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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

1953



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 1953. The Report of your Senior Sanitary Inspector is also incorporated.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

E.M. WRIGHT

Medical Officer of Health.

1st October, 1954.



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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	2,836
Number of inhabited houses and flats at end of 1953	9,034
Registrar General's estimated mid year Home Population for 1953	33,430
Rateable Value	£286,397
The sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,143

		Total	Male	Female	
BIRTHS.	Live - Legitimate	465	233	232	
	Illegitimate	28	11	17	
	All births	493	244	249	
	Total Birth Rate per 1,000 population				14.75
	Area comparability factor				1.03
	Adjusted Birth Rate				15.19

Birth Rates per 1,000 population (not adjusted):-

1952	15.21
1951	16.42
1950	15.13
1949	14.34
1948	16.10
Average 1948 - 1952	15.44

		Total	Male	Female
BIRTHS.	Still - Legitimate	12	6	6
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
	All Births	13	6	7

Total Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population 0.39

		Total	Male	Female
DEATHS.		509	269	240

Total Death Rate per 1,000 population 15.22
 Area comparability factor 0.92
 Adjusted Death Rate 14.00

Death Rates per 1,000 population (not adjusted):-

1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.71
1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.82
1950	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.05
1949	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.95
1948	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.33

Average Death Rate England and Wales is 11.4 for 1953

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

Death Rate of all Infants under one year of age									26.37
Total Deaths (Legitimate and illegitimate)									13
Deaths of Legitimate Infants	..	..	..						13
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	..	..	..						-

Infantile Death Rate:-

1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.51
1951	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.97
1950	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34.68
1949	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35.1
1948	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.9
Average 1948 - 1952	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24.23

VITAL STATISTICS (Registrar General's Figures, 1953)

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY
AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1953
(Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
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Rates per 1,000 Home Population

BIRTHS

Live births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5
				(0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38
Still births	..	..	..	(22.4(a)	24.8(a)	21.4(a)	21.0(a)

DEATHS

All Causes	..	..	..	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5
Typhoid and paratyphoid				0.00	0.00	-	-
Whooping cough	..	..	..	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	..	..	..	0.00	0.00	0.00	-

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

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
DEATHS (continued)				
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Acute poliomyelitis (includ- ing polioencephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)				
Typhoid fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02
Whooping cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73
Acute poliomyelitis (includ- ing polioencephalitis)				
Paralytic	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Food poisoning	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38
Puerperal pyrexia	18.23(a)	24.33(a)	12.46(a)	28.61(a)

Rates per 1,000 Live Births

DEATHS				
All causes under 1 year of age	26.8(b)	30.8	24.3	24.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age ..	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1

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

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Intermediate List No. and cause	Number of deaths	Rates per 1,000 (Live and Still)	Total Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
All15 Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ..	68	0.10		
(Abortion with toxæmia	7	0.01		1
All16 (Other toxæmias of preg- (nancy and the puerperium	166	0.24		
All17 Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth ..	90	0.13		
All18 Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	30	0.04		3
All19 Abortion with sepsis	39	0.06		4
All20 Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	125	0.18		

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CITY OF SALISBURY, 1953, (Corrected)

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes	269	240
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	1
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	9	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	9
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	20	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	3
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	34	34
18. Coronary disease, angina	42	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	9
20. Other heart disease	47	60

Causes of Death							Males	Females
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	..	21	19
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	6	11
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	29	17
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	8	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	..	..	2	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	..	1	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	..	6	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	..	-	1
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	..	..	17	15
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	..	4	-
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	..	..	2	6
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	3	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 646 deaths registered as occurring in Salisbury; 443 of these deaths occurred in institutions. There were 35 inward transfer deaths (i.e. those of residents of Salisbury who died outside the area), and 172 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	66	166
Harnwood Hospital	-	1
Newbridge Hospital	98	-
Meyrick Close	27	-
The Old Manor	64	-
Nursing Homes	20	1
	-----	-----
	275	168
	-----	-----

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	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Erythroblastosis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Acute Mastoiditis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Atalectasis	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
Spina Bifida	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Total	10	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	15

INQUESTS

During the year 1953, 17 inquests were held on deaths which occurred in the City.

Residents Non-residents

3	3	deaths were due to road accidents.
1	1	deaths were due to accidental falls.
1	-	death was due to natural causes.
2	-	deaths were due to accidental coal gas poisoning.
2	1	deaths were due to suicide.
1	-	death was due to drowning.
1	-	death was due to shock and septicaemia following scalding burns.
1	-	death was due to murder -- carbon monoxide poisoning.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE CITYSTAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1953

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.

RODENT OPERATIVE

Mr. G.S. Rickard (appointed 17th March, 1952)

CLERICAL STAFF

Miss J. Grant (appointed 15th July, 1952)

Mrs. J. Weeks (appointed 1st January, 1953)

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.

The Public Health Committee deals with all public health matters.

[#]Dr. Hammond acts only in the absence of the Medical Officer of Health.

The following School Nurses are also employed by the Wiltshire County Council for duties in the Schools in the City; they carry out their work from the Minor Ailments Clinic, Salisbury General Infirmary:-

Mrs. B.A. Brown, S.R.N., S.C.M.
 Miss E. Jones, S.R.N., R.F.N. (resigned 30th June, 1953)
 Mrs. N.M. Dalzell, S.R.N., S.C.M. (appointed 1st September, 1953)

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 and after chlorination at both pumping stations each week, or more often if necessary. Small numbers of organisms of the coli-aerogenes group were found fairly frequently before chlorination at one of the wells, and on two occasions, while maintenance work was in progress, faecal types of B. Coli were also found before chlorination in samples from this well. Samples taken from the other well before chlorination were on all occasions free from organisms of the coli-aerogenes group and faecal types of B. Coli.

On every occasion, samples of water taken from both wells after chlorination were found to be free from organisms of these types.

Number of houses and flats with piped internal water supply .. 8,973

Approximate population with piped internal water supply 33,172

Demolition of eight houses in Clearance Area No. 15 (West Place, Endless Street) removed two standpipes, but additional housing inspections during the year have revealed that there are 13 groups of houses served by one or more standpipes, and a further 8 houses are served by individual standpipes, the population being approximately 254. One house on the outskirts of the City has a shallow well with pumped water supply to a storage tank in the roof space.

Twenty-three 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, 19 showed no evidence of pollution, 3 showed a slight or moderate degree of pollution and one a gross degree of pollution, with organisms of the coli-aerogenes group. One of the latter showed pollution with faecal types of B. Coli, and this to only a very slight degree.

SALISBURY AREA PATHOLOGICAL SERVICEGeneral InfirmaryReport on the Analysis of Samples of Water received on 26th October, 1953Devizes Road Pumping Station

Physical Characters Good clear water.

<u>Chemical</u>		<u>Parts per 100,000</u>
Reaction	Alkaline	pH 7.1
Saline and free Ammonia		0.002
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia		0.001
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.		0.01
Chlorides		1.7
Nitrogen as nitrates		1.0
Total Hardness		24.8
(a) Temporary		16.4
(b) Permanent		8.4
Poisonous Metals		Nil
Nitrites		Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment		Nil

OPINION:- Chemical analysis : Satisfactory.Wyndham Road Pumping Station

Physical Characters Good clear water.

<u>Chemical</u>		<u>Parts per 100,000</u>
Reaction	Alkaline	pH 7.2
Saline and free Ammonia		0.001
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia		Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C.		0.02
Chlorides		1.7
Nitrogen as nitrates		0.35
Total Hardness		23.0
(a) Temporary		15.1
(b) Permanent		7.9
Poisonous Metals		Nil
Nitrites		Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment		Nil

OPINION:- Chemical analysis : Satisfactory.

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 1953:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9		10 - 14		Total under 15
Primary immunisations completed during 1953.	127	92	29	7	2	44		34		335
Reinf. injections administered during 1953.	-	1	1	1	12	242		280		537
Total immunised child population at 31st Dec. 1953.	24	206	328	335	299	477	1478	350	944	4441

⌘ Immunised before 31.12.48. (and not since)

⌚ Immunised since 1.1.49.

These figures can only be described as both disappointing and disturbing, especially as regards the figure for children immunised under 1 year of age, where there is a serious reduction on the corresponding figure for 1952. It is possible that, unless more intensive efforts are made to increase the number of children immunised in future years, outbreaks of diphtheria may occur in the City, especially among children under school age, in whom it is a particularly serious disease.

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 1953:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over
Vaccinations	206	5	22	10	24
Re-vaccinations	-	-	4	21	68

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 1953 was 25.

HOUSING

As I reported in my Annual Report for 1952, the housing shortage continues to throw a very large amount of work on the staff of the Health Department. Cases which need re-housing on medical grounds require considerable investigation before the necessary recommendation can be made, and even when these recommendations are accepted, there is often a long and unavoidable delay before re-housing actually takes place.

A dramatic improvement in the housing situation in the next few years is, in my opinion, unlikely to take place; indeed, we may perhaps be considered fortunate if a slight deterioration does not occur. A high marriage rate, a

demand by all concerned for a high standard of housing, and a lowering of the death rate, all throw an unprecedented strain on the building industry in the production of new units of living accommodation. The necessity of carrying out further slum clearance, which in my opinion should not be delayed, will unavoidably further complicate the problem.

One aspect of the housing problem deserves particular mention - the re-housing of families, of whom one or more members are suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis in an active, and sometimes in an infectious, form. It cannot be too strongly stressed that re-housing such cases, especially on discharge from hospital, is frequently in every way as important as hospital treatment itself, and that without such re-housing much, and possibly all, the improvement in their condition while in hospital may be undone. In many cases, too, re-housing a case and his family under healthier surroundings may be the only method of preventing that tragic occurrence, the spread of tuberculous infection to other members of the family.

There is extremely close liaison between the Chest Physician of the Salisbury and District Hospital Group and myself regarding cases of tuberculosis which require re-housing, and few weeks go by when we do not personally discuss their cases. I am glad to report that large numbers of cases have been re-housed by the City Council. There are good grounds for hoping that pulmonary tuberculosis may disappear as a major disease from this country within the next generation, and re-housing of cases and their families, when this is advised on medical grounds, must be considered as one of our most important weapons in the fight to achieve this result.

CARAVANS

The three caravan sites in the City continue to attract a large number of occupants, many of whom appear to find such a mode of life preferable to living with relatives or in lodgings. Applications for re-housing on medical grounds by families living in caravans are relatively infrequent, and, on the whole, the health of the occupants, and especially of the children, is surprisingly good. Many of the caravans are modern, and conveniently designed, and the occupants, not unnaturally, attempt to improve their living conditions by the erection of various types of sheds. Supervision of the caravan sites occupies a very considerable amount of the time of the Sanitary Inspectors, but, under present conditions, it is difficult to see how this can be avoided.

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 the various types of premises and businesses where food is prepared, stored or sold. No legal proceedings were taken during the year under these byelaws. There is evidence that there is a growing appreciation on the part of all engaged in the food and catering industries of the importance of hygienic food handling, though more rapid progress is most desirable.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

No organised courses of lectures on the hygienic handling of food were held during the year, but the Sanitary Inspectors kept all types of food premises under constant supervision. During their visits they take every opportunity of stimulating interest in sound hygienic methods, and in many businesses improvements have been effected in equipment and premises. The more the subject is studied, however, the more obvious it becomes that the many problems involved are not likely to be quickly solved. The Senior Sanitary Inspector also refers to food control measures in his Report.

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

No action was taken during the year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, or under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951. In two cases, the first being an elderly man living alone in a house, and the second an aged woman living in an almshouse, regarding whom such action might have become advisable, it was possible to persuade the two persons concerned to enter hospital voluntarily.

SEWAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

The greater part of the sewage from the City is dealt with at the Corporation sewage works, the effluent and storm overflow being discharged into the River Avon. These works are frequently overloaded, the main reason for this being that they were originally constructed to deal with a much smaller volume of sewage than that which now reaches them. They can only give full treatment to 2.33 times the dry weather flow, and any attempt to pass more than this amount through the works results in a lowering of the standard of the purity of the effluent. Flows in excess of 2.33 times the dry weather flow are given partial treatment in the storm filter bed, the maximum flow to receive full or partial treatment being 4.05 times the dry weather flow. Flows in excess of this amount are screened and passed direct to the river.

The Avon river system was surveyed in the vicinity of Salisbury sewage works by the Fisheries and Pollution Inspector of the Avon and Dorset River Board in July and November, 1953. It was considered, as a result of chemical examination of the effluent, and biological examination of the river fauna below the point of discharge, that pollution of the river Avon was caused by the sewage works, in spite of efficient management. The frequent overloading of the sewage works, which will probably increase in the future, and their unsuitable position, make it advisable that they should be replaced as soon as possible by larger modern works in a more suitable location.

Sewage which is not passed to the works is treated on a sewage farm on the outskirts of the City.

Refuse collection is dealt with by 6 full-time and 1 part-time 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 1953.

Notified Cases	All ages	Under 1 year	1-5	6-15	16-25	26-45	46-65	66 and over	Age unknown	Treated in hospital
Scarlet Fever	29	1	15	13	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	29	2	20	7	-	-	-	-	-	2
Acute Poliomyelitis:-										
Paralytic	9	-	2	2	3	2	-	-	-	9
Non-Paralytic	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1953 (continued)

Notified Cases	All ages	Under 1 year	1-5	6-15	16-25	26-45	46-65	66 and over	Age unknown	Treated in Hospital
Measles	343	19	258	52	6	5	-	-	3	2
Pneumonia	37	-	-	-	-	-	7	30	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever (Meningococcal)	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	5	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS

The following are details of outbreaks of food poisoning during 1953:-

- (a) Total number of outbreaks 2
- (b) Number of cases 5
- (c) Number of deaths 0
- (d) In one outbreak, in which two persons were affected, food poisoning was believed to be due to staphylococcal toxin in a sheep's tongue. In the other outbreak, in which three persons were affected, the agent was not identified.

TUBERCULOSIS

Primary cases of tuberculosis notified in the City during 1953.

Age Periods	Primary Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-
2-5	-	-	-	-
6-15	1	4	-	2
16-25	7	8	-	-
26-35	1	6	-	1
36-45	5	3	-	1
46-55	3	-	-	-
56-65	4	-	-	1
66 and over	-	-	-	-
Totals	21	21	-	5

The total number of primary cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified during 1953 shows a reduction for the third successive year, the corresponding figure for 1951 being 52 and that for 1952 being 48. Further, figures for these years also indicate that the recovery rate of cases, with modern methods of treatment, is greatly improved.

The Southampton Mass Radiography Unit visited Salisbury during the period 31st August - 25th September, 1953, and although I am not able to give exact figures, as a large number of those attending for X-ray examination came from the surrounding districts, it is possible to say that the visit was, so far as the City is concerned, satisfactory.

I also refer to the question of tuberculosis in the section of my Report dealing with Housing.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

During the year 1953, 2,587 inspections, involving 3,522 visits (compared with 2,591 inspections and 3,152 visits in 1952) were made for the investigation and suppression of nuisances, and inspections of the various types of premises in the City as follows:-

431	inspections of dwellings
359	" " drainage systems
165	" " caravans
152	" " restaurant kitchens
118	" " licensed premises
75	" " dairies
68	" " butchers' shops
67	" " factories
64	" " bakehouses
55	" " ice-cream premises

282 (compared with 178) complaints were received during the year. 52 preliminary notices and 4 statutory notices were served and 97 preliminary notices and 5 statutory notices were complied with, the figure 97 including those notices served in late 1952 and not complied with until 1953. A

further 320 visits were made in respect of unsound food.

The supervision of food-preparing premises has been maintained and details of work resulting from advice given will be found on page 21.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

This 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 the 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".

All 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 sampling within the City.

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; 129 inspections were made for this purpose during the year, showing an increase of 80 inspections over 1952, and the following table indicates the various types of shops inspected:-

Licensed Premises (also classed as shops)	..	..	43
Grocers and General Stores	..	..	9
Grocers	..	..	8
General Stores	..	..	6
Hairdressers	..	..	5
Shoes	..	..	5
Outfitters	..	..	4
Sweets and General Stores	..	..	3
Opticians	..	..	3
Sugar Confectioners	..	..	3
Multiple Stores	..	..	3
Leather Goods	..	..	2
Sweets and Confectioners	..	..	2
Furnishing	..	..	2
Radio	..	..	2
Butchers	..	..	2
Bakers	..	..	2

Dry Cleaners	2
Ladies Outfitters	2
Wet Fish	2
Bread and Confectionery	1
News Vendors	1
Costumiers	1
Stationery	1
Off Licence	1
Saddler	1
Furrier	1
Jeweller	1
Tobacco	1
Wholesale Warehouse	1
Tailor	1
Chemist	1
Tyres	1
Wines and Spirits	1
Confectionery	1
Seeds	1
Wools	1
China and Glass	1
Agricultural	1

Offices.

Because of the amount of time spent in other directions it has not yet been found possible to commence inspecting and recording office conditions within the City.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Work completed during the year 1953

Housing

Roofs repaired	34
Chimney stacks repaired	6
Chimney pots renewed or replaced	6
Gutters repaired or renewed	42
Rain-water pipes repaired or renewed	7
External walls repaired or repointed	13
Waterproofing of internal walls	20
Sub-floor ventilation provided	4
Sub-floor ventilator renewed	1
Yard or Passage Surfaces paved or repaired	2
Wall plaster repaired	16
Ceiling plaster repaired	9
Rooms redecorated	2

Food-preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, Etc. (Continued)

Floor repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Food protected by plastic covers from contamination	..	..								1
Insanitary staircase renewed			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Insanitary floor covering renewed			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sinks provided	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Yards cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Gullies cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wastebins provided			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Premises at which individual hand towels have been provided										1
Hot water system repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Wall tiled	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Ceiling renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Lighting to food rooms improved	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Wall plaster renewed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Windows cleaned and repaired	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Doors cleansed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Yard resurfaced	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

One fishmonger's premises has been rebuilt and now complies with the legal requirements under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Shops Act, 1950, and the Council's Food Handling Byelaws. The proprietor was very co-operative and the suggestions and recommendations of the Sanitary Inspector concerned were incorporated in the plans.

Extensive repairs, cleansing and modernisation were carried out at a provision shop at the Sanitary Inspector's request. This included replastering, redecoration, re-flooring and improving the lighting of the food rooms, provision of separate sanitary accommodation and hand-washing facilities, and provision of a new bacon cabinet.

An empty butcher's shop has been converted by the owner in co-operation with the Department, into a modern fishmonger's shop. Plastic panelled walls, terrazo floor with coved skirtings and a refrigerated display window were incorporated into the design. Repairs and improvements were also carried out to adjoining preparation rooms, new floor and wall surfaces were provided and washing facilities installed.

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: a marine store. The premises are regularly inspected and are generally kept clean, tidy, and free from vermin.

Tents and Vans

165 inspections of the caravans within the City were made and on each occasion conditions were found to be generally satisfactory. 48 new caravan licences and 56 renewals of existing licences were granted during the year.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953Slum Clearance

The only houses demolished during the year were those eight (8) comprised in Clearance Area No. 15 (West Place, Endless Street) from which 25 persons were rehoused. Thirteen people were also rehoused from Clearance Areas which have not yet been demolished. Four rooms in two buildings and 4 underground rooms were closed by formal action, being unfit for habitation; 5 persons were rehoused by the City Council. Two individual houses were also closed, one by formal action and one informally.

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

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b):-

(i) By the Local Authority	.. .. .	203
(ii) By other Local Authorities	.. .. .	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons (including existing houses converted into flats)	.. .. .	89

(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, 1953	.. .. .	44

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)	431
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose	.. .. 537
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	.. .. . 1

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 97

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 1
- (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 4
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners 5 #
- (b) By local authority in default of owners .. Nil

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

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

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 Nil
- (2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 8

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 .. 5
- (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

including outstanding notices from 1952.

F.- Proceedings under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Section 11.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were revoked and Closing Orders substituted therefor 1

G.- Number of unsatisfactory dwellings closed as a result of informal action 1

Number of Houses owned by the Local Authorities:-

(1) Parts II and III of the Housing Act, 1925	.. .. .	Nil
(2) Other Powers	.. .. .	Nil
Housing Act, 1919	.. .. .	210
" " 1923	.. .. .	304
" " 1924	.. .. .	110
" " 1930	.. .. .	112
" " 1936	.. .. .	8
" " 1938	.. .. .	12
" " 1946	.. .. .	1,009
Temporary Bungalows, Housing Act, 1944	.. .. .	99

Total 1,864

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV. - Overcrowding

(a) Number of known dwellings overcrowded at end of year	2
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding discovered during the year	2
(c) Number of known cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	1
(d) Number of inspections	14

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 83-85

Number of inspections in connection with verminous premises	61
Number of additional visits entailed	24
Number of new cases	8
Number of verminous rooms sprayed	56
Number of verminous rooms gassed	6

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The rodent operative continued his good work during the year, making a total of 2,258 inspections (involving 2,641 visits and 1,183 treatments) of the following varied types of premises:- dwellings, business premises,

Institutions, garden sheds and poultry runs, pig styes, the sewage works and refuse tips, and a twice yearly treatment of the City's sewers. 129 complaints were received and 206 new cases recorded.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND PLACES WHERE FOOD IS PREPARED

Food Premises. There were 28 Butchers' Shops, 15 Bakehouses, 7 Fried Fish Shops, 4 Wet Fish Shops, 60 Restaurant Kitchens (20 of these also being licensed premises), one bacon and one fish curing establishment, 3 Ice Cream Manufacturers, and 113 dealers on the register at the end of the year, showing an increase of 24 dealers.

246 ice cream samples were submitted for bacteriological examination compared with 295 last year and 205 (83.33%) compared with 253 (85.76%) in 1952, satisfied the provisional recommendations of the Ministry of Health, which suggests, briefly, that over a six monthly period not less than 80% of the samples taken should fall into Grade I or II and these are the grades quoted in the percentages above.

A total of 606 inspections of these and other food premises were made during the year, the following table showing the variety of food shops visited in the City:-

<u>Type of Food Stores</u>	<u>No. of inspections</u>
Restaurant Kitchens	152
Licensed Premises	118
Dairies	75
Butchers	68
Bakehouses	64
Ice Cream Dealers	55
Wet Fish	46
Grocers	44
Fried Fish	13
Grocers and General	9
Confectionery Manufacturers	7
Greengrocers	6
Sweets and General	3
Sweet confectionery	3
Egg Packing	3
Sugar Confectionery	3
Wholesale foodstore	2
Bread and Confectionery	1
Proposed cooked meat	1
Mobile Food Van	1
Mineral Waters	1

Details of the amount of food examined and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption are as follows, all condemned food being buried under supervision at the Corporation's tip:-

5,482 blown and damaged tins of fruit, fish, milk and vegetables
 2,135 lbs. 3 ozs. tinned meat
 1,620 lbs. 2 ozs. fresh meat
 546 loaves
 490 doz. eggs
 267 lbs. 8 ozs. sausages
 206 lbs. flour
 110 pkts. Swiss rolls
 85 lbs. 1 oz. cheese
 80 lbs. All bran
 60 lbs. lobster
 56 st. fish
 20 lbs. 14 ozs. biscuits
 20 lbs. 4 ozs. bacon
 19 faggots
 14 lbs. frozen liquid egg
 10 fish cakes
 7 lbs. luncheon sausage
 7 chickens
 4 lbs. 6 ozs. sweets
 3 trays peaches
 2 lbs. haslet
 2 bottles lemon squash
 1 lb. 10 ozs. sandwich spread
 8 ozs. honey

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)
Sugar	Complaint after sale	Bitter taste - on analysis found to contain Epsom Salts.	No formal action taken
Loaf of Bread	Complaint after sale	Sale of bread con- taining piece of coloured fabric.	Proceedings taken; Case proved; Absolute discharge.
Mince Pie	Complaint after sale	Sale of mince pie con- taining wire nail.	No formal action taken.

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

75 inspections and 104 visits for samples were made to the 7 dairies and samples were also obtained from 3 outside distributors supplying milk within the City.

The four pasteurising plants are regularly inspected and samples taken, results being shown below. 5 "T.T." and 12 "T.T. Pasteurised Licences" were issued to the 7 dairymen and 11 distributors retailing milk within the City. Only one retailer now supplies raw undesignated milk and despite local efforts and contacts with the farm supervising authority the milk continues to give unsatisfactory results.

Milk Sampling

4 samples of undesignated milk were submitted to the Bacteriologist and 1 (25%) was found to be satisfactory with regard to cleanliness.

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

17 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk were also submitted and 12 (70.59%) of these proved satisfactory.

89 samples of Pasteurised milk were submitted and 87 (97.75%) satisfied the requirements of the Regulations.

43 samples of milk taken from the 18 retailers supplying the City were submitted to the Tuberculin (Biological) Test and all proved to be free from tuberculosis.

Bottle Washings

41 washed milk bottles were subjected to bacteriological examination for cleanliness and 30 (73.17%) satisfied the required standard.

BIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES

The following tables show the results of samples submitted for the presence of tuberculosis during the past ten years:-

Year	Total Samples	Free from Tuberculosis	Percentage
1939	10	10	100%
1940	10	10	100%
1941	10	10	100%
1942	10	10	100%
1943	10	10	100%
1944	10	10	100%
1945	10	10	100%
1946	10	10	100%
1947	10	10	100%
1948	10	10	100%
1949	10	10	100%
Total	100	100	100%

			<u>Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>% Satisfactory</u>
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%
1953	..	..	43	43	100%

FACTORIES ACT, 1937. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

1. Factories

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of:-	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by L.A. (non-power)	44	13	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A. (power)	146	32	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers premises)	12	11	3	-
Totals	202	56	3	-

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	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	-	-	1	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	1	2	1	-	-
Total	6	3	1	1	-

2. 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	16	15	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	1	-	-	-
Total	17	16	-	-	-