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**Contributors**

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CITY OF SALISBURY

A N N U A L   R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H

for

1952

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health and details of Sanitary Work during the year 1952. The Report of your Senior Sanitary Inspector is incorporated in the above.


I am,

Your obedient Servant,

E.M. WRIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

4th September, 1953.



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# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres .. .. .	2,836
Number of inhabited houses and flats at end of 1952 .. ..	9,023
Registrar General's estimated mid year Home Population for 1952	33,800
Rateable Value .. .. .	£277,775
The sum represented by a Penny Rate .. .. .	£1,141

					Total	Male	Female
BIRTHS.	Live - Legitimate	..	..	484	237	247	
	Illegitimate	..	..	30	13	17	
	All Births	..	..	514	250	264	

Total Birth Rate .. ..	15.21
Area comparability factor.. ..	1.03
Adjusted Birth Rate .. ..	15.66

## Birth Rates:-

1951 .. .. .	16.42
1950 .. .. .	15.13
1949 .. .. .	14.34
1948 .. .. .	16.1
1947 .. .. .	20.87
Average 1947 - 1951 .. ..	16.57

					Total	Male	Female
BIRTHS.	Still - Legitimate	..	..	6	4	2	
	Illegitimate	..	..	-	-	-	
	All Births	..	..	6	4	2	

Total Still Birth Rate .. .. 0.18 per 1,000 population.

	Total	Male	Female	
DEATHS.	362	167	195	
Total Death Rate .. ..	..	..	..	10.71
Area comparability factor..	..	..	..	0.92
Adjusted Death Rate .. ..	..	..	..	9.85

## Death Rates:-

1951 .. .. .	11.82
1950 .. .. .	11.05
1949 .. .. .	10.95
1948 .. .. .	9.33
1947 .. .. .	11.28

Average Death Rate England and Wales is 11.3



Infantile Mortality Rate - per 1,000 live births:-

Death Rate of all Infants under one year of age	..	17.51
Total Deaths (Legitimate and illegitimate)	..	9
Deaths of Legitimate Infants	.. .. .	9
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	.. .. .	-

Infantile Death Rate:-

1951	.. .. .	16.97
1950	.. .. .	34.68
1949	.. .. .	35.1
1948	.. .. .	16.9
1947	.. .. .	23
Average 1947 - 1951	.. .. .	25.33

VITAL STATISTICS (Registrar General's Figures, 1952)

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY  
AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE YEAR 1952.

(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
BIRTHS				
Live births	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6
Still births	( 0.35 22.6(a)	0.43 24.6(a)	0.36 23.0(a)	0.34 19.2(a)
DEATHS				
All Causes	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Whooping cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox	0.00	-	-	-
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)				
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected) (Continued)				
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet fever	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56
Whooping cough	2.61	2.74	2.57	1.66
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Measles	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.23
Pneumonia	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57
Acute poliomyelitis (in- cluding polioencephalitis)				
Paralytic	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Non-paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Food poisoning	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18
Puerperal pyrexia	17.87 (a)	23.94(a)	10.22(a)	30.77(a)
DEATHS				
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
All causes under 1 year of age	27.60(b)	31.2	25.8	23.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Intermediate List No. and cause	Number of Deaths	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
A115 Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	31	0.09	
(Abortion with toxæmia	13	0.02	1
A116 (Other toxæmias of preg- nancy and the puerperium	147	0.21	
A117 Haemorrhage of preg- nancy and childbirth	59	0.09	
A118 Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	31	0.04	3
A119 Abortion with sepsis	47	0.07	5
A120 Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	138	0.20	

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

(b) Per 1,000 related live births



CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CITY OF SALISBURY, 1952. (Corrected).

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
All Causes	167	195
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease	1	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcol infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	11
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	15
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	3
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	26	36
18. Coronary disease, angina	32	17
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	3
20. Other heart disease	19	38
21. Other circulatory disease	12	16
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	5	7
24. Bronchitis	8	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy childbirth abortion	-	2
31. Congenital malformations	3	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	15
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	-
34. All other accidents	2	3
35. Suicide	7	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-

The above figures only refer to deaths of residents in Salisbury and to those who died outside Salisbury but whose named residence is in the City. There were 613 deaths registered as occurring in Salisbury; 408 of these deaths occurred in institutions. There were 52 inward transfer deaths (i.e. those of residents of Salisbury who died outside the area), and 303 outward transfer deaths (i.e. those of non-residents who died in the City).

Deaths in institutions in the City were as follows:-

	Residents	Non-Residents
Salisbury Infirmary	70	151
Harnwood Hospital	1	1
Newbridge Hospital	26	69
Meyrick Close	5	15
The Old Manor	3	48
Nursing Homes	<u>10</u>	<u>9</u>
	<u>115</u>	<u>293</u>

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE OCCURRING IN THE CITY.

Causes of death	Under 1 week	Between 1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 mths	3 mths and under 6 mths	6 mths and under 9 mths	9 mths and under 1 yr	Total
Prematurity	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Accidental Asphyxia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Haemorrhagic disease of the new born	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hydrocephalus	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Atalectasis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital Malformation of the heart	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	13	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	15



INQUESTS.

During the year 1952, 33 inquests were held on deaths which occurred in the City.

<u>Residents</u>	<u>Non-residents</u>	
-	2	deaths were due to burns.
2	8	deaths were due to road accidents.
1	2	deaths were due to accidental falls.
-	1	death was due to unknown cause - open verdict.
-	1	death occurred under anaesthetic during a surgical operation.
1	-	death was due to accidental coal gas poisoning.
8	1	deaths were due to suicide
1	-	death was due to accidental asphyxia.
1	-	death was due to a railway accident.
-	2	deaths were due to an aircraft accident.
-	1	death was due to an explosion of aircraft gun.
-	1	death was due to natural causes.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE CITYSTAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT 1952

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. E.M. Wright, T.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.

## DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. H. Margaret Hammond, M.B., Ch.B. \*

## SENIOR SANITARY AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR

Mr. S. Appleyard, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

## FIRST ADDITIONAL SANITARY AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR

Mr. L. Weeks, C.S.I.B.

## SECOND ADDITIONAL SANITARY AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR

Mr. A.H. Kay, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

\* Dr. Hammond acts only in the absence of the Medical Officer of Health.



## RODENT OPERATIVE

Mr. E.A. Dawkins (resigned 16th January, 1952)  
Mr. G.S. Rickard (appointed 17th March, 1952)

## CLERICAL STAFF

Mrs. E. McComish (resigned 28th December, 1952)  
Miss P.A. Curtis (resigned 14th June, 1952)  
Miss J. Grant (appointed 15th July, 1952)

The following Health Visitors, who are employed by the Wiltshire County Council for duty in the City, are provided with office accommodation and clerical assistance in the Public Health Department:-

Miss P.E. Morris, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V.Cert.  
Miss M.H. Norman, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
Mrs. P.D. MacFarlane, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
Miss I.D. Williams, R.G.N., R.S.C.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
Miss M.M. Rahilly, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Salisbury General Infirmary, where examinations of specimens connected with infectious disease and examinations of water supplies, milk, ice-cream, food, etc., are regularly carried out.

## WATER SUPPLIES

No restrictions were imposed during the year by reason of lack of water at source, but the plant was running very near to capacity. The supply is derived from two wells and samples are taken for bacteriological examination before chlorination and after chlorination at both pumping stations each week. Non-faecal organisms of the coli-aerogenes type were found at one of the wells on 19 occasions. The number of these organisms on one occasion was 180+ and on another occasion was 90. There is reason to believe that these two results were due to defective technique in sampling. The highest number of non-faecal organisms of the coli-aerogenes type found at this well on any other occasion was 20. In the other well non-faecal organisms of the coli-aerogenes type were found on one occasion; the number of these organisms was 3. On every occasion the samples of water taken after chlorination at both stations were found to be sterile.

Number of houses and flats with piped internal water supply .. .. 8,958

Approximate population with piped internal water supply .. .. 33,540

Additional housing inspections during the year have revealed that there are 12 groups of houses served by one or more standpipes, and a further 8 houses are served by individual standpipes, the population being approximately



260. Two houses on the outskirts of the City have shallow wells with a pumped water supply to storage tanks in the roof space.

24 samples were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year from 8 private wells supplying dairies and other industrial premises in the City. Of these, 17 proved to be satisfactory, 4 showed a slight degree of pollution with non-faecal organisms of the coli-aerogenes type, and 3 were grossly polluted with faecal types of B. Coli; these latter were all from one factory. Water from the City mains is, of course, used for drinking purposes in all premises from which samples have been taken.

### SALISBURY AREA PATHOLOGICAL SERVICE

#### General Infirmary

Report on the Analysis of a Sample of Water received on 3.11.52. at 11 a.m.

#### Devizes Road Pumping Station

Physical Characters                      Excellent. No deposit.

#### Chemical

#### Parts per 100,000

Reaction	pH	7.3
Saline and free Ammonia		0.001
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia		Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C		0.003
Chlorides		1.8
Nitrogen as nitrates		1.0
Total Hardness		22.8
(a) Temporary		12.8
(b) Permanent		10.0
Poisonous Metals		Nil
Nitrites		Nil
Microscopical examination of the sediment		Nil
Free Chlorine		Present, very faint trace

OPINION:- Chemical examination shows no evidence of pollution.

#### Wyndham Road Pumping Station

Physical Characters                      Excellent. No Deposit

#### Chemical

#### Parts per 100,000

Reaction	pH	7.3
Saline and free Ammonia		0.001
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia		Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C		0.003



ChemicalParts per 100,000

Chlorides	1.9
Nitrogen as nitrates	1.0
Total hardness	25.2
(a) Temporary	16.0
(b) Permanent	9.2
Poisonous Metals	Nil
Nitrites	Nil
Microscopical examination of the sediment	Nil
Free chlorine = Present, 0.1 parts per million	

OPINION:- Chemical examination shows no evidence of pollution.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATIONImmunisation against Diphtheria.

Immunisation of children against diphtheria is carried out under arrangements made by the Wiltshire County Council, as Local Health authority under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Immunisation is carried out at maternity and child welfare clinics, at school clinics and at primary and secondary schools, by Medical Officers of the County Council, and, in addition, general medical practitioners in the City immunise a large number of children under arrangements made privately with their parents.

The following are the statistics for 1952:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under 15
Primary imms. completed during 1952.	246		125				79	450
Reinf. injs. administered during 1952.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	743
Total immunised child population at 31st Dec. 1952	25	289	321	282	322	1683	1266	4188



### Immunisation against Whooping Cough.

A large number of children in the City are immunised against whooping cough by general medical practitioners under arrangements made privately with their parents, but no statistics are available for this work.

### Vaccination against Smallpox.

Vaccination against smallpox is undertaken by general medical practitioners in the City under arrangements made privately.

The following are the statistics for 1952:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over
Vaccinations	167	13	17	19	34
Re-vaccinations	-	-	4	47	80

### Vaccination with B.C.G.

A certain number of children who have been exposed to a risk of infection with tuberculosis receive B.C.G. vaccination, under arrangements made by the Wiltshire County Council, at the Chest Clinic, Salisbury General Infirmary. The number of children living in Salisbury who received this treatment in 1952 was 15.

## HOUSING

The continued housing shortage, as it is probably needless to point out, has thrown a very large amount of work on the staff of the Health Department during the year. All the cases which are brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health and of the Sanitary Inspectors, in which there may be grounds for re-housing for medical reasons or for overcrowding, are thoroughly investigated before recommendations are submitted to the Housing Committee, through the City Treasurer. Such investigations frequently and necessarily involve discussions with family doctors, health visitors, school nurses, the hospital authorities, and sometimes in the case of children, with school teachers and the N.S.P.C.C., in addition to very careful investigation of the actual housing conditions of the family concerned.

Unfortunately, there is little indication that there will be a marked improvement in the housing situation in the City during the next few years.



Whilst the stoppage of house building between 1939 and 1945 accounts for a considerable amount of the housing shortage, there is no doubt that other causes are also at work. Improvements in medical knowledge during recent years have had a marked effect in prolonging life, and full employment and the social benefits of the Welfare State have probably tended to lower the age of marriage. The resultant increases in the older sections of the population and in the number of newly-married couples who require a house have together resulted in a greater demand for houses, which the building industry is not at the moment in a position to satisfy. While the tendency to marry young can be, in some respects, a disadvantage in a time of housing shortage, it is only natural that young people should take the view that, as they will probably in any case have to wait for a considerable time for a house, there is little point in postponing marriage.

### CARAVANS

There are three caravan sites in the City, accommodating a maximum of 90, 23, and 7 caravans respectively. The largest of these sites is not itself licensed, the licences being granted to the individual owners of the caravans. In the other two instances not only the caravans, but the sites also, are licensed.

The health of those living on these caravan sites is, on the whole, satisfactory, and there is constant liaison between the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspectors and the County Council Health Visitors to ensure that as far as possible conditions harmful to the health of children are dealt with as soon as possible. The health of the children is, on the whole, much better than might be anticipated; this must be attributed to the fact that although at night their sleeping arrangements are often very crowded, in the daytime they lead, provided the weather is suitable, a very active, open-air life. On the other hand if children happen to fall ill with such a disease as bronchitis, pneumonia or influenza, the cramped conditions under which they are nursed, if not sent to hospital, tend to prolong both illness and complications.

There is a very natural tendency on the part of the majority of families living on these caravan sites to try to make their living conditions more tolerable by the erection of outhouses, sheds, etc. Another feature has been the tendency of a certain number of caravan owners to place caravans on these sites, in particular the largest, and charge very high rents to homeless couples for their use. Steps, however, have been taken which it is hoped will discourage this system of taking advantage of the present housing shortage.

### BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

These byelaws were approved by the City Council on the 3rd April, 1950, and came into operation on the 10th July, 1950. They are enforced by visits of the Sanitary Inspectors to catering establishments, hotels, food shops, bakehouses, wholesale dealers in foods, etc. No legal proceedings were



taken during the year under these byelaws, and it may be said that on the whole the majority of those engaged in the catering industry in the City attempt to comply with the byelaws, and in many cases, improvements to their premises have been carried out with this end in view.

### CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

A course of six lectures on hygienic handling of food arranged by the Salisbury Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, was given in November, 1952. The first three lectures were given by the Medical Officer of Health and the remaining three by the Sanitary Inspectors; practical demonstrations were also given. A total of eleven candidates completed the course, all of whom were successful in passing the examination arranged by the Headquarters of the St. John Ambulance Association in London.

The Sanitary Inspectors report that the food handlers who attended the course have since shown a far greater interest in the principles of food hygiene, and the opportunity of talking to them in the class room with the aid of films, posters and laboratory specimens is of undoubted advantage.

During the year all types of food premises have been under constant supervision, and this has involved many visits by the Inspectors, to which they have devoted considerable time. On these visits various problems have been discussed with management and staff and every opportunity has been taken to advise and stimulate interest in sound hygienic methods.

### REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

The Medical Officer of Health and a general practitioner in the City submitted an application to a magistrate under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, on the 3rd December, 1952, for an Order for the removal of an elderly woman to The Infirmary, Fordingbridge, Hants, for a period of three weeks. The application was granted, and the woman was removed, on the same day. The grounds of the application were that the woman was aged, infirm, physically incapacitated, living in insanitary conditions and unable to devote to herself and not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

The City Council submitted an application to the City Magistrates for a continuance of the Order under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for a period of three months, on the 15th December, 1952, the grounds for this application being similar to those set out above. The application was granted the same day and the woman remained in The Infirmary, Fordingbridge, until the 28th March, 1953, when she voluntarily allowed herself to be transferred to Meyrick Close Welfare Home, Salisbury.



### SEWAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

The greater part of the sewage from the City is dealt with at the Corporation sewage works, which discharge into the River Avon. Owing to the growth of the City and other factors these works, especially in wet weather, are overloaded. The remainder of the sewage of the City is treated on a sewage farm on the outskirts of the City.

Refuse collection is dealt with by five freighter-type vehicles collecting and delivering to controlled tips.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Homes are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors upon receipt of notification of infectious disease and enquiries made regarding contacts and the possible source of infection.

Bedding is removed for steam disinfection when considered necessary and disinfectant supplied to householders where infectious disease occurs, with instructions given for its use.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1952.

Notified Cases	All ages	Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65	Age unknown	Treated in Hospital
Scarlet Fever	46	-	18	25	3	-	-	-	-	16
Whooping Cough	29	2	11	14	-	2	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis:										
Paralytic	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	407	7	116	279	-	2	-	-	3	5
Pneumonia	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1



## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1952 (Continued)

Notified Cases	All ages	Under 1 year	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65	Age unknown	Treated in Hospital
Dysentery	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	-	-	-	8	4	-	-	-	12
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	10	-	-	2	1	6	1	-	-	3

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

The following are details of outbreaks of food poisoning during 1952:-

- (a) Total number of outbreaks .. .. . 1
- (b) Number of cases .. .. . 10
- (c) Number of deaths .. .. . 0
- (d) The only outbreak of food poisoning which occurred was probably due to staphylococcal toxin.
- (e) The food causing the only outbreak was believed to be a piece of beef, which had been cooked, cooled and sliced on the day before the outbreak and re-heated for luncheon on the day of the outbreak.

TUBERCULOSIS

Primary cases of tuberculosis notified in the City during 1952.

Age Periods	Primary Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-
2-5	1	-	1	1
6-15	-	1	1	-
16-25	5	7	-	-
26-35	7	8	-	2
36-45	8	2	-	-
46-55	3	-	-	-
56-65	3	1	-	-
66 and over	2	-	-	-
Totals	29	19	2	3

The total number of primary cases of respiratory tuberculosis is four less than in 1951, but still remains rather higher than the average for recent years. This is probably due to the fact that, as was noted last year, the visits of the Mass Radiography Unit to the City resulted in a number of cases being discovered which would otherwise have escaped detection and



notification. The detection of such cases, is of course satisfactory, in that it frequently enables treatment to begin at a stage of the disease when it is more likely to be successful.

### REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

During the year, 2,591 inspections, involving 3,152 visits, compared with 1,238 inspections and 1,699 visits in 1951, were made for the investigation and suppression of nuisances and inspections of the various types of premises in the City as follows:-

559 inspections of dwellings			
366	"	"	drainage systems
178	"	"	restaurant kitchens
128	"	"	butchers' shops
126	"	"	factories
109	"	"	caravans
108	"	"	dairies
72	"	"	bakehouses
42	"	"	ice cream premises
14	"	"	licensed premises

178 complaints were received during the year. One formal and 61 informal notices were served and 50 notices were complied with. 329 visits were made in respect of unsound food.

The greatly increased numbers of visits and inspections are due to the fact that there are now three Inspectors in the Department; attention is drawn to the number of defects remedied and the gradual introduction of the Food Handling Byelaws resulting in extensive re-conditioning and improvement of several food shops and restaurant kitchens. Details will be found under their respective headings.



### Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

As explained last year, this Act became operative on the 1st November, 1951, and repealed the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928. The Act places a duty on the local authority to secure the inspection of premises registered or licensed by them, and to enforce the law with a view to securing the use of clean filling materials. "Registered" premises are those which use fillings in upholstery of new furniture, bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles; "licensed" premises are those where rag flock is manufactured or stored for delivery to registered premises.

The Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspectors are, by virtue of their appointments, "authorised officers."

It is gratifying to note that most of the materials used in the upholstery trade in the City come from sources where the British Standard Specifications are complied with and a certificate issued with the materials to this effect. These products are sampled regularly at the source, thus avoiding the necessity and expense of frequent sampling in the City.

14 inspections of the three registered premises in the City were made and 5 samples of rag flock, sized wadding and cotton felt were submitted; all satisfied the required standards of cleanliness.

### Shops Act, 1950.

The local sanitary authority, as part of their duties under the Public Health Acts, are responsible for the enforcement of the sections dealing with ventilation, reasonable temperatures and the provision of sanitary accommodation; 49 inspections were made for this purpose during the year. The lack of suitable heating in some shops and the need for more permanent types of ventilators in others are the only points to which particular attention has had to be directed.

### Offices.

Although the subject is kept continually in mind, it has not yet been found possible to commence inspecting and recording office conditions within the City.



SANITARY ADMINISTRATIONWork completed during the year 1952Housing.

Roofs repaired or renewed	35
Chimney stacks repaired or renewed	5
Gutters repaired or renewed	23
Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed	4
External walls repaired or repointed	11
Waterproofing of internal walls	14
Sub-floor ventilators repaired or renewed	1
Yard or passage surface paved or repaired	2
Wall plaster repaired	25
Ceiling plaster repaired	18
Rooms cleansed or redecorated	3
Ceilings cleansed or redecorated	2
Windows repaired or renewed	6
Sashcords provided	8
Doors repaired or renewed	8
Floors repaired or renewed	14
Stairs repaired or renewed	3
Firegrates or ranges repaired or renewed	11
New Sinks provided	3
New sink waste pipes provided	2
Food store repaired or improved	1
Verminous rooms disinfested	2
Defective withes to chimneys	1

Sanitary Conveniences.

Separate accommodation provided	1
New W.C.s provided complete	4
New W.C. basin provided	6
W.C. cistern repaired or renewed	1
W.C. compartment repaired	2
W.C. seats renewed	1

Drainage

Drains examined	7
Drains cleansed	25
Sewers cleansed	3
Drains repaired or reconstructed	7
Soil pipe repaired	1
Interceptor provided	3
Inspection chamber provided	4
Fresh air inlet fixed	4
New gullies provided	6
Sink waste pipe disconnected from drains	2
Miscellaneous drainage items	1

Nuisances.

Offensive accumulation removed	1
Smoke nuisance abated	1
Cellar flooding abated	1
Wasps' nests destroyed	8

Wet Fish Shops.

Premises rat-proofed	1
Impervious floor provided and drained	1
Structural alterations carried out	1

Butchers' Shops.

New surface provided to benches	1
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Bakehouses.

Bakehouse cleansed and limewashed	8
Benches cleansed	2
Structural repairs carried out	4
Handwashing notices exhibited	1
Hot water supply provided	1
Factory Notices exhibited	1

Factories and Workplaces.

Premises cleansed and limewashed	1
Sanitary Accommodation provided	5
Intervening ventilated space provided	7
W.C.s screened	4
W.C.s cleansed	2
Defective W.C. repaired	1
Notices provided to W.C.	2
W.C. disconnected from food-room	1

Moveable Dwellings.

Water supply provided	6 points
Sanitary Accommodation provided	7 W.C.s
Refuse receptacles provided	12

Food-preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, etc.

Premises cleansed and limewashed	26
Benches, etc. cleansed	1
Structural repairs carried out	6
Hand washing notices provided	19
Hot water supply provided	6
Poultry killing room provided	1



Food-preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, etc. (continued)

Sleeping rooms and W.C.s disconnected from food rooms	2
Wastebins provided	10
Lighting improved	2
Washing basins provided	10
Instantaneous water heaters provided	11
Premises where extra towels provided	3
Access to washing facilities improved	1
Ventilation improved	5
Floors repaired	1
Insufficient lighting remedied	2

In addition the following extensive alterations and repairs were executed at a large catering establishment within the City:-

One kitchen completely modernised, i.e. walls, ceilings and floors stripped and renewed; new sinks, washing basin, circulating hot water system, fluorescent lighting, extra ventilation, staff cloakroom with water closets, wash basin, etc. provided. Cellars repaired and extra ventilation provided. Washing up rooms redecorated.

At one butcher's shop the sausage room has been rebuilt and modernised; i.e. tiled walls, sink and separate hand washing basin with hot water supply provided; new benches fitted.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH ARE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Offensive Trades.

There is only one such trade carried on within the City, viz: the marine store dealer. The premises are regularly inspected and are generally kept clean, tidy, and free from vermin.

Tents and Vans.

109 inspections of the caravans within the City were made and on each occasion conditions were found to be generally satisfactory. 69 new caravan licences and 98 renewals of existing licences were granted during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1952

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year:-

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b):-	
(i) By the Local Authority .. .. .	166
(ii) By other Local Authorities .. .. .	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons (including existing houses converted into flats)..	44



## (b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts:-

## (i) By the Local Authority

(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Act, 1925	Nil
(b) For the purpose of Part III of the Act, 1925	Nil
(c) The number of houses and flats in course of construction under the Housing Act, 1946, on the 31st December, 1952 .. .. .	140

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) .. .. .	559
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose.. ..	773
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .. .. .	6

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers .. .. .	61
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3. 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 .. .. .	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

## B.- Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. .	1
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By owners .. .. .	3
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

## C.- Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936. (Individual Unfit Houses).

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.. .. .	2
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	Nil

x Including outstanding notices from 1951.



D.- Proceedings under Sections 25 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936. (Clearance Areas).

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	21
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	6

E.- Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit .. .. .	Nil

F.- Number of unsatisfactory dwellings closed as a result of informal action .. .. .

Number of Houses owned by the Local Authorities:-

(1) Parts II and III of the Housing 1925 .. .. .	Nil
(2) Other Powers.. .. .	Nil
Housing Act, 1919.. .. .	210
" " 1923.. .. .	304
" " 1924.. .. .	110
" " 1925.. .. .	Nil
" " 1930.. .. .	112
" " 1938.. .. .	12
" " 1946.. .. .	794
Temporary Bungalows, Housing Act, 1944 .. .. .	99

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Total.. .. .

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1641

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV. - Overcrowding.

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year ..	2
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding discovered during the year .. .. .	4
(c) Number of known cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. .	5

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 83-85.

Number of inspections in connection with verminous premises .. .. .	38
Number of visits entailed .. .. .	58
Number of re-visits .. .. .	7
Number of new cases .. .. .	6
Number of verminous rooms sprayed .. .. .	32
Number of verminous rooms gassed .. .. .	Nil



The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The following various types of premises were treated by the Rodent Operative during the year; dwellings, business premises, Institutions, garden sheds and poultry runs, pig styes, the sewage works and refuse tips, and the twice yearly treatment of the City's sewers. 109 complaints were received and 153 new cases recorded. A total of 1,229 inspections involved 2,421 visits and 1,089 treatments.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED

Food Premises. There were 27 Butchers' Shops, 18 Bakehouses, 8 Fried Fish Shops, 7 Wet Fish Shops, 67 Restaurant Kitchens (34 of these also being licensed premises), 5 Ice Cream Manufacturers, and 89 Dealers on the registers at the end of the year, showing an increase of 23 Ice Cream Dealers. 295 ice cream samples were submitted for Bacteriological examination compared with 172 last year and 253 (85.76%) compared with 149 (86.63%) in 1951, satisfied the provisional recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

Details of the amount of food examined and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption are as follows:-

- 3,083 blown and damaged tins of fruit, fish, milk and vegetables.
- 1,965 lbs. flour.
- 1,942 lbs. 13 ozs. tinned meat.
- 1,682 lbs. 11 ozs. fresh meat.
- 1,135 lbs. semolina.
- 1,063 marshmallows.
- 946 lbs. 2 ozs. chocolate.
- 860 lbs. bread.
- 508 boxes, and 154 lbs. cheese.
- 205 jars pickles
- 200 prawns.
- 151 lbs. 8 ozs. biscuits.
- 109 jars salad.
- 84 chocolate coons
- 63 lbs. jam.
- 55 jellies.
- 40 lbs. sweets.
- 36 pkts. nuts.
- 30 ozs. jars chicken
- 28 st. 6 lbs. fish
- 28 lbs. 8 ozs. prunes.
- 23 bars blended chocolate
- 14 lbs. 5 ozs. dates
- 13 lbs. 2 ozs. sponge mixture.
- 10 lbs. 5 ozs. fish paste
- 7 lbs. chocolate spread.
- 6 lbs. tomatoes.



5 lbs. 12 ozs. cream.  
 2½ lbs. crispbread.  
 2 lbs. 5 ozs. patum peperium.

The following complaints of unsound food being sold, offered for sale, or deposited with a view to sale were reported to the Public Health Committee and column 4 indicates the action taken:--

Article (1)	How discovered or reported (2)	Nature of Complaint or other irregularity (3)	Action Authorised (4)
Bottled milks	Complaints after sale	Sale of milk in dirty bottles (2)	Warning given that in future proceedings would be considered
Bottled milk	Complaint after sale	Sale of milk in dirty bottle and also containing puparia of <i>Drosophila Busckii</i> (a scavenger fly)	Warning given that in future proceedings would be considered
Cooking apples	Complaint after sale	Sale of unsound food	Proceedings instituted; fined £10
Bottled milks	Complaint after sale	Sale of milk in bottles containing a horse chestnut and a metal foil cap	Complainant not prepared to attend court. No action taken.
Loaf containing a piece of cigarette	Complaint after sale	Sale of unsound food	Warning given that in future proceedings would be instituted

Complaint was also made respecting the sale of an imported tin of meat containing a finger bandage and the facts were reported by the Ministry of Food to the Foreign Government concerned.



Following a complaint respecting the sale of unsound bananas in the Market, the local wholesale banana distributors were asked to exercise more care in the selection of such fruit for sale.

A trader was warned for using offensive language likely to cause a breach of the peace and interfere with the Inspectors in the performance of their duties. A further similar incident occurred within a few days and the person concerned was invited to attend the Public Health Committee and give an explanation which, however, he failed to do.

#### The Market Place.

Inspections of the Market Stalls are made with a view to observing the sale of unsound food and also compliance with the Meat Regulations as to proper covering of stalls, etc.

#### Inspection of Dairies and Milk Sampling.

130 inspections and visits for samples were made to the 12 dairies and samples were also obtained from 4 outside distributors supplying milk within the City.

Another pasteurising plant was installed and all four are regularly inspected and samples taken, results being shown below. One cow-keeper is licensed as a producer and distributor of Tuberculin Tested milk, one as a wholesale producer of such milk and four dealers are licensed as distributors only. Lower percentages of satisfactory milks were recorded this year in the case of Tuberculin Tested and Pastourised milks, with a higher percentage in the case of Undesignated milk.

#### Milk Sampling.

36 samples of Undesignated milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist and 22 (61.1%) were found to be satisfactory with regard to cleanliness. This is a great improvement on the numbers found to be satisfactory during the previous year.

7 samples of Accredited milk were submitted and all satisfied the requirements of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

43 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were also submitted and 34 (79%) of these proved satisfactory.

84 samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted and 80 (95.24%) satisfied the requirements of the Regulations.

72 samples of milk taken from the 16 retailers supplying the City were submitted to the Tuberculin (Biological) Test and 71 (98.6%) proved to be free from tuberculosis. The one positive sample was traced and the infected cow slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order 1938.



Bottle Washings.

47 washed milk bottles were subjected to bacteriological examination for cleanliness and 42 (89.3%) passed.

BIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES

Summary of samples submitted for the presence of Tuberculosis during the past ten years:-

				<u>Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>% Satisfactory</u>
1943	..	..	..	40	38	95%
1944	..	..	..	58	54	93%
1945	..	..	..	76	74	97%
1946	..	..	..	44	42	95%
1947	..	..	..	29	29	100%
1948	..	..	..	66	64	96.9%
1949	..	..	..	58	55	94.8%
1950	..	..	..	58	55	94.8%
1951	..	..	..	41	41	100%
1952	..	..	..	72	71	98.6%

FACTORIES ACT, 1937. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 19361. Factories and Workplaces

Premises	Number on Register	Number of:-		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by L.A. (non-power)	43	10	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (power)	157	123	7	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	4	-	-	-
Total	204	133	8	-



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)	1	2 #	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	1 #	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.1)	1	3 #	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	1	2 #	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	11 #	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	2 #	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	2	-	2	-	-
Total	13	21	2	-	-

# Including arrears from 1951.

3. Outworkers

## Section 110

## Section 111

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of instances of unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making wearing apparel	15	2	-	-	-
Cleaning and washing wearing apparel	-	1	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	1	-	-	-	-
Total	17	3	-	-	-



