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NEW FOREST
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

on

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Condition

of the

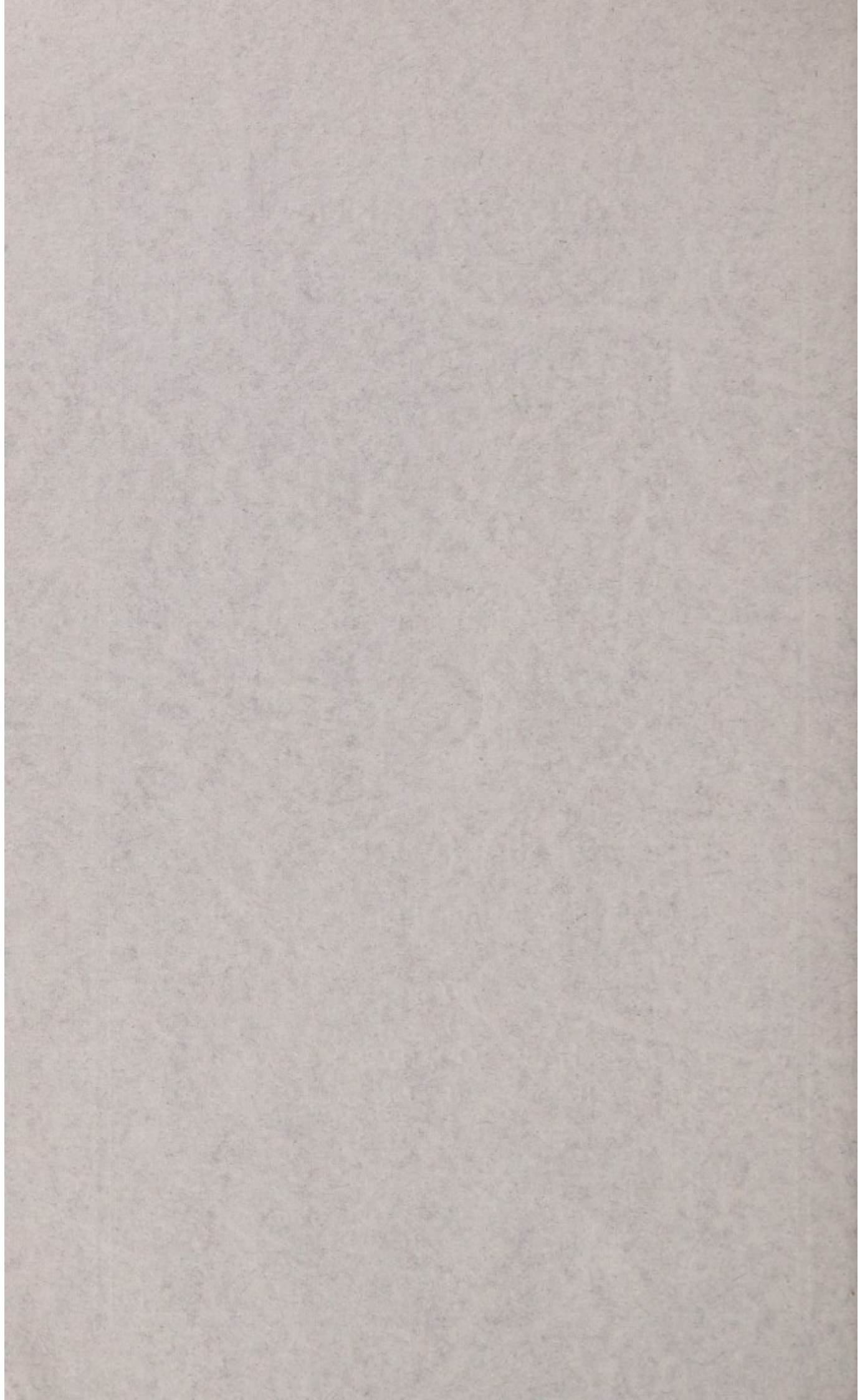
New Forest Rural District

for the Year 1938

Submitted to the Rural District Council

by

GEORGE HABGOOD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health to the New Forest Rural District Council.





NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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J. A. Howard & Son, Printers, Lyndhurst.

New Forest Rural District Council.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT For 1938.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the sanitary condition of the New Forest Rural District for the year ending December 31st, 1938.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	94,957
Estimate of Resident Population, 1938 ...	36,660
Estimated number of inhabited houses (end of 1938)	11,339
Rateable Value	£227,194
Sum represented by a penny rate	£880

Social Conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area:—

The largest area of the District is the Ancient Crown Forest, and omitting enclosures and plantations, remains essentially the same as at the Conquest. Forestry is, therefore, an important industry, and represents in many direct and indirect ways the occupations of the inhabitants inside the water-side parishes. There are also a considerable number of small-holders possessing Forest Rights, who are engaged in calf-rearing, pig-keeping, and butter-making, etc.

The areas bordering the Forest on the North, East and South, are except actually on the water-side, agricultural. On the water-side portions of the parishes of Eling, Marchwood, Dibden and Fawley are timber conversion works, a tar distillery, chemical works, a flour mill, motor-boat works, air- and sea-plane works, shipyards, and a large petroleum refinery. These parishes are mainly inhabited by industrial workers.

The industrial areas are affected with a moderate degree of unemployment, but this has decreased during the year.

No occupation has any adverse effect on public health so far as is known.

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Live Births	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population ...	16.55
Legitimate	583	316	267		
Illegitimate	24	11	13		
Stillbirths	21	9	12	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	34.59
Deaths	367	193	174	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population ...	10.01
				Corrected	9.00

The Death Rate for England and Wales is 11.6.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal sepsis ...	0	0
No. 30 Other puerperal causes	2	3.18
Total	2	3.18
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—		
All infants per 1,000 live births		41.19
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		41.17
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		41.67
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		40
„ Measles (all ages)		0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)		0
„ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...		0

No causes of sickness or invalidity have been specially noteworthy during the year; no conditions of occupation or environment appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health; and there is no evidence that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of adults.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

G. Habgood, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health (part-time).

Sanitary Inspectors.

F. A. Maile, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Chief Sanitary Inspector.

B. Salter, M.S.I.A., Housing Inspector.

O. E. Brown, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Additional Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. Maile holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector's Examination Joint Board; and also the Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Mr. Brown holds the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

Mr. Salter is in charge of the whole of the Sanitary Inspector's work under the Housing Acts, 1930—1936, and was, until the end of June, assisted by a temporary qualified assistant, Mr. C. G. Williams.

A moiety of the salaries of all these officers is received under the Public Health Acts, and the Sanitary Inspectors devote the whole of their time to their duties.

Legislation in Force.

The following adoptive portion of the Public Health Acts; and Bye-laws and Regulations are in force in the district:—

Public Health Act, 1925—Sections 17, 18 and 19.

Bye-laws with respect to:—

New Buildings	...	...	...	...	1937
New Streets	...	...	...	...	1933
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	...	1932
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures					1935
The Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	...	1936

Regulations as to:—

Connection of Drains with Sewers. (Parishes of Eling, Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst only.)

During the year the Council accepted delegation of powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, as from 1st October, 1938.

Laboratory Facilities.

Continue as in previous years, for all purposes, at the County Council Laboratories.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For infectious cases in northern area of District, by arrangement with the Southampton Borough Council, and for the southern area by arrangement with the Lymington Borough Council.

(b) For other cases, ambulances provided by the St. John Ambulance Association, kept at Totton, Brockenhurst and Fawley.

Nursing in the Home.

(a) No changes have occurred in the area for general nursing.

(b) The isolation and nursing of infectious cases from the parishes of Sway, Brockenhurst, Rhinefield, Boldre, East Boldre and the Solent frontage portion of Beaulieu parish are carried out in the Lymington Borough Isolation Hospital. Cases from the remaining portion of the district are isolated and treated in the Isolation Hospital of the Southampton Borough Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Ante-natal Clinics have been provided by the County Council at Totton and Lyndhurst.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at:—

Brockenhurst.	Marchwood.
Copythorne.	Totton.
East Boldre.	Hythe.
Fawley.	Lyndhurst.

Consultations only at these centres. They are supported by voluntary contributions, with help from the County Council.

Day Nurseries—

School Clinics—

Orthopædic—

Artificial Light—

} These services are under the control
of the County Council.

Tuberculosis Dispensaries.—Totton, 77, Rumbridge Street, provided by the County Council.

Venereal Clinic.—Outside the District in Southampton, provided by the County Council.

Hospitals.

Remain as last year:—

(1) Fever cases by arrangement with the Southampton Borough Council at their Isolation Hospital at Shirley, and with the Lymington Borough Council at their Isolation Hospital at Lymington.

(2) Small-pox—At the County Council Small-pox Hospital at Crabwood, Winchester.

(3) Tuberculosis—County Council Hospitals at Chandlers Ford and Bishopstoke.

(4) Maternity—Beds are available at the Royal Hants. Hospital, at Winchester.

(5) Children—None.

(6) Orthopædic—None.

(7) Other—Cottage Hospitals at Lyndhurst and Hythe, purely private subscription. Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children and homeless children, at the Home, Ashurst.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(i) Water.

No. of samples of water taken.	Result of Examn.		Remedial work done.			Remarks.
	Fit	Unfit	Piped service installed	Well improved & water made fit	Remain Unfit	
104	65	39	8	14	17	Unfit wells are in hand.
Balance from 1937	—	19	9	2	8	
104	65	58	17	16	25	

The spring and early summer of 1938 were unusually dry, and this resulted in some shortage of water in the autumn. The shortage was not severe, and was quickly made up by fairly heavy rain in November and December.

During the year, the Council gave special consideration to the water supply for the village of Minstead, where a number of houses are served by a privately-owned piped supply. This supply is deficient in quantity, and subject to probable contamination at the lower end of the village. Various methods of augmenting the supply were considered, and two trial wells were sunk for this purpose, but the results were unsatisfactory both in regard to quantity and quality. The matter is still under consideration.

The scheme to supply main water to the village of Emery Down, in the parish of Lyndhurst, was completed in December. This scheme provides for the purchase of water in bulk from the Southampton Corporation, the water being "boosted" to the village by means of two automatic electrically-operated pumps.

The Council's application to the Minister of Health for an Order on the Southampton Corporation to lay water mains at Newbridge, Copythorne; Winsor Lane, Copythorne; and Woodlands Road, Netley Marsh, without cost to the Council, was investigated by a Ministry of Health Inspector on the 17th May, 1938, and the Minister eventually intimated his confirmation of the Order. The work was carried out between August and November, and at the end of the year a number of connections to the new mains had been made.

No other large-scale water main extensions were carried out during the year, but small extensions of the Southampton Corporation's mains were made as follows:—

Exbury Road, Blackfield.
 Forge Road, Langley.
 West Common, Fawley.
 Wood Road, Ashurst.
 Chapel Lane, Fawley.
 Mopley Lane, Fawley.
 Walker's Lane, Fawley.
 Ashlett Lane, Fawley.

Small extensions of the West Hants' Water Company's mains were also made at Marley Mount, Sway, and Bull Hill, Boldre.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

No extensions of the existing sewers at Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst have been made, and it was decided not to proceed with the proposal to extend the Brockenhurst sewers to South Weirs.

Infiltration tests on the new system of sewers for the parish of Eling were carried out in the early part of the year, and house connections were permitted after 1st April. At the end of the year, 1,312 connections had been made.

The following short extensions to the Eling sewers were carried out during the year:—

240	yds.	9"	iron sewer laid at Rushington Avenue.
180	"	9"	stoneware sewer laid at Testwood Crescent.
170	"	6"	" " " " " "
270	"	6"	" " " " Frampton Way.
70	"	6"	" " " " Testwood Avenue.
40	"	6"	" " " " Sunny Way.
30	"	6"	" " " " Belstone Road.
200	"	6"	" " " " Salisbury Road (Auxiliary sewer).
80	"	6"	" " " " Testwood Place.
30	"	6"	" " " " Hyman Way.
70	"	6"	" " " " Passage behind Station Road.
140	"	6"	" " " " Spicer's Hill area.
220	"	6"	iron sewer laid at Spicer's Hill area.
70	"	6"	" " " " Testwood Avenue.
90	"	6"	" " " " Testwood Place.
40	"	6"	" " " " Hyman Way.

The work of improving the filter beds at the Lyndhurst Disposal Works was completed during the year.

The scheme devised in 1934 for sewerage and sewage disposal for the parish of Dibden has not advanced materially during the year. There is now an increasing amount of development taking place, and protracted, in the parish and a sewerage system is becoming more and more necessary, particularly in view of the growing industrial importance of the village of Hythe.

Brockenhurst—Nine new connections have been made to the sewers.

Lyndhurst—Ten new connections have been made to the sewers.

Rivers and Streams.

No action to check the pollution of rivers or streams has been taken during the year, except that in many cases where it has been found that sewage has been discharged into streams the person responsible has been requested to abate the nuisance.

(i) Closet Accommodation.

No formal action has been taken during the year in the conversion from conservancy systems to the water carriage system.

(ii) Public Cleansing.

An organised scheme for the collection of house refuse is in operation in the parish of Eling, the refuse being collected fortnightly, by contract. The supervision of the scheme is carried out by the Eling Parish Council under delegated powers from the District Council. The refuse is deposited on land owned by the Parish Council at Rumbridge Street, Totton, disposal being by levelling and covering with earth.

House refuse from the parishes of Dibden and Fawley is collected and disposed of by the Council's own plant and staff, under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Disposal is by controlled tipping in two old sand pits at Baker's Hill, Dibden Purlieu, and at Ower, Fawley. An ample supply of covering material is at present available at each pit.

A scheme for the collection and disposal of refuse by direct labour for the parish of Lyndhurst was instituted in February, disposal being by controlled tipping in a pit at Pikes Hill, Lyndhurst. Trade and garden refuse are collected and disposed of at a nominal charge per bin.

In the remainder of the District, the disposal of domestic and other refuse is left to the householders.

The following table gives particulars of action taken during the year with regard to the provision of dust-bins:—

TOTTON			FAWLEY & DIBDEN		
Inspections	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Inspections	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices
707	150	38	480	117	68

In the parishes of East Boldre (2), Minstead and Sway, pits have been provided for refuse under the control of the Parish Councils concerned, whilst at Brockenhurst the pit provided was brought under the control of the District Council in October, 1938.

In December, further rubbish pits were provided at Bramshaw (2), and Copythorne; these will also be under the control of the Parish Councils concerned.

The disposal of material from earth closets and privies is left to the individual householders, and is usually buried in the gardens.

The cleansing of cesspools is also left to the individual householders; or is carried out by private persons on behalf of the owners.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Summary of Inspections Made.

Nature of Inspection.	Number Made.
Infectious Diseases	153
Nuisances	1617
Water Supply	557
Housing	594
Meat at Slaughter-houses	1464
Retail Meat and Food Shops	308
Meat at Cottage premises	88
Milk and Dairies	319
Milk Samples	7
Milk (Special Designations) Orders	35
Factories and Workshops	97
Moveable Dwellings	182
Shops Act, 1934	4
Refuse Collection	1187
Refuse Disposal	238
Schools	3
Miscellaneous	55
Total	6908

Complaints and Nuisances.

Parish.	No. of Items		Visits.	Notices.		Abated.	Unabated.
	From 1937	1938		Informal	Abatement		
Beaulieu	—	3	7	—	—	1	2
Boldre	—	2	2	—	—	2	—
Bramshaw	—	6	23	—	—	6	—
Brockenhurst	—	24	42	—	—	23	1
Copythorne	—	64	173	1	15	51	12
Denny Lodge	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
Dibden	4	58	161	6	1	56	4
East Boldre	—	7	10	—	1	6	1
Eling	4	191	504	8	27	165	22
Exbury	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
Fawley	1	52	135	13	—	51	—
Lyndhurst	—	20	50	1	1	19	1
Marchwood	6	48	190	2	10	51	3
Minstead	—	9	29	—	—	9	—
Netley Marsh	1	113	234	4	23	91	20
Rhinefield	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sway	1	13	55	—	—	14	—
Totals	17	612	1617	35	78	546	66

Seventeen complaints were found to be not justified, and no action was taken with regard to them.

By reason of the Eling Sewerage Scheme coming into use in April, it was found possible during the year to abate permanently a number of nuisances by the connection of house drains to the sewers.

(iv) Shops and Offices.

It was only found possible to make four inspections under the Shops Act, 1934, during the year. In one case an entirely new water closet, drains, and cesspool were provided.

No inspection of offices under the Public Health Act, 1936, were carried out during the year.

(v) Camping Sites.

During the year, a total of 182 inspections were made in connection with camping sites and individual moveable dwellings, and five undesirable camping sites were cleared in consequence of licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, being refused by the Council. In one case, the owner appealed to the Petty Sessional Court, but the appeal was eventually dismissed by the Justices.

So far as is known, there were eight sites in the area used for camping purposes during the year, apart from individual moveable dwellings. Of these sites, six were licensed by the Council.

It is impossible to give any reasonably accurate estimate of the maximum number of campers resident in the district at one time during the summer season, owing to the peculiar nature of the Council's district, but it is certain that there is a very large influx of campers into the New Forest during each summer. In addition, several large Boy Scout and Girl Guide camps are held each summer in the district, particularly along the Solent frontage of the parish of Beaulieu, and at Foxlease, Lyndhurst.

A number of persons use moveable dwellings as their permanent residences, and at the end of the year seventeen individual moveable dwellings were licensed by the Council for use for human habitation. There are known to be a number of moveable dwellings in regular use in the district which are not yet licensed, and it is hoped to get these licensed or removed during 1939.

(vi) **Smoke Abatement.**

No action has been taken during the year with a view to the abatement of nuisance from smoke in the area.

The Lead Peroxide apparatus at Totton for measuring the active sulphur in the air was continued in use, except for the month of April, but in October the Council decided that, in future, the cylinder should be changed at intervals of two months instead of at monthly intervals.

The results obtained during the year are as follows:—

Month.	Weight of SO ₃ calculated per 100 sq. cms. per day.
January	0.547 milligrammes
February	0.666 " "
March	0.446 " "
April	No record.
May	0.228 milligrammes
June	0.226 " "
July	0.189 " "
August	0.208 " "
September	0.210 " "
October	0.350 " "
November }	0.483 " "
December }	

(vii) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public nor privately owned baths or pools open to the public in the district.

(viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Two houses in a clearance area at Totton were found to be infested with bed bugs during the year, and the occupants were re-housed in Council houses. As only preliminary steps had been taken in regard to the clearance area, it was impossible to insist on the demolition of the houses, and accordingly the owners were required to disinfect the houses. It is understood that the insecticide used was "Cymex."

So far as is known, no Council houses are infested with bed bugs.

No disinfestation of houses has been carried out by the Council during the year.

SCHOOLS.

There are 25 elementary schools in the district, and a secondary school for both boys and girls at Brockenhurst. New senior elementary schools are now in course of erection at Bartley and Totton, whilst a new secondary school is being built at Brockenhurst, to replace the existing temporary structure. There are also a number of private schools and kindergartens in the district.

Drainage.—At Brockenhurst, Emery Down, and Lyndhurst the school premises are connected to the main sewers.

With the exception of the parish of Eling, main sewerage facilities are not available for other schools in the district, there being earth closets provided, except in the cases of Exbury, Hardley and South Baddesley Schools, which have water closets connected to disposal systems.

Water Supply.—No piped supply of water is available for the schools at Bramshaw, East Boldre, Longdown, and South Baddesley, and they are supplied by wells.

Beaulieu School is provided from the Monk's Well supply by pipe, and Exbury School from the Exbury Estate supply by pipe.

The Schools in the area were generally free from infectious disease, and it was not found necessary to close any of the schools by reason of infectious disease during the year.

HOUSING.

Number of Houses Erected in the District during the Year.

Beaulieu	...	...	...	...	7
Bramshaw	...	...	...	...	—
Boldre	...	...	...	...	8
Brockenhurst	...	...	...	...	3
Copythorne	...	...	...	...	22
Denny Lodge	...	...	...	...	3
Dibden	...	...	...	...	38
East Boldre	...	...	...	...	3
Eling	...	...	...	...	154
Fawley	...	...	...	...	59
Exbury	...	...	...	...	—
Lyndhurst	...	...	...	...	6
Marchwood	...	...	...	...	2
Minstead	...	...	...	...	3
Netley Marsh	...	...	...	...	19
Rhinefield	...	...	...	...	2
Sway	...	...	...	...	7
					<hr/>
			Total	...	336
					<hr/>

Particulars of Houses Owned by the Rural District Council.

Boldre	...	...	...	...	24
Brockenhurst	...	...	...	...	39
Copythorne	...	...	...	...	20
Dibden	...	...	...	...	16
East Boldre	...	...	...	...	22
Eling	...	...	...	...	28
Fawley	...	...	...	...	18
Marchwood	...	...	...	...	19
Netley Marsh	...	...	...	...	8
Sway	...	...	...	...	4
					<hr/>
			Total	...	198
					<hr/>

1. <i>Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—</i>		
(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	73
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	594
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	35
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	68
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(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	27
2. <i>Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—</i>		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	47
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—</i>		
(a).—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	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners...	Nil
(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c).—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	19
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	15
(d).—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 ...	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. <i>Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—</i>		
(a).— (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	18
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	20
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	146
(b).— (i)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	10
(c).— (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	31
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	226
(d).—	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of over-crowding	Nil
(e).—	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :—	Nil
	Number of Inspections made for overcrowding	69

Considerable progress was made during the year in the re-housing of persons displaced from clearance areas and individual unfit houses, and in the abatement of overcrowding.

Council housing estates were completed during the year as follows :—

Boldre	...	...	...	...	12 houses
Copythorne	...	...	...	...	20 „
Dibden	...	...	...	...	16 „
East Boldre	...	...	...	...	12 „
Fawley	...	...	...	...	22 „
Marchwood	...	...	...	...	14 „
Netley Marsh	...	...	...	...	4 „
Sway	...	...	...	...	4 „
					<hr/>
			Total	...	104 „
					<hr/>

Preparations are also being made for two additional houses at Copythorne and four at Dibden.

No progress has been made with the scheme for the parish of Minstead owing to the difficulty of obtaining a wholesome water supply.

The Council has carried out a series of enquiries into the needs of the agricultural population under the Housing (Financial Regulations) Act, 1938, and further steps will be taken during 1939.

At the end of the five-year housing period of the Housing Act, 1930, the progress made is as follows:—

Houses built	...	...	...	...	...	145
						Persons
Persons re-housed from Clearance Areas	...					190
" " " Individual Unfit Houses	...					106
						296
" " " Over-crowded Houses	...					160
" " " Others	...	...	...	...		172
						628
					Grand Total	...

Demolition of houses has been carried out as follows:—

						No. of houses.
Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	99
Individual Unfit Houses	...	...	...	...	...	58
						157
					Total	...

At the end of the year, the following houses had yet to be demolished:—

						No. of houses.
In Clearance Areas	...	...	...	...	...	32
Individual Unfit Houses	...	...	...	...	...	16
						48
					Total	...

Steps are being taken to secure the demolition and clearance of these houses as early as possible.

One Public Inquiry took place during the year, on the 7th July, in respect to Clearance Areas Nos. 55 and 56 Eling, and 57 and 58 Boldre. The last two areas were withdrawn at the Inquiry, and the houses comprising Clearance Area No. 56 Eling were demolished immediately before the Inquiry. Clearance Order No. 55 Eling was subsequently confirmed by the Minister of Health.

Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.

During the year ten houses were re-constructed and re-conditioned under this Act, as follows:—

Beaulieu	...	...	...	...	2 houses
Boldre	...	...	...	...	2 "
East Boldre	...	...	...	...	5 "
Sway	...	...	...	...	1 house

Work was commenced, and at the end of the year was proceeding satisfactorily, on the conversion of a cowshed into two cottages, and the re-conditioning of one cottage at Ower, Copythorne.

Proposals to alter and improve two cottages at Sway, and one cottage at Netley Marsh were under consideration at the end of the year.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

1.—Inspections.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspect-ions.	Written Notices.	Occ'p'rs Prosc'd.
Factories with mechanical power	45	—	—
Factories without mechanical power	50	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises). ...	2	1	—
Total	97	1	—

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect to which Prosc'ds were instituted
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	7	7	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	3	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)				
Total	10	8	—	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Samples taken during the year ended December 31st, 1938,
in the Rural District of New Forest :—

Article.	Genuine.	Unsatisfactory
Aspirin	1	—
Butter	6	—
Cereals	2	—
Cheese	3	—
Chocolate and Chocolate Powder	2	—
Coffee	1	—
Demerara Sugar	2	—
Flour	1	—
Gin	2	—
Ginger Wine	1	—
Ice Cream	4	—
Jam	2	—
Lard	3	—
Lemon Curd	1	—
Margarine	3	—
Milk tinned	1	—
New Milk	61	4
Olive Oil	2	—
Quinine, Amm. Tinct.	1	—
Sausage	4	—
Soup tinned	1	—
Sodium Citrate	1	—
Sweets	3	—
Tapioca	1	—
Tea	2	—
Tomato Juice	1	—
Whiskey	2	—
Total	114	4

S6832 New Milk—certified to be 8.7% deficient in fat after allowing for dilution with water and 4.4% excess water. Case heard at Lymington on 26th May, and dismissed.

S6856 New Milk—certified to be 31.3% deficient in fat. Case heard at Lymington on 19th May, and dismissed on payment of 29s. costs.

S7005 New Milk—certified to be 36.7% deficient in fat. Case heard at Lyndhurst on 13th July, when a fine of £1 was imposed, including 12s. 6d. Analyst's fee.

S7349 New Milk—certified to contain 26.0% excess water and to be 3.0% deficient in fat. Case heard at Lyndhurst, 11th January, 1939, when a fine of £5, with 12s. 6d. costs, was imposed.

Milk, Dairies and Cowsheds.

There have been a number of changes in the proprietorship of dairy farms during the year, and the total is now 316, a decrease of 14 on the number of registered cowkeepers at 31st December, 1937.

There are 17 retailers who are not producers registered in the District, the same number as last year.

The milk produced in the District is very largely sent to London, Southampton and Bournemouth, although a good deal of milk produced in the more rural parts of the District is made into butter.

Ten cowkeepers in the District are licensed to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk, whilst 21 cowkeepers hold licences to produce "Accredited" milk, the licences being granted by the County Council. The latter number is two more than last year. The County Council continue to exercise the functions of the District Council under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, in respect to farms producing "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited" milk, and visits of inspection to these farms are not made by the District Council's officers.

One dairyman in the parish of Fawley is licensed to pasteurise milk; three firms licensed in the County Borough of Southampton hold Supplementary licences to sell designated milk in this District, whilst four dairymen in this District hold "Dealers'" licences in respect to designated milk. ...

Twenty samples of Pasteurised milk were taken during the year and submitted to phosphatase test and bacteriological examination, and six samples were found to be unsatisfactory.

Continuous inspections of the dairy farms throughout the District have been carried out, but it was only possible to make **319** inspections during the year; this is a decrease of **29** inspections on last year.

The work carried out during the year has again had very satisfactory results, particularly in regard to improvements in farm buildings. Eight new cowsheds and four new dairies have been built; new floors and improved drainage have been provided in sixteen cowsheds; improvements in lighting and ventilation have been effected in six cowsheds; four cowsheds have been completely re-built; and four dairy farms have been connected to the water mains. A number of other minor improvements have been carried out by informal action.

Five Statutory Notices have been served during the year.

In consequence of the arrangements now in force for the veterinary inspection of dairy cattle, routine samples of milk for examination for Tubercle Bacilli are no longer taken. Five samples of milk were, however, taken at the request of the County Medical Officer; all of these samples gave negative results on being tested for Tubercle Bacilli.

The following table gives particulars relating to action taken under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, during the year:—

No.	Inspections Made.				Milk Samples		
	Defects found		Remedied	Defects Out-standing	Total No. of Samples taken	Number Positive	Number Negative
	From 1937	1938					
319	13	103	99	17	5	—	5

The defects found consisted of want of cleanliness in respect to cows, buildings, and utensils; neglect of lime-washing; unsatisfactory water supply; defects in floors, approaches, and drainage; and deficiency of light and ventilation.

Meat and Slaughter-Houses.

There are now twelve registered slaughter-houses and five licensed slaughter-houses in the District.

The following table gives particulars relating to the inspection of meat during the year, including animals slaughtered at cottage and farm premises:—

At Slaughter-houses.						At Cottage, etc., Premises.	
No. of Inspections.	Animals.					No. of Inspections.	Total Animals.
	Bovines	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total		
1464	141	638	1031	1909	3719	251	340
Total No. of Inspections 1715.						Total No. of Animals Inspected 4059.	

Every effort is made to inspect the meat of all animals slaughtered in the District, but it is rarely possible to carry out ante-mortem inspection.

The undermentioned meat was condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

Bovines.

75 lbs. chilled beef (Top-piece)	...	Extensive bruising.	
60 lbs. Beef	...	" "	
47 lb. loin and flank	...	Tuberculosis.	
Heads and tongues	...	Tuberculosis	8
Lungs	...	"	5
Livers	...	"	3
"	...	Cirrhosis	10
Heart	...	Decomposition	1
Liver	...	Tumours	1

Calves.

Carcase and organs	...	Generalised tuberculosis	1
" " "	...	Septic peritonitis	1
Plucks	...	Tuberculosis	4
Kidneys	...	"	2
Liver	...	"	1
Lungs	...	Abscesses	1
Kidneys	...	Pyelo-Nephritis	2

Sheep.

Carcase and organs	...	Septic Pneumonia	1
Loin and shoulder	...	Bruising	1
Lungs	...	Strongylosis	23
"	...	Pneumonia	1
Liver	...	Necrosis	1

Pigs.

Carcase and organs	...	Jaundice	1
" " "	...	Dropsy and Emaciation	2
" " "	...	Malignant Neoplasms	1
Forequarters	...	Tuberculosis	2
Heads	...	"	62
Mesenteries and Intestines	...	"	21
Plucks	...	"	18
Legs	...	"	2
Lungs	...	"	3
Hindquarters	...	Abscesses	2
Loins	...	Bruising	1
Legs	...	"	1
Plucks	...	Pneumonia	3
"	...	Pleurisy	1
Lungs	...	Pneumonia and Congestion	51
"	...	Pleurisy	1
Livers	...	Cirrhosis	15
Kidneys	...	Hydro-Nephrosis	2
"	...	Nephritis	2

Miscellaneous.

Rabbits Decomposition 2

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of slaughter-man's licences in force in the District on the 31st December, 1938, was 58; seven new licences being granted during the year, whilst three licences were not renewed.

Nutrition.

No steps have been taken during the year in regard to nutrition.

Shell-fish (Molluscan).

No action with regard to shell-fish has been taken during the year.

**THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

During the year under review there has been no serious epidemic.

Fourteen cases of scarlet fever have been reported and four cases of diphtheria. One of these cases of diphtheria had received immunising treatment. This case was mild and the child made an uninterrupted recovery.

There was one case of para-typhoid fever and three of enteric fever. The cases of enteric fever were in one family, all of whom were infected.

Only nine cases of pneumonia were reported during the year.

No case of malaria or dysentery in the civilian population.
Five deaths were attributed to influenza.

One case of cerebro-spinal fever was notified, a member of a large family. There was no spread of the disease.

Artificial Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The scheme commenced in the autumn of 1935 has been continued. 240 children were treated during the year; this is only a small proportion of the number which should have come forward. In spite of much propaganda, the response is unsatisfactory.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small-pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	14	5	—
Diphtheria	4	3	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	4	4	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	14	6	—
Pneumonia	9	—	—
Other diseases generally notifiable :—			
Erysipelas	9	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	—
(Other diseases notifiable locally)	—	—	—
Totals	55	20	—

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under the provisions of Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Tuberculosis.

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
15—	1	2	1	—	4	2	—	—
25—	2	1	—	1	4	1	—	—
35—	1	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
45—	3	—	—	—	4	1	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	9	4	3	2	18	5	—	1

All deaths from tuberculosis occurred in cases which had been previously notified.

Distribution of Infectious Diseases.

Parish.	Cases.	Visits.	Disinfections.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever	Tuberculosis.	O. Neonatorum.	Erysipelas	Other Diseases.
Beaulieu	3	4	2	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
Boldre	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bramshaw	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Brockenhurst	5	5	3	2	—	3	—	—	—	—
Copythorne	8	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	4	2
Denny Lodge	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dibden	5	9	3	—	—	—	2	—	1	2
East Boldre	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eling	43	51	22	7	—	1	12	2	3	18
Exbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fawley	3	5	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Lyndhurst	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marchwood	5	5	4	—	2	—	1	—	—	2
Minstead	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Netley Marsh	3	4	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Rhinefield	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sway	1	2	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	79	92	47	14	4	4	20	2	9	26

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. HABGOOD,
Medical Officer of Health.



