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# 443(1) REIGHTE

#### BOROUGH OF REIGATE

#### ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH T. H. BINGHAM, M.D., D.P.H.

Together with the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

G. JANES, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.





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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH T. H. Bingham, M.D., D.P.H.

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of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR G. Janes, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

#### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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DENNIS BRISK, Cert.R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B. (from 1st August, 1950)

THOMAS P. JARRETT (from 1st April, 1950)

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> Posts Officer: JOHN KEMPSHALL

Assistant Pests Officer: EDWARD E. ARNOULD

> Clerks: VERA VERRALL

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DORIS M. TIDMARSH (from 1st August, 1950)

RONALD MARSDIN

THOMAS P. JARRETT (until 31st Merch, 1950)

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INDI	EX TO SECTIONS		growth little
			Pages
SECTION I. Stat1st:	ics and Social	Conditions	5 to 9
" II. Sanitary	Circumstance	s of the Area	9 to 14
" III. Housing			14 to 16
" IV. Inspect:	ion and Superv	ision of Food	17 to 19
	nce of, and Con		
Infection	ous Diseases		19 to 28
REPORT OF Chief Sanita			29 to 43
	and ampleaded		
	CONTENTS		
Bacteriological Examin	nation of Milk	and Food	17, 18
Births			5
Building Repair Licen	ces		42
Closet Accommodation			11
Complaints Received,	Summary of		38
Deaths		:: :: ::	8
Diphtheria			23
Disinfection			27,31,32
Dysentory			23
Erysipolas			25
Factories Act, 1937		::	13,38,40
Food and Drugs Act -	Sections 13 &		36,37
Food and Drugs Act -	Sampling		38, 39
Food Hygiene			30, 37
Housing accommodation	- application	s for	30
Housing Acts - Admini	stration of		30
			15
			18, 36
Infectious Diseases			20, 31
Influenza			27
			19
Isolation Hospital Ac	Commodation		43
Legal Proceedings Mass Radiography			
mass radiography			28
Measles			25
Meat and Food Inspect			18,33,34,35
Milk Supply, Regulati	ons, etc.		17, 37
Movable Dwellings			12, 29
Notices Issued			41
Nuisances Abated			41
Pediculosis			27
Pest Control			13, 31
-			24
D-72 17 1 2211			24
Poliomyelitis			24
Population			5
Preserved Food			36
Puerperal Pyrexia			23
River Pollution			11
Rodent Control			42, 43
Sanitary Inspection o	f Area		12
Scabies			27
Scarlet Fever			20
			11
Scavenging Schick Testing and Di		dection	23
			11
Sewerage			
Shell-fish			19
Shops and Offices			12
Slaughter of Animals	Act, 1933		37
Smallpox			20
Smoke Abatement			13
Staff			2
Swimming Baths and Po			13
Timber Certificates			42
Tuberculosis			25
Tuberculous Milk and			17, 35
Was admand and			20
7721 7 01 14 14			6
			9
Water Supply			25
Whooping Cough			20

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#### BOROUGH OF REIGATE

#### ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1950

#### To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Borough of Reigate in the year 1950.

The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health and, at the Minister's request, special reference is made to certain subjects of current interest with which the local health services are directly concerned. In other respects, the Report follows the arrangement of earlier issues in the same series and is, in general, confined to a brief record of the work of the public health services of the Borough, and of important alterations, improvements and developments of these services, in the year under review.

The only cause of sickness or invalidity that was specially noteworthy in the area during the year was measles, which appeared in epidemic form in the late summer and autumn months, when whooping cough also exhibited increase in prevalence. There was also a sporadic outbreak of infantile paralysis, which, though not extensive, prompted the imposition of far-reaching precautionary restrictions. The incidence of other acute specific infections and of tuberculosis of the lungs was, on the whole, somewhat lower than the average for the Borough and for towns of comparable size. The absence of diphtheria and food poisoning, and the further decline in the prevalence of scabies and other forms of verminous infestation should also be noted.

In most respects the vital statistics for 1950 compare very favourably with those recorded in the past. The birth rate of 13.75 per 1,000 population approximates to the average for the immediate pre-war years and represents a further decline from the peak reached in 1947, when the rate was 19.63. A fall in the birth rate was usually regarded in the past as an index of adverse economic circumstances; in the present instance, however, it is probable that the decline is to some extent a reflection of present-day housing difficulties which, in many cases, impose necessary limitation on the size of families. The fall in the rate is partly offset by the striking reduction in mortality amongst new-born babies, the infant death rate for the year being the second lowest on record.

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The crude death rate of 13.4, though higher than that for the country as a whole, is well below the annual average for the Borough and is not unfavourable for a community with an age group constitution such as that of Reigate. The fact that roughly two-thirds of the total deaths were of persons of advanced age and that a relatively small proportion were assigned to strictly preventable causes, may possibly be of greater significance than the actual rate recorded.

Vital statistics, however useful they may be as a rough guide and for purposes of comparison, do not afford much information with regard to the general standard of health and nutrition of a community, or the provalence or otherwise of minor degrees of ill-health and lowered vitality which, not being notifiable and not usually proving fatal, are not reflected in returns of morbidity and mortality. Information or these returns of morbidity and mortality. tion on these matters can most readily be obtained, at least so far as the recognised priority groups are concerned, from the findings of the school health, maternity and child welfare and other personal health services; as these usually provide for the routine and regular examination of the normal as well as the abnormal, they offer a very valuable means of estimating, by personal observation, the general standard attained, any significant deviation from the normal and the relative incidence of minor defects and disabilities. Under the new health legislation, the personal health services formerly under the direction of the Borough Council have been transferred to the County Council, and the activities of the Medical Officer of Health, as such, have been correspondingly restricted in this field. In his capacity as Divisional County Medical Officer, responsible for the day to day supervision of personal health services administered on a Divisional basis, he has early and first-hand information, which would not otherwise be available to him, of any serious deterioration in the general state of health of the community for which he acts. The information so obtained in 1950 in respect of the Borough of Reigate does not indicate any significant deviation from the standard attained in the past, with the possible exception that anxiety neurosis and allied functional nervous disorders are noticeably more common than formerly. The observed increase in prevalence of disabilities of this nature may admit of several possible explanations, but it is less easy to suggest and apply appropriate and effective means of prevention.

I have again to record my sincere appreciation of the efficient and conscientious service rendered by my staff, the assistance and close co-operation of officials engaged in other departments of the Corporation and the support and consideration extended to me throughout the year by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. BINGHAM

Medical Officer of Health

REIGATE

7th August, 1951

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#### SECTION I

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Land and Inland Water)	10,255 acres
Population, Census 1931 (enlarged Borough)	34,547
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-year, 1950	42,030
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1950 according to Rate Books	11,762
Rateable Value (1950)	£435,802
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,760

#### Population

The population of the Borough, including members of the armed forces stationed in the area, is estimated by the Registrar-General to be 42,030 at mid-year 1950. This represents a reduction of 120 on the corresponding figure for 1949, which related to civilian population only. In the absence of any substantial migration of Borough residents, and having regard to building development, the conversion of large houses into flats, etc., an increase in population could reasonably be expected; moreover, the live births in 1950 exceeded the deaths by 14, so there was, in fact, a small increment of population by natural increase. The Registrar-General was, accordingly, requested to review his estimate, but stated that it was based generally on the number of ration books issued at the annual exchange, an allowance being made for persons in Institutions who were not included in the ration book figure. On the assumption that the allowance made under the latter heading was sufficient, the Registrar-General's estimate can be accepted as a reasonably accurate one, and the various rates which are calculated thereon would, in consequence, fairly represent the morbidity and mortality actually experienced in the area.

#### Births

Five hundred and seventy-eight live infants were born to women normally resident in the Borough. The birth rate for the year was, therefore, 13.7 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 14.8 in 1949, 15.6 in 1948 and 19.6 in 1947, which was the highest recorded in the preceding twenty-five years.

It may be observed that the birth rate for the Borough is appreciably lower than that recorded in other areas. This is less marked when the rate is adjusted, by the application of a comparability factor, to allow for differences in the age and sex distribution of the population as compared with other areas; the adjusted birth rate for the Borough was 14.3 per 1,000 population.

It is especially noteworthy that the decline in the birth rate was accompanied by very marked and disproportionate reduction in mortality amongst new-born infants and was not associated with significant increase in the proportion of infants registered as still-born.

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#### TABLE I

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:-	
Legitimate Males 286 Females 268	
Illegitimate Malos 10 Females 14	Total 24
Birth Rate	13.7
Do. 1949	14.8
Do. for the five years 1945 to 1949	16.9
Still Births:-	
Logitimate Males 6 Females 8	Total 14
Illogitimato Males 1 Females 2	Total 3
Rate per 1,000 total births	0.0
Do. do 1949	20.0
Deaths (nett):	
Males 250 Females 314	Total 564
Do. 1949:- Males 238 Females 280	Total 518
Malos 200 Fomalos 200	10041 010
Death Rate	13.4
Do. 1949	12.2
Do. for the five years 1945 to 1949	12.4
Percentage of total deaths occurring in Public	
Institutions	39.8
Vahamal Nambalahar	
Maternal Mortality:- Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births	Nil
Infant Mortality:- Deaths of infants under one year of age:-	
Legitimate Malos 8 Females 5	Total 13
Illegitimate Males - Females -	Total -
Infant Death Rate:- All infants per 1,000 live births	22.4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate	25.4
live births	23.4
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate	0.0
live births	0.0
Death of infants under 4 weeks of age:-	
Legitimato Males 6 Females 4	Total 10
Illegitimate Malos - Fomalos -	Total -
Deaths from:-	
Cancer (all ages)	87
Measles (all agos)	1
Who oping Cough (all ages) Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0
Dear mode (under a journ of ago)	

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Birth-Rates, Civilian Death-Rates and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1950 TABLE II

	Rate per 1,000 Population	per 00 ation	An	Annual De	Death-Rate		per 1,000 Ci	Civilian	Population	lon	Rate per 1,000 Li Births	per Live
	Live Births	Still-Births	sesuso IIA	Typhoid and Fara-typhoid Fevers	Tuberculosis	Whooping Cough	Dîphthoria	ezuenŢ JuI	Acuto	Fneumonia	Deaths from Deaths from Diarrhoes and Entertits (under two years)	Total deaths
England and Wales	15.8	0.37	11.6	00.0	0.36	0.01	00.0	01.0	0.02	0.46	1.9	29.3
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	17.6	0.45	12.3	00.0	0.43	0.01	00.0	0.00	0.02	0.49	63.63	33.8
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	16.7	0.38	11.6	8:0	0.33	10.0	00.0	0.10	0.02	0.45	1.6	29.4
London - Administrative County	17.8	0.36	11.8	00.00	0.39	0.01	00.00	40.0	10.0	0.48	1.0	26.3
Reigato	13.7	0.40	13.4	00.0	0.26	0.00	00.0	0.11	00.0	0.35	00.00	22.4

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	Manual Assessment Comments	Section of Contract C		
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	Total Devices Longitudes	Section of Contract C		

The deaths assigned to the area include those of Borough residents who died elsewhere, but exclude those of temporary rosidents, which are transferred to the districts in which they normally resided. The total number of deaths so assigned was 564. of which 250 were of males and 314 of females.

The numbers of deaths of each sex in various age groups were as follows:-

Age group	Males	Fomalos	Total
0-5 years	 12	5	17
5-10 years	 1	-	1
10-15 years	 1	-	1
15-20 years	 . 3	-	3
20-30 years	 1	2	3
30-40 years	 7	4	11
40-50 years	 7	12	19
50-60 years	 20	19	39
60-70 years	 51	55	106
70-80 years	 80	103	183
80-90 years	 61	93	154
90 and upwards	6_	21	27
	250	314	564
	Constitution and the second		

The "crude" or unadjusted death rate for the year was 13.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 12.2 in 1949, 10.8 in 1948, 13.1 in 1947, and an average rate of 12.8 for the preceding ten years. When adjusted, by the application of a comparability factor, to allow for the adverse influence of unfavourable age and sex distribution on the mortality experienced in the area, the "crude" rate is reduced to 10.8 per 1,000, which compares very favourably with the rate for England and Wales (11.6) and with the similarly adjusted rate for towns with a resident population of 25,000 to 50,000 (11.6).

The numbers of deaths assigned to specified causes are set out in Table III. In accordance with the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948, the headings are now based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death. These afford more precise information with regard to the mortality from certain defined causes, and differ somewhat from the classification adopted in the past, with which the present headings in some instances are not strictly comparable.

The rise in the death rate in 1950 is very largely attributable to greater mortality amongst females, but it is also noteworthy that a proportionately greater number of the total deaths of both sexes were of persons of advanced age. This is reflected in the causes of death - rather more than one-half of the total being ascribed to diseases of the heart and circulatory system, including degenerative affections of the blood vessels of the brain, and roughly one-sixth to cancer and malignant disease, in most cases ocurring in association with semility. The numbers of deaths assigned to other specified causes do not suggest unusual or excessive mortality from any particular cause or significant association with special conditions of occupation or environment. Measles, bronchitis and deaths from violence made slightly more than their usual contribution to the death rate. There was, however, a wolcome reduction in mortality amongst infants in their first year, the infant death rate being the second lowest recorded in the past fifty years; in this connection it is especially noteworthy that most of the deaths were of infants under the age of four weeks and were ascribed to promaturity, congenital malformation and other non-preventable causes. Mortality from tuberculous and non-tuberculous infection of the lungs, with the exception of bronchitis, and from infectious diseases, with the exception of measles, was also lower than that usually observed. The numbers of deaths assigned to other defined causes approximate fairly closely to those recorded in the past and do not call for special comment.

. . . . the "country" of the estimated population, as comparable to the least to the state of the estimated population, as comparable to the last last last end an average tate last last the property ten years. Then advanted by the distribution of a comparability feeton, to allow for the advanted last record of the country of the transfer of the the state of the transfer o The relative and that are in 1000 is revised by 1500 is row paired; atthic of the relative and that are in 1000 is row paired; atthic of the relative and that a relative and the latter is related. A relative and the relative and relative and relative and relative and the relative and the relative and the relative and rel

#### TABLE III

## Causes of Death in the Borough of Reigate during 1950

	М.	F.	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	6	3	9
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	1	1	2
3. Syphilitic disease		1	1
4. Diphtheria			
5. Whooping Cough			
6. Meningococcal infections			
7. Acute polio myelitis			
8. Measles	1		1
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2		2
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	4	12
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	6	12
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	11	12
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		4	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	22	25	47
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	3	1	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	28	55	83
18. Coronary disease, angina	40	23	63
19. Hypertension with heart disease	7	10	17
20. Other heart disease	37	68	105
21. Other circulatory disease	14	13	27
22. Influenza	3	2	5
23. Pneumonia	8	7	15
24. Bronchitis	8	10	18
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	4	7
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoca	1	2	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3 7	••	3 7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate		••	7.5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	•••	5	
31. Congenital malformations 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	28	46	6 74
27 1/4	2	3	5
74 433 - 44 43	2	4	6
35. Suicido	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operations of war			
Totals	250	314	564

#### SECTION II

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### Water .

There was no important extension of the public water supply during the year, except in connection with new building development.

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With the exception of fifteen houses which depend for their water supply on three private wells, all dwellings in the Borough have a continuous and direct supply from the East Surrey Water Company. The water is derived from deep borings in the chalk and is softened, chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers.

The supply was adequate in quantity throughout the year, the average daily consumption per head of population being about 30 to 40 gallons. The quality of the water, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the East Surrey Water Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and bacteriologically about 40 times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company; samples are taken in each district at stated times, and the analyst's reports are available for the use of the other districts concerned. The following report is typical of those received during the year:-

#### Chemical Results in Parts per Million

Appearance .							Bright
					• •		
							Nil
Odour .							N11
Reaction pH .					Alka	lino:	8.4
Free carbonic	acid						Absent
Electric condu	ctivity	r at 20	dog .(	).			260
Total solids,							175
Chlorine in Ch							21
Alkalinity as			nate				45
Hardness: Tota							95
Temp	orary						45
	anent						50
Nitrogen in ni	trates						4.4
Nitrogon in ni							N11
Free ammonia							0.000
Albuminoid amm	onia						0.000
Oxygen absorbe				dog.	C.		0.15
Motals .						Iron:	0.03
Residual chlor	ine						Nil
Olimon Common					100	-	a

#### Bacteriological Results

	day a 7 deg	2 days at 37 deg.C.	3 days at 20 deg.
Number of "Colonies" growing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in	 0	0	0
Prosumptive coliform reaction		 Absen	t 100 c.c.
	 	 Absent	t 100 c.c.
Cl. wolchi macation	 	 Abson	t 100 c.c.

#### Report

"This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, fairly alkaline in reaction and free from metals, apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is fairly soft in character and is free from any excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of the highest standard.

These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholosome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes."

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A sample of water from a private well supplying a mineral water factory and a few adjoining cottages was reported to be acid in reaction, and thereby liable to have a solvent action on lead, and to show slight bacterial impurity due to the presence of organisms of a type associated with faecal pollution. The owner was accordingly advised with regard to precautionary measures, including the substitution of iron piping and fittings for lead in the pumping apparatus and the repair of certain defects to which the bacterial contamination was thought to be attributable. The necessary repairs and improvements were completed during the year, and the subsequent examination of samples showed marked improvement in the quality There was still evidence of mild pollution, of the water. however, and having regard to the use of the water for manufacturing purposes and, in consequence, its distribution over a wide area, the owner was advised to consider the installation of a purification plant or, alternatively, the substitution of the public supply. It was requested that, pending such action as he may think fit to take on the lines indicated to him, he should make private arrangements for the water to be examined bacteriologically at least once a month and furnish the Public Health Department with copies of the analyst's reports.

Water from a well supplying a private dwelling was found, on examination, to have corrosive properties and to be of poor bacterial quality. The potential dangers were explained to the owner, who was advised to have the public main extended to his premises, which he has since done.

#### Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Following the extension of the public sewer to Mason's Bridge Road, Redhill, in 1949, the drainage of twenty-one properties was connected to it during 1950. This resulted in the abolition of eighteen cesspools, the conversion of twelve pail closets to the water-carriage system, the provision of water supply to two hand-flushed water-closets and the provision of drainage facilities to one dwelling previously without any means of drainage. At the end of the year, only two properties in that area remained to be connected.

In addition to the above, one cosspool in another part of the district was abolished and the drainage system connected to the public sewer.

#### Closet Accommodation

Four cottages with pail closets were converted to the water-carriage system and connected to properly constructed cesspools; these are additional to the conversions noted above in Mason's Bridge Road.

#### Rivers and Streams

The streams and surface water courses in the area are regularly inspected, and all necessary action is taken to render them free from obstruction and pollution.

#### Public Cleansing

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse is in operation in all parts of the Borough. More frequent collections are made of trade refuse having a high content of putrescible matter. Refuse with no salvage value is disposed of by incineration.

The conditions of storage of house and trade refuse are generally satisfactory, and have been greatly improved by the replacement of receptacles found to be dilapidated or defective.

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With a view to preventing serious nuisance from flies, communal street bins for the collection of kitchen waste were emptied thrice weekly during the summer months, and were withdrawn and thoroughly cleaned at intervals of seven to ten days. These measures had the desired result.

Arrangements have been made for the salvage of waste paper, scrap metal, bottles, etc., and for the processing for animal feeding of waste food collected in the Borough and in neighbouring Sanitary Districts.

#### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

A classified statement of the number of premises visited, the defects or nuisances discovered, and the action and result of action taken in regard to these will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

#### Shops

Inspections for the purposes of the Shops Act, 1934, continue to be made as and when necessary.

#### Camping Sites

The licensed site for movablo dwellings in Maple Road, Redhill, was suitably adapted during the year, and brought into full use for thirty-three trailer caravans. Most of these are occupied by families who have not previously had separate homes, as a means of overcoming their housing difficulties. The owner of the site has provided a brick-built sanitary block, comprising water-closet accommodation for both sexes, laundry and ablution facilities, including shower baths and a constant supply of hot water; the drainage system is connected to the public sewer.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the owner of land at Gatton Park and at Nutwood nearby for allowing the land to be used as a site for caravans without a licence under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. In the case of the land at Gatton Park, a licence had already been refused on the grounds that the application gave insufficient information with regard to the arrangements proposed for securing proper sanitary conditions. Summonses were issued against the owner in respect of three separate plots of land - one at Nutwood, occupied by four caravans, and two at Gatton Park, accommodating up to seven caravans and thirteen caravans, respectively. A conviction was secured in each case. Two of the plots were still in use at the end of the year as sites for nineteen caravans; statutory action in respect of one of these sites is at present under consideration.

The owner of land in Markedge Lane, Upper Gatton, was granted Town Planning permission to develop the site for seasonal occupation by ten caravans, but failed to comply with the conditions attached to the licence issued to him under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The land was in full use as a caravan site for the greater part of the year, and authority was accordingly given for the institution of legal proceedings against the owner. The matter was not pursued, however, as the occupants of the caravans eventually left the site.

Nine licences (7 new licences and 2 renewals) were granted under Section 269 (Sub-section (1) (ii) of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of trailer caravans occupied by families who were without proper housing accommodation. Three applications for such licences were refused on the grounds that the sanitary arrangements which it was proposed to make were unsatisfactory.

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#### Smoke Abatement

No complaint of smoke nuisance was received during the year.

#### Swimming Baths and Pools

Three swimming baths in the area are open to the public. Two are covered baths owned and controlled by the Corporation; the third is a privately owned open-air pool to which the public are admitted on payment. All three baths are equipped with the necessary plant for filtration and chlorination.

Samples of the water were examined during the year and were reported in each case to reach a high standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

#### Eradication of Bed Bugs

The disinfestation of verminous premises was carried out by the Disinfecting Officer, under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Particulars of Council and other houses found to be infested and dealt with during the year are set out in a later section of this report.

#### Factories Act, 1937

In accordance with Section 128 of the above-named Act, the Table given below indicates the work which has been carried out during 1950.

#### (1) Inspections

		Number	Number of			
	Premises	on Register	Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted	
(1)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	48	6	2	-	
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	116	31	6		
(111)	Others	6	6	-	-	
	TOTAL	170	43	8	-	

#### (2) Cases in which Defects were found

Martin State	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in
Particulars	Found	Reme- died	Referred to H.M. Inspector		which pro- secutions were instituted
ant of cleanli- ness Ineffective drain-	3	5	-	1	-
age of floors Sanitary con- veniences	1	1	-	-	-
(a) insufficient (b) unsuitable or	2	2	-	1	-
defective Other offences (not including offences relating	6	3	-	5	-
to Outwork)	-	-	- 3	-	-
TOTAL	12	11	-	7	-

#### (3) Out Work (Sections 110 and 111)

No lists of outworkers were received from employers. Four lists were received from other Authorities, affecting six persons, whose premises were visited. No action was necessary.

#### SECTION III

#### HOUSING

The statistical particulars relating to housing in the area are set out below.

For the reasons explained in recent reports, it has not been practicable to resume the systematic inspection of houses under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, but a considerable number of dwellings were visited and inspected in connection with infectious disease, applications to the Council for housing accommodation and for building repair licences, and on complaint by tenants. It has been possible to secure, by informal action, at least a partial repair of the majority of the houses found to be defective, but rising costs of labour and material, together with the cumulative effect of rent control over a number of years, add very greatly to the difficulties of administration of housing legislation.

The number of dwelling-houses inspected during the year was 244. Eleven were found to be unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense. Eight of these were dealt with under Sections 11 and/or 12 of the Housing Act, 1936; three were dealt with informally - two being closed and one being entirely reconstructed and modernised. Of the eight dealt with formally, one was closed, one was made fit following an offer to carry out works, and Demolition Orders were made in six cases. The Local Authority rehoused the occupants of nine of the houses.

Three individual houses dealt with in 1949 under Section 11 were demolished in 1960, immediately after the occupants had been rehoused by the Council. One dwelling-house found in 1949 to be unfit and not capable at a reasonable expense of being made fit, owing to the extensive repairs necessary and the low controlled rent, was purchased by the occupier in 1950; the house was repaired and modernised by the new owner, with the assistance of a Building Society, thus indicating one way by which this difficult problem can be solved.

Informal notices were served on the owners of 223 houses which were found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation; 242 defective dwelling-houses in this category were rendered fit before the end of the year in consequence of informal action.

Three dwelling-houses were the subject of formal notices served under Section 92 (2 cases) and Section 75 (1 case) of the Public Health Act, 1936. These notices were complied with during the year, but in the case of the Section 75 notice, the Local Authority had to act in default, the owner having to defray the cost of the dustbin which was supplied. In addition, 16 statutory notices served in 1949 and outstanding at the end of the year were all complied with in 1950 by the owners concerned.

Five new cases of statutory overcrowding were discovered during the year, in addition to the thirty cases shown to exist at the end of 1949. Nine cases were relieved by rehousing the affected families in requisitioned property, in temporary pre-fabricated bungalows or in permanent Corporation houses, and seven cases were abated by action taken by the occupiers.

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the	The Council's Housing Manager has very kindly supplifollowing particulars in respect of the year under re	
(1)	Number of new dwellings completed during the year:	150
(2)	Families rehoused from waiting list:-	
	In Permanent Council Houses	42 46
	In Old Peoples' Bungalows	12
	In Pre-fabricated Temporary Bungalows	5
	In Requisitioned Properties	53
	The second secon	
	Total:	162
(3)	(a) Families transferred from Ex-Army Huts:-	
	To Permanent Council Houses	1
	Total:	2
	(b) Families transferred from Requisitioned Property	
	To Permanent Council Houses	26
	To Pre-fabricated Temporary Bungalows	6
	To other Requisitioned Properties	10
	Total:	51
	(c) Families transferred from Pre-fabricated Tempora	ary
	To Permanent Council Houses	12
	(d) Families transferred from Permanent Council House	sos:-
	To Pre-fabricated Temporary Bungalows	4
	To Requisitioned Properties	3
	Total:	7
	(e) Families transferred from one type of Permanent Council Dwelling to another:	40
	HOUSING STATISTICS	
1.	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year	
	(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	244
		1,397
	(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	14 59
		00
	(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11
	(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human hebitation	002

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Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	242
Action under Statutory Powers during the year	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners	2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	1
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	6
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936;	
(1) Number of separate tenements or under- ground rocms in respect of which Closing	2
	2
ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or	
	Nil
Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV. Overcrowding	
	19
	27
	142
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported	5
during the year	16
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	56
(d) Number of dwelling-houses which again became overcrowded after the local authority had taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers  Action under Statutory Powers during the year  (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:  (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs  (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:  (a) By owners  (b) By local authority in default of owners  (c) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied  (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:  (a) By owners  (b) By local authority in default of owners  (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:  (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made  (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders  (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:  (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rocms in respect of which Closing Orders were made  (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rocms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit  Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV. Overcrowding  (a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year  (ii) Number of persons dwelling therein  (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year  (iii) Number of persons concorned in such cases  (d) Number of welling-houses which again became overcrowded after the local authority had taken

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#### SECTION IV

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### Milk Supply

The greater part of the milk sold by retail in the Borough is pasteurised, either at a licensed dairy in Croydon or at a local dairy which is equipped with a modern H.T.S.T. (high temperature short-time) pasteurising apparatus, and which has been licensed by the Borough Council.

The routine sampling of milk supplies was continued in accordance with recent practice, with the modification that samples of raw milk were submitted for biological examination only in those cases where it would have been sold in its untreated state. The results are indicated in Table IV; they show that all the samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk passed the prescribed tests. Four samples of pasteurised milk could not be submitted to the methylene blue test, as the atmospheric shade temperature on the days of sampling exceeded 65°F., thereby rendering the tests void. The samples submitted for biological examination gave negative results for tubercle bacilli.

#### TABLE IV

#### RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

# 1. Tests required by Regulations governing Special Designations

No. of		othylene		Phos- pha- tase	Turbi- dity
Samples		Unsatis- factory	Test Void	Satis- factory	Satis- factory
Tuberculin Tested: 22	18	4	-	-	-
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised): 14	14	-	-	14	-
Pastourised:46	42	-	4	46	-
Sterilised: 5	-	-	-	-	5

#### 2. Biological Examination

No. of Samples	Tubercle Bacilli +	% Tubercle Bacilli +
32	Nil	0.00

Outbroaks of tuberculosis of bovine origin have been reported from time to time in different parts of the country, and have been traced with reasonable certainty to the consumption of milk from infected cows. The only absolute means of prevention is the sterilisation or officient pasteurisation of all grades of milk, including tuberculin-tested. Until this is obligatory, there is the less effective alternative of regular veterinary inspection of dairy herds and frequent biological examination of raw milk, to assist the early detection and elimination of infected animals. Under the present arrangements, the routine veterinary examinations of dairy herds are too infrequent to give confidence in the degree of safeguard they provide and it is, accordingly, necessary to rely more on biological testing. With these

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considerations in mind, the Borough Council have recently approved an extension of the existing sampling arrangements, to provide for more frequent biological examination of raw milk that will not subsequently be subjected to heat treatment.

#### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949 & 1950

Licences, as under, for the sale of designated milk were granted to thirteen retailers in the area:-

	Type of Licence	Number of Licences	Number of Promises
Pastourisod	Pastourisor's Dealer's Supplementary	2 4 5	2 8
Tuberculin Tosted	Doslor's Supplementary	: 4 4	9
Storilised	Dealer's Supplementary	: 3 : 1	3 -

#### Meat and Other Foods

The action taken under the Public Health (Mest) Regulations, 1924, is described in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, which also includes an account of unsound food destroyed and particulars of inspections of premises where food is prepared.

#### Adultoration, etc.

No special action was necessary under Sections 27 to 29 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, relating to Artificial Cream, nor under the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations, 1923 to 1948, and the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, 1923 to 1948.

All articles submitted to the Public Analyst were examined for the presence of preservatives in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc. in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940, but no infringement of the Regulations was reported.

Although many Orders have now been made under the Defence (Sale of Food) Regulations, 1943, relating to Food Standards and Labelling, no infringement was noted in 1950.

#### Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food

Samples for chemical analysis are sent to the Council's Analyst, Mr. D. D. Moir, M.S.C., F.R.I.C., and samples of milk and ice-cream for bacteriological examination to the Clinical Research Association Limited.

Thirty-five samples of ice-cream from sixteen retailers were examined for bacterial quality, by submission to the methylene-blue reduction test. This compares with twenty samples taken from the same number of retailers in 1949. Twelve of the samples were taken at the only two premises registered in this Borough for the manufacture of ice-cream; seven of these were placed in Grades I or II, and five in Grade III. Of the 23 samples manufactured elsewhere, 13 were in Grades I and II, and 8 in Grade III; the test could not be applied to two samples, because of the presence of colouring matter. These results are generally satisfactory.

#### Shellfish (Molluscan)

There are no shellfish beds or layings in the district. The shellfish on sale locally are obtained from the London Markets, so that no information is available as to the layings from which the shellfish are derived.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934, nor under Section 39 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

#### SECTION V

# PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

#### Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious disease is a function of the Regional Hospital Board. In spite of formal protest by the Borough Council and other interested authorities, the resources available locally were seriously depleted in the early part of the year, when the Reigate Infectious Diseases Hospital at Whitebushes was adapted for the reception of tropical diseases, including leprosy, and thereafter ceased to be used for its original purpose. In consequence, patients who could not be accommodated at Bletchingley or Westcott were sent to isolation hospitals in other parts of the Hospital Region. Even when due allowance is made for the speed and comfort of modern ambulance transport, a long journey is seldom in the best interests of a patient who is acutely ill; there is, in addition, the inevitable inconvenience and expense to parents or relatives who may wish to visit the patient in hospital.

There have been few reports of difficulty or delay in securing the admission of infectious persons to hospital. Uncomplicated cases of the commoner infections, such as measles and whooping cough, are not usually accepted, unless recommended by the Medical Officer of Health on the grounds that the patient cannot be satisfactorily isolated and treated at home.

A serious failing of the existing system is that the Medical Officer of Health is not invariably informed of the admission and discharge of patients from his area or of the ultimate diagnosis made in cases admitted to hospital on suspicion. Such information is indispensable for the application of appropriate measures of prevention and control, for which the local Sanitary Authority is responsible. This matter has been brought to the notice of senior administrative officers of the Regional Hospital Board, who are considering the means by which deficiencies in these respects may be corrected.

#### Notifiable Infectious Diseases

The action taken on receipt of a notification that a person is suffering from an infectious disease is fully described in previous reports.

The exclusion from school of infected persons and contacts is carried out in accordance with the suggestions contained in the joint Memorandum issued in 1927 by the Ministry of Health and Board of Education, and amended in August, 1942.

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Table V shows the number of the various notifiable infectious diseases (other than tuberculosis) recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital, and the total deaths from each disease. Comparative statistics are given in Table VI. The prevalence of the various diseases is reviewed below.

#### Small-pox

No case of small-pox was reported in the Borough during the year. Two suspected cases were examined at the request of the medical practitioners in attendance, but the provisional diagnosis of small-pox was not confirmed.

Reports were received of the arrival in the Borough of several persons who had recently been in contact with definite or suspected cases of small-pox, either in this country or abroad, or had visited localities where the disease was known to be prevalent. All were visited and kept under surveillance for the prescribed period.

#### Vaccination against Small-pox

Vaccination against small-pox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the Borough. Particulars of notifications of vaccinations performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:-

	0 - 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	Over 15 years
Primary Vaccination	227	22	26	18
Re-vaccination	-	3	13	51

Fewer persons were vaccinated and re-vaccinated than in 1949, but a relatively greater number of the primary vaccinations were of infants under the age of one year. This is a welcome observation in as far as it may indicate that infant vaccination is gaining in popular favour. As previously reported, however, the proportion of infants vaccinated in the first year has fallen very markedly since the abolition of compulsory powers. If this trend continues, a large section of the population will in time be unprotected and the introduction of virulent small-pox into the area may have very serious consequences. The importance of securing protection in early infancy is stressed by the Assistant Medical Officers and Health Visitors in their interviews with parents at the various clinics and in the course of routine domiciliary visiting.

#### Scarlet Fever

The prevalence of scarlet fever, as judged by the number of cases notified, was lower than in recent years. Most of the cases occurred in the early part of the year and amongst the younger members of the community. The type of infection was, on the whole, exceptionally mild and rarely associated with troublesome complications; in fact, the symptoms in many cases were so transient or ill-defined as to pass unnoticed. Such cases were often the means of infecting susceptible individuals with whom they came in contact. There was a striking instance of this at a private school where cases of scarlet fever occurred periodically until traced to a carrier who had undoubtedly suffered from an abortive and unrecognised attack of scarlet fever and had continued to attend school throughout the whole period of her illness. These atypical cases add very greatly to the difficulties of administrative control and tend to call in question the value of compulsory notification while limited, as at present, in its application.

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TABLE V

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1950

Cases notified in Age Periods	to t	24 2 1 50		1 11 2 - 14 5	1	1 - 2 - 1	- 1 1 1 1	36 82 3 - 1 1 217 -	99 358 11 2 12 4 741 9	- 1 1 2 7 12 2	147 472 18 5 33 12 7 12 1082 70	
	45 to 55	3 1	1	1	2	1	1	1	ı	C)	-	
52	35 to	1	1	03	4	1	,	7	4	П	12	
Period	20 to	3 1	1	11	9	CQ.	'	٦	12	Н	33	
Age	15	2 -	1	7	-	'	'		. 63	,	c)	
	100	03	1	1	1	1	1	63	11	Н	18	
notifi	100	24	1	1	7	1	٦	85	358	1 ,	472	
8888	405	6	7	1	1	П	1	36	66	'	147	
0	t 0 4	6	Н	1	П	1	:	39	114	1	164	
	2000	4	10	1	CS	Н	1	24	99	5	66	
	10°C	7	CS	1	1	1	1	17	19	1	81	
	Under 1	1	1	1	CS	1	1	14	15	1	32	
	Disease	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Poliomyelitis	Polio-Encephalitis	Whooping Cough	Measles	Erysipelas	Totals	

\* All forms

CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1950

			Rates	per 1,00	0 Civili	per 1,000 Civilian Population	ation			Rates per 1000 Total (1.0. Live and Still Births)
	Typhoid	Para- typhoid Fever	Corobro- spinal Fever	Scarlet Fever	Whoop- ing Cough	Diph- theria	Ery- sipelas	Measles	Pneu- monia	Puerperal Pyrexia
England and Wales	00.0	0.01	0.03	1.50	3.60	0.05	0.17	8.39	0.70	5.81
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	0.00	10.0	0.03	1.56	3.97	0.03	0.19	8.76	77.0	7.43
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popula- tion 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census)	00.0	0.01	30.0	1.61	3.15	0.02	0.16	8.36	19.0	4.33
London Administra- tive County	0.01	0.01	0.03	1.23	3,21	0.03	0.17	6.57	0.50	6.05
Reigate	0.00	00.00	0.00	1.18	5.16	00.0	0.28	17.63	0.83	23.52

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#### Diphtheria

For the third consecutive year, no case of diphtheria was reported in the Borough.

#### Immunisation against Diphtheria

The numbers of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year are as follows:-

Age 0 - 5 years .. .. 516 Age 5 - 15 years .. . . 39 Total 555

Reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 352 persons, mostly school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously. The numbers immunised and re-immunised are somewhat smaller than usual, because of the suspension of immunisation procedures during the prevalence of poliomyelitis in the late summer and early autumn months.

It is estimated that approximately 66.5 per cent of children under the age of five years and 77.0 per cent of those between the ages of five and fifteen years, have been artificially immunised against diphtheria. As protection is not usually advised until the end of the first year, the former proportion is equivalent to roughly 83.0 per cent of those eligible for treatment, and may be regarded as very satisfactory.

#### Dysontery

There were eight notifications of dysentery, all of which related to infants in a residential nursery. It is advisable at such establishments that new entrants should be segregated pending bacteriological investigation, to minimise the risk of introducing intestinal infection, but this may not always be possible where accommodation is limited and infants are admitted in an emergency.

#### Puerperal Pyrexia

Fourteen women were reported to have had repeated or sustained rise in temperature following confinement. All were confined in hospital or nursing homes, with the exception of one domiciliary case for which adequate nursing assistance was available. Only five of the patients were normally resident in the Borough, the remainder having been admitted to local hospitals and nursing homes from other areas.

It may be noted that the case rate for puerperal pyrexia per 1,000 total births is roughly four times greater than that recorded for England and Wales. This is largely explained by a fallacy, to which attention has previously been drawn, in the official method of computing the rate. Notifications are assigned to the district in which the condition is diagnosed, whether or not the patient is normally resident therein; the total births, for the purpose of the calculation, are those accredited to the area concerned, e.g. live and still births to Borough residents only.

When women were generally confined in their own homes or in maternity homes or hospitals in the districts in which they lived, the rate so computed was a reasonably accurate representation of the incidence of morbid conditions arising during the lying-in period. This no longer holds good because of the present day preference for admission to the maternity departments of large hospitals, each serving a

number of the surrounding sanitary districts. The rate for the Borough, calculated in the approved manner, is artificially inflated by the large number of births taking place in the Redhill County Hospital, to which maternity patients are admitted from a wide area.

It should also be explained that notifications of puerperal pyrexia are relatively more numerous in the case of hospital confinements, due to more complete notification and the better opportunities of observing recurring rises in temperature. It will be understood that notification applies to any feverish condition occurring in the lying-in period, and is not necessarily associated with septic infection following delivery.

#### Pneumonia

The prevalence of pneumonia was greater than usual and was noteworthy also in other respects; there was no marked seasonal prevalence and no significant concentration of cases in the younger and older age groups. In very few instances was the lung infection stated to be secondary to influenza, though it is probable that at least some of the notifications related to pneumonia occurring as a late complication of other acute infections.

Eight patients were already in public institutions at the time of the notification and sixteen others were removed to hospital or nursing homes for the purpose of treatment. The cases nursed at home were investigated by the Health Visitors, who reported that all necessary facilities for treatment were available.

It is noteworthy that the greater prevalence of pneumonia was not accompanied by a corresponding increase in the mortality ascribed to it. This is the more remarkable when it is recalled that deaths from pneumonia include many due to non-infectious and, therefore, non-notifiable forms of disease, for example, congestion of the lungs occurring as a terminal condition in elderly persons. The number of deaths of notifiable cases was, in fact, unusually small.

#### Poliomyelitis

One confirmed case of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) was reported in January and three others in the late summer, when the disease was unduly prevalent in neighbouring districts. As a large proportion of infected persons do not present any recognisable symptoms of poliomyelitis and as many others recover without the onset of paralysis, there is no doubt that the infection at this period was much more generally widespread than the number of notified cases would suggest. was, therefore, thought to be advisable, while cases were occurring in the district, to forbid special cinema performances for children and to postpone swimming galas and similar athletic events. Local medical practitioners and hospitals were advised, and agreed, to suspend prophylactic inoculations and elective nose and throat operations, in view of the observed association between such procedures and the occurrence of policmyelitis. For the same reason, dental operations at the local clinics were, for the time being, restricted to emergency cases.

#### Polio-encophalitis

This is an acute infection of the nervous system, differing from poliomyelitis in that the brain, rather than the spinal cord, is chiefly affected. The one case reported during the year was admitted to hospital and recovered satisfactorily.

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#### Whooping Cough

There was a sharp increase in the prevalence of whooping cough, which was practically confined to the second half of the year and to infants under the age of ten years. The disease was widespread in distribution and, because of the lengthy period of exclusion prescribed for cases and contacts, caused serious interference with school attendance. The infection was mild in type and relatively free from major complications. No mortality was attributed to whooping cough.

Inoculation against whooping cough is not at present undertaken at the clinics in the Borough, but is being increasingly practised, usually in combination with diphtheria prophylaxis, by private medical practitioners. It is considered to be advisable to postpone the introduction of whooping cough immunisation as a public service until the efficacy of the available immunising agents has been more definitely established.

#### Measles

months of the year and amongst persons in the younger age groups. Every district in the Borough was invaded and the attendance at infants' departments was, in consequence, very much reduced. Multiple cases in the same household were relatively common and it was not unusual for children to suffer almost simultaneously from measles and whooping cough or to contract the one while convalescing from the other. Nine cases were removed to hospital, in most cases from residential institutions in which they could not be effectively isolated. The only death attributed to measles was of a child who was an immate of a mental deficiency institution elsewhere and in whom the original infection was complicated by pneumonia.

Measles serum was not extensively used for the complete or partial protection of susceptible contacts, probably because of the unusual mildness of the prevailing type of infection.

#### Erysipelas

Notifications of this disease, of which there were twelve, did not indicate any significant increase in prevalence. Six cases were treated in hospital and the remainder in their own homes. One of the former died from the disease.

#### Tuberculosis

Thirty-eight new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs and nine of tuberculosis of other organs were reported during the year. Thirty-four were cases notified for the first time, nine were reported by the County Medical Officer on transference from other areas in which they had already been notified and four became known from the Registrar's Return of Deaths; in at least two of the post-humous cases, the tuberculous condition was discovered at post-mortem examination.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VII, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from this disease during the same period.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs, including those coming into the area after notification elsewhere, is equivalent to a case rate of 0.90 per 1,000 of the population. The rate so computed is very much lower than in 1949 and coincides with the armual average for the preceding ten years. Reduction in prevalence was practically

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confined to makes of middle age, the sex and age group distribution being otherwise roughly similar to that observed in the past.

It is disquieting to record that four of the victims of tuberculosis of the lungs were teachers in Council schools. The potential danger of such cases can scarcely be exaggerated, in view of their daily and intimate contact with a highly susceptible section of the child population. In the interests of the children and teachers alike, all members of the teaching staff should be required to submit to X-Ray examination of the chest at regular intervals, so ensuring early detection and suspension from duty of those likely to be a source of infection. This is an obvious and elementary precaution, which already applies to Assistant Medical Officers, District Nurses, Health Visitors, Nursery Staff and others in the service of the County Council whose duty brings them into close contact with children.

The case rate for non-respiratory forms of tuberculosis (0.21 per 1,000 population) was precisely the same as in 1949 and very slightly lower than the average for the preceding ten years. Gravifying though it may be that the rate has remained more or less stationary, it is, nevertheless, disappointing that non-respiratory tuberculosis has not exhibited any sustained tendency to decline during the past forty years. This is the more regrettable in view of the fact that rapid and substantial reduction in the prevalence of this form of the disease should be possible by the complete elimination of one known source of infection, namely, infected milk. The action taken by the Berough Council to reduce the risk of infection from such sources is referred to in an earlier section of this report.

The mortality rate for tuberculosis of the lungs followed the same general trend as the incidence rate, being appreciably lower than that recorded in 1949 and below the average for recent years. In the case of both sexes there was a noticeable shifting of mortality from the younger to the older age groups; as an isolated observation, this is not of special statistical significance. The death rate for non-respiratory tuberculosis, on the other hand, was somewhat higher than usual, though it should be noted that, while there has been little decline in prevalence over a long period, the general trend of mortality in that period has been in a downward direction.

A register is kept of the names, addresses and other particulars relating to known cases of tuberculosis. At the end of the year there remained on the Register the names of 252 persons, of whom 187 (109 males, 78 females), were suffering from respiratory tuberculosis, and 65 (34 males, 31 females), from tuberculosis of other organs.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee, which works in close association with local Chest Clinics and Sanatoria, continued its activities on behalf of tuberculous persons and their dependants. The assistance granted during the year included the supply of extra neurishment, fuel, bedding, clothing, sick-ream requisites, etc., and the payment of fares, pocket money and other incidental expenses which could not be mot from official sources.

TABLE VII

New Cases of Tuberculosis, and all Deaths from the Disease in the Area during 1950, classified according to Age, Sex and Type of Disease

			The Appliance of the Control of the		
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Deaths	Respiratory	М	i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	1	
A	Respiratory	Ē	LILITELEE	23	10
	Respi	M	111114004	9	10
	tory	E4	144014111	5	10
93	Non- Respiratory	M	idddiidii	4	9
New Cases	tory	Et.	1144588884	18	18
	Respiratory	M	111404001	20	30
	Age Periods		Under 1 year 1-5 years 5-15 years 15-25 years 25-35 years 45-55 years 55-65 years 65 & upwards	TOTALS	TOTALS (1949)

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Miniature Mass Radiography

A Mass Radiography Survey was conducted at the Central Hall, Redhill, from the 12th to the 27th April. Special sessions were arranged for organized groups from senior schools, local industrial undertakings, youth organizations, members of the Council's staff, etc., in addition to the sessions for the general public.

The findings of the Survey are briefly summarised as follows:-

	Male	Fema le	Total
Total number x-rayed	1476	952	2428
Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Active	4	1	5
Pulmonary Tuberculosis, Inactive	55	56	111
Abnormalities, non-tuberculous	54	22	76
Requiring further investigation	5	3	8

The number of new cases of active tuberculosis discovered in the course of the Survey represents a relatively small proportion of the total number of persons examined.

#### Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases

Information relating to the prevalence of influenza is obtained mainly from school records and from the local Registrar's weekly return of deaths. From the former it would appear that comparatively little absence from school was attributable to influenza, while the mortality ascribed to the disease and its complications was appreciably below the average.

Other Infectious Diseases Very rew cases of other infectious and contagious diseases were reported during the year. Isolation in hospital was provided for two cases of mumps, two of Vincent's angina, one of meningitis and one of infective tonsillitis. Most of these were removed from general hospitals and residential institutions where the facilities for isolation were inadequate.

Disinfection

Thore are facilities at the Disinfecting Station for the sterilisation of articles that have been exposed to infection and for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings. Provision has been made for the treatment by formalin vapour of books and other articles which are unsuitable for disinfection by super-heated steam. The work undertaken at the Disinfecting Station during the year is summarised in a later section of this report.

#### Uncleanliness

Pediculesis

The measures adopted locally to combat infestation by lice have been fully described in previous reports and were consistently maintained throughout the year. From the information available it would appear that the general standard of cleanliness is reasonably satisfactory. No instance of verminous infestation of person or clothing was encountered; infestation by head lice was confined to school children, of whom roughly 3.0 per cent were found to be affected in greater or less degree, though not in any instance to such an extent as to require cleansing under arrangements made by the Borough Council. Twenty-seven children were excluded from school until they had been satisfactorily cleansed by their parents, who were varned of the action that might be taken if their children again became verminous.

Scabies

The prevalence of scabies has declined very steadily during the past few years. Sixteen cases (ten children and six adults) were reported to the Public Health Department and were successfully treated under the arrangements made for that purpose by the Borough Council. Intimate contacts of confirmed cases were advised with regard to the precautions to be taken and, wherever necessary, were supplied with the materials required. No secondary cases were reported.

#### BOROUGH OF REIGATE

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

#### CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

#### FOR THE YEAR 1950

Public Health Department, Caberfeigh, Hatchlands Road, Redhill.

## To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I submit herewith my seventeenth Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Inspectors during 1950.

The duties which have been most prominent during the year have been connected with the following matters:-

- (a) The control of movable dwellings;
- (b) The inspection of accommodation occupied by applicants for Council houses;
- (c) The inspection of meat at the local Governmentcontrolled slaughterhouse;
- (d) The improvement of hygienic conditions in food premises, particularly those required to be registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938;
- (o) The control of posts, particularly rats and mice.

The year has been marked by the large and quite disproportionate amount of time which has had to be spent, both in administrative work and in visits of inspections, in dealing with particular problems which have arisen in connection with land in two different parts of the Borough, which the owners have sought to use as sites for caravans in contravention of the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. In both cases the problems relating to public health were linked with those affecting town-planning, so that it has been essential to have the closest co-operation between the various Committees, Departments and officers concerned. primary cause of this problem is undoubtedly the shortage of housing accommodation, which is forcing many families into the temporary expedient of purchasing a trailer caravan in These temporary dwellings appear to be which to live. manufactured in increasing numbers, presumably as part of a deliberate policy, but their purchasers are having difficulty in finding suitable sites on which to place them. This position opens the way for those who can see a lucrative return for capital invested in a piece of land, whatever its position or the amenities which can be provided with it. If, as has happened here, such land is developed and used for caravans without preliminary compliance with the law, the difficulties which present themselves to local authorities and their officers are matched by the worry and anxiety which is needlessly thrust upon the unfortunate caravan dwellers,

who may find themselves not only unwittingly breaking the law, but suffering from quite intolerable sanitary conditions about their camping ground. Section 269 was intended to give local authorities power to control "recreational" camping; conditions such as exist today, when caravans are being used as permanent dwellings in comparatively large communities, were never envisaged when the Section was drawn up. Amending legislation is urgently needed to deal with present-day circumstances, to prevent sites from being used until proper and decent amenities are provided by their owners.

The work of dealing with applications for housing accommodation referred to me by the Council's Housing Officer for an assessment of the housing need of the applicant, continued on the lines indicated in previous reports; enquiries were made in 230 cases. In addition, 21 investigations were instituted into applications made to other Local Authorities by families resident in this Borough; the subsequent reports were made to, and at the request of, the Local Authorities concerned.

Progress continues to be made in the standard of hygiene in food premises; particular attention has been given during 1950 to the improvement of premises where applications have been received for registration under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938.

The difficulties associated with the repair and maintenance of pre-war houses and, in particular, those let at controlled rents, continue to increase. This is a problem which has not only affected owners and occupiers, but also Local Authorities and their officers throughout the country; it will continue to cause anxiety until legislation is amended in favour of those who have to pay for the repairs. Until a solution of what is primarily an economic problem can be found, Local Authorities cannot efficiently administer the provisions of the Housing Acts relating to inspection, improvement or repair of the dwelling-houses in their districts.

I couple my thanks to my colleagues for the assistance willingly given at all times with my gratitude to Dr. Bingham, Medical Officer of Health, for his advice and kindly consideration.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

G. JANES

Chief Sanitary Inspector

#### Infectious Diseases, Disinfection and Disinfestation

During the year 93 visits of enquiry were made in connection with infectious disease. Fifty-seven library books were disinfected by formalin vapour and returned to the libraries from which they had been borrowed.

The Table on page 32 shows in detail the work carried out at the Council's Steam Disinfecting Station at the Refuse Disposal Works, which includes the disinfection of bedding, etc., on behalf of the Dorking & Horley and the Godstone Rural District Councils, and approximately 600 blankets a week during the summer and autumn from the Volunteer Agricultural Camps at Reigate and Godstone, organised by the Surrey Agricultural Executive Committee.

During the year 5 houses, 4 of which were owned by the Corporation, were disinfested owing to the presence of bed-bugs; three houses were disinfested on account of fleas, and two business premises on account of cockroaches.

Assistance was given to 25 occupiers who were themselves unable to destroy wasps' nests which had become established in positions which were not easily accessible; for example, in roof spaces, under floors, and in cavity walls. This number compares with 111 in 1949.

Regular routine inspections were made, under contract terms with the Surrey County Council and the Redhill County Hospital, for the purpose of controlling the number of cockroaches which infest these and similar institutions from time to time. School canteen-kitchens were sprayed twice during the fly-breeding season with a liquid D.D.T. insecticide, at the request of the Education Authority, to prevent the contamination of food by flies..

A number of small stagmant pools on land adjoining a recently developed Council housing estate were found during June to be infested with mosquito larvae. They were successfully treated with a larvicide, and kept under observation during the remainder of the breeding season.

#### Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

#### (a) Meat

The slaughterhouse in West Road, Reigate, controlled by the Ministry of Food, continued to be used for the routine weekly slaughter of calves, sheep and pigs and the emergency slaughter of other food animals. Inspection of the dressed carcases and organs is made as a matter of routine on several evenings during the week, and often during the week-end. The premises were licensed as a slaughterhouse in 1930, and were intended to deal with an average of about 9 animals a week; the average number during 1950 was over 190, so that it can readily be realised that there must be many occasions during the year when the capacity of the slaughterhouse is quite inadequate for the numbers to be dealt with, and that conditions must of necessity be very unsatisfactory and a source of nuisance to the many residents in the vicinity. When it appeared in July that these conditions were likely to be intensified during the latter part of the year, the Ministry of Food was asked immediately to limit the number of animals to be dealt with at the slaughterhouse to a figure which would ensure efficient working and a minimum of nuisance. That over 10,000 animals were slaughtered here during 1950 as compared with the same number in 1945, when four slaughterhouses were in use, is an indication that the Ministry was unable to meet the Council's request, owing to the abnormally large number of animals which had to be dealt with nationally

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# MEAT INSPECTION CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Bulls (included in cattle column)
NUMBER KILLED	19	84	3168	6325	523	8
NUMBER INSPECTED	19	84	3168	6325	523	8
ALL DISEASES EX CEPT TUBERCULOSIS						
Whole carcases condemned	4	9	8	17	18	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	12	59	21	811	205	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	84.21	80.95	.915	13.09	42.6	62.5
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY Whole carcases condemned	-	10	11	-	2	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	4	12	-	12	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	_	16.66	.709	-	2.677	

The total weight of carcases and offals condemned was 13 tons 17 cwts.

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		Pleurisy		1141	1441	1110011	25
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	DESCRIPTION		BOVINES - Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcase Heads and Tongues Lungs Lungs Livers and part livers Hearts Skirts Spleens Kidneys Mesentery & Intestines	Whole Carcases and Offel Part Carcase Lungs Livers SHEEP -	Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Lungs Livers PIGS -	Whole Carcases and Offal Part Carcases Heads and Tongues Lungs Livers Mesentery and Intestines	TOTAL

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in order to maintain the meat ration. The representations which were made and the subsequent discussion which took place between the officers of the Ministry and the Council undoubtedly had a good effect; the fact remains, however, that the use of such small premises for such a large slaughtering programme cannot possibly be other than unsatisfactory, both from the point of view of hygiene and officient meat inspection.

The results of inspection are given in the accompanying Tables on pages 33 & 34. It should be borne in mind, when reading them, that all the cattle and a small proportion of the other animals are sent in for slaughter on account of illness or injury. It is this factor which accounts for the high percentage of animals found to be affected with some diseased or non-pathogenic condition.

The number of cows slaughtered included four which were dealt with by the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture under the Tuberculosis Order, and which were sent to the slaughterhouse with a view to salvaging such parts of the carcases, etc., as were found on post-mortem inspection to be fit for human consumption.

Four calves, found on inspection to be affected with congenital tuberculosis, were referred to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector with a view to tracing the source of infection.

# (b) Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and disposed of accordingly.

19 cwts. 3 qtrs. 18 lbs. 2 qtrs. 15 lbs. 6 cwts. 3 qtrs. 14 lbs. 1 cwt. 0 qtr. 19 lbs. Butter, Margarine, Fats Coreals Cheese 4 cwts. 2 qtrs. 9 lbs. Moat and Offal Poas, Beans, Lentils - dried
Poas, Beans, Lentils - dried
Flour and Broad
Fruit - frosh
Fruit - dried
Sugar and Preserves
Sweets and Chocolate
Tea
Fish - frosh
Eggs
Cordials
Paste
Pickles and Sauces
Coffee
Temato Juice
Tinned Beans
Tinned Apricot Pulp
Tinned Garrots
Tinned fish
Timed fruit
Tinned meat
Tinned meat
Tinned meat
Tinned meat
Tinned meat
Tinned meat
Tinned soup
Timed Vegotables
Miscellaneous:-Poas, Boans, Lontils - dried 1 qtr. Miscellaneous:-Tinned food, etc. 5 tins Packet food, etc. 109 pk

109 pkts.

This work involved 262 visits.

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Most of the condemned food was utilised for the feeding of animals; no edible food was wasted. In this connection there was the closest co-operation with the Food Executive Officer, the Divisional Food Salvage Officer of the Ministry of Food, and local members of the food distributive trades.

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - Sections 13 & 14

The Register of food premises now includes the following:-

Grocers, etc.						 92
Butchers, etc.						 41
Fruiterers and	Greer	ngroce	rs			 35
Fishmongers and	Fish	a-frye	rs			 23
Confectioners (:	inclu	iding 2	ed be	akehou	ises)	 93
Restaurants, Car	fes.	etc.				 119

Six-hundred-and-nine visits of inspection were made to food premises; this number does not include the many visits which have to be made at the request of traders to issue condemnation certificates for unsound food.

The work which was commenced in 1949 of improving the condition of bakehouses and other food premises was continued successfully in 1950.

Thirty-five premises were registered in accordance with Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture and sale of preserved food, etc. In two cases the occupiers considered that the premises could not be brought to the requisite standard, and the manufacture (of sausages) accordingly ceased.

The effect of Section 14 on the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream has continued to be of advantage. Manufacture locally is restricted to two registered premises; one of the firms concerned transferred its business to new premises, suitably equipped with modern machinery, which were registered for the first time during 1950, formal action being taken to cancel the registration of the premises formerly used. In 1950, certificates of registration were granted to retailers in respect of 23 premises used for retail sale only. The total number of premises registered for this purpose was at the end of the year 75. The majority of these retailers sell ice-cream packed by the manufacturers either in cartons or in greaseproof paper. Particular attention is paid by your Inspectors to those comparatively few premises where ice-cream is served to customers from bulk supplies, either in wafer biscuits or cornets, to see that the metal servers, etc., are kept in a clean condition. In three instances, where applications had been received for the registration for the purpose of the sale of ice-cream of a greengrocer's shop and two fishmonger's shops, action was taken under Subsection (3) of Section 14, as it was considered that such promises should be regarded as unsuitable for that purpose. The greengrocer in question did not appear before the Public Health Committee to support his application, which was refused, but the firm occupying the fish shops was successful in persuading the Committee that the steps they were prepared to take to prevent the contamination of the product would be satisfactory; they undertook to sell ice-cream only in sealed waxed cartons as received from the manufacturer, and to instruct their staff to handle the packets only with The Committee later accepted informally serving tongs. similar undertakings in two other cases - a fish shop and a butcher's shop. There are 18 catering establishments where ico-cream is sold by retail for consumption off the premises which are exempt from the provisions of Section 14.

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The improvement noted in previous years in the sale of ice-cream in local street-trading vehicles has been maintained. The majority of these vehicles are now equipped with hot and cold water, etc., for use of the vendor, and are so designed as to reduce the possibility of contamination of the product by dust.

The importance of the improvement of standards of food hygiene was brought to the notice of the local Chamber of Commerce, both by a discussion between the Council of the Chamber and the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and the submission of short articles on the subject for publication in the Chamber's quarterly journal.

A mobile snack bar used by its owner in one of the Borough's open spaces, much frequented by the public during weekends and holiday periods, was, at the instigation of this Department, completely reconstructed and modernised; an improvement was also effected in the arrangements made for the disposal of waste from this vehicle.

# Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933

Ronewals of annual licences were granted to 13 slaughtermen.

# Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

The above-named Regulations came into operation on 1st October, 1949, and superseded the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, consequent upon the provisions of the Food & Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, and the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1949, which transferred the responsibility for the administration of the regulations relating to dairy farms from local authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, leaving the supervision of the distribution of milk with district councils.

The entries in the new Registers required to be kept in accordance with the Regulations are summarised as follows:-

#### Distributors:

- (a) With dairies in the Borough .. .. 4
- (b) With dairies outside the Borough .. 7
- (c) With premises in the Borough (bottled milk sold in general shops) .. 5

### Dairies: .. .. .. .. 6

Of the dairies, three are occupied by one firm - one being equipped with H.T.S.T. pasteurising apparatus, automatic filling and capping, and bottle-washing machines; one was equipped with two small batch pasteurisers, etc., for the pasteurisation and bottling of tuberculin-tested milk, but its use has now been discontinued; the other is used as a cold store and distributing depot. Two dairies are used for the handling and distribution of raw milk on a comparatively small scale; one dairy is used as a cold store and distributing depot by a firm which has its main pasteurising premises at Croydon.

Of the distributors, one has premises at Reading and conveys milk daily to certain large institutions in this and other county districts under contract; two have premises in the London area, and sell a comparatively small amount of bottled sterilised milk by wholesale to a few local shop-keepers; two are dairymen in neighbouring districts and sell

-terallet as pentreises ore ancitations and diff. apprented the same daily the Report of the search of the off and a wait one we being to our cours the last of the office of the office of the order of th a small quantity of milk on the outskirts of this Borough; two are producer-retailers with farms in neighbouring districts; the other four occupy the dairies described in the preceding paragraph.

A detailed report on the samples of milk which were taken in 1950 from the afore-mentioned distributors, and submitted for bacteriological examination, is given in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

# Food and Drugs Act, 1938 - Sampling (D. D. Molr Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C., Public Analyst)

Details of the samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst during 1950 are given in the Table on page 39.

Of the 4 samples reported on unfavourably by the Public Analyst:-

- (a) Three were of milk which was slightly deficient in fat. No action was taken, other than drawing the vendor's attention to the deficiency, as on investigation it was found that the milk was naturally of poor quality;
- (b) One was a sample of spirit of sal volatile, taken informally, and reported on as being 75 per cent deficient in ammonia and having an excess of ammonium carbonate to the extent of 24 per cent. The quality of the article was found to be due to deterioration during long storage. No action was taken, as at the time of investigation no stock remained in the vendor's possession.

#### Factories Act, 1937

The Table on page 40 shows in detail the various trades in the Borough that come within the scope of the Act. During the year, 37 inspections were made; in 12 cases defects were discovered, 11 of which were remedied in 1950.

Re-examination of four factories was made in accordance with Section 34, relating to means of escape in case of fire. In all cases certain alterations or changes had occurred which affected the conditions in regard to escape in case of fire. The occupiers agreed to make amendments suggested to them; authority was, therefore, given for the issue of amended certificates.

Five factories were examined for the first time for this purpose and cortificates were issued accordingly. These examinations are always made in company with a Fire Prevention Officer of the County Fire Brigade, whose advice in assessing the fire risk in a particular factory and the adequacy of the means of escape is of considerable value. This co-operation is found to be of advantage to both authorities and is generally welcomed by factory managements.

#### Complaints

The following is a summary of the complaints received during the year:-

Insanitary condition of	promises			124
House drainage				13
Non-removal of house rei	fuso			2
				272
Smolls omanating from so		street	gullies	-
Insect Pests				6
Wasps' Nosts				25
Unsound food (sold)				1
Cosspools overflowing		• • • •		2
Defective dustbin .				16
Kitchen-waste street-bin				1 9
Miscellaneous .			:: ::	52
Vormin .				4
· Orman				

	SAMPLES TAKEN							
FOODSTUFFS	First		Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total	Genuine	Adulter- ated	
					7.0			
Milk	17	8	4	7	36	33	3	
Ice-cream	-	15	-	-	15	15	-	
Cheese	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Butter	1	-	-	1	2	2	-	
Margarine	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Shredded								
Beef Suet	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	
. Cooking fat	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Salad-								
dressing	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Culinary Oil	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Cake Flour								
Mixture	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	
Toa	1	_	-	-	1	1	_	
The state of the s	1				1			
Sugar Gelatine	1	1	-		2	2 2	_	
Pepper	1 2	-		_	2	2	-	
Pepper-								
Compound	2	-	-	-	2	2	-	
Curry Powder		_	-	_	1	1	-	
Pastry								
Mixture	1	-	-	_	1	1		
Sausage-meat		1	1	1	4	4		
Sausage-moad	-	ī	_	-	1	1		
Pork Brawn	- 1		-	-	Т.	1	-	
Luncheon-			2		7	,		
Meat	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	
Sandwich-		Maria Barrell				-		
spread	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	
Soft Icing	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Jam	3	-	-	-	3	3	-	
Cream of								
Tartar	- 1	1	-	-	1	1	-	
Tinned Peas	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	
Sal Volatile		-	1	-	1	-	1	
Tincture								
Iodine	_	- 1	1	-	1	1	_	
Seidlitz			-		-	-		
Powder	_		1		1	1		
Bicarbonate			-	2	1	-		
of Soda		1			1	1		
Aspirin		7						
Tablets			1	_	1	1		
Desiccated			_			1		
Cocoanut			7	1	2	0		
Yoghourt			1	1	100.00	2		
Canned Fruit		-	1 2		1 2	1		
Dates		1	1	1		1 1 1		
	-	-	T	-	1	2		
Paregoric	-	-	-	1	1	1		
Ground Almor	ids -	-	-	1	1	1		
Lemon & Lime Squash		-		BY STATE OF THE ST		7		
Jomena	-	3	-	-	3	3	-	
Lomonado	-	4	-	-	4	4	-	
Ginger Beer	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	
Whisky	-	-	-	4	4	1 4 3	-	
Sherry	-	-	-	4 3 1	3	3 1	-	
- Intry	-	-	-	T	1	T		
TOTAL	38	36	18	20	112	108	4	
	00		20		110			

...

# Factories Act, 1937 - List of Factories

		Mechanical	No Mechanical
Business		Power	Power
Art Leather Torkers		1	_
Automobile Engineers		21	3
Bakers ,		16	3 5
Basket Work		1	-
Book Binder		-	1 1
		3 3	
Brick Makers, etc		3	-
Builders and Contractors		3	4
Cabinet Makers and Upholsterers		3 2 1 2 1 2 1 3	6
Container Reclamation		1	2
Cycle Makers and Repairers . Dairymen		2	-
Dressmakers and Milliners .		ĩ	3
Dry Cleaners		3	-
Electrical Engineers		2	1
Engineers		16	3
Food Manufacturers			-
Fuller's Earth Works		1 2 1 1	-
Gas Works		2	-
Glass Cutting & Paint Packing .		1	-
Hearthstone Forks		1	-
Jam and Essence Makers		1	1
Knacker's Yard		ī	
Lace Frilling Works		3	2
		3	-
Log Sawing		1	
Monumented Megong		_	1
Newspaper Fudging Oil Refining		4	-
Oil Refining		1	
Photographers and Picture Frame		-	1
Pianoforte Repairers		-	1
Plumoers		-	4
Printers		6	-
Public Works Contractors		1	-
Scale Repairers		2	-
Seed Merchants		3	-
Shoeing and General Smiths .		-	2
Shop Fitters		1	
Steel Wool Manufacturers Tailors		1	2
Tailors Timber Merchants	•	2	_
Toy Manufacturer		1 1 2 1	-
Undertakers		-	2
Vulcanising and Cycle Repair .		1	-
Vatchmakers		-	2
Wax Refining Works		1	-
	TOTALS	116	48

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# Notices Issued and Action Taken

The following Table is a statement of the notices dealt with during the year:-

# Proliminary -

Outstanding on 1st January, 1950	 	139
Issued during year	 	298
Complied with during year	 	332
Statutory action necessary	 	3
Outstanding on 31st December, 1950		102

# Statutory -

103	cucory -		
	Outstanding on 1st January, 1950	 	16
	Issued during yoar	 	3
	Complied with during year	 	19
	Outstanding on 31st December, 195		-

The 3 Statutory Notices served during the year were classified as follows:-

Pub	lic	Health	Act,	1936	-	Section	75	 	1
Pub	lic	Health	Act.	1936	-	Section	92	 	2

# Nuisancos Abatod, Defects Remedied, etc.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year both voluntarily and in consequence of the service of notices in respect of dwelling-houses, food and other shops, bakehouses, factories, hotels and public-houses, offices and other business premises, cowsheds, dairies, etc.

other business promises, cowsheds, dairies, etc.		
Drains examined or tested (primary inspections only) Drains relaid	::	102 24 137
Blocked drains cleared		27
New intercepting or inspection chambers constructed		77
New soil and vent pipes fixed		22
Soil and vont pipos renewed		1
Drain ventilation improved	• •	5
New W.C.'s installed		43
W.C. apparatus renowed or repaired		18
W.C. flushing cisterns ditto		4 2
Hand-flushed W.C.'s provided with flushing apparatus		2
Cosspools provided or enlarged		19
Cesspools abolished		22
New lavatory basins installed	::	33
Levatory basins renewed	::	1
Sinks renewed or repaired or installed		10
Waste-pipes trapped or repaired		19
Sink gully dishings repaired or gully installed		20
Pail closets abolished		16
Urinals reconstructed or repaired		2
Urinals cleansed		1
Sanitary dustbins provided		17
Leaky roofs repaired		80
saves gutters and stack pipes repaired		51
Backyards paved or repaired		15
Dampness remedied		49
Damp-proof courses provided		8
Pointing or otherwise weatherproofing of brickwork		
Woman's (house	)S)	54
Ventilation and light of rooms improved	••	25
Water supply mines never to the total and tota	••	13
Water supply pipes repaired or installed		4
Sub-floor ventilation improved	• •	. 8
External paintwork of houses renewed	••	17
Internal paintwork of rooms renewed	••	11

The property and the services of the services . . . wild Health Mar, 1936 - Section of .. .. 11 . . \* \* . Description of Descri . . Provide the public of the land of the public Percentage and the property of the services of . .

B 1				
Rooms cleansed				66
Ceilings cleansed				3
W.C. chambers cleansed				1
Cellars cleansed				4
	: .			120
Plastering of walls and ceilings repaire	d			272
Window frames or sashcords repaired				152
Doors repaired or renewed				76
Staircases repaired				7.0
		• •		
Fireplaces renewed or repaired				35
Coppers renewed or repaired				4
Washing accommodation provided and baths	in	stalle	A	8
Food-stores provided				5
Manure receptacles renewed or repaired				-
Accumulations removed				8
Animals or poultry improperly kept				5
Other nuisances abated				50

One hundred and seventeen premises were visited on the application of builders for certificates to enable them to obtain timber for floor and other repairs. Eighty-four certificates, involving 117 premises, were issued for transmission to the Ministry of Supply (Timber Control). The certificates stated that the repairs were necessary in the interests of public health, and that the amount of timber for which application was made was the minimum required for the repairs specified. As the defects to be remedied were, in most cases, caused by dry rot the work was, whenever possible, carried out under close supervision so that proper remedial measures could be put in hand for removing infected material and preventing the new timber from becoming infected.

Ten applications for licences, each for an amount over £100, were forwarded to the Regional Licensing Officer with a recommendation that they be granted, to a total value of £2,795.

Consequent upon certain relaxations in the control of building-repair work made by the Minister of Works in 1948, the number of licences issued in this Department involving the repair and maintenance of dwelling-houses amounted only to 20 in 1950; these licences involved 25 premises and an estimated cost of £4,715.

# Prevention of Damage by Posts Act, 1949

The results of the year's work under this heading are shown in the tabulated statement given below. These statistics have been revised in order to coincide with the information which is given quarterly to the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, Infestation Branch.

	Rats	Mice
Number of complaints received from members of the Public during 1950	249	23
Number of complaints from members of the Public investigated during 1950 Number of above premises found not to be	250	23
infested	48	-
a result of independent investigation Number of Infested Premises treated and	36	. 3
successfully cleared during 1950 Number of Infested Premises which required	242	28
re-treatment	-	-
treatment at the end of the year Number of Complaints awaiting investigation	30	3
at the end of the year Estimated Total Kill by Poison (Ministry	25	2
Formula)	,753	
(dogs, traps, etc.)	397	

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In addition to the above work, the whole of the sewerage system of the Borough was again tested in May, 1950, for the presence of rats, and treatment carried out where necessary; of 194 manholes tested, 35 were found to be in need of treatment by pre-baiting and poisoning. The estimated kill was 170 rats. A further treatment was carried out in the following November, resulting in an estimated kill of 143 rats.

"Maintenance treatment" was carried out at the Council's Sewage and Refuse Disposal Works during January, August and December, 1950. Pre-baiting and poisoning was undertaken at 370 points in January, 90 in August, and 360 in December. The estimated kill was 915, 123 and 910 rats respectively.

In September, the banks of the stream flowing through Redhill and Earlswood were found to be rat-infested; treatment was carried out at 447 points, resulting in an estimated kill of 550 rats.

The work mentioned above also does not include work carried out under contract arrangements with:

- (a) the Surrey County Council at all their premises in this Borough; these include the Public Assistance Institution and its ancillary Homes, 24 schools and 4 school kitchens, day nursery, clinics, fire brigade premises, etc.
- (b) the Group Hospital Management Committee at the Redhill County Hospital;
- (c) four commercial firms involving regular routine inspections of a food factory, a wholesale fruit and greengrocery depot, a poultry farm and six dairy premises.

Four meetings of the Surrey No.3 Workable Area Committee were held during the year, and were well attended by representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, Caterham & Warlingham U.D.C., Dorking U.D.C., Dorking & Horley R.D.C., Godstone R.D.C., Leatherhead U.D.C., Reigate Borough Council and the Surrey County Agricultural Executive Committee.

# Legal Proceedings

An owner of land at Gatton Park was prosecuted for offences against the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269, in that he allowed the land to be used for camping purposes on more than 42 consecutive days without a licence. There were three summenses in respect of three separate sites. The case was heard on the 14th and 19th December, 1950. The defendant was convicted on each summens, and fined a total of £13 and, in respect of two of the summenses, £1 per day for a continuing offence after 28 days if caravans still remained on the land, or unless a licence was granted by the Council.

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