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BOROUGH OF LOUGHBOROUGH.
ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE WORK OF THE
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE
YEAR
1955

R. CAUTLEY HOLDERNESS
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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INDEX.

	<u>Page.</u>
<u>COMMITTEE & STAFF</u>	1
<u>REPORT</u>	2 & 3
<u>STATISTICS</u>	4
<u>MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE</u>	
Infant & Neonatal Mortality	5
Municipal Midwives	5
Ante-natal Clinic	5 & 6
Welfare Centres	6
Dental Treatment	6 & 7
Minor Ailments Clinic	7
Health Visitors	7
Day Nursery	7
Illegitimate Children	8
Premature Infants	8
<u>DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION</u>	8
<u>NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT</u>	8
<u>SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES</u>	
Drainage & Sanitation	9
Water Supplies	9
Disinfection & Disinfestation	10
<u>MILK</u>	
Registration & Licensing	10
Sampling	10 & 11
<u>ICE CREAM</u>	11
<u>MEAT & FOOD INSPECTION</u>	
Food	12
Byelaws & Premises	12 & 13
Slaughterhouses	13 & 14
Knacker's Yard	15
<u>REGULATED PREMISES</u>	
Offensive Trades	15
Tents, Vans & Sheds	15
Canal Boats	15
Pet Animals Act, 1951	15
Rag Flock & Other filling Materials Act, 1951	15
<u>HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952</u>	15
<u>HOUSING</u>	
General	15
Statistics	16
Repairs & Rents Act, 1954	17
<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>	
Rodent Control	17
Shops Acts	17
Factories	17 & 18
Visits & Inspections	19
Notices Served & Completed	19
Nuisances abated & defects remedied	20
<u>PUBLIC CLEANSING</u>	
Cleansing Statistics	20
Refuse Collection & Disposal	21
Salvage	21
<u>CAUSES OF DEATH</u>	22
<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>	23
<u>INFECTIOUS DISEASES</u>	24

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HEALTH COMMITTEE
(May 1955)

Chairman:	Councillor L.J.Tyers
Vice-Chairman:	Councillor W.H.C.Wayte
Alderman L.W.Hull	Councillor Mrs.E.Price
Councillor G.Moss	Councillor A.B.Shorney
Councillor C.Liddle	Councillor Mrs.M.Bradley
Councillor H.O.Morgan	Councillor A.T.Eggington

STAFF OF 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 Divisional School Medical Officer.
W.A.Healey	M.Inst.P.C.,M.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent. Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.Joint Board. Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat & Other Foods. Cert. R.S.I. Smoke Inspection (First Class). Testamur of Institute of Public Cleansing.
J.S.Bird	Additional Sanitary Inspector. Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E. Joint Board.
H.Burrow	Additional Sanitary Inspector. Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.Joint Board. Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
K.W.Brewin	Chief Clerk
Miss T.S.Godfrey	Senior Clerk
Miss E.Loughlin (Resigned December 1955)	Clerk

EMPLOYED BY LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Nurse K.F.Boon	S.R.N.,S.C.M.,Health Visitor's Cert. Certificate of T.A.
Nurse J.Daniels	S.R.N.,S.C.M.,Health Visitor's Cert.
Nurse E.M.Foxley	" " " " "
Nurse S.M.Pearce	" " " " "
Nurse W.Hunt	S.C.M., Municipal Midwife
Nurse H.Gessner	" " "
Nurse C.E.Boswell	" " "

ANNUAL REPORT - 1955.

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

Your Worship, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith my 19th Annual Report on the Health of your Borough.

It is pleasing to be able to record a further fall in the Infant Mortality Rate to 19.7 per 1000 live births. The corresponding figure for England & Wales is 24.9. The actual number of deaths was 10, and of these no less than 8 occurred within a few hours of birth from causes operating before birth. These causes are the same as those giving rise to stillbirths, and in the present state of our knowledge are often obscure. He would be a rash individual, however, who prophesied that no further improvement can be made. Indeed within the past few years the discovery of the cause of haemolytic disease in the newborn has led to the saving of a number of infants whose death in the neonatal period was previously regarded as "unpreventable".

There was a sharp epidemic of measles during the year, the bulk of the cases being in the age range 3 to 10 years. Of all the more common epidemic diseases, measles is the one in which, so far, no specific preventive therapy of universal application has been found, though the use of modern anti-biotic drugs has had important results in reducing the complications of the disease.

In December of the year under review, Food Hygiene Regulations were made which come into force this year. These, to a large extent, consolidate legislation previously contained in the Food & Drugs Act 1938 or in byelaws, but there is an important new provision relating to the temperature at which food intended for immediate consumption is to be kept. Although this latter regulation in its present form appears only to touch the fringe of the problem of ensuring the safety of food products by temperature control, it nevertheless is a step in the right direction which it is hoped will be extended in later legislation. The Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations of 1947 have effected remarkable changes for the better in regard to ice cream, and there seems to be no reason why the application of similar rules to cooked meats and made up products of similar nature should not remove many of the potential dangers from this type of food. That in the majority of cases such foods are in fact safe and wholesome there can be no doubt, but the methods of preparation sometimes employed make one feel that this is the result of good luck rather than good management, and when food poisoning does occur the cause is usually traced to a faulty technique of manufacture or storage. This in turn is due to a lack of appreciation of the underlying principles of bacteriological as opposed to "ordinary" cleanliness, and it is education in these matters that the officers of the Health Department endeavour to supply in their visits to food premises.

Burning accidents are still all too frequent. The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act has been well complied with in that new appliances conform to the regulations. Nevertheless there are very many older appliances in use, electric and gas radiators and the like, which have no effective guard, and householders would be well advised in their own interests either to scrap them or to have guards fitted.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Health Committee for their support during the year, Mr. Healey, Chief Sanitary Inspector, to whom I am indebted for much of the work of compiling this report, and all the members of the staff of the Department for their willing co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant

R. CAUTLEY HOLDERNESS

GENERAL STATISTICS - 1955

Area	9211 acres
Resident Population (estimated)	35960
Population according to Census of 1951	34731
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books	11283
Rateable Value (December 1955)	£242,515
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£1,010

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Live Births: Legitimate	485	262	223
Illegitimate	23	11	12
Still Births:	14	6	8
Deaths:	414	208	206
Death Rate per 1000 population		11.51	
Provisional Rate for England & Wales		11.7	
	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u>	<u>Total Births.</u>
Deaths from Puerperal Causes:			
Puerperal Sepsis	-	-	
Other Puerperal Causes	-	-	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year:			
All Infants per 1000 live births		19.69	
Legitimate Infants per 1000			
legitimate live births		18.56	
Illegitimate Infants per 1000			
illegitimate live births		43.48	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		57	
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		1	
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		-	
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		2	

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS.

The Registrar-General's Returns give the number of births registered, 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 262 Female 223	Male 11 Female 12
Still Births	Male 6 Female 8	Male - Female -
% Still Births of Total	2.81	-

Live Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population	14.13
Still Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population	0.39
Provisional Live Birth Rate for England & Wales	15.0

INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of infants under the age of 1 year was 10 - 5 males and 5 females. This is 6 less than last year and 4 less than the average for the past 5 years, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 19.69. The provisional rate for England & Wales was 24.9

Infant Mortality for past 5 years.

1951	18.5
1952	30.1
1953	36.9
1954	31.7
1955	19.7

Infant Deaths - 1955

Haemolytic Disease	3
Prematurity	5
Other causes	2
	<u>10</u>

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY.

The neo-natal mortality rate is the number of deaths of infants under 1 month per 1000 live births. Of the 10 infant deaths, 8 were under the age of one month, giving a rate of 15.75. Prematurity and congenital causes accounted for the whole of the neo-natal deaths.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>
Number of births notified	615	640
Number of births to Loughborough Residents	522	523
<u>Work of Municipal Midwives.</u>		
Number of cases delivered - Midwifery	123	134
Maternity	42	43
	<u>165</u>	<u>177</u>

In addition 36 cases were taken over on early discharge from maternity hospitals.

Number of visits:	Ante-natal	1785	1761
	Puerperium	3630	3591
	Post-natal	6	7
		<u>5421</u>	<u>5359</u>

Each midwife has apparatus for the administration of gas and air analgesia in childbirth.

Ante-natal Clinic.

The provision under the National Health Services Act of free medical advice for all maternity patients has by no means lessened the need for the maintenance of local authorities' ante-natal clinics. Adequate ante-natal supervision of the mother's health takes more time than the busy general practitioner can give to the work. Moreover, the clinic provides a convenient venue for the midwives (who in most cases will actually conduct the delivery) to examine their patients.

Ante-natal Clinic (cont.)

	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>
Number of women attending for first time	103	102
Total attendances	264	305
Post natal examinations	-	2
Cases referred to Dental Clinic	7	6

62% of cases attended by the Municipal Midwives were supervised at the ante-natal clinic.

CHILD WELFARE.

The following shews the Welfare Centre facilities available:-

<u>Area Served.</u>	<u>Situation.</u>	<u>Afternoons.</u>
Central Area	Lemyngton St.	Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.
Shelthorpe Estate	Ling Road	Monday & Wednesday.
Knightthorpe Estate	Thorpe Acre Community Centre	Friday.
Hathern	Village Hall	2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

While the Centres are situated to be convenient to the different areas of the town, there is no restriction on attendance and a mother is free to choose which Centre she prefers.

National Dried Milk and vitamin preparations are available at all the Centres, as well as proprietary brands of dried milk and welfare foods.

Advice is given on all aspects of the management of babies and young children, and the facilities are well used.

<u>Attendances at Welfare Centres.</u>	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>
Children under 1 year of age attending for first time.	402	400
Attendances of children		
(a) under 1 year of age	8129	8433
(b) over 1 year but under 2 years	2765	2861
(c) over 2 years but under 5 years	3769	3696
	<u>14663</u>	<u>14990</u>

First attendances under 1 year represent 79.1% of the corrected number of live births.

Dental Treatment of Mothers & Children.

A monthly Dental Inspection Clinic was held at the Lemyngton Street Welfare Centre. At this all children whose mothers desired it were inspected by the Dental Surgeon who is also responsible for the Education Authority's dental service. Advice was given on the care of the teeth, and minor conservative work carried out on the spot. Cases requiring more extensive treatment were dealt with at the School Clinic under the arrangement with the Education Committee.

From the ante-natal clinic, patients are referred for dental treatment to the School Clinic, unless they wish to make arrangements with a private dentist.

The following table shews the work carried out :-

Dental Treatment of Mothers & Children (cont.)

	Expectant & Nursing Mothers	Children under 5
(a) Numbers provided with dental care:		
Examined	7	304
Needing treatment	7	171
Treated	7	171
Made dentally fit	6	171
(b) Forms of dental treatment provided:		
Extractions	11	338
Anaesthetics - general	-	-
Fillings	6	82
Scalings or gum treatment	1	1
Silver Nitrate	-	121
Dentures provided - complete part	-	-

Attendances at Minor Ailments Clinic, etc.

	1955.	1954.
Number of children referred to Clinic	3	12
Total attendances	4	66
Children referred to Eye Clinic	118	45
Children for whom spectacles were prescribed	40	32

Home Visits by Health Visitors.

First visits to children under 1 year	526	616
Subsequent visits to children under 1 year	2519	5018
" " " " aged 1 year	1803	3476
" " " " aged 2 to 4 years	3770	5592
Visits re still births	5	2
" " illegitimate children	212	209
" " premature infants	409	390
First visits to ante-natal cases	165	306
Subsequent visits to ante-natal cases	186	448
Visits to post-natal cases	161	99
" re admissions to maternity hospitals	140	151
" re admissions to chronic sick hospitals	75	140
" re immunisation against Diphtheria	129	195
" re vaccination against Smallpox	12	45
" to Tuberculous patients	264	485
Miscellaneous visits	213	136
Total visits	10589	17308

The drop in the total number of visits is due to one of the Health Visitors being temporarily seconded for work in visiting and advising diabetic patients in the County.

Day Nursery.

Day Nursery facilities are provided by the County Council primarily for cases where circumstances are such that nursery accommodation is necessary on welfare grounds, e.g. for children having only one parent, for cases of temporary illness in the home, or where the child's home environment is unsatisfactory.

The Southfield Park Day Nursery accommodates 50 children, approximately 15 under $1\frac{1}{2}$ years and 35 between $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 years. Any surplus accommodation after satisfying the requirements of "welfare" cases is allocated to the children of households where both parents are at work.

Illegitimate Children.

Information on illegitimate births is exchanged with other welfare authorities, and cases requiring assistance, e.g. in connection with adoptions, are referred to the Leicester Diocesan Moral Welfare Association.

Premature Infants.

A record is kept of premature children born in or transferred to the district. For this purpose a premature infant is defined as one weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth.

	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>
Number of notifications	28	29
Number surviving at end of one month	23	22

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948.

Section 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Under this Section, the Council is empowered to apply to a Court of Summary Jurisdiction for an order for the removal to a suitable place of a person who is suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, is living in insanitary conditions and is not receiving proper care and attention. A certificate that such action is necessary must be issued by the Medical Officer of Health.

Investigations were made into a few cases during the year, but formal action was not considered to be necessary.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>
Number of children immunised :-		
0 - 5 years	387	411
5 - 15 years	<u>10</u>	<u>14</u>
	<u>397</u>	<u>425</u>

The small number of children immunised in the 5 - 15 age group is what is to be expected, as all children should have been immunised before reaching this group. In order to keep up their immunity, children who were immunised in infancy are now given the opportunity of receiving an additional "boosting" dose of diphtheria prophylactic on attaining school age, and 304 children were so treated during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

CONSERVANCY SYSTEM

As a result of the demolition and closing of houses subject to Clearance Orders, the number of conservancy units has been reduced to 84 pail closets and 11 privies and these will be further reduced by 23 units when the clearance of the houses comprised in the Thorpeacre Compulsory Purchase Order is completed. One pail closet only was converted to the water carriage system during the year under review.

Closet Accommodation at 31st. December, 1955

(1) Privy Middens - 11 (2) Pail Closets - 84 (3) Water Closets - 15,144

WATER SUPPLIES

(a) Piped Supply

The water supply of the area is derived from the uplands of Charnwood Forest, a sparsely populated district. The water is collected from the sources of supply of the Woodbrook and the Blackbrook, 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 water gravitates therefrom to the reservoir at Nanpantan. The water is purified by passage through primary pressure filters, followed by slow sand filtration, and finally by treatment with chlorine, thus giving a supply of satisfactory organic quality and a high degree of bacterial purity.

The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

28 routine samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken during the year. 24 of these were from the treated water and 4 from raw water. All samples were of high bacterial purity. 8 samples (4 raw and 4 treated) taken for chemical analysis were satisfactory.

During the year a new 1.2 million gallon Service Reservoir at Nanpantan was 90% completed. Mains were laid for the Parks Farm Estate and the Outwoods Building Estate.

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Persons</u>
Total number in Borough	11,283	35,860
Number supplied from Main:-		
(1) Direct	11,199	35,588
(2) To outside standpipe	42	136
Number supplied from wells	42	136
	<u>11,283</u>	<u>35,860</u>

(b) Well Supplies

No wells have been closed during the year. The number of houses relying on well supplies is 42.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Spraying with insecticides incorporating D.D.T. and Gammexane is the method employed against infestation with bedbug. Gammexane Smoke Generators have been used successfully in many cases against fly infestations in house roof spaces.

Constant attention is given to the detection of vermin during routine inspections, and during the year 17 private houses were disinfested.

The following table gives particulars of the number of houses disinfested for bed-bugs during the year:-

SPRAYING

<u>Number of</u>	<u>(a) Houses</u>	<u>(b) Visits</u>	<u>(c) Treatments</u>
Council Houses	-	-	-
Private Houses	17	51	51

38 lots of bedding were destroyed and 42 rooms were disinfested after the occurrence of infectious disease.

MILK

REGISTRATION AND LICENSING

DAIRIES (other than Dairy Farms) and DISTRIBUTORS		DEALERS LICENCES		
	REGIST-RATIONS	TUBERCULIN TESTED	PASTEURISED	STERILISED
No: on REGISTER at 31.12.54	25	20	27	8
No: on REGISTER at 31.12.55	23	16	29	22

MILK SAMPLING

46 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and the results of the examination show that a high degree of bacterial cleanliness is maintained.

Classification		No: of Samples	Satis-factory	Not Satis-factory	Samples taken by County Council Inspectors	
					Satis.	Not satis.
Designation	Tuberculin Tested	16	16	-	35	-
	Pasteurised	20	20	-	61	1
Ordinary		-	-	-	-	-
Sterilised		10	10	-	-	-

COMPARISON

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>No: of Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Not Satisfactory</u>	<u>% Satisfactory</u>
1955	46	46	-	100
1954	59	58	1	98.3
1953	74	69	5	93.2
1952	80	75	5	93.7
1951	70	67	3	95.7
1950	72	66	6	91.6
1949	139	112	27	80.5

ICE CREAM

(a) Registration

The number of premises registered for the manufacture and/or sale of ice cream at the end of the year was as follows:-

MANUFACTURE AND SALE

Hot Mix	-	Nil
Cold Mix	-	1
		<u>1</u>

SALE ONLY

Sale of pre-
packed ice cream - 150

(b) Results of Ice Cream testing

	<u>Manufactured in Loughborough</u>	<u>Manufactured outside Loughborough</u>
No of samples reaching Grade 1	-	21
" " " " " 2	-	5
" " " " " 3	-	-
" " " " " 4	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>27</u>

149 visits to manufacturing premises and inspections of mobile ice cream vans were made to ensure that precautions against contamination were observed.

Compositional Analysis

6 samples of ice cream submitted for analysis were reported as Genuine. The fat contents ranged between 7.1% and 12.8%. The Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order 1953 stipulates (inter alia) a minimum of 5% fat. (Figures supplied by the Chief Inspector (Public Control Department), County of Leicester.)

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

(a) Food

Food inspection was again prominent in the Inspectors' duties and the following list shows the foodstuffs surrendered for condemnation, and which is disposed of by burial on the Council's Controlled Refuse Tip.

<u>COMMODITY</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	
	lb:	oz:
Meat	875	8
Tinned Meat	1324	7
Fish	325	8
Tinned Fish	11	7
Fruit	940	12
Tinned Fruit	456	15
Tinned Vegetables	1098	8
Jam	29	
Marmalade	1	
Oats	5	
Marmite		4
Cheese	172	8
Soup	4	7
Bovril		4
Cocoanut	49	
Eggs	12	
Macaroni	3	
Suet	1	8
Cake	68	
Cream	1	3
Milk	63	4
<hr/>		
TOTAL	5443	7
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(b) Byelaws and Food Premises

The problems associated with the production, handling and distribution of clean safe food have continued to receive the close attention of your Officers. It would be desirable for all proposed alterations to premises used in connection with the preparation and sale of food to be brought to the notice of your Inspectors before the alterations are carried out. This would enable them to give advice on lay-out etc., and in relation to food byelaws, thus avoiding irritating omissions in construction and the alteration of plans when the work is already completed or in an advanced stage. That this knowledge has to be gained in the course of routine work and conversations on the district is, in the opinion of the Department, a point in favour of a wider application of the registration provisions provided for in the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Health Education plays a vitally important part in the long term policy of the Department and food handlers are made aware of the dangers which exist and the various ways in which these dangers can be avoided. A large measure of success in this field of education has been gained by your Officers in the re-telling of reported cases of food poisoning.

The following classified food trades are under close surveillance by your Sanitary Staff, and the inspections of them are shown under Visits and Inspections.

Cafes and Restaurant Kitchens	27
Factory Canteens	19
Grocers Shops	112
Butchers shops and making up rooms	48
Sweets and confectionery shops	30
Fried fish shops	15
Fishmongers	9
Bakehouses	10
Manufacturers of Ice Cream	1

The following list indicates the nature of the various improvements effected:-

Wet fish shop retiled	1
Restaurant kitchens redecorated	3
Warning re dirty crockery	1
Sink provided in butcher's shop	1
Canteen counters recovered	3
Fried fish shops redecorated	3
Restaurant kitchen ceiling modified against condensation	1
Butcher's shop counter retiled	1
Wet fish shop counter retiled	1
"Wash your Hands" notices affixed	3
Canteen tables recovered	7
Butchers shops redecorated	3
Hot water systems installed	6

(c) Slaughterhouses

1960 day, evening and week-end visits to the seven slaughterhouses have been made by your Inspectors for the purpose of examining the dressed carcasses and offals in accordance with Memo 3/Meat and so ensuring a disease free meat supply in the shops.

The following tables give particulars of the animals slaughtered and examined during the first full year of meat inspection since decontrol, together with the weights of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption, and the reason for condemnation.

CARCASSES EXAMINED AND CONDEMNED

TABLE A	Cattle excl'dg Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total weight in lb.
Number slaughtered	1067	81	124	3252	2049	
Number inspected	1067	81	124	3252	2049	
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	6	1	961
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	54	7	-	17	11	1195
Percentage of number examined affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis19%	.10%	-	1.41%	1.36%	

TABLE A (Cont'd)	Cattle excl'dg Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total weight in lb.
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	-	2	1185
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	76	17	-	-	51	2532
Percentage of number examined affected with Tuberculosis13%	4.76%	-	-	2.48%	
TABLE B Condemnations	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	
<u>Heads and Tongues</u>						
Tuberculosis	33	8	-	-	34	
Abscesses	2	-	-	-	-	
Actinomycosis	1	-	-	-	-	
<u>Lungs</u>						
Tuberculosis	26	1	-	-	2	
Pleurisy	2	-	-	-	1	
Abscesses	1	-	-	-	-	
<u>Livers</u>						
M. Abscesses	23	5	-	1	-	
Cirrhosis	9	-	-	2	6	
Hepatitis	2	-	-	-	-	
Tuberculosis	10	8	-	-	6	
Cysts	-	-	-	1	-	
Flukes	10	1	-	11	-	
<u>Offals</u>						
Tuberculosis	7	-	-	-	1	
Inflammation	1	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	3	
Abscesses	1	-	-	-	-	
Emaciation	-	-	-	2	-	
Pleurisy	1	-	-	-	1	
<u>Legs</u>						
Broken	-	1	-	-	-	
<u>Forequarter</u>						
Tuberculosis	1	-	-	-	-	
<u>Entire Carcase and Organs</u>						
Casualties	-	-	-	2	-	
Septic Metritis	-	1	-	-	-	
Dropsy	-	-	-	1	-	
Swine Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	
Fevered	-	-	-	1	-	
Bruising	-	-	-	1	-	
Tuberculosis	2	-	-	-	2	
Emaciation	-	-	-	1	-	

(b) Knacker's Yard

The Licensed Knacker's Yard continued during the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory. 38 visits were made.

REGULATED PREMISES

(a) Offensive Trades

There are two premises on the register comprising two rag and bone dealers. 28 visits were made.

(b) Tents, Vans and Sheds

No site licences for siting Caravans have been issued.

39 persons were granted licences to station Caravans on approved sites. 170 visits and re-inspections were made.

(c) Canal Boats

4 Canal Boats are registered with the Council. The amount of traffic on the canal has become very small and no boats have been inspected during the year.

(d) Pet Animals Act, 1951

Six applications have been received during the year for Licences to keep a Pet Shop at specified premises, under the above Act which regulates the sale of Pet Animals and the conditions under which they are kept for sale. Annual Licences were granted in each case and 17 inspections have been made during the year to the Licensed premises, where no infringements were found.

(e) Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are five premises registered under the Act, being premises where filling materials to which the Act applies are used in any form of upholstering, including the stuffing or lining of bedding, toys etc. Premises where remaking or reconditioning of any article is carried on exclusively are not included.

3 samples (1 Sheet Wadding, 1 Coir Fibre, 1 Rag Flock) were submitted for examination and were reported upon as coming within the prescribed regulations.

HEATING APPLIANCES (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

The Secretary of State has made Regulations under the above Act for requiring gas fires, electric fires and oil heaters suitable for use in residential premises to be fitted with guards to reduce or prevent the risk of fire or injury resulting from accidental contact with or proximity to flames or heating elements. Observations during the year have revealed general compliance with the Regulations by traders.

HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

410 Informal or Intimation Notices were served during the year in respect of items of disrepair to property and are itemised in that part of the Report headed "Nuisances Abated and Defects Remedied". As a result of "follow-up" procedure involving interviews with owners, agents and builders the requirements of these Notices were complied with within the time limits given. 12 Statutory Notices were served under the Housing Act, 1936 and all were complied with.

(b) Statistics

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year

(1)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. 724

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 724

(2)(a) Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 ... 46
(Stone Yard Area & Dead Lane Area)

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 46

(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 46

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 678

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 444

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 12

(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-

(i) by Owners ... 12

(ii) by Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(i) by Owners ... Nil

(ii) by Local Authority in default of owners ... Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... Nil

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 7

(d) Proceedings under Section 10(1) of the Local Government (Misc. Provisions) Act, 1953:-

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 7

(c) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

4 applications have been received from tenants for Certificates of Disrepair during the year and 4 issued by the Council. Since the Act came into operation 17 Certificates have been issued and 10 applications for Revocation of these Certificates have been applied for by landlords, the necessary repairs having been carried out.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

(a) Administration

The district has been surveyed systematically and practical measures of disinfection have been carried out by the block control method; the technique has been that advocated by the Ministry of Food, evolved by scientific research and experiment. The Sanitary Inspectors have given assistance in a supervisory capacity and also investigated structural and drainage defects where these were associated with rodent infestation.

(b) Surface Infestations

122 Block Surveys involving 784 individual properties including 115 investigations of rats and mice infestations on complaint, and necessitating 467 visits and re-inspections were made by the Assistant Rodent Officer and 104 by your Inspectorate. The following tables show the action taken to deal with surface infestations and also the types of premises treated:-

Number of pre-baits laid	220
" " poison baits laid	1460
" " " taken	1188
" " bodies recovered: RATS	79
" " " MICE	64
Estimated number killed: RATS	2704
" " " MICE	992

Premises Treated

Dwellinghouses	60
Kitchens, Canteens and Bakeries	11
Factories and Business premises	38
Shops	6
Cafes and Restaurants	3
Corporation properties	13

(c) Sewer Treatments

In January and July the 15th and 16th maintenance treatments of the Public Sewers against rat infestation were carried out. The combined treatments involved the pre-baiting of 166 manholes.

SHOPS ACTS

During the 105 visits of inspection made in the year two contraventions relating to the absence of suitable means to maintain a reasonable working temperature in the shop were rectified.

FACTORIES

There are 207 premises on the Register and during the year 119 inspections made in accordance with the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and as indicated below, 7 contraventions were remedied.

Outworkers rooms were inspected but in no instance was Outwork found to be carried on in unwholesome premises.

Particulars required by the Ministry of Labour and National Service are set out in the table below:-

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to Health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors:-

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS (2)	NOTICES (3)	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED (4)
Factories with mechanical power	140	7	Nil
Factories without mechanical power	4	Nil	Nil
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	144	7	Nil

2. Defects Found

PARTICULARS (1)	NUMBER OF DEFECTS FOUND			
	FOUND (2)	REMEDIED (3)	REFERRED TO H.M. INSPECTOR (4)	PROSE- CUTIONS (5)
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:- (a) insufficient unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	-
TOTAL	7	7	-	-

3. Outwork

Nature of work (1)	Outworkers in August list (2)	Defaults in sending list (3)	Instances of work in unwholesome premises (4)	Notices served (5)	Prose-cutions (6)
Making wearing apparel	51	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

<u>General</u>	Houses - Public Health Acts	413
	Housing Acts	311
	Infectious Diseases	12
	Complaints investigated	496
	Drainage inspections and tests	987
	Tents, vans and sheds	170
	Stables and piggeries	7
	Rats and mice infestation	199
	Factories with power	140
	Factories without power	4
	Bakehouses	67
	Shops Acts	105
	Knacker's Yard	38
	Interviews with owners	1671
	Verminous premises	14
	Smoke Observations and Boiler Plant	
	Inspections	82
	Offensive Trades	28
	Revisits to work on property under notice	3161
	Visits to work in progress	1142
	Visits to controlled tip and cleansing	528
	Pet Animals Act	17
	Rag Wock Samples	3
	Heating Appliances (Fireguard) Regulations	5
	Visits re Certificates of Disrepair	4
	Miscellaneous	853
<u>Meat and Foods</u>	- Slaughterhouses	1960
	Butchers Shops	339
	Fishmongers, poulterers and other food shops	309
	Fried fish shops	87
	Dairies and milk shops	91
	Ice Cream premises	129
	Restaurants and dining rooms	375
	Other food premises	300
	Public markets and food stalls, mobile vans	580
	Milk samples (Bacteriological)	46
	Water samples (Bacteriological)	1
	Ice Cream samples	27

Total visits and inspections 14701

NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLETED

	Outstanding 1.1.55	Served 1955	Completed 1955	Outstanding 31.12.56
<u>Public Health Acts</u>				
Informal	63	387	415	35
Formal	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Housing Acts</u>				
Informal	Nil	23	22	1
Formal	Nil	12	12	Nil
<u>Factories Act</u>				
Informal	Nil	4	3	1
<u>Shops Acts</u>				
Informal	Nil	3	1	2
<u>Food and Drugs Act</u>				
Informal	3	24	14	13
<u>Prevention of Damage by Pests Act</u>				
Formal	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

<u>Houses</u> -Coppers repaired	5
Cover provided to water storage tank	1
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	55
Roofs repaired	91
Wall plaster repaired	36
Ceiling plaster repaired	31
Sash cords repaired or renewed	20
Windows repaired	23
Chimney stacks repaired	32
Walls etc. repointed	39
Dampness abated	6
Floors repaired or renewed	25
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	39
Sinks repaired or renewed	15
Cooking range repaired	1
Fireplaces repaired	5
Doors repaired	6
Ventilation provided	1
Waste pipes repaired	15
Yards and passages paved	7
Stairs repaired	5
 <u>Drainage</u> -Drains cleared of obstructions	189
Drains repaired or reconstructed	31
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	6
Drains connected to sewers	1
 <u>Waterclosets etc.</u>	
Watercloset compartments repaired	26
Watercloset cisterns repaired or renewed	34
Water service pipes repaired	4
New water closets provided	22
Pail closets abolished	11
Privies abolished	3
 <u>General</u> -Beds destroyed	38
Pail closets converted to fresh water closets	1
Offensive accumulations removed	1
Slow combustion stove resited to obviate smoke nuisance	1
Dirty premises cleansed	1
Heating appliances provided in shops	12
Cellars cleared after flooding	1
Fowls removed from proximity to adjoining house	1
Certificates of Disrepair revoked	5
 <u>Shops</u> - Space heating provided in shops	2
 <u>Factories</u> -Factory sanitary accommodation	
reconstructed	1
Electric lighting provided to sanitary accommodation	4

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE

The Health Committee is responsible for the collection and disposal of the contents of dustbins, ashpits, privy middens, cesspools and pail closets.

The following are the types of receptacles in use at 31st. March, 1956:-

Dustbins	15,297
Ashpits and	
Privy Middens	11
Pail Closets	84
Cesspools	5
20.	

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal

The collection of house and trade refuse is undertaken by direct labour and mechanical transport operating on the two vehicle relay system in four collection districts, together with an additional waggon engaged on the servicing of pail closets, privies and cesspools, and twice or thrice weekly collections from the College Residential Hall, Hostels Dining Halls, Schools and salvage work.

During the year the collection frequency was maintained at 8 to 11 days apart from a period of three weeks at the end of December and early January when this went out to 14 to 15 days due to an unusually high sickness rate.

The Council approved the replacement of the existing Angledozer and Scraper equipment by a heavier and more robust type of machine more capable of dealing with the continuous and arduous work of soil lifting, spreading, levelling and compacting of tipped house and trade refuse at the Corporation's Controlled Refuse Tip.

Receipts for the collection of "Trade Refuse" from shop and trade premises amounted to £322 for the year ended 31st. March, 1956, as compared with £279 for the year 1954/55.

(b) Sale of Salvageable Materials

The Council's Waste Paper Contractor was able at the beginning of the year to increase substantially the prices for press-packed bales of waste paper due to an increasing demand for raw materials. Publicity in the form of Posters Book Markers and Leaflets sent out with the Rate Demand notes, and films shown at local cinemas stimulated the response from the public and by the end of the year 80 tons of waste paper in excess of last year were dealt with.

The decision of the Council to purchase and instal an additional power baling press has been amply justified.

The employees of the Department visited the Board Mills at Purfleet on the 22nd. June at the invitation of the Directors and a most interesting and enjoyable outing was spent.

The Council has approved the construction of a new Waste Paper Baling shed at the Central Depot, incorporating an overhead crane. This will ensure that waste paper bales coming off the presses can be more conveniently and economically handled to the storage bays and thence to the loading trailers for despatch by road or rail to the Board Mills.

Quantities and Value of Salvage to 31st. March, 1956

Tons.	cwts.	grs.		£:	S:	D:
597	4	1	Wastepaper	5276	3	9
9	15	-	Scrap Iron	46	7	6
3	9	2	Mixed Scrap	16	10	2
2	15	-	Rags	96	5	0
1	14	-	Tyres	5	17	-
	19	3	Aluminium	93	6	3
	5	-	Sacking	3	10	-
			Miscellaneous	12	0	0
616	2	2		5549	19	8

CAUSES OF DEATH - 1955.

<u>Classification.</u>	<u>No. of Deaths.</u>
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis	6
2. Other Tuberculosis	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	-
4. Diphtheria	-
5. Whooping Cough	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-
8. Measles	1
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	7
11. Lung & Bronchus	12
12. Breast	8
13. Uterus	2
14. Other sites	26
15. Leukaemia	2
16. Diabetes	57
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	2
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	76
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	51
20. Other Heart Disease	5
21. Other Circulatory Disease	70
22. Influenza	27
23. Pneumonia	6
24. Bronchitis	28
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	12
26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	6
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate	5
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	4
31. Congenital Malformations	-
32. Other Diseases	-
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	42
34. All Other Accidents	4
35. Suicide	3
36. Homicide and Operations of War	2
	-
	<u>414</u>

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY - 1955.

Age per- iods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-								
1-								1
5-		3	1					
15-	2	3	2	1				
25-	4	2	1					
35-	4	3			1	1		
45-	2	2			1			
55-	4	4			3			
Over 65								
Totals	16	17	4	1	5	1		1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1955.

Analysis of notified cases and deaths according to age groups.

		0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Totals
Diphtheria	Cases										-
	Deaths										-
Scarlet Fever	Cases		2	2	9	2	1				16
	Deaths										-
Pneumonia	Cases							5	7	14	26
	Deaths								1	3	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	Cases						3	1			4
	Deaths										-
Meningococcal Infection	Cases		1								1
	Deaths										-
Paratyphoid	Cases				1						1
	Deaths										-
Whooping Cough	Cases	6	20	42	56	-	1				125
	Deaths										-
Measles	Cases	16	169	266	435	22	4	7			919
	Deaths			1							1
Polio-myelitis and Encephalitis	Para-lytic	Cases						1			1
		Deaths									-
	Non-para-lytic	Cases									-
		Deaths									-
Dysentery	Cases	1		1	2			1			5
	Deaths										-
Erysipelas	Cases										-
	Deaths										-



