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URBAN DISTRICT  
OF  
PAIGNTON

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Annual Report  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF  
HEALTH  
FOR 1948

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
PAIGNTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE PAIGNTON URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour to present my Annual Report upon the Public Health of Paignton and the work of your Public Health Department for the year 1948.

A considerably reduced Birth Rate, from 15.52 to 12.06 per thousand population, is almost the only exceptional feature to note in a very satisfactorily healthy year. This fall of 3 per thousand in the Birth Rate conforms to a similar fall for England and Wales—alike for County Boroughs, Smaller Towns and London Administrative County. There have been no mass changes of population, and whatever may be the social, economic or other factors causing this fall, they have affected Paignton equally with the Country as a whole. In Paignton, the Births were 307 (400 in 1947).

Death Rate remained about the same (15.56 per thousand). There was no increase in deaths from Cancer, and, for the second year, a moderate epidemic of measles swept through the Town without mortality. The experience of Paignton has been notably different from that of many other towns, namely, there has been a small epidemic both in 1947 and in 1948, instead of almost no measles in the former year and a large epidemic in 1948. It would appear that the immunity of our child population is more readily, uniformly, and gradually built up than in those in more isolated towns. Possibly, this may be partly due to a large visiting population from widely differing areas throughout many months of every year.

A comparison of the past ten-yearly interval has been made in the work of Meat Inspection. The following statement shows the differences occurring in this work since the year 1938 :—

**1938 :—**

- (a) Meat Inspection Staff comprised a Chief and two Additional Sanitary Inspectors, all holding Meat Inspection Certificates.
- (b) Slaughtering was for the District of Paignton only.
- (c) There was no Law or Regulation requiring all casualty animals to be brought to the Public or other Slaughterhouse in the District.
- (d) Animals slaughtered :—

CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP AND		PIGS	TOTAL ANIMALS
		LAMBS			
1,205	523	4,650		1,621	7,999

- (e) Amount of meat condemned :—6,319 lbs.

**1948 :—**

- (a) Staff for Meat Inspection similar in number and qualification as for (a) above.
- (b) All slaughtering is now carried on at the two Abattoirs (1 private 1 public) and is done here for Brixham and surrounding Districts.
- (c) Law is that all casualty animals (except certain notifiable infectious cases, eg., Foot and Mouth Disease) be brought to the above Abattoirs (b)



(d) Animals slaughtered :—

CATTLE	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS	TOTAL ANIMALS
1,591	686	8,057	21	10,355

(e) Amount of Meat condemned :—35,869 lbs.

(f) Compare 1938 (b) and (c) with 1948 (b) and (c)

During the present year new legislation has appeared in connection with food—an effect hastened, no doubt, by the increasing custom of so much more food preparation and eating being undertaken outwith the family home.

Sampling of ice cream has continued, with variable results, to complete its first full year of operation and observation. I would again emphasise that this bacteriological testing of ice cream is still in the experimental stage. May I say that every Manufacturer of ice cream in Paignton—I think, without exception—who has been approached with advice upon setting up, or improving, his methods and premises for ice cream preparation, has co-operated and taken action towards better hygiene. A number of ice cream factories in Paignton are now models of their kind.

A record of the effect of the National Health Service Act, 1946, upon (a) Diphtheria Immunisation ; (b) Ambulance Services, including the Ambulance for Infectious Disease ; and (c) the Isolation Hospital is given in Sections " B " and " F." It is sufficient to add here that up to the present the new Ambulance arrangements for transfer of infectious patients and their treatment, have been equally satisfactory to what was done previously.

**National Assistance Act, 1948**—This Act came into operation on the 5th July, 1948. Section 47 of this Act placed upon the Urban District Council certain responsibilities for taking action so that aged and infirm persons, suffering from chronic illness, unable to attend to themselves, or without help or living in insanitary conditions, might receive care and attention. There have been no cases requiring action under the Act, during the year.

Miss Freeman, the Matron of King's Ash Hospital, retired this year, after being 40 years in your service at the Hospital ; and Miss Morgan, the Senior Nurse there, also after a long period of service, was transferred to the Staff of the Regional Hospital Board when the Hospital was taken over by that Authority. One can confidently say, on behalf of a large number of Paignton and District residents over the years, how beholden we are to these two ladies. It is not so much for the routine professional work of Nursing, as for the care and kindness which was given to every individual patient that we give our gratitude and thanks to Miss Ida Freeman and Miss Enid Morgan upon their leaving your service.

I have again to express my thanks and appreciation to the Staff of the Department, all of whom have taken a share in the preparation of this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

**A. DICK, Medical Officer of Health.**

## PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## STAFF

**MEDICAL—**

A. DICK, M.D. (State Med.), D.P.H. (Glas. Univ.).

Medical Officer of Health, and

\* Medical Officer for Isolation Hospital.

\* HELEN BUMSTEAD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer for Isolation Hospital and Infectious Diseases.

**NURSING—**

\* MISS I. FREEMAN,

Matron, Isolation Hospital, King's Ash.

\* MISS E. MORGAN (Senior Nurse), (Fever Certif.).

**SANITARY—**

FREDK. J. THICK, Certif. S.I.E.B. (London), Meat Certif.  
F.S.I.A.

Chief (Senior) Sanitary Inspector.

Meat Inspector.

S. H. BONE, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Certif., M.S.I.A.

Additional (Deputy) Sanitary Inspector.

J. B. JONES, Cert. S.I.B., Meat Certif., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

**CLERICAL—**

S. E. R. AUTHERS, Chief Clerk.

MISS R. M. HARRIS.

**OTHER—**

**I.D. Ambulance** (until 5.7.48) **and Disinfector**—C. J. TURPIN.

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\*Duties and Staff taken over by the South-Western Regional Hospital Board under the National Health Service Act, 1946.



# SECTION A

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

### 1—

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,177
Population—Census 1939 (September)	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,510
Registrar-General's estimated resident population, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,610
Registrar-General's estimated resident population, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,450
Number of inhabited houses, 1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,623
Number of inhabited houses, 1948	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,663
Rateable Value, 31st March, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	£246,643
Estimated sum represented by Penny Rate 1948/49	...	...	...	...	...	...	£993

### 2—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

					TOTAL.	MALE	FEMALE
Live Births	...	...	...	...	307	155	152
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	289	146	143
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	18	9	9
Still Births	...	...	...	...	7	6	1
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	7	6	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.06
Birth Rate (Still Births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.28
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still Births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.29

					TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Deaths	...	...	...	...	396	172	224
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.56
Standardised death rate for Paignton :—							

Comparability Factor not available for 1948.

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth :—

From Sepsis	...	...	...	...	0
From other causes	...	...	...	...	0

					TOTAL	MALE	FEMALE
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	9	4	5
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	5	2	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	4	2	2
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	29.32
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate Live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.30
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	0		
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	1		
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	0		

## Causes of Death during 1948

	M.	F.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	0	0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0	0
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ... ..	6	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	2	0
Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	1	1
Influenza ... ..	1	0
Measles ... ..	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	0	0
Acute Infantile Encephalitis ... ..	1	0
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M) Uterus (F) ...	1	4
Cancer of the Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	1	9
Cancer of Breast ... ..	0	10
Cancer all other sites ... ..	26	20
Diabetes ... ..	0	2
Intra-cranial vascular Lesions ... ..	17	35
Heart Diseases ... ..	64	82
Other diseases of the circulatory system ... ..	1	7
Bronchitis ... ..	4	4
Pneumonia ... ..	5	4
Other respiratory diseases ... ..	6	4
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	3	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	0	0
Appendicitis ... ..	1	0
Other Digestive Diseases... ..	3	3
Nephritis ... ..	3	4
Puerperal and Post. Abort. Sepsis ... ..	0	0
Other Maternal causes ... ..	0	0
Premature Birth ... ..	1	1
Con. mal. Birth inj. Infant Dis. ... ..	3	2
Suicide ... ..	3	2
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	2	1
Other violent causes ... ..	2	9
All other causes ... ..	14	17
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>172</b>	<b>242</b>



## SECTION B

### General Provisions of Health Services in the Area

- (a) **Laboratory Facilities** continue to be given by the Public Health Laboratory Service (directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health), Public Health Laboratory, 7, Dix's Field, Exeter, and have been satisfactory. Specimens have been submitted from the Isolation Hospital and Clinics, and from Private Practitioner sources, as a public health measure.

- (b) **Ambulance Services**—(a)—Three Ambulances (two ex-W.D. Vehicles) for general medical and surgical cases, administered and staffed by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and Nursing Division, were maintained prior to the Ambulance Service being taken over by the Devon County Council under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Three whole-time drivers were employed and a contribution was made by the Council towards this Service.

(b) Prior to the 5th July, 1948, one Ambulance was maintained by the Council for the removal of cases of infectious disease. The Ambulance Driver also shared the duties of Disinfector, being in charge of the Disinfector at the Isolation Hospital. One of the above St. John Ambulance Drivers did relief duty on the Infectious Disease Ambulance.

- (c) **Nursing in the Home**—This service was ably carried out by the District Nurses of the District Nursing Association, prior to the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946, when on the appointed day the Health Authority (Devon County Council) took over the Staff of the Nursing Associations and became responsible for this service.

- (d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics**—The Central School Clinic and Dental Clinic, operated by the Devon County Council at Midvale Road, for school children and expectant mothers, continued during the year.

Part of this Clinic is equipped as a **Cleansing Clinic**, and is shared by the Council and the Devon County Council.

Treatment is given for impetigo and verminous conditions, including scabies.—(Particulars of the work done are given under Section "F.")

- (e) **Hospitals**—On the "Appointed Day," 5th July, 1948, the Paignton and District Hospital and the Isolation Hospital, King's Ash, were both taken over by the South-West Regional Hospital Board. The Isolation Hospital, King's Ash, continued as such until the 13th November, 1948, when the last case was discharged and the Hospital was placed on a care and maintenance basis. Infectious disease cases are now sent to the Torquay Isolation Hospital.—(Details of cases admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Paignton, are included under Section "F.")

**Maternity and Child Welfare**—These services continue to be administered by the Devon County Council.

**M. and C.W. Clinic, Congregational Church Schoolrooms.**

The Medical Officer of this Clinic was Dr. F. Muriel Morris, O.B.E., M.D., until April, 1948, when she relinquished the position owing to illness. She was succeeded by Dr. Agnes Kennie. The Health Visitor is Miss E. H. Walters. Both the Doctors and the Health Visitor have taken a large part in bringing to the notice of mothers the advantages of Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination, and quite a large number of inoculations have been carried out at the Welfare Centre.

The Welfare Centre has continued to enjoy the support and enthusiasm of the Voluntary Workers, the responsibility of the Clinic being taken over by the Devon County Council on 5th July, 1948.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT for the Year ending 31st December, 1948.**

During the year under review the Centre was opened for 87 Sessions. The attendances for the year were as follows :—

MOTHERS ...	3,715	BABIES ...	3,128	TODDLERS ...	991
Mothers on Register ...	...	...	...	...	408
Babies on Register ...	...	...	...	...	306
Toddlers on Register ...	...	...	...	...	165
New Mothers ...	...	...	...	...	103
Babies ...	...	...	...	...	96
New Toddlers ...	...	...	...	...	46

**National Assistance Act, 1948.**

It was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act during the year.

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## SECTION C

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

- 1—(i) **Water**—No new sources of supply are in operation.
    - (a) Investigations have shown that the causes of unsatisfactory samples have been animal—not human—contamination, influenced by certain climatic conditions.
    - (b) Figures kindly furnished by the Water Engineer show that the quantity is adequate.
  - (ii) The supply is piped after storage and filtration with terminal chlorination at points where the main pipe-lines leave the Reservoirs.
  - (iii) Neither the moorland nor the lowland supplies have plumbosolvent action. Lead has not been detected in the chemical analyses, and the hydrogenion concentration has always showed a neutral or slightly alkaline re-action.
  - (iv) No special investigation was carried out.
  - (v) Almost all dwellings in the District have direct supply. There are very few supplied by means of stand-pipes—only about 0.25 per cent.—but this leaves out of account several farms and other dwellings in rural parts of the District where the piped main supply is not available.
  - (vi) **Drainage and Sewerage**—There are no extensions to report.
- 2— **Stream Pollution**—There is nothing to report.
  - 3— **Refuse Collection and Disposal**—There were no complaints of fly nuisance or objectionable odours during the year.

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### REPORT ON REFUSE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE BY THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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#### Collection.

Three 10 cubic yard "Dennis" and three 7 cubic yard "Thornycroft" lorries are in use for the collection of refuse.

As mentioned in my previous Reports, the question of providing new collection vehicles is a matter which must soon receive consideration, not only to replace some of the existing vehicles, but to provide additional transport, which is becoming increasingly necessary, especially in the Summer season. Owing to lack of transport, we are not yet able to give, as in pre-war years, that essential extra service in the busy period.

#### Disposal.

The method of disposal is by the Controlled Tipping System, carried out in Clennon Valley, and the covering material is obtained from Brown's Field, adjoining. 3,988 loads (approximately 8,006 tons) of refuse were disposed of in Clennon Valley during the year. This is house refuse only and does not include refuse tipped there by other Departments, Builder's Merchants, Gardeners, etc.

**Salvage.**

This is collected by the refuse lorries, which are equipped with trailers, and in addition a Thornycroft lorry is also used.

I give hereunder details of salvage collected and income received therefrom for 1948 :—

MATERIAL.						AMOUNT RECEIVED.		
						£	s.	d.
Paper	...	...	...	...	...	1124	8	5
Rags	...	...	...	...	...	18	2	11
White Rags	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	3
Cloth	...	...	...	...	...	42	12	2½
Wool	...	...	...	...	...	13	16	8
Carpet	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	9
String	...	...	...	...	...	0	17	6½
Aluminium	...	...	...	...	...	0	14	4½
Brass	...	...	...	...	...	0	9	4
Copper	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	0
Light Iron	...	...	...	...	...		4	9
Jam Jars and Bottles	...	...	...	...	...	2	17	6
						£1,207	7	8½

The income for the previous years was as follows :—

							£	s.	d.
1942	...	...	...	...	...	...	2101	18	11
1943	...	...	...	...	...	...	2173	4	1½
1944	...	...	...	...	...	...	1391	19	6½
1945	...	...	...	...	...	...	931	17	3½
1946	...	...	...	...	...	...	930	15	5
1947	...	...	...	...	...	...	893	9	0½

From the foregoing figures it will be seen that during the year 1948 there was an increase of approximately £300 in sales over the 1947 figures. This is accounted for in the increased collection of paper (1947 : £807 ; 1948 : £1,124) which is one of the most important items.

There is still room for considerable improvement.

**Pig Waste.**

Pig Waste Collection in the District is now carried out by a Private Contractor, who pays £30 a year for the privilege. Approximately 203 tons of pig waste was collected during the year from street bins, cafés, hotels, etc.



# **SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**

## **(a) Drainage.**

Details of work carried out in connection with the following :—

### **New Houses :**

Sewer Connections inspected	...	...	...	...	32
Number of tests of Drainage	...	...	...	...	88
Visits paid in connection with the above	...	...	...	...	96

### **Old Houses or Buildings :**

Sewer Connections inspected	...	...	...	...	6
Number of tests of Drainage	...	...	...	...	105
Visits paid in connection with the above	...	...	...	...	136
(Included in this heading is work carried out in connection with additional W.C.'s, Baths, Lavatory Basins, etc.)					

## **Choked Drains and Public Sewers.**

Visits have been paid and notices served in respect of the clearing of :—

Private Drains	...	...	...	...	47
Public Sewers	...	...	...	...	11

## **(b) Disinfection.**

Three hundred and fifty-nine rooms, representing 172 premises were disinfected for the following reasons :—

Notifiable Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	26
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	18
Other Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	13
Verminous conditions (including bed bugs)	...	...	...	...	...	11
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	104

The following is a list of bedding and other articles passed through the Disinfectant at the Isolation Hospital :—

					FROM PAIGNTON	FROM ADJOINING DISTRICTS.
Mattresses	...	...	...	...	127	17
Bolsters	...	...	...	...	19	5
Pillows	...	...	...	...	393	49
Sheets	...	...	...	...	40	2
Blankets	...	...	...	...	133	31
Library Books	...	...	...	...	27	6
Other Articles	...	...	...	...	144	

## **(c) Shops Act.**

Forty-six Shops have been inspected and Notices served for the following matters :—

Provision of washing and sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	3
Dirty sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	3

## **(d) Factories Act, 1937.**

One hundred and eight Factories were inspected during the year. Seventeen notices were served and complied with during this period.

## PART I. OF THE ACT.

**1—Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	87	12	3	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	150	95	14	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	3	1		—	3
<b>TOTAL</b> ...		240	108	17	—	



**2—Cases in which Defects were found—**(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate sions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			No. of cases in which prosecutns. were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	5	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	7	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	8	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—						
(a) insufficient ... ..	9	3	3	—	—	9
(b) unsuitable or defective... ..	10	14	14	—	—	10
(c) not separate for sexes ... ..	11	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	12	—	—	—	—	12
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>60</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>60</b>

Further details of the defects shown in Table 2 opposite (lines Nos. 9 and 10) are as follows :—

W.C.—want of cleanliness	...	...	...	6
No ventilated space to W.C.	...	...	...	3
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	3
Defective sanitary conveniences	...	...	...	5

**(e) Camping Sites.**

Frequent inspections have been made of the Licensed Camps during the year. The remarks I made in previous reports with reference to satisfactory conditions existing equally apply this year.

A number of unlicensed camps appeared during the summer months. These were visited and recommendations made regarding their control and registration.

**(f) Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

	INFESTED.	DISINFESTED.
(i) Council houses	5	5
(ii) Other houses	4	4

The methods employed are :—(a) using “Cimex” blocks and powder; (b) spraying with “Zaldecide,” and (c) application of D.D.T. spray and powder.

**(g) Rag Flock Act.**

No action taken during the year.

**(h) Rats and Mice Destruction Act.**

Two Rodent Operators are employed by this Authority, who have carried out their duties very satisfactorily.

During the year the following visits were paid :—

Private Premises	...	...	...	...	507
Business Premises	...	...	...	...	246
Local Authority Housing Estates, Grounds, etc.					801
Local Authority Sewers: Two maintenance treatment of sewers.					
Estimated kill :—Rats	...	...	...	...	2066
Mice	...	...	...	...	516

**(i) Schools.**

There have been no changes in water supply and sanitary accommodation of Schools and Nursery.



# SECTION D

## Housing

### 1—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health Act or Housing Acts) ... ..	299
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	658
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	75
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	6
(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 ... ..	249

### 2—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ..	222
--	---	-----

### 3—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ...	24
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—	
	(a) By Owners ... ..	24
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	3
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—	
	(a) By Owners ... ..	3
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	0

- (c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made :— | 3 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders... .. | 0 |
- (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 ... ..  | 3 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. | 0 |

#### 4—Housing Act, 1936 : Part IV : Overcrowding.

As mentioned in previous years, it is still not possible under existing housing conditions to give correct figures regarding Part IV (Overcrowding). It is quite obvious that many of the smaller houses are accommodating far more persons than the "permitted" number, and this will be the case until the housing conditions improve, which, I am afraid, will not be for some considerable time.

During the year, 299 houses were inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

Notices served to remedy defects were as follows :—

	VERBAL	INTIMATION	STATUTORY
Housing Acts ... ..	0	89	24
Public Health Act ...	17	116	3
	17	205	27

It will be observed that only 27 Statutory Notices were served to enforce compliance. Repairs to 222 houses were carried out by informal action. In view of present day circumstances, this can be regarded as very satisfactory.

The number of applicants for Council houses increases daily, and there is very little I can add to my remarks in last year's report, because the conditions under which they are now living or existing still remain the same.

#### Complaints.

Ninety-one complaints were received and investigated during the year (excluding complaints on Refuse Collection).



**Abridged summary of work carried out in consequence of service of Notices :—**

Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Eaves gutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rain water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
External plastering	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Internal plastering	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stoves and Fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Handrails	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ladders	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	...	124

**Drainage :—**

Interceptors fixed	...	...	...	...	...	14
F.A.I.'s provided	...	...	...	...	...	14
Inspection chambers built	...	...	...	...	...	41
Iron frames and covers provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Vent pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	35
Soil pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	23
Gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	61
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Flushing cisterns renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	13
Water Closet Additions	...	...	...	...	...	32
Water closet cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
W.C. pans provided	...	...	...	...	...	57
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	96
Baths	...	...	...	...	...	17
Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cesspools and septic tanks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Storage cisterns covered	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soak-aways repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Private sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Septic tank disconnected, drainage connected to sewer	...	...	...	...	...	1

## SECTION E

### Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a)—**Milk Supply**—Visits have been paid to Dairies and Cow-sheds frequently during the year.

Number of Cowkeepers or Dairymen on Register at end of year ... ..	47
Number registered as Producer/Retailer ... ..	5
Number registered as Producer/Wholesaler ... ..	13
Number registered as Producer/Wholesaler/Retailer ... ..	3
Number registered as Retailer only ... ..	25
Number registered as T.T. Producer ... ..	1

#### Cleanliness and Bacteriological Examination

One sample of milk was taken from a local Retailer, obtaining milk from an outside Producer. This sample failed the test and proved positive for Tubercle Bacillus. Appropriate action was taken.

#### National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme.

In this area milk sampling is carried out by a Sampling Officer appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and acting under the supervision of the National Advisory Service, South-West Sub-Centre, at "Staplake Mount," Starcross, near Exeter, where the testing is carried out. Frequent samples have been taken from Producers in the District and from Producers outside the District retailing milk in the District, during the year. Results are not to hand.

#### (b) Meat Inspection.

**SLAUGHTERHOUSES**—There are two Slaughterhouses in the District—one Private, and situated at Crown and Anchor Arch, Church Street; and one Public, situated at Luscombe Road, Paignton. Both are used by the Ministry of Food as slaughtering centres for Paignton and certain surrounding districts.

The following Table shows the number of animals killed during the year at the two Slaughterhouses:—

	CATTLE	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP and LAMBS	PIGS	Total
Private Slaughter House ...	450	257	633	4205	2	5547
Public Slaughter House ...	537	347	53	3852	19	4808
	987	604	686	8057	21	10,355

In addition to the inspection of the above animals, carcasses imported into the District have been inspected at the Meat Depot and butcher's shops.



## Unsound Food

Tables showing details of Meat and Offals condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption :—

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned :—

	CATTLE (excl'dg. Cows)	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed ...	987	604	686	8057	21
Number inspected	987	604	686	8057	21
All diseases except Tuberculosis :—					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	4	9	48	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	705	210	11	494	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	71.73%	35.43%	2.92%	6.73%	28.57%
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	15	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	184	38	3	0	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	18.76%	8.77%	0.44%	0	4.76%

	TUBERCULOSIS lbs.	OTHER DISEASES AND CONDITIONS. lbs.	TOTAL lbs.
Beef ...	10,621	2,960	13,581
Pork ...	40	213	253
Mutton ...	—	2,448	2,448
Veal ...	175	622	797
Offals ...	6,039	12,751	18,790
	16,875	18,994	35,869

In addition to the above 3,667½ lbs. of meat was condemned at butcher's shops, the majority for bone taint.

In the case of whole carcasses of cows condemned as being affected with Generalised T.B., a report is made to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Health Division.

## Other Unsound Food Condemned and Destroyed

The following other unsound foods have been destroyed :—

55 tins meat	1 tin pineapple crush
177 tins corned beef	4 tins puddings
10 tins stewed steak	7 tins Guavas
22 tins turkey	309 tins milk
3 tins steak and kidney pudding	1 tin Horlick's milk
3 tins sausages	1 tin Kaper's compound
4 tins bacon	1 bottle Rennett
1 tin Dutch brawn	1 bottle salad cream
3 tins rabbit	2 bottles plums
1 tin M. & V.	1 bottle apples
215 tins fish	2 jars marmalade
1 tin pate de foie	5 jars onions
62 tins herring spread	7 jars olives
8 tins potted meat	14 jars cucumbers
5 tins fish balls	36 jars pickles
91 tins fish paste	2 jars pickled cabbage
22 tins tomato	14 packets " Ryvita "
64 tins baked beans	4 packets rusks
28 tins soup	11 packets cereals
140 tins peas	8 packets junket powder
45 tins beetroot	24 Turox cubes
77 tins carrots	308lbs. milk powder
13 tins tomato juice	20 boxes cheese
1 tin mixed pickles	3lbs. dried peaches
7 tins Macedoines	30lbs. raisins
1 tin cheese and spaghetti	21lbs. peas
2 tins Tometti	32lbs. oatmeal
4 tins meat sauce	26lbs. sweets
2 tins mixed vegetables	458lbs. flour
1 tin celery cuts	8lbs. macaroni
13 tins spaghetti	8lbs. tea
6 tins green beans	52lbs. prunes
3 tins macaroni	8½lbs. cheese
215 tins fruit	24lbs. sausages
44 tins jam	6½lbs. bacon
13 tins grapefruit juice	20 fowls
28 tins marmalade	136 guinea fowls
1 tin golden corn	122½lbs. fish
11 boxes fish	



**Food Premises.**

Three hundred and six visits have been paid to food premises :—

INSPECTIONS.				NOTICES
Bakehouses	...	...	15 inspections	1 written notice
Butcher shops	...	...	28 „	1 verbal notice
Dairies	...	...	24 „	1 written notice
Cafés	...	...	71 „	3 verbal notices
Fried fish shops	...	...	5 „	
Ice cream premises	...	...	154 „	
Fish shops	...	...	7 „	
Fruit and Grocery	...	...	2 „	

**Ice Cream Premises.**

During the year 121 samples of ice cream were submitted to the County Laboratory, with the following provisional grading :—

TOTAL	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4
121	29	34	32	26

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## SECTION F

### Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

#### Prevalence.

Measles was the only infectious disease to reach local epidemic proportion, especially during the latter part of the year. The epidemic was mild; there were no deaths.

#### DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital, Paignton
Scarlet Fever ... ..	27	14
Measles ... ..	131	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	25	0
Pneumonia ... ..	4	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	0
	188	15

#### Investigations.

Twenty-eight notifiable cases were investigated during the year and enquiries were made as to possible source of infection.

#### Removal by Ambulance.

Prior to the Infectious Disease Ambulance being taken over by the Devon County Council under the National Health Service Act, 13 cases from Paignton and one case from Dartmouth were removed to the Isolation Hospital, Paignton.

During this period the I.D. Ambulance made 22 journeys, with a total mileage of 286 miles.

### The Isolation Hospital

Total number of cases, 21 :—Males, 13 ; Females, 8.

From 1st January, 1948, to 4th July, 1948 :—

	PAIGNTON.	DARTMOUTH.
Scarlet Fever ... ..	10	1
Measles ... ..	1	—
Observation—Meningitis (?)...	1	—
	12	1



From 5th July, 1948, to 13th Nov., 1948 :—

	PAIGNTON.	DARTMOUTH
Scarlet Fever ... ..	4	2
Erysipelas ... ..	—	1
Food poisoning (?) observation	1	—
	—	—
	5	3
	—	—

The last case was discharged from the Hospital on 13th November 1948, when the Hospital was placed on a Care and Maintenance basis.

I. J. FREEMAN,

Matron, Isolation Hospital.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

Personal letter appeals were made to parents of younger children

This service was taken over completely by the Devon County Council on 5th July, 1948, under the National Health Service. Prior to this date, immunisation sessions were carried out once a month at the Paignton Central Clinic and the Preston M. & C.W. Clinic, and weekly at the M. & C.W. Clinic, Dartmouth Road, Paignton. My sincere thanks are due to Dr. F. Muriel Morris and Dr. A. Kennie, who have carried out immunisations at the M. & C.W. Clinic, Dartmouth Road.

#### Children Immunised during the period 1.1.48 — 4.7.48.

Number of children born in the year stated who were completely immunised between 1/1/48 — 4/7/48 :—

CHILDREN BORN IN					Period	Period	Total
1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943-39	1938-34	
—	132	26	4	9	75	11	257

In addition to the above numbers, children were also immunised by Private Practitioners in the District.

The following is the Registrar-General's estimate of the population under 15 years as at 30th June, 1948 :—

Number of children aged 0—4 years (inclusive) ...	1543
Number of children aged 5—14 years (inclusive) ...	2713
TOTAL ... ..	4256

The prophylactic used in all cases, was Alum Precipitated Toxoid in two doses of 0.3 to 0.4 c.c. There have been no ill-effects reported to me.

### Scabies, Skin and Verminous Conditions.

At the Out-Patient Cleansing Centre, Midvale Road, eight adults and twenty-six children (six adults and fourteen children from Paignton) were treated during the year. This treatment continues to be carried out most satisfactorily by the Assistant Nurse Helper of the Devon County Council.

The Urban District Council pay a proportion of the cost of the Clinic for the above purposes.

### Vaccination

As in the case of immunisation, the Devon County Council assumed responsibility for the vaccination of all children on the 5th July, 1948, in accordance with the requirement of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

I again thank the Vaccination Officer for the under-mentioned return covering the period 1st January, 1948, to 5th July, 1948. The small number of vaccinations is regrettable.

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### Vaccination Officer's Report

1st January, 1948—5th July, 1948 :—

Vaccinated ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Objections signed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Insusceptible ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Postponed ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Died unvaccinated...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Left district ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

WM. ROSSITER, Vaccination Officer.

The arrangements for the following-up of smallpox contacts are unchanged. Two persons (arrival by ship) were kept under surveillance.



## TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2—5 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6—10 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11—15 ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16—20 ...	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
21—25 ...	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
26—35 ...	3	1	0	0	4	2	0	0
36—45 ...	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
46—55 ...	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	0
56—65 ...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
66 upwards ...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
TOTALS ...	10	6	0	0	7	5	2	0

A note is taken of new cases and enquiry made in view of any possible connection, which they might have with milk, food, or other means of spreading infection. Several such cases have been investigated and advice given on the adoption of precautions.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF BILLETING OFFICER FOR 1948

### Evacuation.

The number of persons billeted in Paignton on 1st January, 1948 was as follows :—

Unaccompanied children	...	...	...	...	9
Accompanied children	...	...	...	...	1
Mothers	...	...	...	...	1

In September, 1948, the number of persons billeted in Paignton was as follows :—

Unaccompanied children	...	...	...	...	11
Accompanied children	...	...	...	...	1
Mothers	...	...	...	...	1

During September, official notification was received that the billeting scheme had ceased and the payment of allowances to persons still evacuated was being taken over by the Devon County Council.

FREDK. J. THICK,  
Chief Billeting Officer.





