fall. A drive is, therefore, being made, aimed particularly at the younger children, in order that they may be protected at as early an age as possible, that is from the age of 12 months.

In Diphtheria Immunisation we have a safe and powerful weapon against a deadly disease, which it behoves us to use to the fullest extent in our power.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

13 cases were notified under this heading during the year. In no case was the underlying condition of such a nature that removal to the Isolation Hospital was required. All the cases recovered.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

No notifications of this disease were received.

ENTERIC FEVER.

One notification of this disease was received but, on further investigation, the diagnosis could not be confirmed.

PNEUMONIA.

The number of notifications of this disease received was less than the previous year (16 as against 30) this decrease being due to a smaller number of cases of Influenza Broncho-Pneumonia, concurrent with a lessened amount of Influenza.

WHOOPIING COUGH & MEASLES.

These diseases not being notifiable, accurate figures of their incidence cannot be given. A general indication, however, can now be obtained from the lists supplied in respect of school children by the Education Department, and from the reports of the Health Visitors.

At the beginning of the year there were a considerable number of cases of whooping cough. The disease was of a mild type and no deaths were reported.

During the year the Health Visitors visited all suspected households having children under the age of 5 years. Advice is given to parents on the importance of careful nursing and the provision of medical attention. The measures to be adopted to prevent the spread of the disease to other children are also explained.

CONSULTATIONS WITH GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.

A very pleasing feature is the readiness with which members of the general medical profession have asked the Medical Officer of Health for a second opinion in connection with infectious diseases.

This shows a friendly spirit of co-operation, without which the work of the Department would be severely hampered.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

Admissions	Markfield	Melton	Blaby	Total.
Diphtheria	20	3	—	23
Diphtheria Carriers	1	2	—	3
Scarlet Fever	120	33	29	182
Pneumonia with Measles	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	1
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	23	23	1
Scarlet Fever	191	182	—
Pneumonia	16	1	11
Erysipelas	10	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	1	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

NEW CASES.

DEATHS.

Age Periods	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
5	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
15	3	4	3	0	0	2	0	0
25	5	3	0	0	4	2	0	0
35	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
45	4	2	0	1	2	2	0	0
55	4	0	1	0	3	0	0	0
65 and upwards	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	19	9	5	3	11	7	1	0

The notification of Tuberculosis has been efficient ; there was no evidence of wilful neglect or refusal to notify ; no action was necessary with regard to Tuberculous employees in the Milk Trade.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 172.

No action was necessary under this Section.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Town Hall,
Loughborough,
5th July, 1939.

To the Mayor, Aldermen & Councillors of the Borough of Loughborough.

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my thirtieth Annual Report of the operations of the Sanitary Department, for the year ending December 31st, 1938. The year under review has been most satisfactory and good progress has been made. Two enquiries have been held during the year by J. S. Todd, Esq., of the Ministry of Health, into 11 Clearance Areas, comprising a total of 59 houses and confirmation by the Minister was received in each case. It is pleasing to note the rapid strides we are now making to provide the people of our newly acquired district, Hathern, better homes and surroundings which give the occupiers a happier and healthier outlook on life, and I look forward to seeing Hathern in the very near future, a village with all those Public services enjoyed by the Townsmen.

Whilst dealing with the housing problem, over-crowding must be considered and the Council are to be congratulated on their efforts to abate the many cases in existence. Statistics provide interesting reading. During the 12 months, 32 cases were abated by the individuals themselves, and 8 were re-housed by the Council in houses which were originally intended for Slum Clearance families. But even though 40 cases were relieved, 33 new cases were found, leaving still a total of 55 over-crowded families in the Borough to be dealt with, 20 of which will shortly be moved to the new housing estate on Manor Drive.

New legislation in the form of a revised Factories Act, has recently been introduced and a new Food & Drugs Act will shortly be coming into operation, with further additional duties, but against this, one consolation at least is found in knowing that the powers that be do realise the necessity for legislation, to assist us in bringing our Sanitation, Housing and Food control up to the highest possible standard. I should like to express my gratitude to the Health Committee for their valued support and to my assistants and clerks for their willing help at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HAROLD BINTCLIFFE.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Number of Notices issued....	....	....	....	311
„ Notices complied with	....	....	....	261
„ Houses re-inspected	....	....	....	2911
„ House to house inspections	....	....	....	275
„ Infected houses visited	....	....	....	213
„ „ rooms sprayed	....	....	....	392
„ „ „ fumigated	....	....	....	268
„ Lots of bedding stoved at Farm	....	....	....	18
„ „ „ destroyed at Farm	....	....	....	50
„ Drains and other inspections	....	....	....	8971
„ Complaints received	....	....	....	55
„ Communications re Dust removals	....	....	....	50
„ Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops inspections	....	....	....	650
„ Factories, Workshops & Bakehouses inspections	....	....	....	137
„ Tents, Vans and Sheds inspections	....	....	....	68
„ Offensive trades inspections	....	....	....	169
„ Outworkers visited	....	....	....	194
„ Drains tested	....	....	....	224
„ Smoke observations	....	....	....	17
„ Samples of Milk taken for Bact. Examination	....	....	....	101
„ Slaughterhouse inspections during office hours	....	....	....	3081
„ Slaughterhouse inspections during evenings and Sundays	....	....	....	901
„ Meat Stalls and Stores Inspections	....	....	....	795
„ Samples of water taken for analysis	....	....	....	56
„ Food Stores inspections other than where meat is kept	....	....	....	141
„ Inspections under 1935 Housing Act	....	....	....	242
„ Legal Proceedings	....	....	....	2
„ Premises treated for vermin	....	....	....	40
„ Lots of furniture treated with H.C.N.	....	....	....	2
„ Shops	....	....	....	827

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT

New Drains laid	....	....	....	....	98
Drains taken out	....	....	....	....	12
Drains unstopped and cleansed	....	....	....	....	45
Drains ventilated and disconnected	....	....	....	....	14
Inspection chambers built	....	....	....	....	17
New gullies provided	....	....	....	....	20
Waste pipes of sinks disconnected	....	....	....	....	10
Sink waste pipes renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	35
Sink waste channels repaired	....	....	....	....	37
New sink stones provided	....	....	....	....	51
Baths and wash basins disconnected	....	....	....	....	4
Drains tested by Smoke, water or colour test	....	....	....	....	224
Water closets repaired	....	....	....	....	18
New water closets provided	....	....	....	....	513
Privies converted to pail closet	....	....	....	....	5
Pail closets converted to water carriage system	....	....	....	....	1
Pail closets provided	....	....	....	....	11
Yard surface repaired or paved	....	....	....	....	30
Rain water conductors repaired or fixed	....	....	....	....	38
Soft water cisterns cleansed	....	....	....	....	1
Windows and cords repaired	....	....	....	....	81
Floors repaired or concreted	....	....	....	....	79
Dirty houses cleansed	....	....	....	....	20
Dirty cellars cleansed	....	....	....	....	1
Water or sewage removed from cellars	....	....	....	....	2
Roofs stripped or repaired	....	....	....	....	96
Ventilators repaired	....	....	....	....	3
Damp walls remedied	....	....	....	....	30
Damp courses provided	....	....	....	....	6
Damp courses repaired	....	....	....	....	4
Plaster ceiling repaired	....	....	....	....	48
Plaster walls repaired	....	....	....	....	34
General internal and external defects remedied	....	....	....	....	277
Ashpits dispensed with	....	....	....	....	6
New dust bins provided	....	....	....	....	48
Houses supplied with Towns Water	....	....	....	....	36
Houses supplied with internal supply in lieu of stand pipe	....	....	....	....	14
Foodstores provided	....	....	....	....	17

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

SUMMARY OF SCAVENGING WORK.

Number of Ashpits emptied	....	....	60
" Cesspools emptied	....	....	245
Total number of loads of Refuse collected	....	....	7954
" " " Dry Ashes	....	....	6817
" " " taken to Destructor	....	....	808
" " " " Cotes Tip	....	....	6009
" " " of Cesspool Slops thrown away	....	....	658
" " " emptied into Lagoons (pail manure)	....	....	336
" " Privies emptied	....	....	143

DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE (including Trade and other Refuse)

	Borough of Loughborough Financial year Ending March, 1938	Average for towns in England & Wales, under 30,000 population
Average weight per day per 1,000 population (365 days)	14.6 cwts	15.3 cwts
Net Expenditure per ton for :	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
(a) Collection	7 8	8 5
(b) Disposal	2 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 10
Net expenditure per 1,000 pop. :		
(a) Collection	106 2 0	119 0 0
(b) Disposal	28 18 0	39 0 0
Net expenditure per 1,000 houses :		
(a) Collection	384 15 0	472 0 0
(b) Disposal	108 7 0	165 0 0

WATER SUPPLY.

With the existence of the towns water supply in Hathern, considerable progress has been made in introducing a separate and internal supply to a large number of dwelling houses.

36 houses in Hathern have during the year, been provided with an internal supply and at the same time glazed sink stones and the necessary drains to carry away waste water.

From the samples of water taken in this part of the Borough, the necessity for the pipe supply is obvious, every sample being unsatisfactory, both chemically and bacteriologically, with indication of the presence of oxidized organic matter and pollution.

SUMMARY OF SAMPLES TAKEN.

Number of Samples taken for Analysis :			
(a) from Wells	....	....	56
(b) from Pipe Supply	....	....	Nil
Result of Analysis of Samples taken :			
(a) from Wells	....	....	Bad
(b) from Pipe Supply	....	....	—
Number of Wells closed	....	....	21
Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water	....	....	36

The supply of Towns Water has been most satisfactory in quality and quantity and no restrictions were found necessary during the year.

SCHOOLS SANITARY CONDITIONS AND WATER SUPPLY.

The schools in the Borough are well provided in these matters and are comparable in this respect with other schools throughout the country.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

MILK.

Total number of <i>Retail Purveyors on Register</i>	....	....	148
Number residing in the district including shopkeepers registered for the sale of pasteurised and sterilised milk in bottles only	....	....	138
Number of <i>Retail Purveyors</i> residing outside the district			10
Total number of <i>Producers on Register</i> including producers who retail their own milk	....	....	50

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1923 & 1936.

Number of Certified Tuberculin Tested Producers in the district			2
Number of Accredited Retailers in the district	....	....	6
Number of Accredited Bottlers Licensed in the district	....		3
Number of Certified Tuberculin Tested Retailers residing outside the district retailing in the borough	....	....	1
Total Inspections for all purposes	....	....	650

CONTRAVENTIONS FOUND.

Shopkeepers retailing bottled milk without being registered	3
Producers failing to Limewash Cowsheds at prescribed periods	5
Retail Purveyors failing to have names and addresses inscribed on vehicle in accordance with Sec. 6 Milk and Dairies Consolidation Act, 1915	2
Number of Premises, Cowsheds, Dairies, etc., where structural alterations were carried out to meet the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Orders	4
Prosecution against Milk Roundsman for filling dirty bottles on a public highway	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

101 samples of milk have been submitted during the year to the County Bacteriologist and 89.1% were recorded as satisfactory. This is the second year passed since the introduction of the Methylene Blue Reductase Test, which has proved very successful; the coliform test, although still retained, does not convey much information to the farmer when his samples are returned as unsatisfactory. I have found in practice that it is far more convincing to the farmer to be able to tell him that his milk contained so many thousand B.Coli than to just inform him that it is unsatisfactory.

The milk supplied to the schools in the Borough is submitted monthly for bacteriological examination and every three months for fat content and throughout the year has reached a very high standard.

	No. of Samples taken.	Satisfactory.	Not Satisfactory.	% Satisfactory.
1938	101	90	11	89.1
1937	82	71	11	87

		Good.	Fair.	Mod.	Bad.	% Good
1936	146	129	15	Nil	2	88.3
1935	192	153	25	Nil	14	79.6
1934	180	133	33	Nil	14	73.8
1933	121	91	18	2	10	75.2
1929	72	44	18	1	9	61.1
1927	80	41	20	2	17	51.2
1925	72	29	17	3	23	36.1

CLASSIFIED TABLE OF SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Tuberculin Tested samples taken	...	....	....	3
Accredited	„	„	„	19
Pasteurised	„	„	„	2
Milk supplied to schools	„	....	....	12
Ordinary non-designated	„	....	....	65

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, Etc.

The above acts are administered by the Leicestershire County Council and by the kind co-operation of the Chief Constable. Capt. C. E. Lynch-Blosse, and the Inspector for the district, Supt. J. Darling, the following information has been supplied :—

Total samples taken	....	73
Milk	„	31
Other	„	42

There were no proceedings taken during the year in respect of these samples.

SALE AND MANUFACTURE OF ICE CREAM

The position with regard to the control of this business has changed very little during the past year but it is pleasing to note that provision has been made in the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which comes into operation in October 1939, for the control of this trade.

The Manufacturers in this Borough are visited periodically and improvement is noticeable, quite a number of the private house manufacturers having given up business.

MEAT AND FOOD CONTROL

During the year 1 Licensed Slaughter house was closed voluntary but at the time of compiling this report, a new licence has been granted by the Council, making a total 14 slaughter houses in the Borough. 7 Registered and 7 Licensed.

KNACKERS YARDS

1 Knackers yard is licensed in the district and the condition of these premises is far from satisfactory, but I am pleased to say that the owner has agreed to build a modern Knackers yard, which should enable this business to be carried on with the minimum amount of cause for complaint from the residents in the neighbourhood. An important section has been provided in the new Food and Drugs Act 1938, prohibiting human food coming out of these premises and enables a Local Authority to make byelaws to require records of consignments etc., to be kept. This long overdue legislation will certainly prevent the possible disposal of parts of carcasses from Knackers yards in a manner detrimental to Public Health.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

This act has been in force for a period of 5 years and it is pleasing to note that no cases of cruelty have been observed. Providing care and attention is given to the gun it is without doubt the most satisfactory method of stunning without causing unnecessary suffering to the animal.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS 1924

As in previous years the butchers generally have conformed to the requirements of these Regulations.

The class of animals killed in the Borough has been well maintained and up to a high standard. During the year 3982 visits have been paid to Slaughterhouses of which 901 visits were made during evenings and on Sundays.

INSPECTIONS OF FOOD STORES, Etc.

Number of Meat Stalls Inspected	....	....	....	795
Number of Meat Shops, Meat Stores, etc., inspected	....	....	....	369
Number of Premises where Food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale	....	....	....	141

Proceedings were instituted against a market stall holder for depositing Tubercular Liver for the purposes of sale and a fine of £15 was imposed.

SUMMARY OF FOODS CONDEMNED.

Beef	....	....	248½ stones
Pork	....	....	103 "
Mutton	....	....	9 "
Apples	....	....	9 barrels and 30 boxes
Bacon	....	....	4 stones
Haddock	....	....	20 "
Halibut	....	....	3½ "
Herring Roe	....	....	8 "
Kippers	....	....	1 "
Oranges	....	....	19 boxes
Onions	....	....	40 stones
Pears	....	....	1 box
Prawns	....	....	2 tins
Plaice	....	....	6 stones
Rabbits	....	....	34 couples
Tongue, tinned	....	....	5 tins
Tomatoes	....	....	10 boxes

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One change has been made during the year, that the closing down of a Fish Frying Business, which has been removed from the register, leaving a total of 23 trades registered under this section.

Fish Friers	....	....	....	19
Tripe Boilers	....	....	....	2
Marine Stores	....	....	....	2

169 Inspections have been made, and the conditions were generally found to be satisfactory.

SUPERVISION OF MUSIC HALLS, CINEMAS AND DANCE HALLS.

Frequent inspections of the above premises have been made and the conditions with regard to Sanitary accommodation and ventilation were found to be well up to the standard. 1 Cinema was reconstructed and the plenum system of mechanical ventilation installed. This system is now provided in 3 of the 4 Cinemas in the Town.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

Number of Swimming Baths in district	....	....	....	4
Number publicly owned	....	....	....	1
Number privately owned	....	....	....	3

No action was found necessary with regard to the condition of the water. A new private indoor pool has been constructed and an innovation added by the introduction of under-water observation windows.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

17 official observations were taken of Factory chimneys, during the period under survey and when large dense emissions of black smoke have been witnessed, the owners have been interviewed and advice given as to the best method of eliminating this nuisance. A large number of unofficial observations are made and if found to be unsatisfactory, official survey is made in due course.

Number of Official observations	....	....	....	17
Number of interviews with owners	....	....	....	31
Number of legal proceedings	....	....	....	Nil
Number of Statutory notices	....	....	....	Nil

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

175 inspections have been carried out under this Act, and a considerable amount of advice given to occupiers who have complained of infestation. During Rat Week posters were displayed in prominent positions in the town and a concise report was published in the local press on Rat infestation and extermination. This has met with excellent results and combined with the continuance of the payment of 2d. per rat carcase, brought to the Department, we are making good headway to minimise the numbers of an undesirable creature. 2462 Rat carcasses have been brought to the office for destruction at a cost of £20 10s. 4d.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The Hydro Cyanide Plant was only in operation for 2 weeks during the year.

Various vermicides, both liquid and solid have been tried out on invested houses and it has been found that more effective results have been derived from the liquid.

Number of houses found infested :

(a) Council houses	....	....	8
(b) Other houses	....	....	32

Number of houses disinfested :

(a) Council houses	....	....	8
(b) Other houses	....	....	32

HOUSE DISINFECTION.

Disinfection of premises in which infectious cases have occurred is carried out immediately after the patient has been removed to Hospital or if the case is nursed at home, after the receipt of a notification from the Medical Practitioner in charge of the case, that the patient is free from infection.

In certain cases the bedding is disinfected with the steam disinfector. Frequent requests are made for premises to be disinfected after cases of German Measles, Cancer, etc., the same methods being adopted, as in the notifiable cases.

Liquid disinfectant is issued free to householders when such cases are notified.

PARTICULARS OF DISINFECTING.

Number of Visits to Infected Houses	....	....	213
„ „ Infected Rooms Fumigated	....	....	268
„ „ „ „ Sprayed	....	....	392
„ „ Lots of Infected Bedding and Clothing Steam Disinfected	....	....	18
„ „ Infected Beds Destroyed	....	....	50

SHOPS ACTS, 1912, 1913, 1928. 1934 & 1936.

During the year 827 inspections were made of the shops in the Borough. A number of shops were not provided with Sanitary or Washing accommodation or suitable means for heating. After service of informal notices, the work was carried out, no statutory proceedings were necessary.

The exhibiting of notices and forms has required constant observation and the complying with the closing hours has entailed a considerable amount of evening work.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

68 inspections have been made of these premises in the district, the majority of which were Vans housing the show people at the November pleasure fair. These were found to be wonderfully clean and well appointed.

The remainder were of the Gypsy type and the conditions were not so good. Immediately an encampment is found, an inspection is made and notices served with the result that the encampment is cleared before the expiration of the notice.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

The inspection of these boats is carried out at the wharfs and locks, also along the canal throughout the district.

30 boats have been inspected during the year.

35 boats are on the register, of which 30 are horse drawn and 5 motor driven.

Infringements have been very few and no cases of infectious disease were found.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES.

137 inspections have been made under the above Act, and with the introduction of the Factories Act, 1938, a considerable amount of additional work has been thrown on to the department.

INSPECTIONS.

Factories with mechanical power	....	....	19
Workshops without mechanical power	....	....	116
Other premises	....	....	2
			<hr/>
			137
Number of notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories			3
" " " complied with	....	....	3
" " " in hand	....	....	—

OUTWORKERS

Periodical inspections are made during the year a total of 194 Inspections were recorded. Conditions were found quite satisfactory and only one case of infectious disease was notified amongst this group of workers. In that particular house the work was disinfected before being returned to the factory.







