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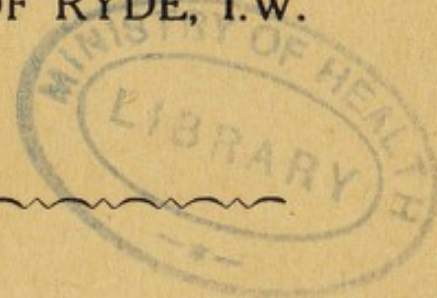
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OF RYDE, I.W.



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# ANNUAL REPORT

for 1948

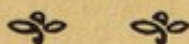
OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Including the Report

OF THE

Borough Sanitary Inspector.





PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, 1948.

*Medical Officer of Health* : JOHN S. CAMERON,† M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Borough Sanitary Inspector* : ALBERT AINLEY,† Sanitary Inspector's and Meat Inspector's Certificates, Royal Sanitary Institute; Certificate and Diploma Sanitary Inspectors Association Examination Board.

*Assistant Sanitary Inspector* : S. DUNMORE.

*Clerk* : DOREEN BOYCE.

*Health and Infant Protection Visitor* : Miss E. H. Moss,\*  
S.R.N., S.C.M.

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\* Part time Officer.

† Salary Contribution by Exchequer Grants.





HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,  
5 LIND STREET,  
RYDE, I.W.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,  
Ryde Borough Corporation.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report of the Borough of Ryde for the year 1948.

I have to record firstly that there have been no changes in the personnel of the Department during the year, except for the fact that Miss E. H. Moss, your former Health and Infant Protection Visitor, has had her services transferred to the I.W. County Council, as from July 5th, 1948.

The year has been one of note as it has seen the inauguration of the National Health Service and its consequent changes in local health administration. The County Council became the sole Health Authority for the Isle of Wight on the 5th July and, in consequence, the Maternity and Child Welfare Services and the Ambulance Service were transferred from the Borough to the County Council. However, as your Medical Officer of Health continues running Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics in Ryde, in virtue of his appointment as the Assistant County Medical Officer, the dissociation has, in fact, been one in name only and the staff and conduct of the Clinics continues as before.

Generally, the new Health Service has had many teething troubles and the Health Department has been made the target for many brickbats but has, with patience and forbearance, almost universally managed to restore some even solution of the problems presented to it.

The standard of health in the Borough generally has remained satisfactory. There was a marked drop in the birthrate during the year. It fell from 19.4 per thousand to 15.9, which is a large fall, and, although there was a fall in the birth rate in England and Wales generally, this is more than the average.



There was, also, I am sorry to say, a rise in the infant mortality rate—from 31.7 per thousand live births to 43.9—but, considering the small number we are dealing with, this is not particularly significant.

There was an increase in the notification of infectious diseases during the year, 369 cases being notified in 1948, compared with 236 in 1947. There were 272 cases of measles notified in 1948 and, if this is subtracted from the total, it will be seen that the incidence of infectious disease has been extremely good.

It is significant to note that we had no case of diphtheria in the Borough during 1948. This is extremely fortunate because, although there has been some slight increase in the number of children protected against this disease, the figure still remains extremely low and, in point of fact, only some 30% of pre-school children and 61% of school children are protected against the disease. Renewed efforts are still required to increase these figures if the possibility of an epidemic is to be avoided.

The population increased by another 560 during the year, but the number of inhabited houses in the Borough only increased by 33. 30 of these were Council Houses and 3 of them were built under private enterprise. This is a serious situation indeed. I had reason in my Annual Report last year to comment on the number of cases of gross overcrowding which were continually being brought to the attention of the Health Department. The condition is steadily deteriorating and, in point of fact, new building is not keeping pace with the increase in population. The number of houses existing in a condition which, in the ordinary way, would merit the request either of a Closing or Demolition Order, continues to increase. Alternative accommodation for those living under such shortened conditions simply does not exist, and the Department remains powerless to alleviate the condition. There is no doubt that



the fall in the birth rate is one of the consequences of the poor housing accommodation generally for the working classes in the Borough.

As I have previously mentioned, no-one can estimate the frightful domestic difficulties, unhappiness and ill health which is consequent on the overcrowded housing conditions prevalent in this district.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN S. CAMERON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health.*



**Statistics.** (1) GENERAL.

Area, in acres	...	...	...	7,876
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to rate books	...	...	...	5,813
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£158,298
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	...	...	...	£633 4s. 2d.

## (2) VITAL.

Population (Registrar's Figure)	...	20,090
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	15'9
Live Birth Rate England and Wales	...	17'9
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Still and Live Births)	...	24'5
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	15'3
Death Rate England and Wales	...	10'8
Deaths from Puerperal causes :—		
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births)—		
From Sepsis	...	3'1
From other causes	...	Nil

## DEATH RATE :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	43'9
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	41'1
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	74'1
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	49

## Sanitary Circumstances.

### Water.

A pure constant supply of water has been maintained during the year.

The following number of water samples were examined during the year :—

Bacteriological	...	12
Chemical	...	Nil

All were found to be highly satisfactory.

Chlorination of all sources of water continues according to the Ministry of Health requirements, but the minimum dosage is required in view of the clarity and purity of these virginal sources.

## Prevalence of Infectious and other Diseases.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever ...	6	1	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Meningitis (Cerebro-spinal Fever) ... ..	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	1	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	272	4	—
Whooping Cough ...	81	1	1
Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	5	2	—
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—
	369	10	1



# Age at Date of Notification.

AGE.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Encephalitis (Lethargica)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	(Cerebro-spinal Meningitis)	(Ophthalmia Neonatorum)	Measles	Whooping Cough	(Ac. Anterior Poliomyelitis)	Dysentery
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	10	—	—
1 and under 2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	19	10	—	—
2 " 3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	26	14	—	—
3 " 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	6	—	—
4 " 5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	36	9	—	—
5 " 10	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	122	28	1	—
10 " 15	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	15	—	—	—
15 " 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	1
20 " 35	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	—	—
35 " 45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
45 " 65	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS ...	6	—	—	1	5	1	1	—	272	81	1	1

### Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases Return from Head Teachers of Schools.

Mumps	...	..	4
Chicken Pox	...	...	59
Scabies	..	...	1
Ringworm	...	...	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	4
			<hr/> 70 <hr/>

### Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

	Age under 5 years	5-15 years
Percentage of the child population it is considered were immunised at 31.12.48 ...	29.1	60.9

(This estimate includes, so far as can be assessed, children immunised in the Authority's area by private arrangement and children who have come into the area after being immunised elsewhere).

### Tuberculosis, 1948.

AGE PERIODS.	Total	NEW CASES.				Total	DEATHS.			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F
Under ... 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5       "     10	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
10       "    15	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15       "    20	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20       "    25	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25       "    35	6	3	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	1
35       "    45	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45       "    55	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55       "    65	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
65       "    75	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
75 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	†26	13	9	2	2	*4	2	1	—	1

† This total includes nine transfers from the mainland.

\* This total includes one notified pulmonary case who died from non-pulmonary disease, and one case who died from another disease.



## Factories Act, 1937.

### *Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1948, for the Borough of Ryde, in the County of the Isle of Wight,*

#### Part I of the Act.

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

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(I) <b>Factories</b> in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	63	93	—	—
(II) <b>Factories</b> not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	41	43	—	—
(III) <b>Other Premises</b> in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	104	136	—	—

#### 2. **Cases in which Defects were found.**

Particulars.	Number of cases in which Defects were found.				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	27	25	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	1	1	1	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	1	1	—
Total ... ..	31	29	2	2	—

### Milk Supply.

Milk is produced at 54 dairy farms in the area ; 26 persons are registered as producer retailers, 28 as producer wholesalers and 15 as retailers only.

No milk samples were examined for bacterial content or tubercle bacilli.

### Food Analysis.

The following samples of food were purchased by the County Officials, for analysis :—

Milk	18	Ground Ginger	1
Butter	3	Mustard	1
Ground Coffee	3	Ground Nutmegs	1
Baking Powder	1	Sodium Salicylate	1
Curry Powder	1	Malt Vinegar	1
Epsom Salts	1	Isinglass Gelatine	1

All were certified by the County Analyst to be of genuine quality.

### Food Destroyed :

Meat	...	...	7 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.
Fish	...	...	55 $\frac{1}{2}$ stones
Sausage Rusk	...	...	5 cwts.
Red Plum Pulp	...	...	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ „
Flour	...	...	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ „
Dates	...	...	78 lbs.
Prunes	...	...	30 „
Sugar	...	...	3 „
Margarine	...	...	1 „
Tea	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$ „
Meat	...	...	61 tins
Milk	...	...	359 „
Fish	...	..	180 „



Vegetables	...	...	216	tins
Fruit	...	...	103	"
Soup	...	...	47	"
Jam	..	...	29	"
Tomatoes	...	..	45	"
Fish Paste	...	...	19	"
Mustard	...	...	123	"
Spaghetti	...	...	7	"
Pickles	...	...	10	"
Malted Wheat	...	...	5	"
Cereals	...	...	10	packets
Egg Powder	...	...	11	"
Cheese	...	...	6	boxes
Pepper	...	...	8	cartons
Puddings	...	...	23	
Pickles	...	...	21	jars
Fruit	...	...	2	"

### Summary of Inspections.

Bakehouses	...	...	...	60
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	345
Foodshops	...	...	...	259
Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	74
Restaurant Kitchens	...	...	...	58
Dwellinghouses (P.H. Acts)	...	...	...	376
„ Re-inspections	...	...	...	789
Drainage and other Sanitary Works in progress				212
Factories with mechanical power			} including	43
„ without „ „			} bakehouses	93
Schools...	...	...	...	29
Shops Acts	...	...	...	330
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	239

Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	361
Owners Agents and Builders interviewed	...			...	256
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	12
Drain Tests	...	...	...	...	33
Complaints	...	...	...	...	381
Petroleum Stores	...	..	...	...	69

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## Remedial Works.

### Number of Dwellinghouses.

Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	19
Chimney stack repaired or reconstructed	...			13
Cooking Range repaired	...	...	...	2
Copper repaired	...	...	...	6
Disinfested	{ Council Houses			1
	{ Other Houses			20
Damp and defective walls remedied	...			38
Doors repaired	...	...	...	15
Drains unstopped	...	...	...	79
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...			103
Eaves gutters or downspouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	22
Firegrates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	7
Floor repaired	...	...	...	22
Roof made watertight	...	...	...	62
Staircase repaired	...	...	...	2
Wall plaster repaired	...	...	...	15
Walls and Ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	8
Water closet (new) provided	...	...	...	28
Water closet flushing cistern repaired	...			15
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	27
Yard paving repaired or renewed	...			12



**Number of Cowsheds.**

Limewashed on request	...	...	39
New Manger provided	...	...	I
New Stalls provided	...	...	I
New Floors provided	...	...	I
Drainage improved	...	...	I
Lighting improved	...	...	I
Ventilation improved	...	...	I

**Number of Dairies.**

Limewashed on request	...	...	22
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**Number of Factories.**

Limewashed on request (including Bakehouses)			28
Ceiling renewed	...	...	I

**Number of Disinfections.**

Bedding	...	...	9
Dwellinghouses	...	...	14
<hr/>			
Formal Notices Served	...	...	—
Informal Notices Served	...	...	324







