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CITY OF PETERBOROUGH



REPORTS
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND OF THE
Sanitary Inspector

COVERING (WAR) YEARS
1943 - 1944

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CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

I.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

COVERING (WAR) YEARS

1943 — 1944

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT 1943 — 1944

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(as elected 9th November, 1943)

Chairman :

Alderman J. T. FISHER, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor MRS. L. V. BRYANT, J.P.

THE MAYOR (*ex officio*).

CHAIRMAN FINANCE COMMITTEE

(*ex officio*).

Alderman J. A. BARTRAM.

Alderman H. J. FARROW.

Councillor G. J. BATTEN.†

Councillor COATES.

Councillor E. C. PATTERSON, L.D.S.

Councillor PAILING.

Councillor J. E. SWAIN.

Councillor A. W. VINEY, M.B.E.

Councillor F. H. WRIGHT.

Councillor MRS. WOOD.

† On War Service.

INFANT WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Alderman H. J. FARROW.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor MRS. L. V. BRYANT, J.P.

THE MAYORESS (*ex officio*).

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE (*ex officio*).

The above members of the PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, *excepting* Councillors Patterson, Viney and Wright, but *adding* Councillors Holdich, Mellows, Martin and Stenson, together with the following co-opted members, viz :—
Mrs. Knee, Mrs. J. A. Bartram, Mrs. E. V. Martin, Mrs. A. H. Mellows,
Dr. W. Peach Hay.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospitals, and Medical Officer to the Child Welfare Committee—

WM. JOHNSTONE, M.D., B.CH. (GLAS.), D.P.H. (CAME.).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (part time)—

JOHN N. COLLINS, M.D. (LOND.).

Ante-Natal Consultant (Part time)—

ALAN MORRIS JOHNS, M.D., M.R.C.O.G.

Orthopaedic Consultant (Part time)—

(Pre-School age children)

NOEL SMITH, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., T.C.D., F.R.C.S. (Eng.).

Health Visitors—

Miss E. M. TAMPLIN, S.R.N., C.M.B., A.R.San.I.

Mrs. C. E. KENDELL, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Ante-Natal Matron—

Mrs. R. M. RITCHIE, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Matron Borough Isolation Hospital—

Miss I. B. SKINNER, S.R.N.

Clerks—

Chief: H. A. GOODACRE.

Assistant: G. SAUNDERS.

Members of the Public Health Committee, acting as Sanitary Authority.
 Members of the Infant Welfare Committee, as Infant Welfare Authority.

Mr. Chairman, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It has been inevitable, as with all Public Health Authorities, during these war years, particularly where the Sanitary Authority has been a Civil Defence Scheme-making Authority, that a large amount of attention has been re-directed towards matters relating to Civil Defence. On this account, the framing of reports on any elaborate scale has been subjected to some heavy curtailment. Focus of attention on essentials has brought out into relief what are essentials such that those details which are necessary may remain in the forefront.

Diphtheria immunisation has, for example, made steady progress up to the requisite 75% protection for both pre-school-age and school-age children. This is a satisfactory achievement, but extravagant claims should not be hailed. If anyone is interested, let the Public Health Reports for the years 1925 and 1926 (years embracing my tenure of office) be consulted for the incidence of diphtheria, and compare the present incidence, and enthusiasm will reduce to sobriety of contemplation by such simple reference. What immunisation does has been well expressed by Lt.-Col. McRobert, M.D., F.R.C.P., of the Indian Medical Service, in the words: "... it (immunisation) acts as a strengthening of the guard and not as an absolute defence against invasion by an overwhelming force." This is to say that no guarantee can be given that an immunised case will not contract diphtheria, but that the worst ravages can, by immunisation, with certainty, be proscribed.

No immunised child has died in this City according to the records.

A marked reduction of mortality has taken place throughout the country as a whole, amounting to 50% in 1944 as compared with 1942.

Caution has, however, again to be observed in that a similar reduction in mortality has been noted in relation to both Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers, as well as Cerebro-spinal Fever, against which there has been no universal, particularly in the case of the former, civil inoculation.

This population, in common with others, has evinced the usual staying power during the war years, but the extremely monotonous diet should be terminated at the earliest possible moment, for, as Sir John Boyd Orr proved beyond all cavil, considerable cross-sections of the population were not properly or adequately fed in pre-war days, and the position will never be properly satisfactory until the whole population gets back to the proper number of calories and first-class fresh foods regarded by him as essential to the maintenance of proper nutrition.

This should be a first priority in reconstruction, taken together with housing, as one of the basic primordial needs essential to the stamina of the race.

I would convey my most cordial thanks to my staffs who have carried on, often under circumstances of considerable difficulty, and with alacrity undertook burdens related to Civil Defence in unheralded and unrecognised spheres with a spirit of loyalty and devotion which did them the greatest of credit and which ought to have their place of acknowledgment now that hostilities are over.

V-J Day, 1945.

WM. JOHNSTONE,
Medical Officer of Health.

1944

<i>Peterborough.</i>		<i>England and Wales.</i>	<i>148 Smaller towns, pop : 25,000 to 50,000 (1931 census).</i>
<i>Actual Nos.</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 Population (Civil)</i>		
BIRTHS :—			
Live 1007	20.4	17.6	20.9
Still 23	0.4	0.50	0.61
DEATHS :—			
All Causes 566	11.6	11.6	12.4
Scarlet Fever 0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Typhoid 0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cerebro-spinal Fever 0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria 1	0.02	0.02	0.03
Whooping Cough 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0.02	0.03	0.02
Measles 0	0.00	0.01	0.01
NOTIFICATIONS :—			
Scarlet Fever 68	1.37	2.40	2.67
Diphtheria 9	0.18	0.58	0.69
Typhoid (or paratyphoid) 0	0.00	0.01	0.01
Dysentery 1	0.02	0.25	n.a.
Cerebro-spinal Fever 1	0.02	0.05	0.04
Pneumonia 32	0.66	0.97	0.82
Measles 108	2.2	4.16	3.94
Whooping Cough 196	4.0	2.49	2.29

Per 1,000 (Live) Births

NOTIFICATIONS (cont.)—			
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	5.00	9.25
MORTALITY (cont.)—			
Infant Deaths under one year	39	39	44
(a) Legitimate	32	36*	
(b) Illegitimate	7	60†	
Maternal Mortality	1	1.00	n.a.

* per 1,000 legitimate births.

† per 1,000 illegitimate births.

‡ infant 3 weeks old.

VITAL STATISTICS, Etc., of 1943, 1944

	1943		1944	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
BIRTHS	795 :	16.3 per 1,000 pop.	1,007 :	20.4 per 1,000 pop.
DEATHS	621 :	12.8 per 1,000 pop.	566 :	11.6 per 1,000 pop.
INFANT MORTALITY	33 :	41 per 1,000 births.	39 :	39 per 1,000 births.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES :	1943		1944	
	No. of Cases.	Rate.	No. of Cases.	Rate.
Diphtheria	25	0.5	9	0.18
Scarlet Fever	76	1.5	68	1.37
Measles	591	12	108	2.2
Whooping Cough	106	2.2	196	4.0
Enteric (Typhoid)	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	41	0.84	32	0.66
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2.4	5	5.00
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	—	1	—
Dysentery	7	—	1	—

In general terms it can be held that in Peterborough, the deductions have all pointed to maintenance of health and that such was the trend during 1943, and that the year was on e of even tenour all round. Support for the contention is forthcoming by the following :—

1. A slightly increased number of about 100 over par (1943), but the figure pre-war (576) was doubled during 1944.
2. The general death rate was a steady one at 12.8 per 1,000 of population.
3. The number of notifications of tuberculosis (1943) was slightly in excess of the normal, but not significantly so.
4. Nutritional state of the people has been well maintained—a tribute to rationing as also the system of special consideration being given to what are styled the priority classes—for instance the pregnant woman had never been so well and satisfactorily catered for at any time as since the inception of high priority in quantity of milk essential to her special case. In consequence never before had she, as during this war been so well and suitably nourished.
5. No outbreak of epidemic disease occurred which threatened to get beyond control of routine measures.

Immunisation against diphtheria proceeded apace, the Ministry having conceded excusal by health visitors of a certain amount of their ordinary routine work in order that the special claims of this protection for pre-school age (1-4) might specifically be brought to notice of parents through personal influence at the homes.

This work was carried out with thoroughness and enthusiasm by our Health Visitors such that one paid the order of 1,000 visits, the other close upon 500.

It is gratifying to record that this effort was well worth while, resulting in the nearer objective of a marked fillip being given to the process of immunisation at appropriate time of life (well before school entry) and

- (b) not a single child in this group which was immunised contracted diphtheria;
- (c) the proportion of immunised thereby became significant enough to ensure community or group protection a feature which, up to then, was the factor which was lacking.

Although the experience with the pre-school child population had been so gratifying in not one of them contracting diphtheria, there was a disconcerting amount of case-incidence amongst school children, who, in the main, had been immunised only the year before.

We were at considerable pains to endeavour to elucidate a likely explanation and invoked the aid of the Cambridge Pathological laboratory to this end.

The short answer to it all was that the cases did not exhibit (for obscure reasons) the necessary amount of antibody in their circulating blood serum which would secure for them protection against infection if exposed to it—being in fact actually unimmunised although evidence was undoubted in that the measure of inoculation had been carried out.

The stock immunising material was at the date of exhibition declared to have been faulty, inasmuch as our experience with these 8 had its counterpart in other areas.

It was fortunate that the campaign of persuasion by the Health Visitors had borne its fruit before these untoward happenings materialised.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

	1943			1944		
	<i>Under 5.</i>	<i>5-15.</i>		<i>Under 5.</i>	<i>5-15.</i>	
	907	474	433	497	377	120
Total population immunised all periods	6633	2228	4405	7230	2605	4525
		(64%)	(71%)		(74.9%)	(72.9%)
Incidence of Diphtheria (14 or under)	1943			1944		
	<i>Cases.</i>			<i>Cases.</i>		
			19			6

Ambulance Facilities.

- A. FOR GENERAL (SICK) AND ACCIDENT CASES (CIVIL) there are now two ambulances available.

During 1943, one of these, which is identified by the staff as the American Ambulance (a gift from the Citizens of Peterborough, New Hampshire, U.S.A.) was reconstructed to accomplish two objects:—

- (a) to improve stretching loading by adjustments to internal racking positions;
- (b) to widen the body so as to get a better gangway and leave room for 2 more stretchers capable of use on appropriate occasion consonant with the h.p. (30) of the engine.

- B. FOR INFECTIOUS CASES. 1929 Morris "Commercial" chassis with body specially adapted to take clothing and bedding.

Laboratory Facilities.

The following specimens were forwarded to the local Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service laboratory, situated at the Peterborough Memorial Hospital, during 1943:—

	<i>Departmental.</i>	<i>Isolation Hospital.</i>	<i>Other Sources.</i>
Swabs	27	114	101
Blood	—	1	—
Stool (Dysentery)	—	1	—
CerebroSpinal Fluid	—	1	—
Sputum (T.B.)	—	1	—
Special Examinations	—	—	1

In addition, 3 bloods for A.P.T. content, together with 9 swabs, were sent to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory laboratory at Cambridge.

The following were forwarded to the Public Analyst:—

- 31 samples of Pasteurised Milk.
- 1 sample of Raw Milk.
- 1 bottle of Concentrated Orange Juice.
- 2 Water samples for chemical and bacteriological examination.

19 samples of milk were forwarded to the University of Sheffield for T.B. examination. The results of these are shown on page 10 of the Sanitary Inspector's Report embodied herein.

Water.

A statement is requested in this report relative to (a) sufficiency, (b) quality of water supply, together with other points.

The supply is a piped supply from Waterworks and is constant.

(a) SUFFICIENCY.

There is not now, and never has been, any dearth of water in this borough, nor to any part of the supply area.

When, resultant from drougthy winters, the underground depth has fallen, the inhabitants have been enjoined to exercise care, as indeed they should as routine with a prime commodity.

Of sufficiency there has never been any question.

(b) QUALITY.

A sample of water is taken every month and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis.

His findings have been consistent for years in that the water is of satisfactory bacterial and chemical quality for human consumption and domestic use.

On two samples taken during 1943 the following is representative :—

Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	Absent in 100 mls.	
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.	181	12
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.	1	2
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	3	4
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0
Proportion of dwelling houses actually on supply or to which a supply is available	99.6%	
Proportion of population supplied from works directly to houses or by means of standpipes	99.9%	

Noted also that this supply is on continuous chlorination by plant installed at the sources, which has been functioning regularly since 1940.

The nature of the supply is such that no plumbo-solvent action is likely; so therefore the most minute quantity of lead has not been declared present.

Maternity.

Increase of accommodation during 1943 by the inauguration of Thorpe Hall Annexe premises as a Maternity Unit in June, 1943 12 further beds were added in part to the Borough's accommodation. As the Annexe is run by the Memorial Hospital, the beds are not restricted to City residents but are at the disposal of any pregnant women in the hospital "drainage" area who prepays a stipulated scale of charges which incidentally qualify for a certain reduction in cases of those already in the hospital contributory scheme.

Practically from inception the bookings augmented so that by the end of 1943 the first half of 1944 was virtually booked up.

These 12 beds, added to others of institutional accommodation, bring the total provision of beds for maternity (Hospitals, Nursing Homes) to something like 36, all situate within the City of Peterborough, but on estimate about 50% available to City residents.

ANTE-NATAL CASES REFERRED TO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOR X-RAY

RESULT	RESULT
1. Single foetus. Vertex. Radiologically no evidence of abnormality.	11. Twins. Forecoming foetus, head well down, vertex, R.O.P. Aftercoming foetus. Breech.
2. ? T.B. Lungs. No evidence at present.	12. Only one foetus. L.O.A.
3. No obvious disproportion or abnormalities seen.	13. Twin pregnancy, both breech, no abnormalities.
4. Transverse lie.	14. Single foetus, vertex, nothing abnormal.
5. Extended breech.	15. Single foetus, vertex, well intracalcified masses in abdomen, probably in glands.
6. Vertex. L.O.A.	16. Single foetus, vertex. L.O.A.
7. Vertex. Nil. Abnormal.	17. Single foetus, vertex. R.O.A. presentation at present, no abnormalities.
8. Suspicions of some forward displacement of coccyx, but no gross fracture or displacement in rest of sacrum or coccyx.	18. Swelling of the rib due to swelling of rib cartilage. No deformity of bone.
9. Single foetus. Breech with extended legs.	19. Single foetus. L.O.A. position.
10. Twin pregnancy about 5 months, no definite abnormalities seen.	

ANTE-NATAL CASES REFERRED TO HOSPITAL

No. of cases referred to Hospital.	Nature of suspected abnormality.	Evidence of Investigation.	Final disposal of case.
1.	Not pregnant. ? Menorrhagia. To see Gynaecologist.	Menorrhagia.	Attending out-patient department of hospital Treatment.
2.	Previous history of Caesarian section. Contracted pelvic outlet.	Contracted pelvic outlet. Advise trial labour in hospital. Possibility of patient being able to deliver herself.	Admitted to St. John's Hospital. Delivered by high forceps after prolonged labour (12 hrs.). Living child.
3.	Head very high and floating above pelvic brim. Caesarian section advised.	X-Ray shows no obvious disproportion or abnormalities. Advise delivery in hospital.	Admitted to hospital. Caesarean section, living male child.
4.	? Transverse lie.	X-Ray confirms transverse lie; unable to admit to Memorial Hospital owing to lack of accommodation. Patient's own doctor notified.	Delivered at home by own Doctor. Stillborn child.
5.	Generally contracted pelvis. ? breech.	X-Ray shows extended breech. Arrangements made for delivering in hospital.	Admitted to hospital in labour. Stillborn child.
6.	? Extended head. L.O.P.. Advise delivery in hospital.	X-Ray shows Vertex, nil abnormal, patient did not wish to enter hospital. Own doctor notified.	Delivered at home (per vias naturales). Living child.

ANTE-NATAL CASES REFERRED TO HOSPITAL—cont.

No. of cases referred to Hospital.	Nature of suspected abnormality.	Evidence of Investigation.	Final disposal of case.
7.	Retroverted uterus. Raised blood-pressure. Advise Physician's opinion. (Early pregnancy).	High blood-pressure. Admitted to hospital for treatment and observation.	Miscarriage at 6 mths.
8.	? Incompetence of aortic valve. Advise Physician's opinion.	X-Ray shows 1 foetus. No heart lesion found.	Delivered at home (vias naturales). Living child.
9.	Raised blood-pressure. Heart very rapid. For Physician's opinion.	No toxæmia but appears very fragile and nervous. No sign of organic disease. Needs more rest.	Admitted to St. John's Hospital. Delivered vias naturales. Living child.
10.	Previous history of difficult and prolonged labour. S.B. child. If labour delayed this time should have Caesarian section.	Delayed labour. Admitted to hospital.	Cesarean section. Living child.
11.	Accident to foot on way to Ante-Natal Clinic. Should go to hospital. ? fracture.	Fractured metatarsal bones. Right foot.	Treatment at Out-patients Department of Hospital. (Delivered vias naturales, living child).
12.	Oedema legs and hands. Head badly flexed. Recommend admission to hospital for observation and induction of labour.	X-Ray shows no abnormalities. Vertex. R.O.A. Own doctor notified.	Admitted to St. John's Hospital in labour. (Delivered vias naturales, living child).
13.	Breech high. Mother is not a healthy woman, kidney suspect. Advise version under general anæsthetic 36th week and induction of labour.	Blood count shows considerable reduction of hæmoglobin. Admitted to hospital for rest and observation, discharged before 36th week, version not performed. Arrangements made to admit before end of pregnancy.	Labour supervened, 38 weeks. Admitted to hospital, "footling," very difficult labour and delivery. Hydrocephalic and spina bifida. Stillborn.

**CASES REFERRED TO T.B. and V.D. OFFICER
FOR T.B. and V.D. INVESTIGATIONS**

T. B.		V. D.	
1.	No evidence of active disease at present. Small calcifications in right hilum. Both lung fields are clear. Negative.	1.	Negative.
2.	Negative.	2.	Negative 1st test, 2nd test "Severe secondary syphilis."
		3.	Negative.
		4.	Negative.
		5.	Negative.
		6.	Negative.
		7.	Trichomonas vaginalis.
		8.	Doubtful. Course of salvarsan given.

Pre-School Age Infants—Orthopaedic Treatment.

Except for an odd case at the out-patients department, Peterborough Memorial Hospital, under Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Northampton, there were no transactions for pre-school age children during 1943.

Certain other factors and features (principally the fact of the Memorial Hospital having appointed during 1943 on its staff a Specialist Orthopaedic Surgeon) the qualification of Manfield as a special residential school being of no moment where pre-school age children are concerned, a good case could be made out for transference of activity to local sphere which would entail at least the merit of saving parents a double 40-mile journey to Northampton where in-patient treatment were necessitated.

Child Life Protection.

During the year the Health Visitors in their capacity of Child Protection Visitors paid 28 visits to the home of 9 children. At the end of the year the register contained the names of 7 children, 2 having attained 9 years during the year.

This activity was inspected by a woman inspector of the Ministry of Health, No. 3 Region, during the year, and high commendation was expressed of the efficiency of the Service, particular stress being laid on the happy relations subsisting between the foster parents and their young charges.

One case gave rise to some temporary inconvenience because of difference of opinion as to suitability of the foster home, and was further complicated by the natural parents being separated and the father having placed the child, whilst on leave from military duty, without notifying the Local Authority of his having done so. In the finish the father removed the child to the custody of his own parents.

Vitamin Supplements (Fruit Juices, Cod Liver Oil, etc.) — Expectant Mothers and Infant Dietary.

These accessory food factors are available at the two Infant Welfare Centres:—

- (a) At the Central Centre, Town Hall—thrice weekly.
- (b) At Mounsteven Avenue, Walton—twice weekly.

It can be confidently contended therefore that there is no lack of reasonable opportunity at the Welfare Centres to the willing to avail themselves of these vitamin essentials if they are so minded.

Location (b) being remote from the town's centre and Food Office does a larger turnover both actually and relatively to (a) whose close proximity to the Food Office tends to disqualify its purpose.

The two Ministers' (Health and Food) expression of disappointment recorded in the second paragraph of Circular 2732 is well founded and the propaganda campaign appeared to exert little effect towards bettering the applications and it is not considered that a wider availability (originally I drafted a scheme with 10 locations) would have brought a commensurate take up.

Even the device of supplying an equivalent to cod liver oil by means of capsules instead of crude oil to expectant mothers has met with but indifferent response.

The distribution from the Central Centre, Town Hall, proved to be as follows for 1943:—

	<i>Orange Juice.</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil.</i>	<i>Capsules.</i>
	2,140 bottles.	288 bottles.	28 packets.
(1944)	3,062 „	470 „	19 „

Cleanliness.

A special reference has been requested in Ministry of Health Circular 2831 for inclusion in this report regarding steps taken to improve the general standard of cleanliness, particularly in relation to infants of pre-school age.

The test method of approach here is working back from the School Medical Service where every family who are offenders against a reasonable code of cleanliness is reasonably well known.

From such source identity is simple and in consequence the information is always available, and can readily be made use of in the pre-school age service.

Actually, one of the Health Visitors combines duties of School Nurse in her own area so that the information is part and parcel of her own records.

Additionally, posters are displayed at each Welfare Centre—the usual ones printed by the Health and Cleanliness Council.

Incidentally, when this matter was under discussion in Committee, it was deemed advisable to have a ruling on the technicality of examination in the home without consent by a parent.

We know where we are in schools on the leading case of *Fox v Burgess*.

We were assured that the "ground" was safe enough when the examination formed part of official duty, but of course a Health Visitor cannot put on a disguise and more often than not the worst offenders will not open the door if predisclosure is made of whose admission is sought to hear the worst concerning themselves.

WARTIME DAY NURSERIES

The three Wartime Day Nurseries were opened in 1942. No. 1 Day Nursery, Caverstede Road, and No. 2 Day Nursery, London Road, being opened in June, and No. 3 Day Nursery, Granville Street, in December. They have been continually open during the year 1943 and 1944.

The attendances for the year have been satisfactory. The average daily attendances for each month are shown below :—

<i>Month.</i>	<i>No. 1 Nursery.</i>		<i>No. 2 Nursery.</i>		<i>No. 3 Nursery.</i>	
1943.	<i>Under 2.</i>	<i>Over 2.</i>	<i>Under 2.</i>	<i>Over 2.</i>	<i>Under 2.</i>	<i>Over 2.</i>
January	2	7	9	18	6	9
February	4	9	7	15	4	6
March	5	11	9	16	8	15
April	3	12	7	17	9	15
May	3	15	9	21	9	15
June	2	15	9	22	12	16
July	3	11	8	21	8	14
August	4	14	5	19	9	15
September	4	13	9	19	10	18
October	5	8	11	10	7	22
November	5	10	12	15	6	23
December	2	9	12	12	4	16

Over fifty per cent. of the mothers leaving children in the Nurseries were employed on Essential War Work, (e.g. Central Sugar Factory, L.N.E. Railway, Factories, 'Bus Company, etc.). Several children attending the Nurseries lived on the outskirts of the City; some of them coming from as far as Whittlesey, Stilton and Alwalton.

Practically one hundred per cent., numbering about eighty children, were immunised against Diphtheria.

On June 1st, 1943, one Warden was appointed to each Nursery to educate the children from three to five years of age. With their teaching and guidance, many of the children have shown great promise, and this preliminary education, will no doubt, be of great assistance to these children when they are old enough to enter the elementary schools. The Warden appointed to No. 1 Nursery resigned in August and could not be replaced. (Absence of applicants).

There were several staff changes during the year, but the following table shows the staff employed at each Nursery for the greater part of the year.

<i>Position Held.</i>	<i>No. 1 Nursery.</i>	<i>No. 2 Nursery.</i>	<i>No. 3 Nursery.</i>
Matron, S.R.N.	1	1	1
Deputy Matron	1	1	1
Warden	1	1	1
Nursery Nurses	1	1	1
Nursery Assistants	2	3	2
Probationers	—	1	1
Cooks	1	1	1
Cleaners	1	1	1
Any others	—	—	1C.N.R.

Two children needed treatment:—One for a Double Squint of a pronounced character and the other for adenoidal growths.

Scabies.

The sufferance tenure of premises operative from previous year, in respect to bathroom and storage of equipment in quarters other than those belonging to the Borough Authority, had to be terminated during 1943.

In substitution, we were able to command facilities capable of running quite smoothly, minus the paraphernalia incidental to the original arrangement. As well, a further difficulty had to be overcome and met on the giving of treatment, chiefly in relation to male patients.

Volunteers from amongst Civil Defence first-aid party men trained in the art of applying treatment to cases of their own sex as originally planned, became fraught with especial hazard on their ceasing from 1st July, 1943, to be under the control of the City Medical Officer—their transference to another branch of Civil Defence. Final abandonment was the only practical course to be pursued.

In effect then there had to be secured :—

- (a) A fresh arrangement for premises.
- (b) A fresh arrangement for personnel to give treatment.

The problem was tackled thus :—

- (1) To treat males (other than of school age) : hospital male staff.
- (2) To treat females (other than of school age) : hospital nurses staff.
- (3) For children of school age : the School Clinic.

Significant to record : no cases have had to be dealt with under category (2); the largest references have come under (3) at 65 cases, and if this is any criterion, Peterborough is anything but Scabies-ridden.

No recalcitrants have had to be dealt with under Defence Regulations.

Epidemic.

A small outbreak of Dysentery of Sonne type, involving 7 cases, occurred during October, 1943, in a closed community.

The activating origination of the outbreak was difficult to assess with any degree of dogmatism, but a tower in circuit of water supply in the grounds of the institution had accidental ingress of an inordinate number of fly carcasses and the bacteriological finding of this particular (softened) water indicated considerable bacterial contamination. The water softening material also came under suspicion.

When steps were taken on advice to exclude the tower element from the general supply until at least results indicated a measure of safety, the epidemic terminated.

There was one death of an aged female from intercurrent malady.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Record of Transactions — 1943, 1944

	CITY CASES.			OUTSIDE (R.D.) CASES.			H.M. FORCES.		
	S.F.	Diph.	Measles, Cough, Dysentery, Others, Whooping	S.F.	Diph.	Measles, Dysentery, Others,	S.F.	Diph.	Measles or German or Typhoid, Others.
1943									
Compendious									
Total									
129	59	28	7 — —	11	12	1 — —	1	1	2 — 6
1944									
Compendious									
Total									
104	49	12	1 4 2 13	5	— — 1 —	—	3	11	1 2

1943. Analysis— City Cases 105 Outside (R.D.) Cases 14 H.M. & Allied Forces 10

No deaths.

1944. Analysis— City Cases 81 Outside (R.D.) Cases 6 H.M. & Allied Forces 17

One death.

**CAUSES OF DEATHS IN PETERBOROUGH M.B.,
1943 and 1944**

Causes of Death.	Total Deaths.	
	1943	1944
Civilians only—All Causes	605	565
Typhoid and para-typhoid fever	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
Scarlet fever	—	—
Whooping cough	—	1
Diphtheria	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	17	10
Other forms of tuberculosis	6	2
Syphilis	2	—
Influenza	23	8
Measles	—	—
Polio-myel and polio-encephalitis	—	—
Acute inf. encephalitis	1	—
Cancer, all forms	103	88
Diabetes	9	7
Intra crane vasc. : lesions	75	86
Heart disease	124	147
Other diseases of circ. system	19	7
Bronchitis	53	28
Pneumonia	19	8
Other respiratory diseases	5	4
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	7	2
Diarrhoea (under two years)	2	2
Appendicitis	3	2
Other digestive diseases	9	14
Nephritis	18	19
Maternal Mortality :—(a) Sepsis	—	—
(b) Non-sepsis	3	1
Premature birth	12	9
Other neo-natal mortality	10	18
Suicide	6	9
Road traffic accidents	2	7
Other violent causes	13	13
All other causes	78	70

PROPOSED NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE (England).

As the Government's-sponsored proposed Medical Health Service will affect every Authority in the country, it seems right and proper to allude to this in a Health Report.

The most far-reaching and fundamental proposals that have ever come before the nation have been propounded in the form of a White Paper issued by the Ministry of Health in February, 1944, for, not only do they affect the fundamentals of medical practice, disintegrating the conception of the doctor plying medical practice in private as a private individual from the focus of his house, but also the structure of the Public Health Service as it now exists.

The non-County Boroughs are declared insufficient to carry on any form of Public Health Service according to this document, contemplating that no fewer than 167 of them would be dethroned as autonomous entities, at present employing a Medical Officer of Health who is not engaged in private practice. What is to become of these as at present constituted is not stated, but the whole thing is proposed to be founded on a County Council and County Borough Council set up. The anomaly is that there are a number of non-County Boroughs which are actually larger than some County Boroughs, and, not only that, but the non-County Borough is still to be regarded as good and sufficient to carry out heavy sanitary commitments, i.e. huge housing schemes amounting to a million of money (and this would apply to Peterborough), a comprehensive sewerage system amounting to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million of money, to continue as water undertakers (and, in the case of Peterborough, also supplying a large area of satellitic territories). Non-County Boroughs approaching a 50,000 population are contemplated as being of sufficient status in above respects, yet, according to the White Paper, they are unable to support a School Medical Service of less than 7,000 school population, and the pre-school-age population abutting thereon.

Nobody has yet been encountered who can explain such glaring inconsistency, even when the Public Service has been erected, as most of the County Boroughs are, of whatever size, on what may be termed "The Newman System," which has worked exceedingly well between the two wars, and on the non-County Borough side, at least, no glaring deficiency of Services has ever been brought to light.

The County Boroughs of Bury, Carlisle, Yarmouth, Burton-on-Trent are not as large as Luton, Swindon, or Beckenham, but none of these latter are capable, so the legend runs, of seeing to their affairs if they are non-County Boroughs, but if they are County Boroughs, they would be quite capable. Canterbury is a County Borough of only 27,000 population, and in the above determinations is to remain autonomous, but Margate, Ramsgate, Dover, and Folkestone will, according to the White Paper, have to be run from Maidstone, which the framers consider are incapable of managing their affairs. It will remain to be seen whether these places are all going to accept the conclusions, and in the words of Dean Swift "are going to put down their dust."

In the realm of the general medical practitioner, none of these are going to be allowed to be masters in their own domain as hitherto, but it is pertinent to ask in this relation:—Does the public realise what the effect of this will be? Hitherto, a family has regarded the doctor as the family doctor, and in a State Service there can be no such thing as what might be termed "a private family doctor," for the doctor will have contracted not with the family, but with some form

of Central Department. The consequence must follow, therefore, that if a child is taken ill in the night the parent would not, as hitherto, go for doctor "A" (the family doctor), or his partner, but would have to ring up, or otherwise get in touch with, a bureau of state fabrication (euphemistically described as a Health Centre), who would send the doctor who was on duty in that bureau for that particular night.

Is it, however, realised, that contributors (and about 99.9% of the population would have to become contributors), would have their illnesses card indexed in a file which is not the property of any particular doctor as appertains at present, but the property of the bureau, who would probably be employing clerks likely to be young girls of an inconsequent age? In such card index the various details of the lives of the people would be available to be scrutinised, or, in other words, the whole of anybody's illnesses and defects will become, in effect, public property. These results would arise as one branch of what is called security, whereas the individual might be wholly insecure in the privacy of his medical history. He would certainly have no guarantee at all that they would be sacrosanct and within the knowledge, as hitherto, of only his single private medical attendant. Such records would become the plaything of any member of the particular offices where the doctors might congregate.

Considerable dilation has been made elsewhere on the general set-up of the structural arrangements for the medical side of security and what is proposed has in some sort of form been going on in European countries for a very long time, for instance in Austria since before the Great War; hence the whole thing could be gathered together in two words and described quite aptly as smacking of Continental system.

It would be news to anyone in England to say that the English system was so fundamentally bad, precarious or rotten-at-the-core that it had broken down and was completely inefficient that there was no one in the country who was able to procure medical care how and when it was required. There may be instances, of course, where there are a large number of young children in a family, where the doctor's bill may put some economic pressure on the head of the household, but this taken singly, and even with cognate instances, would barely constitute a valid reason for taking the present system and smashing the whole of the present structure against the rocks of valetudinarianism.

TUBERCULOSIS — New Cases during 1944.

PULMONARY					NON-CIVILIAN SERVICES		NON-PULMONARY	
Age Periods.					Age periods.			
15—25					15—25		45—55	
January	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
February	1	1	1	—	2	1	—	—
March	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
April	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
May	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
June	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
July	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
August	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
October	1	2	—	2	—	2	—	—
November	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
December	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	6	9	4	4	1	2	2

(31)

(8)

The following comments are made on the above table :—

- (i) The total notifications of civilian cases are practically the same as in 1938.
- (ii) A striking feature is the excess (over pre-war) of cases in later middle life.
- (iii) Three of the notified cases died within a month of notification.
- (iv) One case died within a fortnight of notification.
- (v) One death certified (on death certificate) tuberculosis, was never notified at all.

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

II.

Summary of

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEARS 1943 & 1944

(J. L. SEDEN, M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San. I.)

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for 1943.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
TOWN HALL,
PETERBOROUGH.

January, 1944.

To The Right Worshipful the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the
City of Peterborough.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith, I beg to submit for your consideration, my Report for the year 1943.

For the sake of brevity the Report is primarily statistical and I trust the work done meets with your approval.

War-time conditions still continue to make their influence felt. The work of Meat and Food Inspection, details of which follow under the appropriate heading, has again taken up a considerable amount of time and called for careful oversight—two Government Abattoirs and one Bacon Factory in the City being the slaughtering centres for the City and several adjoining Authorities.

Depletion of staff and labour difficulties have naturally made the maintenance of pre-War standards difficult in the various sections of the work under review. Property generally is noticeably suffering from long overdue repairs and much lee-way will have to be made good when labour and materials again become available. There is also a marked falling off in the domestic cleanliness of certain houses.

Mr. D. G. Paterson, Additional Sanitary Inspector, left towards the end of July to take up an appointment with the Acton Borough Council. Mr. John Hall, an Inspector on the staff of the County Borough of Derby was subsequently appointed to fill the vacancy and, after some delay, was able to commence duties in mid-November.

INSPECTIONS, COMPLAINTS, NOTICES

Inspections 4,281. Re-visits 711. Complaints (Formal) 184. Action was taken in 162 cases. 75 Informal Notices were served under the Public Health and Housing Acts and 6 Statutory Notices. The bulk of matters requiring attention was, however, dealt with following personal interviews with Owners or Agents.

NUISANCES ABATED AND SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED

Total 497—covering similar matters referred to in pre-War printed Reports.

HOUSE INSPECTION

757 Houses were inspected and a total of 1,261 visits were made for this purpose.

DISINFECTION

The number of rooms disinfected is as follows:—

Infectious Disease	90
Phthisis	10
For non-notifiable Diseases—	
Wards and Annexes	6
Rooms	8
	<hr/>
	114

Bedding was removed to the Isolation Hospital to be disinfected from:—

87 Houses (after Infectious Disease)	665	articles
6 Houses (after non-notifiable Diseases)	49	„
12 Houses (after Phthisis)	78	„
	<hr/>	
	792	„

408 articles of bedding were removed, on request, from various houses in the City for disinfection, for which payment has been made. Also 825 articles from various Civil Defence Posts.

ERADICATION OF THE BED BUG

18 houses have been disinfested by the Owners—8 being done by Cimex blocks and 10 by approved liquid disinfesting agents. Practically all the foregoing had two treatments. 6 Council Houses were also dealt with by Hydrogen Cyanide Gas—this work being done by a firm specializing in this work.

FRIED FISH SHOPS

Number on Register—39, 7 of which are temporarily closed. 1 change in occupation occurred. Visits paid—22. 2 verbal cautions were given and lime-washing was done on request in two cases. New floor laid at one of the premises.

Sanitary defects remedied—4.

BAKEHOUSES

41 Bakehouses are on the Register, one new Registration taking place during the year. 36 visits paid. 3 verbal cautions were given respecting minor defaults. Limewashing done on request in two cases.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Particulars respecting the Government Slaughtering and Meat Distribution Scheme remain practically the same as reported for the three previous years.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year under review was: Beasts 3,702; Sheep 14,343; Calves 1,331; Pigs 3,908.

As in previous years a large number of casualty, unthrifty, or injured animals have been sent in under Certificates for slaughter. Such animals call for special oversight and add considerably to the condemnations. All meat and offals condemned are taken over by the authorised Government Agents for treatment and disposal.

805 Condemnation Notes covering 3,425 individual condemnations have been issued.

Following are particulars of the Condemnations :—

(" E " = Emergency Slaughter)

BEEF (for Tuberculosis)—

						<i>Stones</i>
21 Cows and all edible offal	.....	.....	.....	.....	(5E)	909
6 Heifers „ „	.....	.....	.....	.....	(2E)	216½
14 Ox Beasts „ „	.....	.....	.....	.....	(4E)	618
12 Forequarters Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....		91½

(Other Causes)—

				<i>Stones</i>
7 Cows	and all edible offal—	Dropsy and Emaciation	(7E)	237
3 Ox Beasts	„ „	—Dropsy and Emaciation	(2E)	63 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 Heifer	„ „	—Dropsy and Emaciation	(E)	28
2 Cows	„ „	—Dropsy and Putrefaction	(2E)	86
1 Cow	„ „	—Mortification	(E)	52 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Ox Beast	„ „	—Suppurating Abscesses		67 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 Ox Beast	„ „	—Fevered		36
3 Ox Beasts	„ „	—Bruising	(2E)	128 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Cow	„ „	—Septic Metritis	(E)	34 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 Heifer	„ „	—Moribund	(E)	26 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 Heifer	„ „	—Uraemia	(E)	36 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 Ox Beast	„ „	—Septicaemia	(E)	31 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bruised Beef				139 $\frac{1}{4}$
Heated Beef				19 $\frac{3}{4}$
Beef condemned for abscesses				9 $\frac{1}{2}$

OFFALS—

Livers; heads and tongues, and other edible offal— various diseases.	<i>Stones</i>
Total weight	2,621

SHEEP—

SHEEP—						Stones
11	carcases and all offal—	Dropsy and Emaciation	.....	.....	(6E)	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
2	”	—Fevered	.....	.....	(2E)	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
2	”	—Moribund	.....	.....	(2E)	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1	”	—Uraemia	.....	.....		3 $\frac{3}{4}$
1	”	—Mortification	.....	.....	(E)	5
1	”	—Drowned	.....	.....	(E)	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
1	”	—Multiple Abscesses	.....	.....	(E)	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
1	”	—“ Worried by dog ”	.....	.....	(E)	3 $\frac{1}{4}$
2	”	—Run over	.....	.....	(2E)	12
	Bruised Mutton					10 $\frac{3}{4}$
1	Imported Sheep carcase—Decomposition					2 $\frac{1}{4}$
	Edible Offal—various diseases.					Total weight 68

PIGS—

12 carcasses and all offal—	Generalised Tuberculosis	(2E)	147 $\frac{3}{4}$
2 " "	—Erysipelas	(2E)	22
2 " "	—Uraemia	(2E)	18
1 " "	—Moribund		6 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 " "	—Diamonds	(E)	9
1 " "	—Multiple Abscesses	(E)	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1 " "	—Septicaemia		14 $\frac{3}{4}$
1 " "	—Decomposition		16 $\frac{1}{2}$
Edible offal, etc., various diseases.			Total weight 235

CALVES—

2	carcasses and all offal—Generalised Tuberculosis	.....	.....	(1E)	15½
5	“ “ —Immaturity	.....	.....		10
1	“ “ —Moribund	.....	.....	(E)	3
	Bruised Veal	.....	.....		3
4	Other items of offal	.....	.....		2

MINISTRY OF HEALTH. CIRCULAR 1650
PARTICULARS TO BE GIVEN — ANNUAL REPORTS
CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	2,887	815	1,331	14,343	3,908
Number inspected	2,887	815	1,331	14,343	3,908
All Diseases ex- cept Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned	12	11	6	22	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	568	194	4	411	79
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	20.09%	25.15%	0.75%	3.02%	2.25%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned	20	21	2	—	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	350	241	—	—	104
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	12.88%	32.14%	0.15%	—	2.97%

OTHER FOODS

436 Condemnation Notes issued covering 9,677 items, namely, 4,982 tins of various foods, all blown and unsound. 146 stones of wet and dried fish; 3,502 eggs, imported; and 471½ stones of various food.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1938

PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS

The following articles have been purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst:—Milk 67, Butter 6, Coffee 3, "Chokola" 1, Cocoa 3, Olive Oil 4, Liquid Paraffin 1, Cake Mixture 1, Mustard 1, Custard Powder 1, Aspirin Tablets 1, Egg Substitute Powder 1, Sweetened Cake Flour 1, Ham & Beef Paste 1, Fish Paste 1, Baking Powder 1, Jam 3, Camphorated Oil 1, Seidlitz Powder 1, Sausage 10; Cheese Powder 1. Total 110; (79 Formal 31 Informal).

Dirt and Preservatives were certified as absent from all the Milk Samples.

The following Samples were reported against:—

SAMPLES 313 & 314. MILK. (Both morning's milk—one from serving bucket, the other from a one pint bottle). These Samples were purchased from the same Vendor and at the same time, and were certified 2 per cent and 14 per cent deficient in fat on the 3 per cent standard. Two days later four Appeal to the Cow Samples were taken at the farm. These Samples were certified as follows:—3 per cent; 3 per cent; 9 per cent, and the mixed milking of the herd 6 per cent deficient in fat. These Certificates were subsequently considered by the Public Health Committee when the Town Clerk was requested to interview the Vendor-Producer respecting these deficiencies and to caution him.

SAMPLE 315. MILK. Certified 4 per cent deficient in fat on the 3 per cent standard. Two days later two samples of milk were taken In Course of Delivery from the Producer to the Vendor. Both Samples were certified genuine. On the Public Health Committee's request the Vendor was interviewed by the Town Clerk and cautioned.

SAMPLE 328. MILK. This was a sample of morning's milk from serving bucket and was certified 10 per cent deficient in fat on the 3 per cent standard. A one pint bottle of morning's milk purchased at the same time from the same Vendor was certified genuine. Two days later three Following-Up Samples were taken:—from serving bucket; from a one pint bottle; (both morning's milk), and from a one pint bottle of evening's milk, the milk from the serving bucket was certified 13 per cent deficient on the 3 per cent standard. The Reports on these Samples were considered by the Public Health Committee, and the Town Clerk was requested to caution the Vendor.

SAMPLE 330. MILK. Certified 6 per cent deficient in fat on the 3 per cent standard. Two days later two Appeal to the Cow Samples were taken which were certified genuine. On the Public Health Committee's request the Vendor was cautioned by the Town Clerk.

SAMPLE 363. MILK. Certified 9 per cent deficient in fat on the 3 per cent standard. Two days later two Following-up Samples were taken, one of morning's milk, the other of purchased milk. The former was certified 15 per cent deficient in fat on the 3 per cent standard, the latter 3.5 per cent added water on the 8.5 per cent standard. The next day two In Course of Delivery Samples of milk were taken as delivered from the Wholesaler to the Vendor.

These were certified genuine. Appeal to the Cow Samples were also taken the same day. These were certified genuine. The Vendor was interviewed by the Town Clerk on the Public Health Committee's request and seriously cautioned.

SAMPLE 337. SAUSAGE. INFORMAL. This Sample was certified to contain only 17.23 per cent meat content, being well below the minimum meat content of 30 per cent as laid down by the Ministry of Food Order. A Following-up Formal Sample was certified to have a meat content of only 16.00 per cent being deficient to the extent of 46.06 per cent of the minimum amount of meat it should contain. Proceedings were subsequently taken by the Ministry of Food for two breaches of the Order. Defendant was fined £1 on each charge and £3 2s. 0d. costs.

SAMPLE 333. CUSTARD POWDER. INFORMAL. This Sample was certified to consist of coloured wheat flour only and not to satisfy the requirements of the Ministry of Food Starch Food Powders (Control) Order 1941. The stock was sold out when efforts were made to purchase a Formal Sample. The Vendor was, however, communicated with respecting the adverse Report.

MILK & DAIRIES ORDER 1926

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS

Following are the particulars of the Register for the year :—

(1) Retail Purveyors having Registered Premises in the City	22
(2) Retail Purveyors having Registered Premises outside the City	16
(3) Producers (Retail) in the City with Registered Cowsheds (included in No. 1 above)	16
(4) Producers (Wholesale) in the City with Registered Cowsheds	10

Discontinued during the year :—

Retail Producers having premises outside the City	2
---	---

98 visits were paid respecting the above.

Work done :—

Cowshed thoroughly re-constructed and new Dairy and Wash-up provided	1
New Dairy	1
Sheds Overhauled	2
Letters sent	6
Verbal Cautions (re overdue lime-washing)	3

At one large Dairy an H.T.S.T. Pasteurising Plant has been installed in place of the Holding system of pasteurisation. The Company concerned hold a Pasteurising Licence issued by the Council.

Samples of pasteurised milk, as supplied to the public, and also as supplied to Schools, have been taken throughout the year and submitted to the phosphatase and plate count tests.

The Milk Rationalization Scheme under the Ministry of Food came into force in the early months of the year. Under this Scheme, to eliminate overlapping of deliveries, retail purveyors are allocated to a specified area of the district.

19 Samples of Milk were taken for Microscopic and Biological examination for the presence of tubercule bacilli. One was returned as positive. The necessary action was forthwith taken by the Medical Officer of Health in accordance with the provision of the Act. Subsequently a report was received that the offending animal had been traced and slaughtered.

FACTORIES ACT 1937

Following are particulars of the number of Factories Registered (excluding Bakehouses) and work done in connection therewith during the year :—

Factories on Register (Mechanical 150, non-Mechanical 30)	.....	180
Number of visits paid	.....	48

Notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories :

Re New Factories	.....	1
Re Defaults	.....	1
Letters sent	.....	2
Defaults remedied—Additional Sanitary Conveniences	.....	1

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. SEDEN,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for 1944.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,
TOWN HALL,
PETERBOROUGH.

To The Right Worshipful the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the
City of Peterborough.

January, 1945.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Herewith for your consideration, I respectfully beg to submit my Report of the work carried out by the Department for the year 1944.

For the sake of brevity the Report is primarily statistical.

War-time conditions have continued to make their influence felt on the work of the Department. Complaints are higher than in peacetime years, while considerable difficulty is experienced in getting repair work done to property, in fact property generally is showing signs of long overdue repairs. The work of Meat & Food inspection, (details of which follow under the appropriate headings) has again taken up a large amount of your Officers' time.

Assistance has also been given by all in the Department in certain of the Civil Defence Services.

Mr. J. Catlow, who had been an Additional Sanitary Inspector in the Department for just over nine years, left in September to take up a post with the Newark-on-Trent Borough Council. Mr. J. Hall was promoted to Mr. Catlow's Grade and Mr. A. Kenyon of Thornaby-on-Tees was appointed to fill the vacancy in Mr. Hall's Grade. He commenced duties on November 1st.

NOTE.—Mr. Kenyon left the following April (1945). The vacancy—in spite of repeated advertisements—has not yet been filled at the time of printing this Report.

INSPECTIONS, COMPLAINTS, NOTICES

Inspections 3,318. Re-visits 681. Complaints (Formal) 198. Action was taken in 171 cases. 62 Informal Notices were served under the Public Health and Housing Acts and 11 Statutory Notices. The bulk of matters requiring attention was however dealt with following personal interviews with Owners or Agents.

NUISANCES ABATED AND SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED

Total 447—covering similar matters referred to in pre-War printed Reports.

HOUSE INSPECTION

724 houses were inspected and a total of 1,211 visits were made for this purpose.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

80 visits of enquiry were made and 58 re-visits.

DISINFECTION

The number of rooms disinfected is as follows :—

Infectious Disease	85
Phthisis	6

For non-notifiable Diseases :—

Wards and Annexes	4
Rooms	2
	97

Bedding was removed to the Isolation Hospital to be disinfected from :—

72 Houses (after Infectious Disease)	536	articles
5 Houses (after non-notifiable Diseases)	34	„
4 Houses (after Phthisis)	34	„
	604	„

154 articles of bedding were removed on request from various houses in the City for disinfection, for which payment has been made. Also 465 articles from various Civil Defence Posts.

ERADICATION OF THE BED BUG

7 Private Houses and 6 Council Houses have been disinfested by an approved liquid agent. This work, with the exception of 2 of the Private Houses, was carried out by the Council's Estates Department, payment being made for the work done at the 5 Private Houses. In addition the Estates Department disinfested the following, for which payment was made :—Common Lodging Houses 2, Hostel 1, Firewatchers' Rooms 2, Club Room 1.

FRIED FISH SHOPS

Number on Register—39, 9 of which are temporarily closed. 3 changes in occupation occurred. Visits paid—41. 2 verbal cautions were given respecting minor defaults. A new cleaning shed was built at one of the premises.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

Number on Register—5. Number of visits paid—74. 8 verbal cautions were given respecting various defaults.

Work done :—

Disinfestation of several rooms was carried out at one House and the one registered room at another House.

Limewashing on request—1.

Sanitary defects remedied—3.

BAKEHOUSES

41 Bakehouses are on the Register. 39 visits were paid. Limewashing was done on request in five cases.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

The Government Slaughtering and Meat Distribution Scheme remains practically the same as reported since 1940, the 2 Government Slaughterhouses and 1 Bacon Factory continuing to function.

Swine Fever was suspected on 8 occasions involving a number of pigs. The Inspector under the Diseases of Animals Acts was immediately notified and appropriate action was taken by him forthwith. As in former years a large number of casualty or unthrifty animals and Market Rejects have been sent in for slaughter. This class of animal calls for special supervision, and obviously raises considerably the number of condemnations.

The total number of Animals slaughtered during the year was:—Beasts (including Cows) 4,647; Sheep 9,391; Calves 727; Pigs 4,356.

680 Condemnation Notes covering 2,746 individual condemnations have been issued.

Following are particulars of the Condemnations:—

(" E " = *Emergency Slaughter*)

BEEF (for Tuberculosis)—

	<i>Stones</i>
34 Cows and all edible offal (7E)	1,520
18 Beasts " " (5E)	747
1 Bull " " (E)	70½
10 Beasts' Forequarters (1E)	91½
2 Beasts' Hindquarters (1E)	24
4 Cows' Forequarters (E)	35
1 Cow's Hindquarter (E)	11

(Other Causes)—

	<i>Stones</i>
7 Cows and all edible offal—Dropsy and Emaciation (4E)	230
2 Beasts " " —Dropsy and Emaciation (1E)	55¾
3 Cows " " —Dropsy (1E)	114¼
1 Beast " " —Dropsy (E)	36½
7 Cows " " —Emaciation (3E)	228
1 Bull " " —Emaciation (E)	28¾
2 Cows " " —Fevered (1E)	97¾
2 Beasts " " —Moribund (2E)	96
2 Cows " " —Moribund (2E)	67½
1 Cow " " —Septic Metritis (E)	48
1 Beast " " —Pyæmia (E)	43½
1 Cow " " —Bruising ext. and severe (E)	28
2 Beasts " " —Bruising ext. and severe (2E)	127½
1 Bull " " —Jaundice (E)	40
1 Cow " " —Uraemia (E)	55¼
1 Cow " " —Congestion (E)	34½
1 Bull " " —Gangrenous Pneumonia (E)	68
1 Bull " " —Putrifaction (E)	53
Bruised Beef (E)	176½
Heated Beef (E)	8½
Beef decomposed (E)	36½
Beef (abscesses) (E)	16
Broken leg (E)	3¼

OFFALS (Edible)—

Livers: 598 (Distomatosis) 630½ stones; 207 (T.B.) 217 stones; 14 (Fatty Degeneration) 15 stones; 30 (Cavernous Angioma) 32½ stones; 33 (Abscesses) 35½ stones; 6 (Cirrhosis) 6 stones.

Lungs: 503 (T.B.) 343 stones; 1 (Pleurisy) ¾ stone; 4 (pneumonia) 2½ stones; 1 (Distomatosis) ½ stone; 6 (Abscesses) 4½ stones.

Heads & Tongues: 349 (T.B.) 749½ stones; 12 (Abscesses) 25½ stones; 36 (Actinomycosis) 79 stones.

Other Edible Offals: 409½ stones.

SHEEP—

				<i>Stones</i>
5	carcases and all edible offal—	Dropsy	(1E)	15½
4	"	" —Dropsy and Emaciation	(3E)	10½
3	"	" —Emaciation	(2E)	11
2	"	" —Fevered	(1E)	8
2	"	" —Decomposition	(2E)	8

OFFALS (Edible)—

Livers: 222 (Distomatosis) 34 stones.

Other Edible Offals: 3¼ stones.

Mutton (bruised, etc.) 6½ stones.

CALVES—

1	carcase and all edible offal—	Joint ill	(1E)	4½
9	"	" —Immaturity	(1E)	23½
2	"	" —Generalised T.B.		29
2	"	" —Emaciation		4½

OFFALS (Edible)—Various, 9 stones.

PIGS—

2	carcases and all edible offal—	Moribund	(2E)	12¾
2	"	" —Erysipelas	(2E)	21
1	"	" —Septic Pericarditis	(1E)	6
19	"	" —Fevered	(19E)	128
2	"	" —Dropsy	(2E)	11½
14	"	" —Emaciated and Dropsical	(14E)	35
16	"	" —Swine Fever	(16E)	99
1	"	" —Bruising ext. and severe	(1E)	8¼
1	"	" —Uraemia	(1E)	6½
6	"	" —Generalised T.B.		107½

Pork (various causes) 44½ stones; Edible Offals: Heads and Tongues (T.B.) 84¾ stones; Various other Edible Offals: 64½ stones.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH. CIRCULAR 1650
PARTICULARS TO BE GIVEN — ANNUAL REPORTS
CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.		Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	3,574	1,073	727	9,391	4,356
Number inspected	3,574	1,073	727	9,391	4,356
All Diseases ex- cept Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses condemned	12	25	12	14	58
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	575	178	5	255	54
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	16.42%	18.92%	2.34%	2.86%	2.57%
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	19	34	2	—	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	407	265	4	—	72
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	11.92%	27.87%	0.82%	—	1.79%

OTHER FOODS

441 Condemnation Notes issued re:—9,996 tins of Food, such as Milk, Meat, etc., all blown and unsound,—also

14 tons, 14 cwts., and 7 stones of miscellaneous articles of Foodstuffs.

Notification was given in the case of certain of the larger bulk items to the Government (Foods) Salvage Officer, Nottingham, in accordance with the Ministry of Food Circular, and these were salvaged by that Department.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1938

PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD REGULATIONS

109 Samples were submitted to the Public Analyst, as follows:—Milk 56, Butter 3, Malt Vinegar 4, Sausage 8, Malt Extract Tablets 1, Cake Flour 3, Cake and Pudding Mixture 1, Extract of Malt and Cod Liver Oil 1, Saccharin Tablets 2, Aspirin Tablets 4, Medicine to Prescription 6, Jam 2, Lemon Cheese 1, Coffee 2, Jenner's Malted Food 1, Self Raising Flour 1, White Precipitate Ointment 1, Pork Pie 1, Pork Sausage Meat 1, Fish Paste 1, Salad Dressing Powder 1, Canadian Pork Loaf 1, Mixed Vegetables in Gravy 1, Camphorated Oil 1, Fish Cakes (tinned) 1, Essence of Lemon 2, Curry Powder 1, Oil of Eucalyptus 1.

(68 Formal, 41 Informal).

Dirt and preservative were reported as absent from all the Milk Samples.

The Genuine Milk Samples gave an average composition as follows:—Morning's Milk 3.3 per cent fat, 8.9 per cent solids not fat. Evening's Milk 3.6 per cent fat, 8.9 per cent solids not fat.

The following Samples were reported against:—

MILK 425. INFORMAL.—Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 3.2 per cent. Two following-up Samples Nos. 427 and 428, taken three days later, were reported Genuine. Vendor interviewed.

MILK 430. INFORMAL.—Deficient in fat to the extent of 12 per cent of the Government Standard of 3 per cent Fats. Two following-up Samples Nos. 438 and 439, taken three days later, were reported Genuine. Letter to Vendor.

MILK 442. FORMAL.—Deficient in fat to the extent of 3 per cent of the Government Standard of 3 per cent Fats. Vendor cautioned by the Town Clerk.

MILK 499. FORMAL.—Deficient in fat to the extent of 10 per cent of the Government Standard of 3 per cent Fats. Following-up Samples were taken "In Course of Delivery" three days later from the Producer to the Vendor, Nos. 500, 507, 508, 509 and 510. All Genuine. Vendor cautioned by the Town Clerk.

MILK & DAIRIES ORDER 1926

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS

The Milk Rationalization Scheme which came in force in the early months of 1943 continues to operate.

Compared with the pre-War period the number of Purveyors retailing in the City under the Scheme is reduced considerably. The Scheme has also eliminated the selling of a few bottles of milk daily by small Shopkeepers as obtained before the War—only 8 Shopkeepers now having the necessary permit.

Following are the particulars of the Register for the year:—

(1) Retail Purveyors having Registered Premises in the City	19
(2) Retail Purveyors having Registered Premises outside the City	2
(3) Producers (Retail) in the City with Registered Cowsheds (included in No. 1 above)	14

(4) Producers (Wholesale) in the City with Registered Cowsheds	12
(5) Shopkeepers selling Milk (Retail)	8

Changes during the year : Retail to Wholesale Producers within the City 2
131 visits were paid respecting the above.

Work done :—

New Dairy and Wash-up	1
New Closets	2
Verbal Cautions (re overdue limewashing)	5
Verbal Cautions (re sanitary defaults)	2

A large H.T.S.T. Plant for the Heat Treatment of Milk was installed at one Dairy in buildings built a year or two earlier to house this equipment. The equipment also included Sterilisers, Bottle Washing Plant and Refrigerators.

School Milk, also Pasteurised and Heat Treated Milk on sale retail, was sampled, approximately monthly and submitted to the Phosphatase, Plate Count and B. Coli tests. The results were satisfactory. These tests were carried out by the Public Analyst for the City.

18 Samples of Milk were taken for Microscopic and Biological examination for the presence of tubercule bacilli, none of which was reported against.

FACTORIES ACT 1937

Following are particulars of the number of Factories Registered (excluding Bakehouses) and work done in connection therewith during the year :—

Factories on Register (Mechanical 154, non-Mechanical 30)	184
Number of visits paid	29
Notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Re New Factories	7
Re Defaults	3
Letters sent	4

Defaults remedied :—

Additional Sanitary Conveniences	7
Cleansing and sanitary default of conveniences remedied	2

CANAL BOATS — PLEASURE BOATS

CANAL BOATS :—No registered boats have been seen in the area during the year under review.

PLEASURE BOATS :—Number Licensed 65 and 3 Boatmen. 126 visits paid. Several verbal warnings given.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. SEDEN,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



