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## BOROUGH OF LOUGHBOROUGH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1939.INTERIM REPORT.

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

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

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

In a recent circular relating to annual reports of  
Medical Officers of Health, the Minister of Health states  
that, in view of the increasing pressure of work in the  
Public Health Departments of Local Authorities and the  
need for strict economy in the use of paper, interim  
reports only should be made for the year 1939, and should  
be confined to essential and urgent matters which have  
affected the public health during the year.

This report is, therefore, very brief, and a more  
pleasing form of presentation is sacrificed in the interests  
of economy of paper.

I have the Honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. CAUTLEY HOLDERNESS.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

Work of Municipal Midwives. 1938. 1939.

Number of cases delivered :-

Midwifery	84	77
Maternity	60	54

Number of visits made :-

Ante-natal	1143	1212
During puerperium	2607	2254

Ante-natal Clinic.

New cases	81	94
Attendances	325	390

Cases referred to Dental Clinic	2	8
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CHILD WELFARE.

In view of the extension of new housing on the  
Shelthorpe Estate and the large number of young children  
in that area, the Committee decided to provide Welfare  
Centre facilities more accessible to this area of the  
Borough, and in May a branch Welfare Centre was opened at  
the Shelthorpe Free Church premises in Parklands Drive.

This Centre is open one half day a week for the sale of food and for weighing and advice by the Health Visitors, but no doctor is in attendance. The new departure has been very successful, a number of parents availing themselves of this centre who could not attend the Lemyngton Street Clinic.

Attendances at Welfare Centres.

	1938.	1939.
First Attendances under 1 year	285	333
" " over 1 year	61	107
Other attendances under 1 year	4991	5223
" " over 1 year	4010	5758
Totals	<u>9347</u>	<u>11421</u>
Attendances at Minor Ailments Clinic	271	566
Number of children attending	23	59
Children referred to Dental Clinic	20	20
Children referred to Eye Clinic	5	6
Children referred to Cripples Guild	8	11

Home Visits by Health Visitors.

To children under 1 year:-	1st Visits	497	469
	re-visits	2177	2232
To children 1 - 5 years		2690	3160
To expectant mothers :-	1st Visits	108	135
	re-visits	63	117
Totals		<u>5535</u>	<u>6113</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

259 cases of this disease were notified during the year and of these 248 were removed to Hospital. In two cases the diagnosis was not confirmed.

The incidence of the disease remained fairly constant throughout the year until the end of November, when it suddenly dropped. Despite constant surveillance and detailed investigations, no reason for the sustained incidence of cases could be discovered.

Diphtheria.

161 cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year and of these 159 were removed to Hospital. In 9 cases the diagnosis was not confirmed on further investigation. The disease was of a severe type, and twelve deaths occurred. The main incidence occurred during the months of August, September, October and November, the peak being at the end of September.

There was nothing to suggest that the evacuation was in any way responsible for the outbreak.

The incidence of other infectious diseases during the year calls for no special comment.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children immunised :-

Under 5 years	382
Over 5 years	988
Total	<u>1370</u>



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## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR

THE YEAR 1939.  
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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough  
of Loughborough.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Thirty-first  
Annual Report on the operations of the Sanitary Department  
for the year ending December 31st, 1939.

We have been requested by the Ministry to make it as  
brief and concise as possible.

It has been a busy year and I wish to thank the Health  
Committee, my assistants and clerks for their useful help at  
all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. BINTCLIFFE.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Number	of notices issued.....	289
"	" " complied with.....	263
"	" houses re-inspected.....	2741
"	" house to house inspections.....	332
"	" infected houses visited.....	412
"	" rooms fumigated.....	472
"	" infected rooms sprayed.....	711
"	" lots of infected beds stoved at Farm.....	27
"	" " " " destroyed at Farm.....	30
"	" drains and other inspections.....	10563
"	" complaints received.....	66
"	" communications re dust removals.....	57
"	" Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk shops inspections.....	640
"	" Factories inspected.....	196
"	" Outworkers inspected.....	242
"	" Tents, Vans & sheds inspections.....	2
"	" Offensive trades.....	279
"	" Drains tested.....	246
"	" Smoke observations.....	11
"	" Samples of milk taken for Bact. examination.....	62
"	" Slaughterhouses inspected during office hours.....	2221
"	" " " " evenings.....	875
"	" " " " and Sundays.....	565
"	" Meat stalls and stores inspected.....	10
"	" Samples of water taken for analysis.....	360
"	" Food stores insp. other than where meat is kept....	147
"	" Inspections under Housing Overcrowding Act.,	53
"	" Premises treated for Vermin.....	348
"	" Shops inspected.....	36
"	" Canal boats inspected.....	



## SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

New drains laid.....	74
Drains taken out.....	15
" unstopped and cleansed.....	61
" ventilated and disconnected.....	15
Inspection chambers built.....	7
New gullies provided.....	31
Waste pipes of sinks disconnected.....	6
Sink waste pipes renewed or repaired.....	32
" channels repaired.....	30
New sink stones provided.....	43
Baths and washbasins disconnected.....	5
Drains tested by smoke, water or colour test....	246
Water closets repaired.....	17
New water closets provided.....	12
Privies converted to pail closets.....	1
Pail closets converted to water carriage system.	4
Pail Closets provided.....	6
Yard surface repaired or paved.....	40
Rain water conductors repaired or fixed.....	29
Soft water cisterns cleansed.....	2
Windows and cords repaired.....	54
Floors repaired or concreted.....	25
Dirty houses cleansed.....	57
" cellars ".....	4
Water or sewage removed from cellars.....	2
Roofs stripped and repaired.....	82
Ventilators repaired.....	2
Damp walls remedied.....	28
Damp courses provided.....	16
Damp courses repaired.....	2
Plaster ceilings repaired.....	27
Plaster walls repaired.....	17
General internal and external defects remedied..	254
Ashpits dispensed with.....	7
New dust-bins provided.....	70
Houses supplied with towns water.....	44
Houses supplied with internal supply in lieu of stand pipe.....	4
Foodstores provided.....	11

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Total number in district at end of 1939....	1. Privies 36.
	2. Pails 216.
	3. W.C.'s 11,660.

### SANITARY INSPECTION.

Total number of inspections.....	13,911
" " " defects or nuisances discovered.	3,987
(excluding smoke nuisances)	
" " " complaints received.....	66
" " " notices served.	
(a) Formal.....	25
(b) Informal.....	264
" " " defects remedied after serving of notices.....	3,959

The above inspections include those under the following headings :-

Housing inspection under Housing Act, 1936.  
 Inspection of drains, Factories & Bakehouses.  
 Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds, Milkshops, Tents, Vans,  
 and sheds.  
 Slaughterhouses, Offensive trades, treatment of premises  
 for vermin, Markets, Meatstalls and Foodstores, other  
 than where meat is kept, and inspections under Shops Act.



### Water Supply.

21 Wells have been closed during the year in the Hathern district and internal supplies have been provided over Glazed sink stones, with the necessary drains to carry away the waste water.

10 samples of water were taken for chemical and bacteriological examination and all samples were found to be unfit for domestic use.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

#### MILK.

Total number of Retail Purveyors on Register.....	158
Number residing in the district including shopkeepers registered for the sale of pastuerised and sterilised milk in bottles only.....	149
Number of Retail Purveyors residing outside the district .....	9
Total number of producers on Register including producers who retail their own milk.....	49

#### THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDERS 1923 & 1936.

Number of Certified Tuberculin Tested Producers in the district.....	2
Number of Accredited Retailers in the district.....	7
Number of Accredited Bottlers Licensed in the district.....	3
Number of Certified Tuberculin Tested Retailers resid- ing outside the district retailing in the borough.....	1
Total inspections for all purposes.....	640

#### CONTRAVENTIONS FOUND.

Shopkeepers retailing bottled milk without being registered .....	2
Producers failing to Limewash Cowsheds at prescribed periods.....	6
Retail Purveyors failing to have names and addresses inscribed on vehicle in accordance with Sec. 6 Milk and Dairies Consolidation Act, 1915.....	7
Number of Premises, Cowsheds, Dairies, etc., where structural alterations were carried out to meet the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Orders....	2

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

62 samples of milk have been submitted during the year for bacteriological examination and 85.5% were recorded as satisfactory. In the case of unsatisfactory results, frequent inspections have been made to the farms and dairies concerned and advice given to the farmer and dairyman.

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

	No. of samples taken.	satis- factory.	Not satis- factory.	% satis- factory.
1939.	62	53	9	85.5
1938.	101	90	11	89.1
1937.	82	71	11	87



### 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 number of samples taken.....	71
Total samples of milk taken.....	28
Total other samples.....	43

No proceedings were taken in respect of any of the above samples.

### SALE AND MANUFACTURE OF ICE CREAM.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The regulation and control of these premises came into operation in October, 1939 and a large number of premises have been inspected, but owing to the outbreak of hostilities it was found impossible to take full advantage of the legislation now provided.

#### MEAT & FOOD CONTROL.

On the 1st October, 1939, 14 slaughterhouses were in use in the district; 7 being registered and 7 licenced, and after that date with the introduction of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the whole of these premises became licenced for the 4 months following that date when new licences should have been issued after notice being given to the occupiers but with the enforcement of centralised slaughtering it was not considered necessary to relicence these premises.

#### KNACKERS YARDS.

The Borough now possesses one modern Knackers Yard in suitable surroundings for the carrying on of these unpleasant business. Regular inspections have been made during the year.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATION 1924.

During the year the regulations have been generally complied with by the butchers and slaughtermen in the Borough. The usual high standard of animals killed has been maintained and during the 12 months 3,096 visits were paid to slaughterhouses of which 875 were made during the evenings and on Sundays. No proceedings were taken.

#### Inspection of Food stores, etc.,

No. of Meat Stores inspected.....	565.
" " Shops, Meat Stores, etc., inspected.....	347
" " Premises where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale.....	360

#### DISINFESTATION.

The Hydro-Cyanide plant was in use on 31 occasions during the year, 31 families being removed to new houses. The continuance of the spraying of vermicides has been applied with the usual effective results where houses and furniture have been found to be infested.

No. of houses found infested :-

a) No. of Council houses.....	8
b) No. of other houses.....	25
No. of houses treated.....	33



## HOUSE DISINFECTION.

Where cases of notifiable diseases have been removed to Isolation Hospital, disinfection of the premises and clothing is carried out immediately. In cases isolated at home disinfection follows the receipt of notification from the practitioner that the patient is free from infection.

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

### Particulars of disinfection.

No: of visits to infected houses.....	412
" " infected rooms fumigated.....	472
" " " " sprayed.....	711
" " Lots of infected bedding steam disinfected.....	27
" " " " bedding destroyed.....	30

## SUMMARY OF FOODS CONDEMNED

Beef.....	216 stones
Veal.....	10 "
Pork.....	81 "
Mutton.....	5 "
Ox Tongue (tinned).....	1 "
Ham (tinned).....	6 lbs:
Cat Fish.....	2 stones
Sardines.....	18 tins
Fish Roe.....	2 stones
Prawns.....	4 tins
Haddock.....	1 stone
Halibut.....	25 lbs:
Eggs (Danish).....	300
Tomatoes (tinned).....	8 tins.
Tomatoes.....	22 cases
Pears.....	11 boxes
Cherries.....	8 baskets

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No changes have taken place during the year, 23 trades being on the Register comprising Fish Friers, Tripe Boilers, and Marine Stores.

## RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

156 inspections and interviews were made under this section. Advice is willingly given to occupiers and owners of premises infested and supplies of bait issued in certain cases. The payment of 2d. per rat carcase has meant the destruction of 2,172 rats during the year at a cost of £18. 2s.0d., which I consider is money well spent.

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

348 inspections have been carried out during the year, with considerable improvement in the sanitary and washing accommodation being affected.

5 cases were found where suitable heating apparatus had not been provided, and after informal action, new heating instalation was provided in all cases. Constant observation is maintained in respect of the keeping of records and hours of employment of young persons.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

196 inspections have been made of Factories in the Borough and when alterations or improvements have been called for by the Department, the work has been done without resorting to statutory action.

### Summary of Inspections.

Factories with mechanical power.....	37
" without " " .....	109
Bakehouses inspections.....	50

### OUTWORKERS.

The inspection of outworkers recorded for the year amounted to 242.

Improvement has been most noticeable in the surroundings of these workers, and only 2 cases of infectious disease were found which were immediately disinfected before the work was returned to the factory.

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