[Report 1950] / Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary / Public Health Inspector, Peterborough City.

Contributors

Peterborough (England). City Council. nr 94004832

Publication/Creation

1950

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CITY OF PETERBOROUGH



REPORTS

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

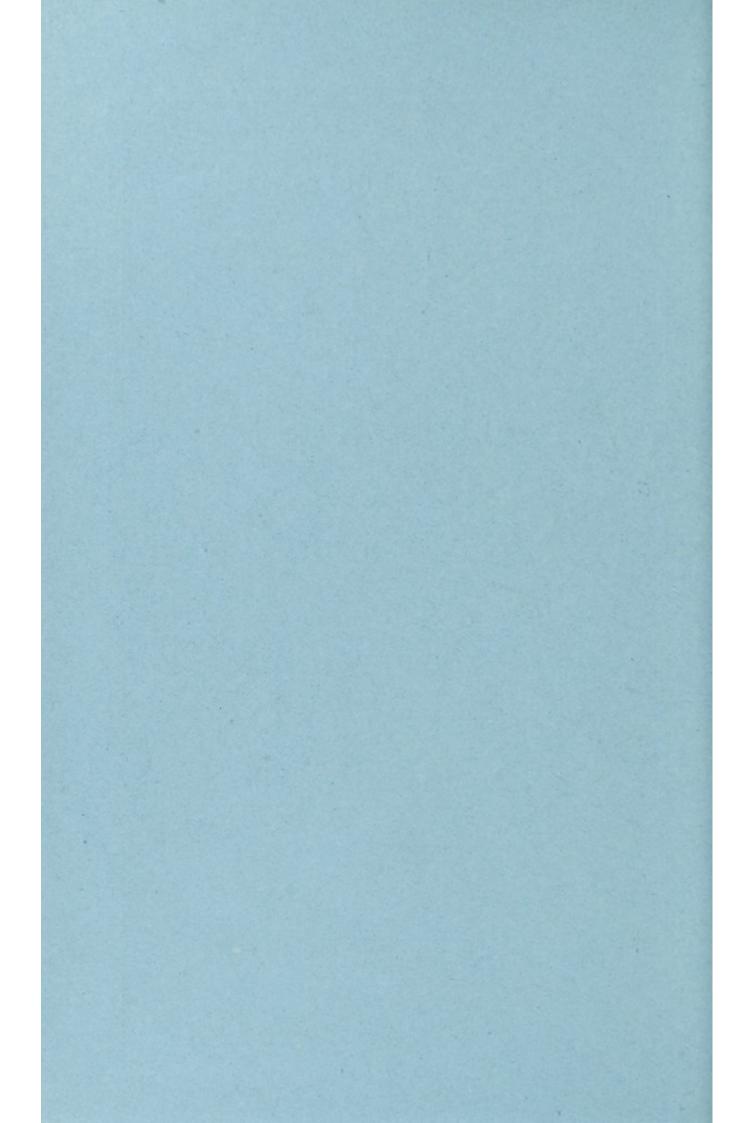
AND OF THE

Chief Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1950

E. M. BARRON & Co. Ltd. Printers, Bridge Street,
Peterborough.



CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

I.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1950

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CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1950

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Alderman H. J. FARROW.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor R. W. NORTH.

THE MAYOR, Councillor H. R. HORRELL (ex-officio)

CHAIRMAN FINANCE COMMITTEE (ex-officio)

Councillor Mrs. BENSTEAD

Councillor G. R. CHAMBERLAIN

Councillor J. W. FOWLER

Councillor Mrs. MARTIN

Councillor A. L. ROBINSON, M.B.E.

Councillor G. A. SMITH

Councillor J. E. SWAIN

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

Councillor Mrs. M. Wood

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the City for 1950.

I have to report that the vital statistics are very satisfactory; indeed the Infantile Mortality Rate shows a marked reduction on the very low figure for 1949—and that the health of the people, as measured by our usual indicators, maintains itself remarkably well: the general expectation of life for both males and females is steadily improving and this is the second successive year that no death was attributed to the common infectious diseases of childhood.

As in most areas, the chief problem facing the City Council is Housing, the difficulties in this connection being apparent to most persons and the tragedy being that re-housing is so frequently the only satisfactory solution to so many other problems.

I wish to acknowledge information given to me by the City Engineer, the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his Department, the Housing Manager, and to Mr. E. H. Colman for details of the annual rainfall.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. G. CRAWSHAW.

I. GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 1950.

Area of Borough i	n Acres							10,022
Population—Regis	strar-Gen	eral's es	stimate	of resi	dent p	opulati	on	
(Mid. 1	(950)							54,700
ditto (Mid. 1	(949)							54,140
Number of Inhabi	ted Hous	ses (end	of 1950	0)				15,597
ditto (end of	1949)							15,366
Rateable Value on	Decemb	er 31st,	1950					£354,066
Product of a Penn	y Rate	*****						£1,388

II. EXTRACT OF VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS Legitimate Illegitimate	Total M. 751 363 60 38	F. 388 22	Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	14.8*
STILL-BIRTHS	16 10	6	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	19.3
DEATHS	649 334	315	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	11.9†

Deaths from puerperal causes, included in heading 30 of the R.G.'s list :-

Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		D	eaths o		te per and still o.oo	i,000 births)
Death Rate of infants (under one year all infants per 1,000 births		e)				23.4
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) all sites						103
Deaths from Measles (all ages)						IA TON
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages	s) .			*****		Target.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)						-

^{*}England and Wales: 15.8 per 1,000 (civilian) population. †England and Wales: 11.6 per 1,000 (Civilian) population.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1950.

England and Wales and 148 Smaller Towns.

The Registrar-General's are provisional figures based on weekly and quarterly returns; the local are for the Calendar Year (1950).

Pete	Peterborough				
Actual Nos.	Rates 1	Rates per 1,000 Population (Civil).			
BIRTHS:—	A STATE OF	12077 10	asses i		
Live 811 Still 16		15.8	16.7 0.38		
DEATHS:— All Causes 649		11.6	11.6		
Scarlet Fever o Typhoid o C. S. Fever 1	0.00 0.00 0.01	0.00	0.00		
Diphtheria o Whooping Cough o	0.00	0.00 0.01	0.00 10.0		
Measles o	0.00	(145-0m)	- Filling		
NOTIFICATIONS :— Scarlet Fever 58	700000000000000000000000000000000000000	1.50	1.61 0.02		
Diphtheria oo Typhoid oo Dysentery 1	0.00	0.02	0.00		
C.S. Fever o Pneumonia 32	0.00	0.70	0.61		
Measles 1120 Whooping Cough 88	20.47	8.39 3.60	8.36 3.15		
	Pe	Per 1,000 (Live) Births			
MORTALITY (cont.)— Infant Deaths under one year 19	23.4	29.8	29.4		
(a) Legitimate 17 (b) Illegitimate 2 Maternal Mortality 0		0.86			

A brief account of Physical Features, Social Conditions and Amenities was given in the 1949 report.

Rainfall for 1950.

A total of 23.70 inches fell, showing an excess of 2.01 inches on the average for the period 1912-1946 (21.69 inches); the months of heavier rainfall being February, May and November, each having an excess of 3 inches.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	751	363	388
Illegitimate	60	38	22
Birth Rate per 1	,000 of the	population	—14.8.

The Birth Rate for 1949 was 15.

If the 1950 figure is compared with those occurring during the past 10 years, it is apparent that, following the high figure of 20.4, 18 and 19 during the years 1944-1946, the trend to revert to the lower figures which occurred in 1940 and 1941 is continuing.

The 1950 Rate for England and Wales is 15.8; this also being a reduction on the 1949 figure of 16.7.

STILL	TILL BIRTHS	Total	Male	Female	
		16	10	6	

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births-19.3.

This is a reduction on 1949 when the total was 19 and the rate 22.6.

When expressed as a rate per 1,000 civil population, Peterborough has a considerably lower rate than either England and Wales or the 148 smaller towns.

DEATHS	Total	Male	Female
	649	334	315

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population—11.9.

Death Rate for England and Wales 1950 was 11.6.

The figure for 1950 shows an increase on that for 1949 which was 11.6, there being an increase of 21 deaths during 1950.

No death occurred due to Puerperal causes (Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion).

Infantile Mortality.

During 1950, 19 infants under one year of age died, producing an infantile mortality rate of 23.4 per 1,000 registered live births. Last year's figure of 28 was a new low record for the City and when it is remembered that the rates in 1940 and 1941 were 55 and 56 respectively, the vast improvement is more easily appreciated.

The comparable figure for England and Wales during 1950 is 29.8, and for the 148 smaller towns—29.4.

I included a brief account of the usual interpretation placed on the infantile mortality rate in my Annual Report for 1949.

In Peterborough in 1950, 10 of these deaths (4 male and 6 female) occurred during the first month of life, and attention to the cause of death shows that

In 7 cases death was ascribed to either prematurity or congenital abnormality and in 2 cases to birth injury.

The remaining death was ascribed to "Rhesus Factor."

Of the deaths occurring between I and I2 months

- 2 were ascribed to birth injury and congenital abnormality, death in each case occurring very early in the second month of life.
- 3 children died from broncho-pneumonia.
- I child died from Gastro-Enteritis.
- 2 children died following operations to relieve abnormal intra-abdominal conditions (intussusception and congenital pyloric stenosis),
- and the remaining child (aged 8 months) died from a cancer of the lung.

Of the 19 deaths, 2 occurred in illegitimate children out of a total of 60 illegitimate children born in the City during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN PETERBOROUGH M.B. 1950.

	Causes	s of	Death		Total	Deaths
Civilians only—All Car	uses			 	 a "mash	649
Typhoid and Para-typ	hoid fe	ever		 	 	MONIO I
Cerebro-spinal fever				 	 	I
Scarlet fever				 *****	 	-
Whooping Cough				 	 	-
Diphtheria				 	 	195/_
Tuberculosis of respira	tory sy	yster	n	 	 	10
Other forms of tuberc	ulosis			 	 	2
Syphilis				 	 	2
Influenza				 	 	4
Measles				 	 	-
Polio-myel and polio-e	ncepha	litis		 	 	2
Other infective and par	rasitic (disea	ises	 	 *****	2
Cancer, all forms				 	 	103
Leukaemia				 	 	4
Diabetes				 	 A.R	8
Vascular lesions of Ner	vous S	yster	n	 	 	197
Heart disease				 	 	100
Other diseases of circ.	systen	n		 	 	17
Bronchitis				 	 	31
Pneumonia				 	 	17
Other respiratory disea	ases			 	 	6
Ulcer of stomach or d	uodenu	ım		 	 	IO
Other digestive disease	es			 	 	7
Nephritis				 	 Man. 1947	7
Prostatic disease				 	 100	13
Maternal Mortality				 	 	_
Congenital malformatio	ons			 	 	7
Suicide			10 m b	 	 	12
Road traffic accidents				 	 	6
Other violent causes				 	 	18
All other causes				 	 	63
						1000

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Of the total 649, Vascular lesions of the Nervous System and Heart Disease caused 297 deaths. The total in 1949 for these conditions was 261.

One death occurred from Cerebro Spinal Fever, and 2 adults died from Poliomyelitis. No death was attributed to any of the common infectious diseases and no death has occurred from Diphtheria since 1946.

Deaths from Accidents or other Violent Causes were again very high—a total of 24 (1949 figure being 17), 7 being children under the age of 8.

According to figures published by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, 6,000 fatal accidents occur each year in the home in England and Wales.

During the last 10 years, there has been an increase in fatalities among young children under 5 years of age and in persons over 65 years.

60 % of the fatalities are due to falls, and burns and scalds account for 15 %.

12 persons committed suicide during 1950—8 males and 4 females.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The details required by the Ministry of Health, Circular 2/50, are as follows:

(I) The water supply of the City is obtained from boreholes in the limestone at the Corporation's Waterworks at Wilsthorpe and Etton.

Wilsthorpe Waterworks.

Wilsthorpe is about 16 miles north of the City, near Bourne, Lincs The pumping machinery at this station comprises diesel engine driven surface pumps and an electrically driven vertical spindle borehole pump. About a mile from the pumping station is a reservoir of one million gallons capacity with a top water level of 163.50 ft. above O.D., compared with the general ground level in the City centre of approximately 30 ft. above O.D. and a ground level of about 80 ft. O.D. at Longthorpe, the highest point of supply in the City.

Etton Waterworks.

Etton is about 5 miles north of the City centre. The pumping machinery at this station consists of electrically driven surface pumps. Pumps lift the water from the boreholes into a covered reservoir of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons capacity from which other pumps draw and pump direct to supply. A 200 KW diesel driven alternator is installed at this station to ensure uninterrupted working in the event of a breakdown in the public electricity supply.

Trunk Mains.

An 18" diameter pipe line conveys the water from Wilsthorpe to the junction of Etton Lane where it connects with two pumping mains from the Etton Station. Then two 18" diameter and one 24" diameter pipe lines convey the water to the City and surrounding areas.

General.

The population supplied by the undertaking is approximately 87,000, made up of 55,000 in the City and 32,000 in the areas supplied in bulk. Bulk supplies are afforded to Old Fletton U.D.C., Whittlesey U.D.C., Norman Cross R.D.C., Peterborough R.D.C., Thorney R.D.C., and parts of Kesteven, Lincs. The average daily quantity supplied by the undertaking is about 3½ million gallons.

During 1950, the supply has been satisfactory as regards both quality and quantity.

- (2) Samples are taken regularly for both chemical and bacteriological examinations; raw water, and that going into supply following chlorination, at each source being sampled.
- (3) No plumbo solvent property is attributable to this supply.
- (4) No contamination had to be dealt with during 1950.

(5)	Raw water (pre-chlorination) analysis	Chemica 28	l Bacteriological
	Treated water (post-chlorination) analysis	6	9
	No. of dwelling houses:		Population
	(a) direct supply re tap in the home	15,013	51,176
	(b) by stand pipes	568	1,930
	(c) from private supplies, wells, springs et	c. 16	55

Following is a report of 3 routine samples taken on 9th June, 1950:

	I.	2.	3.
This sample contains per million par	rts:		
Total Solids dried at 180°C.	410,00	410,00	425,00
Suspended Matter	absent	absent	absent
Chlorides as chlorine	28.40	24.90	28.40
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	absent	absent	absent
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	absent	0.0080	0.0100
Free and saline Ammonia	0.0040	0.0640	0.0040
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0040	0.0080	0.0040
Temporary Hardness	240.00	240.00	235.00
Permanent Hardness	60.00	60.00	80.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 80° F			
from N/80 KMnO 4	0.040	0.120	0.080

	I.	2.	3.
pH value	7.10	7.10	7.10
Appearance		and bright in	
Odour	none	none	none
Taste & Colour	normal	normal	normal
Heavy Metals	absent	absent	absent
Free Chlorine	absent	absent	0.030
No. of colonies developing per ml.			
on agar at 21 °C. in 72 hrs.	24	52	I
No. of colonies developing per ml.	MILLER D	da seren 'eo	
on agar at 37°C. in 24 hrs.	I	0	6
No. of colonies developing per ml.			
on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	4	2	28
Coli—aerogenes count per 100 mls.	data.		
at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at			
44°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	0
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive) absent in	100 mils	100 mils	100 mils

At the time of sampling these three waters, taken from the City mains, were of suitable bacterial and chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy purposes.

Chemical analysis is fairly constant.

Bacteriological analysis has been satisfactory in all cases.

There has been no extension of water supplies during 1950.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewage disposal is by settlement and broad irrigation—the plant having been designed for approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ million gallons dry weather flow and having to cope at present with $2\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons dry weather flow. The irrigation areas consequently are acting as septic tanks and the standard of effluent is unsatisfactory both as regards putrescibility and de-aerating power.

Longthorpe and part of Werrington are without proper drainage systems.

An extensive scheme of modernised extension is in hand.

Closet Accommodation at end of 1950.

(a)	Number of middens	15
(b)	Number of closets attached to them	15
(c)	Number of pail closets	233
(d)	Number of fresh water closets	15,309

- (e) Number of houses on water carriage system 14,586
- (f) There have been three conversions during 1950. All were from pail closets to water closets.

Public Cleansing.

Number of movable ashbins was approximately 18,000.

There are no dry ashpits.

A weekly collection of refuse from all premises in the area is aimed at, but owing to shortage of labour it is not always possible to maintain this. Intervals between collections, however, rarely exceed 9 days. Daily collection is made from some business premises.

Disposal is by controlled tipping. There has been no change in transport and plant used for public cleansing from that detailed in my report for 1949.

Camping Sites.

There are no sites in the area specifically used for camping. During 1950 19 sites were licensed under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936, and at the end of the year there were a total of 61 vans on these sites, the estimated number living in them being 170-180 persons.

Smoke Abatement.

Informal action was taken in connection with four installations during 1950. No byelaws are in existence for the control of smoke nuisance in the City area.

Swimming Pool (Public).

There is one large public open air swimming pool in the area, the water being chlorinated and the supervision the responsibility of the City Engineer. There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public. A fair number of persons make use of the river for swimming during the summer, a practice I cannot recommend in view of the undoubted pollution by both animal and human excreta at Alwalton, Longthorpe, and the houseboats to mention only some sources.

In addition there are 24 slipper baths, 18 for males and 6 for females, the charge being 6d., an additional charge of 1d. being made for soap and a further 6d. for hire of towel. Approximately 1,000 persons use these baths weekly and 40 per cent. of these hire a towel.

Disinfestation of Premises.

Full details are given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Offensive Trade.

Full details are given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Factories Act. 1937.

Full details are given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Common Lodging Houses.

Full details are given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Underground Sleeping Rooms.

I have no knowledge of any such room.

Canal Boats.

With the exception of traffic necessary for the maintenance of the river bank, there are practically no canal boats moving on the river. None was inspected during 1950 nor is there any knowledge of any infringement of the Acts.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1923.

There are no premises in the district on which rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

HOUSING.

Statistics.

No. of new houses erected during the year:

(i)	by the City Council	165
(ii)	ex-Army bungalows converted and let during 1950	39
(iii)	by other persons	40
Tota	al number of families re-housed by the City Council	1
	during 1950	224

This figure includes new houses, re-let houses, re-let pre-fabs and hutted accommodation composed as follows:

New houses	,1109	 105
New ex-Army bungalows		 39
Re-letting, all types of accommodation		 60
less transfers effected during 1950		 264 40
Actual number of family units housed		 224

For information of the number of inspections, the defects remedied, and actions taken under statutory powers during 1950, you are referred to the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report in which this is detailed.

Overcrowding.

There is undoubtedly an amount of statutory overcrowding in the City area; the actual extent of it could only be ascertained by a detailed house to house survey. Practically every case known is on the housing list and on receipt of overcrowding points (granted when the applicant has been living in the overcrowded accommodation for a period of 12 months) the additional points are usually sufficient to bring the case forward for consideration.

During 1950, 133 families were re-housed or transferred on account of overcrowding as follows:

Families Re-housed or Transferred on Account of Overcrowding.

re-housed in Overcrowd				nt Ho	ises fro	m		81
transferred fr	rom Hut	tted A	ccommo	dation	to Per	manen	t	
Houses								2
Housed in H	utted A	ccomm	odation					27
Transferred f	rom exi	sting (Council	House	s to lar	ger typ	e	
houses								23
								-
								133

Housing Conditions.

A brief account of the prevalent housing conditions in the City was given in the 1949 Annual Report.

An indication of the extent of the shortage and requirements is given by the following table:—

	D	istril	oution	n acc	ordin	ig to	num	ber	of c	hild	ren		
Category	S.P.	0	I	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Totals
Single Persons	54	-	-	_	-	-	-	_			-	-	54
Ex-Forces	-	444	484	245	59	13	10	3	I	I	-	I	1261
*Civilian	-	394	273	159	57	16	-7	2		I	I	-	910
Sub-totals	54	838	757	404	116	29	17	5	I	2	I	I	2225

^{*} includes 132 applicants for aged Persons Bungalows.

A total of 2225 applicants await re-housing, this number being an increase of 251 during the year, in spite of 224 families having been housed during the period.

Housing Schemes in hand at the end of 1950 are:

(I) Dogsthorpe Estate to eventually comprise 746 units of accommodation of which 592 units had been completed by 31st December, 1950.

(2) Eastfield Housing Estate to comprise approximately 300 houses; none completed during 1950.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Full details of Inspection and Supervision of Food are contained in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1950.

Total Cases Notified Age Periods—Ye 2- 3- 4- 5- 10- 15- 6 5 3 34 7 —	ods—Years 10- 15- 20- 35- 7 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	ods—Years 10- 15- 20-
	0 0	65 o- 35- 45- and over

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

The total of 58 notified cases is a considerable reduction on 1949 when 129 cases were notified.

Measles.

A severe epidemic was experienced with 1120 notified cases. In 1949, 291 cases were notified.

No death was attributed to this condition in 1950, an extremely satisfactory state of affairs considering that 121 children under the age of 2 were notified and a total of 570 notified were under the age of 5.

Whooping Cough.

The incidence is appreciably lower than in 1949 when 117 cases occurred.

Poliomyelitis.

A total of 14 confirmed cases occurred: of the 5 paralytic cases, 3 were in adults over the age of 20 and death occurred in 2 of these cases.

During 1949, 10 cases were confirmed; no death being attributed to the condition.

Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria was notified during 1950. No case has been notified since 1947 and no death has occurred since 1946, a striking tribute to the value of immunisation in preventing this condition.

Food Poisoning.

One case only was notified during 1950. Investigation proved valueless, the patient being convalescent following treatment and no organism being isolated.

Disinfection after Infectious Diseases.

During 1950, 142 rooms were disinfected. Formalin spray being used for the purpose.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1950.

Ago	o moles	New	Cases	no.	Leading 1	Dea	ths	Intot a
Age Periods	Respi	ratory		on- ratory	Respin	ratory		on- ratory
paper of the	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years 0— 1— 5— 10— 15— 20— 25— 35— 45— 55— 65 and upwards	1 8 6 14 2 4 5 2	1 3 1 5 7 9 3 1	I	simon si in cide in the secure	2 2 2 2	2 I I 2	in some	dresh dia to land a lan
Totals	43	30	I		8	6		, ment

It will be noted that 14 deaths occurred due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis; of these only one case had not been notified prior to death.

The age incidence is typical, Tuberculosis being one of the most important causes of death in the 15-35 age groups.

Occupation does not appear to have played a contributory part in causing these deaths.

Tuberculosis Register-1949/1950.

end, Formalio speed being	Pulm	onary	No. Pulm	n- onary
	M	F	M	F
No on Register 31/12/49	IIO	82	17	II
Notified during 1950	43	30	I	-
Removed during 1950	39	20	12	5
No. on Register 31/12/50	114	92	6	6

There were thus 218 cases on the register at the end of 1950, a decrease of 2 on the number registered at the commencement of the year.

CITY OF PETERBOROUGH

II.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1950.

(J. HALL M.S.I.A., A.M.I. SAN. E., CERT. R. SAN. I.)

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

STAFF 1950.

Chief Sanitary Inspector-J. HALL, M.S.I.A., A.M.I. San. E., Cert. R. San. I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors-

L. DEARDEN, M.S.I.A., A.M.I. San. E., Cert. R. San. I. (Deputy) P. LANGSTON, M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San.I. P. J. OAKLEY. M.S.I.A., Cert. R. San.I.

> Assistant Inspector-A. N. VENTERS.

> > Clerks-

Miss B. BINGHAM A. MORTON.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report 1950

Sanitary Inspector's Office, Town Hall,

Peterborough.

1951.

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1950.

During the year under review Mr. Dearden took up his duties as 1st Additional Sanitary Inspector, so that the establishment was complete. Following my report on the staff position, another inspector was appointed and Mr. Oakley commenced his duties on 20th November, 1950. Until this appointment and during the peak period of slaughtering it was found necessary for your inspectors to do a large amount of overtime. With the development of the work of rodent control by the Department, a large amount of drainage work has had to be done, and time spent on inspection other than on complaints is gradually being shortened.

On 31st March, the duty of rodent control was transferred from County Councils to County District Councils. The City Council took over this responsibility as regards their area on that date and employed the rodent operator previously employed by the County Council. The immediate result of this new work was an immense increase in the number of complaints, and the discovery of a large number of defective drains. Included in the following pages is a copy of the report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries detailing the work carried out by your Department during its nine months of operation.

In the City area there are many instances of a number of houses sharing a common tap in a common yard. Informal action under the powers given to Local Authorities by the Water Act, 1945 has been successfully applied in eight cases and a piped water supply has been provided inside each house together with a sink and the necessary drainage. Additional houses are in process of being provided with similar amenities.

As mentioned in my previous annual report requests for licences to station moveable dwellings are rapidly increasing, and this work is taking up more time.

I suggest that a housing survey of the City is necessary, so that future condemnations, demolitions, developments and repairs could be dealt with systematically. It is some long time since reliable information regarding over-crowding was available. This additional work is impossible with the present staff.

Although the housing shortage is so acute and the claims on the Council for houses so great, I am of the opinion that a small number of dwellings should be allocated so that it would be possible to rehouse people from insanitary houses, condemnation orders could then be made in areas where the houses, because of their bad condition, are totally insanitary and not repairable at a reasonable cost.

Education in practical hygiene continued during the year and with the coming into force of the New Byelaws regarding the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, it has been possible to effect some improvements, especially on the market. Over fifty food shops have had hot water supplies installed as a result of your inspector's duties. It was necessary in one case to prosecute a shopkeeper for contravening the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section. 13. Numerous warnings had failed to be successful.

The Department has had the full co-operation of the Public Health Laboratory Service in the examination of milk and ice-cream samples and morbid specimens of meat, etc.

Details of inspections carried out and work done during 1950 are given in the following pages.

I should like to thank the Chairman and the members of the Public Health Committee for their support, Doctor Crawshaw for his co-operation and the members of the staff for their good services during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,
J. HALL,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Inspections and Complaints.

Complaints of defects and nuisances numbered 369 (excluding rat complaints) an increase of 92 % over that of last year which itself was a considerable increase on the previous year. Very little work was outstanding at the end of the year and it was not necessary to serve statutory notices to enforce compliance with Informal Notices and letters sent.

412 houses were inspected for which it was necessary to make 854 visits.

The total number of inspections and revisits made during the year was 5,469.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Nuisances abated and sanitary defects remedied totalled 586. I give below an abridged list.

Drains relaid, repaired, cleansed, etc	*****	127
W.C.'s repaired, renewed or reconstructed		76
Roofs repaired, rain-water pipes renewed, etc.		102
Chimney stacks rebuilt, ext. walls rebuilt and rep	aired,	
interior repairs to walls		143
Woodwork repaired (floors, windows, doors, etc.)		72
Water laid on inside house		5
New sinks fixed, waste pipes refitted, etc		8
Accumulations of refuse and manure removed		9
Miscellaneous		44

It will be noticed that there is an enormous increase in the amount of drainage work. This is occasioned by the large number of complaints of rat infestations which are found to be caused by defective drains and water closets.

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

As mentioned in my previous report this section of the Public Health Act is causing a large amount of work. There are many scattered sites and it is hoped that it may be possible to centralise and cut down the number of sites which must be inspected. In this way it should be possible to allow van dwellers to live in the City area, enjoying its amenities without causing a nuisance, and without being an eyesore. There are at present 19 sites in the City accommodating 61 caravans.

Infectious Diseases.

Disinfection of bedding is now carried out in the home by the use of formaldehyde spray. Advantages of this method are savings in cost of transport and of steam disinfection. It is not possible to give a reliable list of articles actually disinfected, but I give below an analysis of the work done.

Number of rooms disinfected for

For non-notifiable diseases

Rooms 10

In addition to the above, disinfections have been carried out at the hospitals.

Infestations.

Taken on the whole the houses of the City are not heavily infested with vermin but sporadic cases do occur; these are dealt with by the tenants or landlords. In the Council's houses 37 disinfestations have been carried out by the Council's Estates Department.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 3 Common Lodging Houses registered in the City, at one of which a large amount of repair and reconstruction work is being done. 59 inspections were made. The total number of beds available is 80.

Work carried out is as follows:

Limewashed	6
New roof	I
Sanitary defects remedied	5
Repairs and redecorations	
Gas stove fitted	I
New buckets provided	12
Verbal cautions	3
Informal Notices and letters sent	2

Canal Boats.

No visits have been paid to any Canal Boats as the only traffic on the river at present is boats used for the maintenance of its banks.

Offensive Trades.

There is now only one type of offensive trade in Peterborough: that of Rag and Bone Merchant. The Tripe Dresser has discontinued his trade.

Knackers Yards.

There is one Knackers Yard in the City which deals with animals not intended for human consumption. There is also a depot for a firm operating in another town which collects and disposes of all the condemned meat from the slaughterhouses after it has been dyed.

Fairgrounds.

Inspections were made at the Bridge Fairground during the period of the fair to ensure that the vans were provided with proper sanitation and water supply. The premises at which food was sold or given away as prizes, received the Department's attention.

Provision of Sanitary Accommodation.

All the premises which are licensed at the Brewster Sessions have been visited at irregular intervals during the year, and the policy of gradually raising the level of the sanitary accommodation provided at certain of these premises is being carried on.

Fried Fish Shops.

There are 39 Shops on the register and I room which is used for preparing fish and chips for cooking and sale from a mobile van operating in the surrounding country. The other mobile van operates from one of the above-mentioned shops.

Visits paid	35
Letters sent	9
Hot and cold water supply installed	2
Redecoration	4

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-49.

Bakehouses. There are 37 Bakehouses in the City of which 21 are situated at the rear of shops selling the products. 70 visits were paid to these premises, 6 letters were sent and 2 verbal cautions given with regard to defaults. The following improvements were carried out:—

Limewashed or redecorated	7
Repairs	4
New ovens fitted	2
Hot and cold water installed	3
New W.C. installed	I

Ice-Cream Premises, "Making-Up" Premises Restaurant and Cafe Kitchens.

Ice-Cream. Of the 6 manufacturers of Ice-cream in the City 3 heat treat their product and 3 use a cold mix. 96 premises retail Ice-cream and 138 inspections were made during the year. 42 samples were taken with the following results: Grade I—20; Grade II—7; Grade III—9 and Grade IV—6. Two of the Grade IV samples were taken as part of an experiment to demonstrate the effect of leaving the server in a jug of water.

"Making-Up" Premises. There are 45 premises in the City to which 90 visits were paid. 9 Confirmatory letters were sent and the following works were carried out:—

Walls repaired and limewashed	3
Premises repainted	I,
New floor laid	I
Repairs to floor	1
Hot water installed	3

Cafe & Restaurant Kitchens. 50 visits have been paid to the 36 Kitchens in the City. Hot water was installed for hygienic purposes on 5 premises.

Canteens. Factory and School Canteens in the City area are visited regularly. A fairly high standard of hygiene and equipment is maintained.

Shops. All Food Shops are inspected. A constant supply of hot water (usually a geyser) with sink and clean towels has been provided in many, but there is still much work to be done.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The total number of animals slaughtered during the year was: Beasts (including cows) 3,690; Calves 735; Sheep and Lambs 9,480; Pigs 5,463.

458 Condemnation Notes covering 2,243 individual condemnations have been issued.

An increase in the amount of Cysticercus Bovis in cattle will be noticed. All cases of Generalised T.B. are reported to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Animal Health Division).

BEEF (for tuberculosis)	Stones
67 Cows and all edible offal	$3,288\frac{3}{4}$
22 Beasts and all edible offal	1,101
13 Cows forequarters	$116\frac{1}{2}$
4 Cows hindquarters	74
3 Beasts hindquarters	$34\frac{1}{2}$
Beef	871

						Stones
I	Cow and	l all e	dible	offal.	Acute Septic Mammitis	461
4	Beasts	,,	,,	,,	Emaciation and Dropsy	103
4	Cows	,,	,,	,,	" " "	130
I	Beast	,,	,,	,,	Dropsy	35
3	Cows	,,	,,	,,	Fevered	1501
I	Cow	,,	,,	,,	Fevered and Emaciation	394
4	Cows	,,	,,	,,	Johne's Disease	1431
I	Cow	,,	,,	,,	Peritonitis and Metritis	661
I	Cow	,,	,,	,,	Septic Pericarditis	331
I	Beast	,,	,,	,,	" "	133
В	eef (bruise	ed and	d hea	ted, etc	5.)	2154
Of	fals (edil	ole)				

Heads & Tongues: 457 (T.B.) 986 stones; 32 (Actinomycosis) 68½ stones; 27 (Cysticercus Bovis, etc.) 56¼ stones.

Lungs: 549 (T.B.) $389\frac{3}{4}$ stones; 92 (Pleurisy, etc.) $63\frac{1}{2}$ stones.

Livers: 297 (Distoma) $313\frac{3}{4}$ stones; 122 (T.B.) $130\frac{1}{2}$ stones; 94 (Cavernous Angioma) $102\frac{1}{4}$ stones; 12 (Fatty) $13\frac{1}{2}$ stones; 216 (Abscesses) $245\frac{1}{2}$ stones; 66 (Cirrhosis, etc.) 75 stones.

Part Livers: Distoma 312 stones; others—8 stones.

Other Edible Offals: 5054 stones.

Offals (edible)

SHE	EP (for	tuberc	ulosi	s)				Stones
I	Sheep	carcase	and	all	edible	offal	Generalised T.B	41/2
Other	Cause	es.						
21/2	Sheep	carcase	and	all	edible	offal.	Decomposition	143
3	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Dropsical	12
3	,,	- ,,	,,	,,	,,	,,,	Dropsy and Emaciation	14
4	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	. ,,	Emaciation (Pathological)	II
I	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Gangrenous Pneumonia	4
I	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Moribund	3
I	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Multiple Abscesses	3 2½ 2½ 2½
I	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	,,	Pyaemia	21
I	,,	,,	"	,,	,,	"	Septic Pneumonia	7
I	,,	"	,,			,,	Septic Intoxication	41
2		",	"	"	"		Unwholesome and Unfit	5
-	tton (b	oruised,						1071

Livers: 55 (Distoma) $9\frac{1}{2}$ stones; 26 (Parasites) $4\frac{1}{4}$ stones; 3 (Cirrhosis) 7 lbs; 2 (Abscesses) 5 lbs; others 13 lbs.

Other Edible Offals: 5 stones.

CA	LVES	(for tu	bercu	ılosi	s)			Secolar Second
3	Calve	s carca	se an	d al	l edi	ble offal	. Generalised T.B.	Stones 33
Oth	er Cau	ises.						
ı ı Var	Calves	,, ,, ther ed	ible o	" " offals	"	le offal.	Dropsical Emaciation Ochronosis Septicaemia	444 3121 3121 321 321 5
3 P	igs car	cases a			ible	offal.	Generalised T.B.	57½
Offa	", ", ", ", ", ", ", ", ", ", ", ", ", "	ible)	,,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,	offal.	Acute Swine Erysipelas Acute Enteritis Dropsy Emaciation Fevered Fly Blown & Maggoty Gangren ous Pneumonia Immaturity Lympho-sarcoma Multiple Abscesses Purulent Nephritis Pyaemia Other Septic conditions Uraemia	8 12½ 50¾ 3½ 2 4¼ 18 2 9 2½ 28 62 44¾ 6¼ 74½
	ids: 75							55

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Only slaughtermen actively engaged at the abattoir, bacon factory and knackers yard hold licences with your Authority—a total of 17.

No horses are killed in the City, and no shops retail horseflesh, for human consumption.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

as properly the services as properly the services as a service as a se	Cattle exclud. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,424	1,266	735	9,480	5,463
Number inspected	2,424	1,266	735	9,480	5,463
All diseases except Tuber- culosis. Whole carcases condemned	6	15	4	23	26
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	497	367	9	115	102
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber-culosis	20.75%	22.10%	1.76%	1.35%	2.34%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	22	67	3	ı	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	395	484	med.	-	104
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	16.79%	43.52%	.41%	.01%	1.96%

OTHER FOODS.

456 Condemnation Notes were issued covering 6,103 tins of food and 10 tons 10 cwt 1 qr $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs of other foodstuffs. The variety of goods condemned is very great and consists of similar food as mentioned in previous Annual Reports, i.e.

Tinned Food:

Milk	Frozen Egg	Meat Paste	Silds
Vegetables	Brisket	Olives	Crawfish
Fruit	Jams & Syrups	Bacon	Herrings
Baked Beans	Fruit Juices	Macaroni	Fish Paste
Pork & Gravy	Mincemeat	Chicken	Crayfish
Veal Loaf	Puddings	Gelatine	Sardines
Luncheon Meat	Ox Tongues	Meat & Spaghetti	Pilchards
Minced Beef Loaf	Peanut Butter	Picnic Ham	Salmon
Soups	Stewed Steak	Mussels	Brawn
Sausage	Crab	Pork & Beef	Meat & Vegetable
Lobster	Rabbit	Lambs & Tongue	Brislings

Other Food:

Sausage	Dried Egg	Sweetphat	Breakfast Cereals
Sausage Meat	Meat Products	Coffee Essence	Fruit
Cheese	(pies, hazlets	Chicken Paste	Herbs
Bread	and brawns)	Jellies	Dried Fruit
Crumpets	Margarine	Spaghetti	Confectionery
Ham	Pastry Mix	Milk Drinks	Olives
Hares	Tea	Soup Powder	Chutney
Beef Salt	Flour	Meat Beverage	Sandwich Spread
Pressed Beef	Ice-Cream	Gravy Salt	Pickles
Butter	Potato Crisps	Beef Cubes	Fish
Sugar	Biscuits	Soya Flour	Shell Fish
Cake	Bacon Trim.	Pudding Mixture	Self Raising Flour
Apricot Pulp	Mustard	Barley Water	

Much food has been salvaged for animal feeding and advantage has been taken to use some of it for rat bait on the tips.

Food Sampling.

63 Formal and 42 Informal Samples were obtained and submitted to the Public Analyst for his report as follows:—

Milk 54; Jam I; Sausage Meat I; Margarine I; Veal & Ham Paste I; Olive Oil I; Mayonnaise 2; Tonic Burgundy I; Jam Tarts I; Paramount Jubes I; Honey Lumps I; Steak & Kidney Pie I; Sauce I; Sardines I; Sweetened Lemonade Powder I; Glace Cherries I; Creamy Pieces I; Pepper I; Hors D'oeuvre I; Anchovy Paste I; Cream of Tartar I; Dessert Gelantine I; Fish Paste 2; Ground Almonds I; Chicory Essence I; Lemon Cheese I; Self Raising Flour I; Cornflour I; Vanilla Flavouring I; Ice-Cream 7; Chocolate 2; Malt Vinegar I; French Capers I; Crystallized Ginger I; Beef Suet I; Tapioca Flakes I; Cordial I; Fondant I; Butter I; Mincemeat 3.

With the exception of milk they were all genuine.

The average composition of the milks gave 3.58% Fat and 8.94% Solids-not-Fat. This average remains fairly steady throughout the years.

Deficiencies:

Sample No.	Article	Adulteration or Other Irregularity	Action Taken
397	Milk	Added Water 5%	Reported to Public Health Committee and legal proceedings taken. Vendors fined £10 and £5 respectively with £3. 3. od. costs
411	Milk	Fat Deficient 9.0%	Reported to Public Health Committee. Town Clerk instructed to write warning letter to the management drawing attention to possible arrangements which would prevent such deficiencies in the future. Following up of samples proved genuine.
488	Milk	Fat Deficient 11.0%	Reported to Public Health Committee. See Sample No. 454.
454	Milk	Fat Deficient 2.0%	"Appeal to Cow" following report on Sample No. 448. Town Clerk requested to write a warning letter to the producer concerned drawing attention to the defect in the arrangements for the bottling of the milk which appeared the cause of the deficiency.

¹³ Samples of Milk were taken for microscopic and biological examination and were found to be satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED & STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

There are 3 registered premises at which milk is treated. Two of these premises also sell farm bottled T.T. milk and at two T.T. milk not produced on the premises is also bottled. This dual use of the premises is provided for in the Regulations.

85 Samples of Milk were taken and it was found that in nine cases the sample failed the methylene blue test and in four the phosphatase test. Bacillus Coli was found in nine samples.

There is a small amount of raw undesignated milk sold in the district by six retailers.

HOUSING.

I.	Ins	pection of Dwelling houses during the year :	
	(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	
		(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose	f
	(2)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (I) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	3
		(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 14	+
	(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	
	(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	
2.	Nu	nedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice: nber of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of ermal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	,
3.	Act	ion under Statutory Powers during the year :	
	(Tw	tutory Notices served under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936 to of these houses were demolished and an undertaking given on third. Works were carried out to make the house fit for human itation and the undertaking withdrawn.)	
		mber of houses demolished which were condemned pre-war and which "squatters" had been living	

The present policy with regard to re-housing people from insanitary dwellings is hand-to-mouth. There are quite a number of dwelling-houses in the City which are completely unfit and are just squalid slums.

A guess is made at the amount of overcrowding in the City from the application forms sent into the Housing Manager. I suggest that if a housing survey of the City could be carried out and a small number of Council dwellings allocated for demolition purposes only, it would be possible to plan a progressive improvement in the present conditions.

DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATION 68AA.

17 slum clearance houses were licensed under Defence Regulations 68AA for temporary occupation. There are 6 unlicensed slum clearance houses still occupied by "squatters".

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Ideally every factory should be regularly inspected but, unfortunately, because of the amount of other work to be done, it is possible to visit only on complaint, and on notice from H.M. Inspector of Factories.

Number of Factories on Register (Mechanical 201, Non-Mechanical 45) Number of Inspections	246 77
Notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories:— Re (a) New Factories (b) Defaults (c) Deletions (d) Change of Occupier	9 8 11 24
Letters sent	17 2
Defective W.C.s repaired Premises and sanitary conveniences cleansed and redecorated Provision of chemical closets Roof and plaster repaired W.C.s, urinals and auto-flush to urinal Intervening ventilated space Separate cloakroom Artificial lighting	6 9 3 1 3 6 1

Outworkers.

Lists of Outworkers are received from employers and other authorities of outworkers residing in the district. All the addresses in the City area are visited.

Addresses of Outworkers:	
Received from other Councils	16
Forwarded to other Councils	23
Received from employers	106

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The above Act came into force on 31st March and from that time until the end of the year, complaints were received relating to rodents. A report has been given to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries as follows:—

Prevalence of Rats and Mice.

	(i)	Local A	(iii) r of prope Authority h infestat	's Area	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	(vi) sis of Colu ber infest	Aller Sales Control
Type of Property	Total	Notified by Occu-	Other- wise dis-	Recor- ded Total of	Rats		Mice
		pier	covered	& (iii)	Major	Minor	only
Local Authority's Property	15	I	10	II	2	9	_
Dwelling House	14,645	131	207	338	_	331	7
Business Premises	2,186	21	14	46	I	34	II
Agricultural Property	89	_	16	16	I	15	
Total	16,935	153	247	411	4	389	18

Measures of Control by Local Authority.

Type of Property	No. of proper- ties inspec- ted	No. of inspec- tions made,	Number of notices served under Sec. 4.		Number of treatments carried out				Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Sec. 6		
					By arrangement with Occupier		Under Section 5 [1]		[1] or by informal arrangement.		
			Treat- ments	Works	Rats	Mice only	Rats	Mice		Service Associ- ated sewers	
										Number of separ ateoccu- pancies	of man- holes
Local Authority's Property	15	134	_		42	_		_	_	enl.	_
Dwelling House	511	1308	_	_	400	12	_		2	63	
Business Premises	81	376	_	_	113	57	_	_		12	
Agricultural Property	37	121		_	16	_			_	_	_
Total	1140	1939	_	_	571	69	_		2	75	-

The Huntingdon and Soke of Peterborough Agricultural Executive Committee disinfest the farm land under contract and supply this office with statistics of their work.



