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Slough Borough Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

G. M. HOBBIN,
B.Com., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

For the Year 1946

including the

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

LESLIE A. STROUD,
D.P.A., F.R.San.I.

Mayor :

ALDERMAN J. E. TAYLOR, J.P., C.C.

Deputy Mayor :

ALDERMAN A. E. WARD, C.C.

Members of the Health and Sanitation Committee.

ALDERMAN A. DARVILL, C.C. (*Chairman*).

COUNCILLOR MISS R. HARRISON (*Vice-Chairman*).

ALDERMAN J. E. TAYLOR, J.P., C.C.

ALDERMAN A. E. WARD, C.C.

COUNCILLOR W. H. JENNINGS.

COUNCILLOR E. W. LOBJOIT, J.P.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. J. MORGAN.

COUNCILLOR J. S. PORTER.

COUNCILLOR B. T. SCOTT.

COUNCILLOR J. H. SMITH.

COUNCILLOR A. J. WEBB (Retired 7th July, 1947).

BOROUGH OF SLOUGH.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

for the year 1946.

To the Mayor, Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my first annual report upon the Health Services carried out by the Council. This report is the fiftieth of the series of such reports.

The vital statistics show that the general health of the area has been satisfactorily maintained.

Live births totalled 1,318, which is the highest figure recorded for the Borough, with a rate of 20.9 compared with the national rate of 19.1. The rate as well as the national rate shows an increase on the 1945 figures, and in addition is the highest since 1920 when it was recorded at 24.

The infantile mortality rate is 31.1 and is 11.9 below the national rate. This figure shows a decrease on last year's rate, which was recorded as a new low record—hence a new record is again established. The maternal mortality rate of 0.74 compares favourably with the national rate of 1.43, while both figures are an improvement on last year's.

The death rate of 8.3 is well below the national rate of 11.5, and is a decline of 0.1 on last year's figure. Heart disease, cancer and intracranial vascular lesions respectively are again noted to be the three commonest causes of death.

The death rate from Tuberculosis was 0.6 per 1,000. This is a slight increase on the previous year, but when compared with the following figures for the past ten years it will be seen that it is well within normal limits. Figures for the past ten years:-

0.53 0.59 0.52 0.45 0.64 0.5 0.5 0.4 0.6 0.5

A total of 16 cases of Diphtheria were notified, of which 11 were children and 5 adults. All of these cases were admitted to hospital and none were fatal. An unusual finding was that out of these 16 cases 10 had been immunised and 6 not immunised. There was no evidence, however, that any of these 10 cases had been re-immunised since infancy, and as 9 out of the 10 cases were school children this emphasises the necessity of re-immunisation at the time a child enters school.

Scarlet Fever again showed a marked decrease, only 77 cases being notified as compared with 113 the previous year. The disease was of a mild type and showed very few complications.

A very sharp rise is noted in Whooping Cough from 92 cases in 1945 to 280 in 1946. Four deaths occurred.

Measles was again epidemic, 859 cases occurring, 28 of which had to be admitted to hospital with complications, and one of which was fatal.

Puerperal fever and pyrexia, and Erysipelas both showed an increase on the previous year, but there were no fatal cases.

Full statistics are shown in the tables which I have included in the following pages.

Housing conditions in the town remain very unsatisfactory. There is a great dearth of accommodation and a very long waiting list of applicants. It has not been practicable to take any action under the Public Health or Housing Acts other than the enforcement of urgent work to make premises habitable and to remedy serious nuisances. In spite of this situation a very close watch has been kept on housing conditions, as is evidenced by the fact that 1,701 inspections and re-inspections were made, out of which defects were remedied at 903.

The enormous housing shortage and consequent overcrowding is undoubtedly responsible for a great deal of bad health and domestic unhappiness. Applicants for Council houses are interviewed regularly, and letters from them pleading for support on health grounds in their applications are received almost daily. Many applications are received from tuberculous patients who are obliged to share a bedroom and sometimes a bed with other healthy members of the household. In such cases strong recommendations for priority on health grounds have been forwarded to the Housing Manager, but progress in rehousing is slow and the health of some people is likely to suffer before the situation can be alleviated.

The unsatisfactory state of sewerage and sewage treatment constitutes another danger to health, and attention has, therefore, been drawn to the urgency of executing all necessary work to eradicate this menace.

Close attention has been paid by Sanitary Inspectors to the quality of Food Supplies and to the premises from which food for human consumption is sold. A careful watch has been kept on the chemical and especially the bacteriological purity of milk supplies, while ice-cream has come under close review, and the process of its manufacture and conditions of sale are being more stringently controlled.

The good work carried out in these and other fields has done much to improve the standards of hygiene, and safeguard the health of the population during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. M. HOBBIN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Vital Statistics.

Area	6,276 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate Mid-Year 1946)	63,040
Number of dwelling-houses	16,460
Rateable value	£548,948
Product of a Penny Rate	£2,190

Live Births.

TOTAL	1318	Male	655	Female	663
Legitimate	1230	„	610	„	620
Illegitimate	88	„	45	„	43
Birth rate per 1000 population					20.9
National rate	„	„			19.1

Still Births.

TOTAL	35	Male	25	Female	10
Legitimate	31	„	22	„	9
Illegitimate	4	„	3	„	1
Still-birth rate per 1000 population					0.56
National rate	„	„	„		0.53

Deaths.

TOTAL	521	Male	274	Female	247
Death rate per 1000 population					8.3
National rate	„	„	„		11.5

Number of women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth—

(a) From Sepsis	—
(b) From other causes	1

Death rates from Puerperal causes per 1000 total Births (i.e. Live and Still Births) including abortion—

(a) From Sepsis	—	National rate	0.37
(b) From other causes	0.74	National rate	1.06
(c) TOTAL	0.74	National rate	1.43

Death of Infants under one year of age—

TOTAL	41	Male	19	Female	22
Legitimate	37	„	16	„	21
Illegitimate	4	„	3	„	1

Death rate of Infants under one year of age—

All Infants per 1000 Live Births	31.1
National rate	43.0
Legitimate Infants per 1000 Legitimate Births	30.1
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 Illegitimate Births	45.5

Causes of Death.

							Male	Female
						ALL CAUSES	274	247
1	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers						0	0
2	Cerebro-spinal fever						0	0
3	Scarlet fever						0	0
4	Whooping Cough						0	4
5	Diphtheria						0	0
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system						16	17
7	Other forms of tuberculosis						2	1
8	Syphilitic diseases						3	0
9	Influenza						1	0
10	Measles						0	1
11	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis						0	0
12	Acute infective encephalitis						1	0
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M) uterus (F)						3	6
14	Cancer of stomach and duodenum						6	11
15	Cancer of breast						0	8
16	Cancer of all other sites						26	23
17	Diabetes						1	3
18	Intra-cranial vascular lesions						23	29
19	Heart disease						95	62
20	Other diseases of circulatory system						5	9
21	Bronchitis						14	7
22	Pneumonia						6	10
23	Other respiratory diseases						10	3
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum						5	1
25	Diarrhoea under 2 years						4	0
26	Appendicitis						0	1
27	Other digestive diseases						5	8
28	Nephritis						6	8
29	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis						0	0
30	Other maternal causes						0	1
31	Premature birth						7	7
32	Congenital malformations, birth injuries, infant diseases						7	7
33	Suicide						1	3
34	Road traffic accidents						8	1
35	Other violent causes						4	2
36	All other causes						15	14

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases during 1946.

TABLE I.

Showing cases notified during 1946, numbers admitted to Hospital and Deaths, also notifications for years 1934-1945

	Noti- fied Cases 1946	Cases Admit- ted to Deaths Hosp.	Population in thousands										Total cases notified during			
			60	61	62	64	65	60	53	50	48	44	41	38	1934	1935
			1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934		
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	77	55	113	151	120	63	80	72	60	130	100	36	70	94	—	—
Diphtheria	16	16	8	30	23	5	38	91	78	57	5	2	26	10	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	17	11	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	22	7	28	33	34	27	26	34	23	36	33	31	12	23	—	—
Erysipelas	24	7	9	7	22	5	28	22	26	33	16	9	5	13	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	1	—	—
Measles	859	28	826	29	995	179	258	998	6*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	280	14	92	146	164	36	224	64	7*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	1	6	5	5	8	10	18	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	2	—	—	2	28	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Notifiable from 23rd October, 1939.

TABLE II.

Showing Monthly Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Disease.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Scarlet Fever	3	6	5	8	8	1	4	4	5	8	15	10
Diphtheria	—	1	—	3	3	—	3	—	1	1	2	2
Pneumonia	3	3	—	2	—	3	—	—	1	1	6	3
Erysipelas	1	1	1	3	—	1	2	2	1	7	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	2	1	1	—	2	4	1	2	1	1
Measles	—	—	—	3	7	—	6	25	48	299	329	142
Whooping Cough	15	29	36	50	20	20	17	21	14	12	18	28
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—

TABLE III.

Showing Incidence in Wards of Borough.

Estimated Population	Burnham. 9,313	Central. 12,425	Chalvey. 8,539	Farnham. 15,002	Langley. 7,065	Stoke. 11,474	Upton. 5,520
Scarlet Fever	18	13	2	26	5	9	4
Diphtheria	—	7	—	3	1	1	4
Pneumonia	1	4	5	7	3	1	1
Erysipelas	—	3	2	10	2	5	2
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	2	—	—	6	—	1	8
Tuberculosis	11	8	8	23	7	9	5
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Polio-encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	112	148	97	199	151	89	63
Whooping Cough	23	52	26	44	52	57	26
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	1	—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria Immunisation of all children over five years of age has been carried out in the Schools, and the assistance and co-operation of teachers in this important work has been much appreciated. Owing to the success of the County Health Department in their drive for the immunisation of all pre-school children, the number of children reaching school age who have not at some time received two injections is naturally small. The work has, therefore, been concentrated on re-immunisation or the giving of a "booster" dose to raise the level of immunity which tends to fall after a period of several years.

All school children who have not been immunised within the last four years receive a "booster" dose, and others who have never been immunised receive two injections of Alum-precipitated toxoid at an interval of one month.

Although the greater part of this work is carried out in the schools, there is in addition an immunisation session held in the School Clinic at Burlington Road one day per week. Children who have been missed at school through being absent can, therefore, attend at the School Clinic.

The number of parents who refuse to have their children treated is on the decline.

Number of school children in the Borough
between the ages of 5-14 years = 9,220

Number in age group 5-14 years immunised in
1946 = 346

Number of children under 15 years of age who have received a full course of immunisation at any time prior to 31st December, 1946, shown in age groups:-

Under	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total under
1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1937-1941	1932-1936	15
12	432	627	604	800	3,431	3,472	9,378

Number of cases of Diphtheria occurring in:-

- (a) Immunised subjects = 10
(b) Non-Immunised subjects = 6

(See page 1).

Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

Supplies of diphtheria anti-toxin are available free to practitioners who wish to undertake treatment of a case at home, or for use in emergency. Issues are made from the Town Hall during office hours and from the Police Station when the Town Hall is closed.

Insulin Supply.

A free supply of insulin has been available to necessitous cases under Authority of the Ministry of Health Circular 2374/43.

During the year issues were made to only one case.

Laboratory.

All laboratory work of a Public Health nature has been carried out free of charge, but a charge has been made for clinical investigations in every case where the patient could afford to pay and was not a panel patient. Direction as to whether a charge should be made is given by the doctor in charge of the case at the time the specimen is submitted.

The usual charges are as follows:-

Blood:

Complete count and differential cell count	£1	1s.	0d.
Total cell count and Hæmoglobin estimation		10s.	6d.

Urine:

Examination, Culture and Deposit		5s.	0d.
----------------------------------	-------	-----	-----

Swabs:

For Hæmolytic streptococci	.....	5s.	0d.
For Diphtheria Bacilli	.....	3s.	0d.
(From practitioners outside the area).			

Other investigations which cannot normally be carried out in this laboratory are forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory Services in Oxford and Reading.

During the year the following specimens were examined in the Town Hall Laboratory:-

		Positive.	Negative.
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	.....	22	708
Swabs for Hæmolytic Streptococci	.....	7	65
Swabs for Vincent's Angina	.....	9	15
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	.....	9	175
Urine for Tubercle Bacilli	.....	—	3
Pus for Gonococci (including slides)	.....	1	2
Fæces for Coli, Typhoid Group	.....	3	28
Fæces for Occult Blood	.....	1	—
Blood for Widal	.....	—	6
Blood Culture	.....	—	1
Miscellaneous swabs	.....	14	
Urine for routine examination	.....	57	
Cerebro-Spinal Fluids	.....	1	
Blood Counts	.....	34	
Complete Blood Counts	.....	18	
Blood Sedimentation Rates	.....	19	
Blood Paul-Bunnell Test	.....	1	
Milk—			
(a) Plate Count	.....	4	
(b) Phosphatase Test	.....	136	
(c) Methylene Blue Test	.....	351	
(d) Coliform Test	.....	8	
(e) Informal Chemical Test	.....	29	
Water samples—			
(a) Drinking water	.....	90	
(b) Swimming Pool water	.....	2	
Ice Cream samples (as from July, 1946)		30	

Mortuary.

Number of post-mortems carried out during the year - 42.

TABLE IV.

TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE SHOWING NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.

Age Periods.	Primary Notifications.				From Death Returns.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1 -	2	—	1	5	—	—	1	—	1	1	2	1
5 -	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 -	5	7	1	4	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
25 -	6	8	2	3	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—
35 -	4	2	1	1	1	2	—	—	5	7	—	—
45 -	3	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
55 -	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	2	—	—
65 up -	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	24	22	6	19	2	3	1	—	16	17	2	1

Death rate from Tuberculosis — 0.6 per 1000.

Notification Register.

Number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the Notification Register on 31st December, 1946:-

Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.		
M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
180	135	315	37	44	81

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The diagnoses of the new cases entered in the Notification Register during the year were as follows:-

	M.	F.
Face	—	2
Genito-Urinary	—	2
Glands	5	10
Hip	—	2
Meninges	—	2
Spine	1	1

HOSPITAL SERVICES.

General.

Slough is catered for by the King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor, and by the Slough E.M.S. Hospital. In addition, the services of the new Canadian Red Cross Memorial Hospital, Taplow, will soon be available.

The King Edward VII Hospital has a complement of 200 beds, and a visiting Medical Staff of 51 Specialists covering almost every branch of Medicine. All the special services of the hospital are used by the Medical Officers in attendance at the Maternity and Child Welfare, and School Clinics in Slough.

The Slough E.M.S. Hospital has a total of 124 beds, but only 72 are at present in use owing to shortage of staff. The services of visiting specialists are available also at this hospital, which adjoins and is combined with the Public Assistance Institution.

Infectious Diseases.

The Cippenham Isolation Hospital provides accommodation for all types of infectious diseases requiring hospital treatment, with the exception of smallpox.

The total bed capacity of the hospital is 62, which includes a separate cubicle block of 10 beds. The greater part of the hospital was rebuilt during 1935-36, together with a new Nurses' Home in the grounds. It is modern in design and has an up-to-date Operating Theatre with Anæsthetising, Sterilising and Surgeons' dressing rooms.

The Slough Borough Council is a constituent member of the Eton Joint Hospital Board, for whom I carry out the duties of Medical Superintendent at this hospital.

Sanatorium.

The Slough population is served by the County Sanatorium, which is the Berks. and Bucks. Joint Sanatorium, Peppard Common. Other institutions such as the Wingfield Morris Orthopædic Hospital are also used for appropriate cases. Admissions are arranged by the Assistant County Tuberculosis Officer at the E.M.S. Hospital, Albert Street, Slough.

Smallpox.

Smallpox cases are admitted to the Saunderton Sanatorium at Princes Risborough.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) For Infectious Cases.

By agreement with the Eton Joint Hospital Board, Slough has the use of the motor ambulance which is stationed at the Cippenham Isolation Hospital. In addition, a car is available at the hospital, which can be used for sitting cases when the need arises, as well as general purposes.

(b) For Non-Infectious and Maternity Cases.

Ambulance work is excellently carried out by St. John's Ambulance Brigade, who have seven motor ambulances and maintain five permanent drivers at the garage. All cases of sickness, accident and maternity are dealt with by the service.

Both these services are available by day and night and at present are considered to be adequate.

**Comparison of Hospital Admissions
in two
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

Ages and Sexes admitted to Hospital—

TABLE V.
SCARLET FEVER.

Age.	Male.	Female.	Total.
0 -	—	—	—
1 -	—	—	—
2 -	2	—	2
3 -	4	1	5
4 -	3	1	4
5 -	9	22	31
10 -	2	4	6
15 -	—	2	2
20 -	1	3	4
30 & over.	—	1	1
Total 1946.	21	34	55
„ 1945.	30	36	66

TABLE VI.
DIPHThERIA.

Age.	Male.	Female.	Total.
0 -	—	—	—
1 -	—	—	—
2 -	—	—	—
3 -	—	1	1
4 -	—	—	—
5 -	7	2	9
10 -	—	1	1
15 -	1	1	2
20 -	—	1	1
30 & over.	—	2	2
Total 1946.	8	8	16
„ 1945.	2	6	8

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES.

(a) Maternity and Child Welfare.

There are all together five Infant Welfare Clinics in the Borough, which are conducted as follows:-

Centre.	Location.	Sessions.	Sessions when Medical Officer in attendance.
Cippenham.	Central Hall, Bowyer's Way. Diphtheria Immunisation.	Weekly Friday.	2nd and 4th Friday. 1st Thursday, 10.30 a.m.
Langley.	Women's Institute Hall Diphtheria Immunisation.	1st and 3rd Wednesday.	1st Wednesday. 2nd Thursday, 11.30 a.m.
Slough Health Centre.	Burlington Road. Diphtheria Immunisation.	Weekly Monday.	Weekly Monday. Weekly Thursday, 9.30 a.m.
St. Michael's.	Slough Social Centre, Farnham Road. Diphtheria Immunisation.	Weekly Monday.	Weekly Monday. 1st Monday, 3.30 p.m.
Wexham Road.	Wexham Road Community Centre. Diphtheria Immunisation.	Weekly Friday.	1st and 3rd Friday. 1st Friday, 2.30 p.m.

During the year Ante-Natal Clinics have been held at the Burlington Road Health Centre every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon, and at Albert House (Public Assistance Institution) every Wednesday and Friday afternoon. At Albert House a general practitioner is in attendance on Friday afternoons.

(b) School Clinics.

Minor Ailment, Ophthalmic and Dental Clinics are held daily at the Health Centre, Burlington Road.

- (i) The Dental Staff consists of one Dental Officer and one nurse, and the service is available for all school children, including Nursery and Secondary Schools.

No dental care is provided for—

- (i) Expectant mothers.
- (ii) Nursing mothers.

- (ii) The Ophthalmic Service includes Specialists treatment and the provision of spectacles where necessary.
- (iii) The Minor Ailment Clinic is conducted by the Nursing staff, but a Medical Officer is in attendance one day per week.

Tuberculosis.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held by the Assistant County Tuberculosis Officer at the E.M.S. Hospital, Albert Street, Slough, every Tuesday and Thursday, at 10 a.m.

Venereal Diseases.

There is no clinic in Slough, but services are available under arrangements made by the County Health Department. The nearest centres are at the King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor; the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading; Hillingdon County Hospital, and the Clinic, High Wycombe. In addition, treatment can be obtained at any of the London centres, and in necessitous cases rail fare can be refunded by application to the County Medical Officer of Health.

NURSERIES.

The following Nurseries are in operation for the reception of children whose home conditions are unsuitable when mothers are confined or require hospital treatment:-

(a) Day Nurseries for 0-3 years.

- (i) Baylis Court, Slough.
- (ii) Manor Park, Slough.

Admissions to these Nurseries are arranged by the Matron.

(b) Short-Stay Residential Nursery, at Brookside, Salt Hill, Slough.

Admissions arranged by the County Medical Officer of Health.

MATERNITY HOMES.

There are two registered Maternity Homes in Slough, located as follows:-

- (i) Parkside Nursing Home, Upton Court Road.
- (ii) The Nursing Home, Burlington Road.

The former admits Surgical, Aged and Infirm patients, in addition to Maternity cases.

In general, cases are admitted because of home conditions being unsatisfactory for confinement, or where abnormal confinement is suspected.

In addition to these Homes there are 34 beds in use for Maternity cases at the Public Assistance Institution.

Name of Nursing Home.	No. of Beds.	No. of Cases Admitted during 1946.
Parkside	8	66
Burlington Road	8	74
Public Assistance Institution	34	367

REGISTERED NURSING HOMES.

There are two registered Nursing Homes in Slough for the admission of Aged and Infirm patients. These are—

	No. of Beds.
(i) Heathfield Nursing Home, Uxbridge Villas, Uxbridge Road	3
(ii) "Heathlands," 262, High Street, Langley	6

HOME HELPS SERVICE.

The service was initiated during the war years when there was an acute shortage of domestic workers, and in the first place was run by the Slough Council of Social Services. Welfare Authorities had previously had power to provide help to mothers and young children, but the coming into force of Defence Regulation 68E extended the service to all in need of assistance.

On 1st May, 1945, responsibility for this service was taken over by the Slough Borough Council, at first excluding maternity cases, but by January 1946 Helps could be sent to maternity cases also by agreement with the County Council.

The type of cases dealt with are:—

- Maternity cases in accordance with arrangements made with the County Council.
- A housewife falling sick or having to go to hospital.
- Several members of a family being ill at the same time.
- Elderly people who are infirm or one of whom is ill.
- Any other case of domestic crisis where no assistance can be obtained.

The Help will undertake normal household duties including shopping and the care of children, but she is not asked to undertake sick nursing and is not sent to any home where there is a case of tuberculosis or infectious disease.

Whole or part-time women have been sought for this work and the remuneration offered is 10/- per week retaining fee, plus 1/6 per hour, plus travelling expenses to and between cases.

Great difficulty has been experienced throughout the year in obtaining suitable women, in spite of repeated advertisements and propaganda, and on account of this the service has been unable to function from time to time.

At the end of 1946 steps were being taken to reorganise the service with increased effort and for the employment of a full-time Lady Organiser.

Home Helps Scheme.

1.	Number of Helps—	at 1.1.46.	at 31.12.46.
	(a) Full time	Nil	Nil
	(b) Part time	2	Nil
2.	Number of Applications received during year—		
	(a) Maternity	9	
	(b) Sickness	24	
3.	Number of cases met during year—		
	(a) Maternity	9	
	(b) Sickness	30	
4.	Average duration of Service given—		
	(a) Maternity	15 hours	
	(b) Sickness	34 hours	
5.	Total amount recovered for Services	£86	7s. 2d.
6.	Total remuneration of Helps	£162	6s. 4d.
7.	Total cost of running scheme (wages, advertising, etc.) less amount recovered	£87	10s. 3d.

Water Supply.

The greater part of the district obtains water from the Slough Public Supply, which comes from deep wells at Datchet. Burnham and Cippenham at the western end of the Borough are supplied by the Burnham Water Company, which has wells on the north side of Burnham, whence water is raised from the chalk.

A local supply from deep wells is available for the Trading Estate and a few residents immediately adjacent thereto.

The supplies are all of extreme degree of purity and excellence, but apart from the Trading Estate supply the waters must be classified as "Very Hard."

At Datchet water is drawn from two deep boreholes in a meadow south of Pocock's Lane. The boreholes have diameters of 36 inches and 30 inches, and a total depth of about 225 feet,

the lower 165 feet being in chalk from which strata the water is drawn. The strata above the chalk consists of ballast and clay in layers. The borings are lined with steel tubes through the ballast and clay and well into the chalk to prevent any possible contamination by surface water.

All water from this source is chlorinated prior to distribution, but the contact period subsequent to chlorination is very short. A concentration of 0.25 parts per million was maintained in the public supply throughout the year.

The pumping station is located at the boreholes and at present houses five booster pumps and one borehole pump. The mains from the Public Supply are connected to the distribution system, as are also the supply mains from the reservoirs, so that water can be supplied either direct from the pumps or from the reservoirs. The distributing mains are mainly of cast iron, ranging from 3" to 12" in diameter. There are two Service Reservoirs, that at Hedgerley having a capacity of $\frac{3}{4}$ -million gallons and with a top water level of 309 ft. O.D., and the one at Stoke Green a capacity of $1\frac{1}{4}$ -million gallons with a top water level of 165 ft. O.D. These reservoirs are used primarily as balancing reservoirs, as the general method of supply during the day is pumping direct to the distribution system.

The Council, during the War, constructed the first length of a proposed 18 inch ring pumping main and it is proposed, as soon as possible, to extend this main and also to construct a new pumping station with additional plant.

The Trading Estate. The water here is derived from the lower greensand by three boreholes which are lined to a depth of approximately 1,100 ft. into the sandstone. No better or purer supply from the hygienic standpoint could possibly be obtained in this country, since the depth from which the water is procured and the distance from the wells of the greensand outcrop ensures the most perfect filtration and excludes the possibility of pollution as far as is humanly possible.

The Burnham Water Company. Here the water is supplied from deep wells, the main source being from chalk underlying the Reading Beds which consist of gravel, clay, loam and sand some 70 feet thick, from a surface level of 180 feet above sea level. The standing water level varies according to the time of year, but it may be taken to average 120 feet below ground level, i.e., about 60 feet above sea level. Four boreholes varying from 300 feet to 500 feet are sunk into the chalk from which the water is extracted. These bores are all connected by headings to a central shaft 6 feet in diameter and 200 feet deep. The bores and shaft are all lined with steel tubes passing right through the Reading beds and down into the chalk, thus effectively excluding surface water and water from the Reading beds.

The following are the principal Works:—

- (i) **The Pumping Station.** Situated about 100 yards north of Gore Road near the middle of Burnham. The floor level is 180 feet above sea level.

- (ii) **Dropmore Reservoir.** A totally enclosed reinforced concrete structure with a capacity of about 1,700,000 gallons.
- (iii) **Littleworth Reservoir.** An old brick structure with a capacity of 220,000 gallons.
- (iv) **The Yew Tree Water Tower.** A reinforced concrete tower supporting a totally enclosed concrete tank with a capacity of 70,000 gallons.

The distributing system consists of cast iron pipes varying from 3 inches to 12 inches in diameter.

Bacteriological examinations of samples have been carried out as follows:—

- (i) **Slough Public Supply.** Monthly, at the Town Hall Laboratory, and every third month at the Counties Public Health Laboratories.
- (ii) **Burnham Waterworks Company.** Bi-monthly at the Town Hall Laboratory.
- (iii) **Slough Estates, Ltd. Supply.** Every six months at the Counties Public Health Laboratories.

Recent reports on samples from the above sources:—

No. of Bacteria per c.c.	Slough Public Supply	Burnham Waterworks Company	Slough Estates Ltd. Supply
On Agar in 1 day at 37°C.	6	—	0
On Agar in 2 days at 37°C.	14	0	0
On Agar in 3 days at 20°C.	30	—	0
Presumptive Coliform Reaction.	Abs't in 100ml.	Abs't in 100ml.	Abs't in 100ml.
Bact. Coli.	Abs't in 100ml.	Abs't in 100ml.	Abs't in 100ml.
Bacillus Welchii.	Abs't in 100ml.	Abs't in 100ml.	Abs't in 100ml.

The above samples of water are of a high degree of bacterial purity.

Chemical analysis of a sample from the Slough Estates Ltd. Supply was as follows:—

	Parts per million.
Appearance	Opalescence with slight deposit of siliceous debris (sand particles).
Turbidity (Silica Scale)	9
Colour (Hazen)	Nil.
Odour	Nil.
Reaction pH	On the alkaline side of neutrality: 7.9.
Free Carbon Dioxide	4
Electric Conductivity at 20°C	550
Total Solids, dried at 180°C	340
Chlorine in Chlorides	40
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	220
Hardness	Total 65. Carbonate (Temporary) 65. Non-carbonate (Permanent) 0.
Nitrogen in Nitrates	0.0
Nitrogen in Nitrites	Less than 0.01.
Free Ammonia	0.18
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs at 27°C	0.20
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.000
Free Chlorine Reaction	—
Metals	Iron 0.35; other metals absent.

The above sample of water is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are three swimming pools in the area, two of which are in use.

(1) The Baylis House Pool. Here the water is purified by continuous filtration and chlorination by means of a Ricks, Sutcliffe and Bowden "Superwash" plant. The pool lacks a proper concrete surround and for this reason is liable to get polluted by the feet of bathers.

(2) A covered pool at the Social Centre which was opened in 1937. The water is sterilised by a Paterson Filtration and Chlorination plant. Sun-ray equipment and heating is fitted for winter bathing and sun-bathing, and in Summer the whole of one side can be opened by means of folding doors giving access to a Lido for open air sun-bathing.

(3) The Montem Pleasure Ground pool was provided by the Council in 1934. There is a continuous flow of spring water

through the pool, and apparatus exists for the addition of chloramine to the water before it enters the pool.

This pool has not been in use for bathing during the year and is at present used only for boating.

The following are the laboratory reports on samples taken from the pools in use:—

	Baylis House.	Social Centre.
Presumptive Coli Test	Absent in 1: 50 c.cs. Absent in 5: 10 c.cs. out of 5. Absent in 5: 1 c.c. out of 5.	Absent in 1: 50 c.cs. Absent in 5: 10 c.cs. out of 5. Absent in 5: 1 c.c. out of 5.
Coliform Count	0 per 100 c.cs.	0 per 100 c.cs.

The above samples of water are bright and clear in appearance, and of a high degree of bacterial purity.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

New sewage disposal works at Cippenham were completed in the Year 1938 and although allowance was made at that time in their design for a normal increase in population based on building development of previous years plus a reasonable increase in trade waste from the Trading Estate, it was found in subsequent years that owing to the phenomenal increase in population and development of factories on the Trading Estate the volume of sewage reaching the works was greatly in excess of the amount with which they could deal. In addition, much of the present sewerage system is inadequate to deal with the load thrown on it and parts of sewers are defective and pumping station plant insufficient to deal with the flow of sewage. During the war years the position deteriorated as the necessary work could not be carried out and by the end of 1946 the condition of the whole system had become a matter of grave concern to the Health Department and the whole Council, and the position is not made easier by the fact that the Slough Corporation is under obligation by agreement with the Eton Rural District Council to accept and deal with drainage flow from portions of the surrounding parishes of Burnham, Farnham Royal, Stoke Poges and Langley.

Description of Sewage System.

In addition to the Cippenham Sewage works mentioned above, there is a small works at Langley constructed in 1921. The filter media at the Langley works is almost completely disintegrated and the distributors worn out, with the result that the works would require considerable reconstruction to be satisfactory.

The outfalls from the densely-populated area in the centre of the district flow to Chalvey Pumping Station, there being three

main sewers flowing to this point. A further sewer outfalls at London Road Pumping Station, from which the flow passes through a rising main and gravitates to the disposal works at Langley, although a portion of the flow can be diverted to Cippenham. The sewer draining the Langley area outfalls at William IV cross-roads and thence to the Langley sewage works. The extreme west end of the borough is drained to an outfall at Cippenham Green, where there is a small pumping station which raises the flow to Cippenham Disposal works. The drainage from the Slough Trading Estate and the thickly-developed residential area immediately east and north-east of the Estate outfalls through a twin sewer to the Cippenham works.

The Chalvey Pumping Station contains two sets of steam-driven plunger pumps and in addition a diesel-driven centrifugal plant.

The London Road station houses three vertical spindle electrically-driven pumps, and the Cippenham Green station also has two pumps of this type.

Deficiencies of Present System.

A number of sewers are overloaded and under normal dry weather conditions surcharge during the peak periods of the day and in times of storm overflow occurs from manholes. In some parts the sewers are very old, have been constructed of stoneware and appear to have been laid with clay joints only. These are much obstructed by tree roots and are liable to serious infiltration during the winter months.

It is believed that the Upton Park sewer was originally laid as a relief sewer to the Albert Street sewer, but it has never been possible to use it in this way owing to overflow from manholes and flooding of private property through house connections. This cannot be remedied with the present pumping capacity.

The gravity sewer draining Langley area is in very defective condition, the joints admitting large volumes of subsoil water during wet periods. In addition, it has no reserve to deal with development which is likely to take place.

The twin sewer which drains Slough Trading Estate is at present working to capacity and has no reserve.

The capacity of the main Pumping Station at Chalvey is limited by the size of pumps and the rising main, and on this account it is not possible to operate the diesel and steam pumps together. This results in a high water level in the storage tanks during storm period, causing widespread surcharging of incoming sewers.

At London Road Pumping Station there is again limitation of capacity by the size of the rising main and no reserve to meet exceptional storm or breakdown of plant; while the position is approximately the same at Cippenham Green Station.

The rising mains from Chalvey to the Works require replacement on account of age and defects, as well as on the grounds of lack of capacity.

The treatment plant at Cippenham has been overloaded ever since being brought into use. It has a nominal treatment capacity of approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons per day, whereas the present dry weather flow to this works is in the order of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons per day. Very considerable difficulties have been encountered in trying to maintain anything like efficient treatment during the year, and unless additional treatment capacity is provided at an early date the Works will suffer, while there is, of course, the constant danger of inefficient purification and the discharge of injurious effluent.

The necessary land is available at the Cippenham works for the construction of additional plant sufficient to meet the need of the population.

With the construction of new houses and the still increasing population of the Borough, it is a matter of extreme urgency from the health standpoint that all the necessary work on sewerage and sewage treatment should be carried out without delay. The Council had by the end of December, 1946, already submitted to the Ministry of Health a comprehensive scheme for the reconstruction of the main sewers, pumping stations and extension of the Cippenham Works.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

SECTION A.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Table No. 1.

General Summary.

Total Inspections	18,847
Complaints received	1,011
Preliminary Notices Served	1,116
Secondary Notices Served	188
Statutory Notices Served	50
Letters Received	4,124
Letters Despatched	1,921
Interviews with Property Owners, Agents and Builders	1,902

Table No. 2.

Inspection Work Performed by the Sanitary Inspectors.

General Sanitary Work	9,841
Infectious Diseases Investigation	167
Rat Infestation	1,130
Housing	2,422
Shops Acts	1,172
Factories, Workplaces, Outworkers' Premises	641
Inspection of Meat and other Foods, and Premises at which food is prepared, stored and sold	3,232
Cowsheds and Dairies	242

Table No. 3.

Sanitary Improvements Effected.

Dwelling-houses (rendered habitable)	903
Drainage (Reconstruction, Repair & Cleansing)	486
Portable Dustbins Provided	324
Cowsheds and Dairies	3
Premises used for the preparation of food	6
Factories and Workplaces	36
Slaughterhouses	2
Offensive Trades	1
Shops	20

Housing.

During the year 412 complaints of insanitary conditions and defective structural conditions of dwelling-houses were received; 1,701 inspections and re-inspections were made, resulting in defects being remedied at 903 houses. Owing to the lack of repairs executed during the war years, there has been a tendency for the older type of property to deteriorate, but with labour becoming available in this district much essential repair work was executed in 1946. In the case of a number of unfit houses which normally would have qualified for demolition, owners are requested to carry out first-aid repairs only, for the purpose of remedying defects of an urgent character.

The housing shortage and consequent overcrowding problem is marked by the receipt of frequent complaints and requests for support of applications for Council houses. Complaints of

overcrowding numbered 37, and 129 investigations of overcrowding were made. Several enquiries from other Councils as to the housing conditions of applicants who were residing in this Borough and had applied for accommodation in those districts were dealt with.

Verminous Disinfestation.

Thirty-one complaints of verminous infestation of dwelling-houses were received and 250 inspections were made. Disinfestation was carried out by the Department at 70 premises, viz., 4 council houses and 66 privately-owned houses.

House Drainage and Sanitation.

A total of 861 inspections were made in supervising the execution of improvements and reconstruction work in connection with the drainage system of dwelling-houses and other buildings. The drains of 35 premises were found to be defective and were reconstructed and, in addition, many minor amendments of drainage systems were effected and 166 obstructed drains were cleansed. Eighty-four drains and soil pipes were tested by hydraulic or smoke tests.

Considerable attention was given to the cesspools of premises on the outskirts of the Borough and in particular to those situated at Laurel Avenue, Downs Road, Sutton Lane, Faircroft and Chalvey Grove. These cesspools should be abolished at the earliest possible time.

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement.

Following complaints of nuisances arising from the emission of smoke and grit, twelve observations of chimneys and industrial-steam raising plant, etc., were made and subsequent interviews with works managers and engineers, and investigations into the cause of the emissions, revealed that in most instances the nuisances resulted from the consuming of unsuitable fuels of poor quality which were in fact the only fuels available, and this was particularly the case in nuisances arising from grit emission. In all cases, advice was given as to methods of stoking and management of plant for the prevention of nuisances and the conditions complained of were ultimately ameliorated.

A complaint of obnoxious fumes from an industrial plant was investigated and the matter is still under observation.

As there is no atmospheric pollution gauge in the Borough, comparative statistics as to the extent of atmospheric pollution are not available, but the smoke of domestic fuel burning appliances would appear to be a greater contributor to atmospheric pollution than industrial smoke.

Offensive Trades.

Twenty-one inspections were made in connection with the control of the following "offensive trades" established within the Borough under annual consent of the Borough Council.

Soap Boiler	2
Rag and Bone Dealer	1

Applications for renewal of consent were received during the year and were granted except in the case of a soap boiler who had temporarily ceased to operate. No complaints of nuisances arising from these trades have been made.

Moveable Dwellings.

One application for a licence to use land as a camping site for five caravans and four applications for licences to station individual caravans within the Borough were considered by the Health and Sanitation Committee and were granted for a period of twelve months. Two applications for licences to station caravans were refused.

Two hundred and thirty-six inspections were made in respect of camping sites and moveable dwellings situated in various parts of the Borough. In some instances, camping upon unsuitable sites and without the requisite licence of the Corporation ceased on informal action being taken.

Squatters.

During August, 1946, in common with similar movements in various parts of the country, a number of vacated military camps and other privately-owned premises within the Borough were invaded and occupied by families living under bad conditions and in need of alternative accommodation.

Immediate steps were taken by your officers to secure the provision of water supplies and sanitary accommodation and to prevent nuisance arising. Nine camps, etc., were occupied by 87 families consisting of 264 persons. Four military camps were taken over by the Corporation at the request of the Ministry of Health and certain works of improvement were executed. Frequent inspection is made of all squatters camps but, although they provide shelter, having regard to the minimum recognised housing standards, the conditions are extremely poor.

SECTION B.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

Milk and Dairies.

There are 21 persons registered as wholesale purveyors and producers of milk and 17 persons as retail purveyors. Two milk producers discontinued during the year.

Nine licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1946, viz.:—

Pasteurisers' licences	2
Tuberculin tested bottling licences	1
Tuberculin tested Dealer's licences	4
Supplementary licences	2

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

283 samples of milk were procured for examination at the Town Hall laboratory, of which 9.9% were unsatisfactory as compared with 20% in 1945, and of designated milks 3.8% were unsatisfactory as compared with 4% in 1945. Investigations

followed all samples which gave unsatisfactory results. The following tables summarizes the results:—

Table No. 4.

Samples	Results
59 - Pasteurised milk	59 complied with prescribed conditions
3 - Tuberculin tested (Pasteurised) milk	3 " " " "
5 - Tuberculin tested milk	5 " " " "
12 - Accredited milk	9 " " " "
99 - Heat-treated milk	90 were satisfactory
105 - Non-designated milk	89 " "

Heat Treatment of Milk.

Although the Borough is not an area specified under Defence Regulation 55G relating to the restriction on the sale of Raw Milk, at the request of the Ministry of Food, and since the Council became a Food and Drugs Authority in April, 1946, samples of milk have been regularly procured from the three approved heat-treatment plants within the Borough and monthly returns forwarded to the Ministry. Fifty samples of heat-treated milk were tested, one sample giving an unsatisfactory result.

Biological Testing of Milk.

During the year, 12 samples of milk were submitted to the National Institute for Research in Dairying at Reading for biological testing for the presence of tubercle bacilli. All samples gave negative results.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream.

There are 56 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream; 120 inspections were made, the premises being found generally to be in a satisfactory condition. Briefly summarised, the premises are used as follows:—

Large manufacturers	3
Small manufacturers (i.e., only for sale on the same premises)	8
Premises at which ice-cream is sold, but not manufactured:—	
(a) Prepacked by the manufacturer	36
(b) Not pre-packed	9

In addition to the above registered premises, ice-cream is also sold in Slough by a number of itinerant vendors whose premises are outside the Borough.

During the year, 19 samples of ice-cream were procured for bacteriological examination at the Town Hall Laboratory.

Manufacture and Sale of Preserved Food.

There are 51 premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food, including 17 fish friers premises. All premises were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition, 334 inspections being made.

Bakehouses.

Number on register	16
Inspections	41
Notices served in respect of contraventions	6

Itinerant Vendors of Food.

In pursuance of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Borough Council passed a resolution requiring that from 1st May, 1946, every dealer in any kind of food (except milk) who in any street or other place of public resort, sells or offers or exposes for sale any such food from a stall, cart, barrow, etc., to have his name and address legibly and conspicuously displayed. 74 inspections were made and the above requirements were found to be reasonably well complied with.

Food and Drugs Sampling.

The Borough Council by direction of the Minister of Health became a Food and Drugs Authority on the 1st April, 1946. During the nine months from that date, 230 samples of foods and drugs were procured for analysis, the proportion of samples per 1,000 of the population being 3.7. Of these samples, 127 were submitted to the Public Analyst and the remainder, 103 milk samples, were tested by your Sampling Officers. The articles sampled are summarized in Table No. 5. The Public Analyst reported adversely upon 17 samples, or 7.4% of the total samples procured. Administrative action taken in connection with unsatisfactory samples is given in Table No. 6.

The average quality of the milk samples examined was Fat 3.67% and Solids-not-fat 8.78%. The minimum standard prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, is Fat 3%, Solids-not-fat 8.5%.

Reciprocal arrangements have been made with the County Councils of Bucks., Berks., Oxon. and Middx. whereby sampling officers of the Borough Council may procure samples of milks within the Food and Drugs areas of these Authorities as occasion may arise and vice-versa. Advantage was taken of this arrangement during the year.

Following several instances, particularly among the smaller retailers, of foods having been kept in stock so as to deteriorate in quality, and of vendors being unable to establish the identity of the suppliers of foods sold by them, a letter of warning was addressed by the Chief Sanitary Inspector to all retailers of food within the Borough.

It is the duty of the Food and Drugs Authority to register factories used in connection with the manufacture of butter, margarine, etc., and of premises used for carrying on the business of wholesale dealer in margarine, etc. Five premises have been registered for these purposes.

Preservatives and Colouring Matters in Food.

Forty-one samples of foods were examined by the Public Analyst and found to be free of excessive permitted preservatives and of prohibited preservatives and colouring matters in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1940. The foods examined were Milk 7, Butter 8, Margarine 1, Jam 4, Sausages 1, Vinegar 6, Savouree 2, Gelatin 2, Soft Drinks 6, Fruit Cocktail 1, Table Jelly 1 and Turkish Delight 2.

Food Standards.

Samples not complying with standards prescribed by Ministry of Food Orders were Sausages 1, Egg Substitute Powder 2, Baking Powder 2, Ginger Beer 1 (see Table No. 6).

Labelling of Food.

No offences under the Labelling of Food (No. 2) Order, 1944 were detected.

Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941.

No offences were detected.

Merchandise Marks Act, 1926.

No action was found necessary.

Table No. 5.

Summary of Food & Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.				
	Samples Procured		Samples Adulterated	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
FOODS :				
Arrowroot	1			
Baking Powder	6	1	1	1
Bun Powder	1			
Bun Flour Mixture	1			
Butter	8			
British Wine Vinegar	1		1	
Cinnamon	1			
Curry Powder	2			
Cake Mixture	1			
Cream of Tartar	1			
Custard Powder	1			
Crystal Quench Orange Drink	1			
Cocoa	1			
Chocolate Pudding Mixture	1			
Choco-Malt	1			
Coffee	2			
Chocolate Flavour Spread Powder	1			
Custard Powder	1			
Egg Substitute Powder	3		3	
Egg Savouree	1			
Fruit Cocktail	1			
Golden Raising Powder	4			
Ginger Beer	2		1	
Gelatin	2	1		
Ground Ginger	2			
Gravy Thick	1			
Jam	4			
Lard	3		1	
Lemonade Powder	1			
Lemonade Crystals	1			
Lemonade	1			
Lime Juice Cordial	1			
Lemon-flavoured Cordial	1			
Lemon-flavoured Essence	1			
Margarine	1			
Mustard	2			
Milk	7		1	
Milk (Appeal to Cows)	3			
Malted Chocolate	1			
Malted Milk Tablets	1			
Orange Squash	1			
Orange Marmalade	1			
Pepper	5			
Saccharine	1			
Savoury	1			
Shredded Beef Suet	1			
Sausages (Pork)	1		1	
Self-raising flour	2			
Semolina	1			
Table Jelly	1			
Turkish Delight	2			
Vinegar	5		2	
Vinegar - Malt	7		1	
Vinegar - Non-brewed	7		2	
Vironita	1			

Table No. 5—continued.

Summary of Food & Drugs Samples Submitted to the Public Analyst.									
						Samples Procured		Samples Adulterated	
						Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
DRUGS :									
Aspirin						1			
Boracic Ointment							2		
Blue							1		
Camphorated Oil						1			
Mercury Ointment							1		
Sulphur							1		
Spirits of Turpentine						1			
Tincture of Iodine						2	1	1	1
Zinc Ointment							1		
TOTALS						118	9	15	2

In addition to the above samples, 67 formal and 36 informal samples of Milk were tested by the Sampling Officers; 16 samples were found to be substandard.

Table No. 6.

Food and Drugs Samples Reported Not to be Genuine.			
Sample No.	Article	Adulteration	Action taken
2 (formal)	Pork Sausages.	Deficient in meat 50%.	Summary proceedings instituted by Ministry of Food. Vendors & Manager convicted and fined £70 & £12 respectively with 5 gns. costs.
16 (informal)	Tincture of Iodine, BP.	Deficient in iodine, 14.3%.	Formal sample No. 42 taken.
42 (formal)	- ditto -	Deficient in iodine 10.2% also large excess of potassium iodide.	Vendor cautioned.
18 (formal)	Egg Substitute Powder.	Wrong description.	Old stock-vendor cautioned.
37 (formal)	- ditto -	- ditto -	- ditto -
38 (formal)	- ditto -	- ditto -	- ditto -
35 (formal)	British Wine Vinegar.	False description.	Consent to summary proceedings withheld by Ministry of Food, proceedings having already been instituted in respect of the same consignment by another L.A.

Table No. 6—continued.

Food and Drugs Samples Reported Not to be Genuine.			
Sample No.	Article	Adulteration	Action taken
115 (formal)	Baking Powder.	27.5% deficient in available CO ₂ .	Old stock-vendor cautioned.
133 (formal)	Wood Vinegar.	28.5% deficient in acetic acid.	Summary proceedings instituted. Vendor convicted & fined £5 with 6 gns. costs.
144 (informal)	Baking Powder.	28.1% deficient in available CO ₂ .	Old stock-vendor cautioned.
149 (formal)	Vinegar.	Artificial vinegar.	Vendor cautioned.
150 (formal)	Ginger Beer.	Not in compliance with S.D.I. requirements.	Further sample No. 165—satisfactory. S.D.I. consulted.
154 (formal)	Vinegar.	Artificial vinegar—33.2% deficient in acetic acid.	Summary proceedings instituted—Vendor convicted & fined £4 with 1 gns. costs.
163 (formal)	Non-brewed Vinegar.	30.5% deficient in acetic acid.	Summary proceedings instituted—Vendor convicted & fined £5 with 6 gns. costs.
168 (formal)	Lard.	False description—was cooking fat.	Having regard to the circumstances of the case, no action was taken.
178 (formal)	Malt Vinegar.	Artificial vinegar—21.7% deficient in acetic acid.	Summary proceedings instituted. Vendor convicted & fined £5 with £3.13.6d. costs.
211 (formal)	Milk.	Added water 12.8%.	Summary proceedings instituted. Producer convicted & fined £5 with 3 gns. costs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Ten licences authorising the holders to slaughter animals in slaughterhouses were granted during the year. The provisions of the Act relating to the slaughtering of animals have been well observed.

Meat & Food Inspection.

During the year, 10,429 animals were slaughtered at the two slaughterhouses within the Borough which have been requis-

tioned by the Ministry of Food in connection with the Government Scheme for the control of meat and livestock. The normal routine inspection of all carcasses and organs was made at the places of slaughter and for this purpose, 1,212 visits were made, resulting in the condemnation of $27\frac{1}{2}$ tons of meat as unfit for human consumption and in respect of which 315 condemnation certificates were issued. (Details are given in Tables 7 and 8).

The congested conditions under which slaughtering and the inspection of meat is carried out stresses the desirability of the erection of a Municipal Abattoir for the Borough as soon as possible.

In addition to the inspection of meat, 947 visits were made to foodshops, warehouses, and factories for the examination of foodstuffs other than meat, of which 13 tons were condemned as unfit for human consumption and in respect of which 737 certificates of condemnation were issued. (Details are given in Table 8.)

I would record appreciation of the full co-operation of the officials of the Ministry of Food and of the Meat and Food Traders with the Department. It was not found necessary to make any formal seizures of unsound food.

Table No. 7.

CARCASSES INSPECTED & CONDEMNED.					
No. of animals slaughtered & inspected	Cattle. Ex. Cows	Cows	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Calves
	2210	730	5332	651	1506
Disease Except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses con- demned	3	4	4	4	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	633	200	106	43	7
% of No. inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis	28.77 %	27.94 %	2.06 %	7.22 %	.73 %
Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcasses con- demned	8	29	—	3	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	232	341	—	17	6
% of No. inspected affected with tuber- culosis	10.86 %	50.68 %	—	3.07 %	.46 %

Table No. 8.

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT.						
	Tuberculosis			Other Diseases		
	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Carcases & parts of carcasses	197	0	7	41	0	17
Organs	184	1	5	126	0	9
TOTALS	381	1	12	167	0	26
TOTAL WEIGHT : 27 tons, 10 cwts., 66 lbs.						

Table No. 9.

WEIGHTS OF CANNED AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.					
Canned Foods	Preserves	Fish lbs.	Bacon	Imported Meat	Vegetables
5579	146	3502	286	969	—
Fruit	Cereals	Eggs	Cheese	Misc.	
400	53	108	255	19072	
TOTAL WEIGHT : 13 tons, 11 cwts., 18 lbs.					

Water Sampling.

A total of 14 water samples were taken and 37 inspections were made in connection with water supplies viz:—

Well Waters	6 samples.
Swimming Bath Waters	8 „

SECTION C.**FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, SHOPS, ETC.**

Factories & Workplaces.	Number on register	Number of inspections	Notices served
Factories with mechanical power	414	359	21
Factories without mechanical power	71	64	
Workplaces	—	45	

Improvements Effected at Factories.

Cleansing	16
Abatement of Overcrowding	3
Adequate means of ventilation provided	4
Sufficient sanitary accommodation provided	6
Other defects remedied	6

Outworkers.

Half yearly lists received from employers, returned 43 homeworkers, whose premises were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

Shop Acts 1912-1938.

Inspections re Sanitary Conditions	465
" " Hours of Closing, etc.	480
" " Employment of Young Persons	227
Notices served re Sanitary Conditions	17
" " Provision of Forms & Notices, etc.	28
" " Employment of Young Persons	2

Improvements Effected at Shops.

Provision of additional sanitary accommodation	1
Lighting or heating improved	2
Contraventions re hours of closing remedied	7
" " employment of young persons remedied	10

Places of Entertainment.

Nine inspections were made during the year.

SECTION D. MISCELLANEOUS.

Rodent Control.

The work of rat repression and destruction under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943, has made good progress. 155 notifications of rodent infestation were received and 1,130 investigations were made by the District Sanitary Inspectors in addition to 1,186 visits by the rodent operators. The appointment in July, 1946, of an additional operator has been fully justified, enabling the Department to deal more efficiently with the rat problem. There is no doubt that to be effective, measures for rodent control must be energetically pursued and continuous.

The Council adopted the scheme of the Ministry of Food for the disinfection of private dwellings on a basis of 60% Government grant and the abolition of charging to the occupiers the cost of such treatment at domestic premises has increased the effectiveness of the service.

Considerable treatment has been carried out in connection with rodent destruction at Corporation owned land and premises.

In the case of infestation at the premises of some of the larger industrial firms in the Borough, your officers have given the necessary instruction to enable selected employees of these firms to operate their own schemes for the eradication of rats, and the rat proofing of the premises, with satisfactory results.

Control of Civil Building.

The following is a brief summary of the work carried out by the Department during 1946 in connection with the licensing of building work, other than the erection of new houses, for which purpose the Chief Sanitary Inspector is appointed the Licensing Officer for the Borough Council.

Number of applications for Building Licenses received and investigated	1316
Number of applications for Building Licenses granted	1132
Number of applications for Building Licenses refused	77
Number of applications for Building Licenses referred to the Ministry of Works	78

In addition to the above, numerous applications for certificates of essential repair were dealt with, to enable materials to be acquired for essential building repair work.

Petroleum (Regulations) Acts, 1928-1936, and Petroleum (Carbide of Calcium) Order, 1929.

Licenses issued to store petroleum spirit	162
" " " " carbide of calcium	5

Summary Proceedings.

The only summary proceedings were in respect of Food and Drugs adulteration and are enumerated in Table No. 6.

Work carried out by the Corporation in Default of Property Owners. Public Health Act, 1936. Section 75.

Provision of 7 dustbins at Nos. 22, 24, 26, 43, 44, 55, and 63, Warwick Avenue, Slough.