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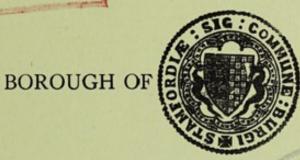
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STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Health of the Borough for the year

1954

BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS ADDED THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

Printed by Stamford Mercury Ltd.





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BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor G. W. Gray (Chairman)
The Mayor
Councillor E. S. S. Bowman, O.B.E., J.P.
Councillor Mrs. G. M. Boyfield, J.P.
Councillor J. W. L. Whincup
Councillor H. Skells
Councillor E. E. Betts
Councillor H. Smith

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Councillor P. Bullard (Chairman)
The Mayor
Alderman G. C. Swanson (Vice-Chairman)
Alderman W. J. Aughton
Councillor F. Boyfield
Councillor L. Large
Councillor Mrs. G. M. Boyfied, J.P.
Concillor L. J. Connor
Councillor A. W. P. Liddle

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officers of Health:

W. ANLEY HAWES, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. Lond. up to June 30th H. ELLIS SMITH, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H. from July 1st

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

L. J. ROLL, A.R. San. I., Cert. S.I.B.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

J. T. DALLIMORE, A.R. San. I., Cert. S.I.B. up to 19.6.54 W. A. BARKER, Cert. S.I.B. 27.9.54—20.11.54

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall, STAMFORD. June, 1955.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Stamford.

Councillor Mrs. Boyfield and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first annual report on the vital statistics, health and sanitary conditions of the Borough.

I took up duty in July, 1954, on the implementing of the decision to combine the appointments of Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Stamford, South Kesteven Rural District and Bourne Urban District, with that of Assistant County Medical Officer. This is an arrangement which allows of a close intergration and a marrying up of the clinical side of the work with the environmental to the mutual benefit of each.

The birth rate at 14.4 per thousand estimated population is insignificantly lower than the rate for England and Wales of 15.2. The death rate is 13.06 compared with the England and Wales figure of 11.3. It will be noticed that I am making use of the comparability factor to adjust for our disadvantage in age and sex distribution.

There were no epidemics of notifiable infectious disease during the year. The last case of diphtheria in the Borough occurred in 1945—a decade of immunity. To keep the next decade similarly free, full use should be made of the immunisation scheme so that the infants, toddlers and school children are fully protected and a high level of immunity is maintained at all times. We must allow no breaches in our defences.

Diseases of the cardio-vascular system register as the principal causes of death, followed by malignant growths. Deaths from carcinoma of the lung and bronchus were 7 compared with one in 1953 and two in 1952. Deaths from tuber-culosis were one less than last year.

There was one death as a result of a vehicle accident, whereas other accidents were the cause of 6 and the majority of these occurred in the home. This further underlines the

not universally appreciated fact that statistically the home is a more dangerous place than the road! This being so, every home should be subjected by its occupants to a critical review to see what pitfalls to safety it may be innocently harbouring—particularly for the extremes of life.

Seventy-two Traditional brick houses were built by the Local Authority during the year as against 82 in 1953 and 74 were under construction compared with 40 the previous year. Private enterprise contributed a further 16 compared with 26. This drop can be ill afforded. It is regrettable in this context that building costs show no downward trend, as this would be the greatest stimulus towards meeting the problem of rehousing those living in substandard properties. This is the greatest task lying ahead.

It is hoped that the new sewage works scheme will soon be started as it is a necessity.

Details of other aspects of the Health Department's work will be given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report, who incidentally had to cope single handed with the work of Ketton Rural District as well as the work of the Borough for about four months during the latter half of the year — No mean achievement.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Council and in particular, the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, for their great help and interest in all aspects of the work. I would also like to thank the Town Clerk and my other colleagues on the staff for their constant help and co-operation with a special acknowledgement to Mr. Roll and Miss Butler.

Finally, I wish to thank Dr. W. Anley Hawes for so kindly standing by for me when I have been away.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
H. ELLIS SMITH.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

STATISTICS

| Area | | | | 1918 acres |
|---------------------------|-----------|---------|-------|------------|
| Population (Census 1951) | | | | 10899 |
| Population (Registrar Gen | eral's es | timate | 1954) | 11300 |
| Rateable Value at 31.12.5 | 4 | | | £77890 |
| Product of penny rate | | | | £300 |
| Number of inhabited hous | ses from | rate bo | ok at | |
| 31.12.54 | | | | 3547 |

VITAL STATISTICS

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954

Note: Birth and Death Rates.

As the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas materially affects both the Birth and Death Rates of these areas, comparability factors allowing for this are issued by the Registrar General for each Local Government Unit. These factors may be used for calculating what are termed in this Report as "Nett" rates and fairer comparisons are obtained if the latter are used when comparing rates with those of any other area (when these have been similarly adjusted) or with the rates for the Country as a whole.

These factors for Births and Deaths in respect of Stamford re 1.03 and 0.82 respectively. The corresponding figure when multiplied by the Crude Rate (that is, for Births or Deaths as the case may be) will give the Nett Rate.

| | | | | M. | F. | Total |
|----------------------|---------|----------|-----------|--------|--------|------------|
| LIVE BIRTHS | | | | 74 | 84 | 158 |
| Legitimate | | | | 73 | 81 | 154 |
| Illegitimate | | | | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| CRUDE live birth | rate pe | r 1,000 | of esti | mated | popula | tion 13.98 |
| NET live birth ra | te per | 1,000 0 | of estin | mated | popula | tion 14.40 |
| Rate for England | and V | Vales | | | | 15.2 |
| | | | | M. | F. | Total |
| STILL BIRTHS | | | | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Legitimate | | | | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Illegitimate | | | | - | _ | _ |
| Still birth rate per | r 1,000 | live and | d still b | pirths | | 24.68 |
| Rate for England | and W | ales | , | | | 24.0 |

| DEATHS | | M. | F. | Total |
|--|---------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Number of Deaths | | 86 | 94 | 180 |
| CRUDE death rate per 1,000 NET death rate per 1,000 o Rate for England and Wales | f estim | nated | populat | |
| INFANTILE MORTALITY (i.e. of one year). | Deaths | of Inf | ants und | ler the age |
| Number of deaths | | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Legitimate | | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Illegitimate | | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Rate per 1,000 live births Rate for England and Wales | | | | 31.6 25.5 |

Four of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period, i.e. under four weeks of age.

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age :-

| Year | No of deaths under 1 year of age |
|------|----------------------------------|
| 1946 | 4 |
| 1947 | 6 |
| 1948 | 2 |
| 1949 | 4 |
| 1950 | 5 |
| 1951 | 3 |
| 1952 | 3 |
| 1953 | 4 |
| 1954 | 5 |

MATERNAL MORTALITY (i.e. Deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion).

NIL.

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, INJURIES and CAUSES OF DEATHS

| | | | Male | Female | Tota |
|---|-------|---|------|--------|------|
| Tuberculosis (Respiratory) | | | | 2 | 2 |
| uberculosis (Other forms) | | | | | |
| yphilitic Disease | | | _ | | - |
| Diphtheria | | | - | - | - |
| Whooping Cough | / | | - | - | - |
| 1eningococcal Infections | | | - | - | - |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | | | - | | - |
| 1easles | | | - | - | - |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases | | | - | - | |
| 1alignant Neoplasm of Stomach | | | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 1alignant Neoplasm of Lung, Bronchus | | | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| 1alignant Neoplasm of Breast | | | - | 5 | 5 |
| 1alignant Neoplasm of Uterus | | | - | 1 | -1 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms | | | 7 | 13 | 20 |
| .eukaemia, Aleukaemia | | | - | 1 | 1 |
| Diabetes | | | - 1 | - | 1 |
| /ascular Lesions of Nervious System | | | 8 | 15 | 23 |
| Coronary Disease, Angina | | | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other Heart Diseases | | | 9 | 11 | 20 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | | | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| nfluenza | | | | - | _ |
| neumonia | | | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| Bronchitis | | | 10 | 3 | 13 |
| Other Diseases Respiratory System | | | - | 1 | - 1 |
| JIcer of Stomach and Duodenum | | | - | - | |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | | | - | - | - |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | | | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Typerplasia of Prostate | | | 5 | | 5 |
| regnancy: Childbrith and Abortion | | | | | - |
| Congenital Malformation | | | - | 1 | - 1 |
| Other Defined and III-defined Diseases | | | 10 | 14 | 24 |
| 1otor Vehicle Accidents | | | - 1 | _ | 1 |
| All other Accidents | | | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| uicide | | | 1 | - | 1 |
| Homicide and Operations of War | | | 1 | | i |
| | - | - | | | |
| | Total | | 86 | 94 | 180 |
| | | - | | | , |

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

| | Under I Week | I—2 Weeks | 23 Weeks | 3—4 Weeks | Total under I Month | I—3 Months | 3—6 Months | 6—9 Months | 9—12 Months | Total under I Month |
|--|--------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Premature Birth, Malformation &c. Pneumonia and Bronchitis Enteritis and Diarrhoea Other Causes | - - | | | | 1 1 - 2 | | = = = | | = = = | 2 - 2 |
| Total | 2 | 1 | 1 | _ | 4 | 1 | _ | | _ | 5 |

FACTORY ACT, 1937 and 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1954

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

| | Number | | Number of | |
|---|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | Number - on Register | Inspec- tions | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections I, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 16 | 17 | _ | _ |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority | 79 | 44 | - | _ |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | _ | | _ | 3_73 |
| Total | 95 | 61 | _ | _ |

2. CASES ON WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

| | Number | Number of cases in | | | |
|--|--------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | Refe | which | |
| | Found | Remedied | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | prosecu- tions were instituted |
| Want of Cleanliness | _ | _ | _ | 2 | _ |
| Overcrowding Unreasonable tempera- | - | - | | - | - |
| ture | | - | - | | |
| Inadequate ventilation | - | | | | - |
| Ineffective drainage of | | - | | | |
| floors | | - | | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences: (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or de- | - | - | - | - | - |
| fective | | | 700 | 2 | |
| (c) Not separate for | | | | | |
| sexes | | _ | | | - |
| Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences re- | | | | | |
| lating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | | - | 1 | 4 | STATION. |

PART VIII.—OUTWORK

| Nature of work Wearing | in August LIST re- quired by Sec. 110 (1) | default sending lists to Council | for failure to supply lists | instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prose- cutions |
|------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| | No. of Out- workers | No. of Cases of | No. of Prosecu- tions | No. of | | |

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

NURSING IN THE HOME

Under the County Council Scheme the Borough has two District Midwives.

Residences:

2, Adelaide Street, Stamford. 15, Priory Road, Stamford.

HOME HELPS

Home Helps are provided for the town of Stamford and neighbouring villages in South Kesteven by the County Council with Headquarters at the Barn Hill Clinic, Stamford.

Application should be made to Barn Hill House, Stamford: Monday and Wednesday afternoons 2—5 p.m. Friday mornings 9.30—12.30 p.m.

HEALTH VISITOR

Under the County Council Scheme one full time Health Visitor is employed for work in the Borough.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service for the Borough is run by the St-John Ambulance Brigade under the County Council Scheme. There are three ambulances and one sitting case car. This service runs smoothly and efficiently.

GENERAL HOSPITALS

Acute and Maternity admissions to:
Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, under No.
12 Area Peterborough Hospital Management Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Chronic and Long Term illness to: St. George's Hospital, Stamford.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the Peterborough Management Committee.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY KESTEVEN COUNTY COUNCIL Child Welfare :

Weekly Clinic—Friday 2—4 p.m. Barn Hill House, Stamford.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Diphtheria Immunisation clinics are held at Barn Hill House, Stamford, the first Wednesday afternoon of each month 2—4 p·m.

Numbers immunised during the year :

Pre-school age—31 School age—28 Total—178 Reinforcing Dose—119

In addition 3 children living outside the Borough were immunised.

The staffing at the Barn Hill Immunisation Clinic has again been undertaken by members of the Lincs. 10 Detachment of the British Red Cross Society to whom I would like to express my sincere thanks.

School Clinic:

Barn Hill House, Stamford, providing Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Physiotherapy clinics.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Tuberculosis:

Weekly clinic—Tuesdays from 9 a.m. Stamford Hospital.

Under Dr. G. Bernard Royce, Consulting Chest Physician, Peterborough Group of Hospitals.

I would like to express my thanks for the co-operation I have received from the staff of the Chest Clinic. This has been of enormous benefit in the "follow-up" of patients and deciding upon an appropriate line of action from an environmental point of view.

Venereal Disease:

Clinics are held at the Out-Patient Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, under Dr. N. A. Ross.

Males: Mondays and Wednesdays 5.30—7 p.m. Females: Tuesdays 10.30—12 noon, 5.30—7 p.m.

Laboratory Facilities :

Bacteriological investigations are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, under Dr. D. H. Fulton.

This valuable service includes examination of milk and water samples and general bacterial investigations for both the General Practitioners and Public Health Service.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the Medical Practitioners in Stamford of their ready help and co-operaton with the work of the Health Department.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water:

The water supply of the Borough is provided by the Stamford Waterworks, owner The Marquess of Exeter, K.G., C.M.G. Piped supplies are obtained from the following sources:

Bone Mill (Well) Leicester Road (Springs) Whitewater (Springs) Wothorpe (Springs)

Situated in the Soke of Peterborough on the high ground South of Stamford.

Northfields (Bore) Ryhall Road (Bore)

Situated in the Borough.

The water is obtained from the water bearing strata in the Lincolnshire Limestone. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity during the year.

59 samples for bacteriological examination were taken, 32 being of raw water and 27 of chlorinated. Details of the bacteriological results are shown in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

No chemical analyses were made.

Sewage:

The sewage disposal works has served a generation but it is now becoming overloaded by the demands made upon it by an ever increasing dry weather flow, not to mention industrial effluents.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS THEREFROM

Notifications received during the year.

| | | | Total Cases Notified 1954 | Cases Admitted to Hospital | Total Deaths | Total Cases Notified 1953 |
|---------------------|-------|-------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | | | 32 | 9 | _ | 34 |
| Pneumonia | | | 18 | 8 | 7 | 29 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | | | 1 | - | | 1 |
| Dysentery | | | 2 | 1 | | -1 |
| Food Poisoning | | | 2 | - 4 | - | 1 |
| Erysipelas | | | 1 | - | | |
| Malaria | | | 1 | 1 | _ | - |
| Meningococcal Menir | gitis | | 1 | I | | - |
| Measles | | | 11 | / | - | 115 |
| Whooping Cough | | | 4 | | - | 70 |
| | | Total | 73 | 20 | 7 | 251 |

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The incidence of notifiable infectious disease was low throughout the year with scarlet fever topping the list with 32 cases (34 in 1953 and 10 in 1952). It was mild in type and sporadic. There were no cases of poliomyelitis or diphtheria.

Towards the end of the year there was an outbreak of influenza which reached epidemic proportions at one time. There were fortunately few complications. Influenza Virus type A was found.

TUBERCULOSIS

| | De | eaths d | uring 19 | 954 | New | Cases | during | 1954 |
|---------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-----|-----------|-------|------------------|------|
| | Pulmonary | | Non- Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non- Pulmonar | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | М. | F. | M. | F. |
| 5—15 years | _ | _ | - | | | _ | | |
| 15-25 | - | | | | _ | | | - 1 |
| 25-35 | | | _ | _ | 1 | * | | |
| 35-45 | 1 | 2 | | | 1 | 1 | | - |
| 4555 | | | - | | *3 | _ | | _ |
| 55-65 | - | _ | | | 1 | | | - 1 |
| Over 65 years | - | - | - | | - | - | - | - |
| Total | | 2 | | | 6 | 2 | _ | 2 |

* = 1 Male and 1 Female transfers.

23 new cases of tuberculosis were reported in 1953 (including 1 case of non-pulmonary)

There were eight new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis this year as compared with 22 in 1953 and eight in 1952, and there were two deaths from this cause. Over a period of years it is noticeable that the new techniques of medical treatment and surgical intervention in tuberculosis have greatly reduced the mortality but the incidence of the disease has not shown a corresponding fall. This is a challenge to preventive medicine.

HOUSING STATISTICS

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Statistics of new houses erected in the Borough during 1954 as supplied by the Housing Department.

| 1. | BUILT BY LOCAL AUTHORITY | : | | | |
|----|---|---------|----------|--------|-------|
| | Traditional Brick Houses | | | · | 72 |
| | Houses in course of erection at | end of | year | | 74 |
| 2. | BUILT BY PRIVATE ENTERPRI | SE : | | | |
| | Traditional Brick Houses | | | | 16 |
| De | Applicants for Council Houses partment at December, 1954: | as supp | olied by | the Ho | using |
| | Effective Housing List | | | | 187 |
| | Tied and Service Tenants | | | | 23 |
| | Old Person Dwelling Applicants | | | | 47 |
| | Miscellaneous Applicants | | | | 23 |
| | | | | | 280 |

The Housing Rent and Repairs Act of 1954 conferred additional powers to the Council in relation to unfit houses and to provide Exchequer Assistance for certain aspects of the work, modifying some of the restrictions of the 1949 Housing Act. It provided for Grants for the improvement and conversion of houses and it entitled house owners who bring their property into good general repair and keep it in that condition to obtain a repairs increase of rent.

It laid upon the Council the responsibility of preparing by 31st August, 1955, their proposals for slum clearance to be made effective within the following five years.

An extensive survey of sub-standard houses has already been carried out and the extent of the problem is being measured, with a view to formulating a scheme for dealing with it. It is essential that sufficient provision be made in future building programmes for the older people, whose needs are best met by small compact dwellings within easy reach of shops. Current plans for West Street and St. Leonard's Street are a step in the right direction. It also seems that the optimum time for re-housing the older couples is when they have brought up their families and these have left, rather than when they are septuagenarians and allergic to change.

For other houisng details see the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

This year was a notable one marking as it did the end of Ministry of Food control over slaughterhouses and meat distribution. The change-over was carried out without any hitches and reflected great credit on the goodwill of all concerned. Striking improvements have been effected at the Municipal Slaughterhouse during the year and it is a first-class premises. 100 per cent. meat inspection has been maintained.

The premises from which ice-cream is sold have been kept under supervision. It is regretted that there is no more reliable test than the Methylene Blue for ice cream samples.

It is most important, with statistics showing ever increasing numbers of cases of dysentery and food poisoning, that a high standard of personal hygiene be inculcated in all who handle food.

A larvae worm—porrocaecum, was identified in a portion of cooked fish during the year.

Full details of the work done will be given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

FOOD POISONING

The two cases of Food Poisoning notified occurred in twin sisters. The first was discovered at the Hospital Paedriatic Clinic and subsequent examinations revealed that the other twin was also excreting the organism.

Neither was seriously ill at any time, and in the case of the second child there were no clinical signs present whatsoever.

The organism was Salmonella Typhi Murium.

HEALTH EDUCATION

A major contribution to Health Education propaganda is made by your own staff in their day to day work, the Doctor at the clinic, the Sanitary Inspector in his daily contact with people, and of course, the Health Visitor on the staff of the County Medical Officer of Health.

It is their continuing efforts albeit unspectacular at the time, which will eventually reap it is hoped, the reward of increased positive health and the happiness which accompanies it.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

No action was necessary.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1954.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS

| Meat and Foods | | | | 366 |
|---------------------|--------|------|-------|-----|
| Housing and Overcr | owding | | | 190 |
| Milk and Dairies | | | | 17 |
| Infectious Diseases | | | | 98 |
| Shops and Factories | | | | 61 |
| Water Supplies | | | | 63 |
| Miscellaneous | | | | 92 |
| | | | Total | 007 |
| | | | Total | 001 |

NOTICES SERVED

| | Issued | Complied with |
|-----------|--------|---------------|
| Informal | 12 | 10 |
| Statutory | 11 | 11 |

MEAT INSPECTION

Beyond doubt the outstanding event of the year was the end of meat rationing at the beginning of July and the decision of the Council to operate a Municipal Abattoir. idea of a committee of butchers operating in the requisitioned slaughter-house had been vetoed by the Ministry of Works, I was asked to present a comprehensive report for a scheme for Council operation of the Government slaughter-house and for taking over the lease. With less than a month before the day for taking over available, a small sub-committee of the Health Committee was appointed with full executive powers to get a scheme operating and I would like to express my gratitude to this sub-committee for the speed, energy and boldness of The scheme adopted was for a system of their decisions. slaughtering by contract, both tolls and contractors' charges being on a per head of stock basis. Overall responsibility for the premises and their operation was committed to the Department and a slaughter-house manager appointed with responsibility for receipt of livestock, disposal of meat and the labelling of all material and keeping of records of tolls and charges. The contractor's duties lay in providing labour for the slaughter of the stock, feeding and watering stock and generally keeping the premises clean.

The departure of my temporary assistant, Mr. Dallimore, a fortnight before the appointed day did not help matters and

although efforts were made to secure the return of Mr. Burt from National Service, these were unsuccessful and apart from the 7 weeks of Mr. Barker's stay in this Department I was completely without assistance for the remainder of the year. 100 per cent. meat inspection was maintained with great difficulty but work in some other directions inevitably suffered, notably in the amount of milk sampling, water sampling and to some degree in general supervision of other food premises.

Nevertheless the slaughtering scheme duly began on the appointed day and thanks in no small measure to the help of Mr. F. H. Gilman, of Messrs. H. Nelson, Ltd., the contractors, has gone forward smoothly and without a major hitch of any kind. It was, of course realised that the premises would be inadequate and a scheme for reconstruction embracing the erection of a new slaughter-hall, new mess quarters and conversion of the old slaughter-hall into a hanging room was put in hand and brought into operation early in 1955. Future improvements envisaged include the provision of a gut-cleaning room and of overhead weighing facilities. Negotiations for the purchase of the premises were in progress at the end of the year.

By insisting that all animal slaughter should be sponsored by a butcher, the undesirable pseudo-casualty has been eliminated and I have kept separate records for the two halves of the year showing a most striking reduction in the amount of condemnations and incidentally constituting a tribute to the local meat trade for the quality of stock they have purchased.

Quite apart from the intangible benefits of improvement in the hygienic methods of slaughtering, it would appear from figures available at the time of compilation of this report that in its Abattoir the Council has added an efficient and profitable unit to its undertakings.

In addition to the English meat condemned and shown in the following tables, 7 part hindquarters and 1 part crop of imported beef were condemned. The number of animals slaughtered rose from 3,777 in the first half of the year to 4,953 in the second, making a total of 8,730 while the meat condemned fell from 14,961 lbs. to 8,594 lbs. for the same periods, a total of 23,555 lbs., an average of less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of meat and offal condemned per animal examined since June as compared with a figure of approximately $6\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. last year.

In the following Table. Period A refers to January-June inclusive, Period B refers to July to December inclusive and Period C relates to the whole of the year 1954.

TABLE 1.

| | Per- iod | CAT exclg. Cows | Cows | CALVES | SHEEP | PIGS |
|---|-------------|---|--|--|---|--|
| No. of Animals Inspected | A B C | 481 786 1267 | 77 17 94 | 29 7 36 | 2490 2189 4679 | 700 1954 2654 |
| TUBERCULOSIS ONLY. No. of whole carcases and offals condemned No. of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Percentage of carcases affected with T.B | ABCABCABC | 3 3 57 68 125 12.4% 8.6% 10.1% | 1 12 1 13 15.7% 11.7% | | | 1 45 91 106 6.5% 4.6% 5.1% |
| DISEASES OTHER THAN T.B. No. of whole carcases and offals condemned No. of carcases of which some part or organ was condemned Percentage of carcases with diseases other than T.B | ABUABUABU | 6 2 8 96 88 184 21.0% 11.1% 14.3% | 4 20 1 21 31.1% 5.1% 26.5% | 5 1 6 2 2 24.1% 14.2% 22.2% | 28 28 89 35 124 4.8% 1.1% 2.7% | 7 2 9 29 73 102 5.1% 3.8% 4.2% |

DETAILS OF CONDEMNED MEAT SHOWN IN TABLE 1 TABLE 2.

| Meat Condemned | | Beef | Mutton | Pork | Veal | |
|---------------------|------|------|--------|------|---------|---|
| Whole Carcases and | Offa | ls | 16 | 28 | 10 | 6 |
| Heads | | | 41 | | 86 | |
| Tongues | | | 41 | _ | 86 | |
| Pairs of Lungs | | | 77 | 51 | 60 | |
| Livers | | | 147 | 37 | 18 | - |
| Plucks (complete) | | | | 6 | 31 | - |
| Fats (Mesenteric) | | | 20 | _ | 48 | - |
| Spleens | | | 4 | | | _ |
| Hearts | | | 2 | 13 | 24 | - |
| Kidneys | | | 9 | | 3 | |
| Udders | | | _ | | | |
| Tripes | | | _ | _ | _ | |
| Forequarters (whol | | | 7 | | _ | |
| Hindquarters (who | | | _ | | NOT THE | |
| Other parts of Card | | | 41 | 55 | 19 | 2 |

OTHER FOODSTUFFS

The following foodstuffs other than butchers' meat have also been condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

| MEAT PRODUCTS | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---------------|----------|
| Beef | 19 tins | Luncheon Meat | 18 tins |
| Chickens | 24 | Tongue | |
| Ham | 24 ,, | Veal | 3 ,, |
| | | Suet | 4 pkts. |
| FISH | | | |
| Crab | I tin | Pilchards | 5 tins |
| Haddock Fillets | 24 lbs. | Sardines | 2 ,, |
| Herrings | I tin | Salmon | 9 ,, |
| Kippers | I box | | |
| FRUIT AND PRESERVE | S | | |
| Apples | 5 tins | Mincemeat | l jar |
| Apricots | 12 ,, | Oranges | 2 tins |
| Apricots (dried) | 14 lbs. | Peaches | 20 ,, |
| Bilberries | I tin | Pears | 4 ,, |
| Blackberries | 1 ,, | Plums | 8 ,, |
| Cherries | 16 tins | Pineapple | 20 ,, |
| Fruit Salad | 5 ,, | Rhubarb | 1 ,, |
| Grape Fruit | 5 ,, | Strawberries | 2 ,, |
| Marmalade | 3 ,, | Tomatoes | 451 |
| VEGETABLES | | | |
| Beans | 21 tins | Peas | 34 tins |
| Carrots | 2 ,, | | |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | |
| Biscuits | 4 lbs. | Porridge Oats | 44 pkts. |
| Cheese | 58 ,, | Pickles | 8 jars |
| Cheese (processed) | 14 boxes | Soup | 4 tins |
| Cream | 7 tins | Sweets | 42 lbs. |
| Cake Mixture | I pkt. | Vinegar | I bottle |
| Milk (Evap. & Condensed) | | | 1 50000 |
| | and the same of th | | |

ICE CREAM

There were 3 additions to the registered premises where ice cream is sold, making a total of 48 such premises. All the additions were for the sale of the prepacked article.

MILK AND DAIRIES

There were no alterations to the Register of Distributors during the year. Two changes of occupation of Registered Premises resulted in the closing of 1 dairy and the re-opening of a shop where milk is sold. In addition to the shop there were 10 distributors and 6 registered dairies in operation at the end of the year.

The staff situation again severely hampered the work of sampling, but there is now very little undesignated milk being sold in the town. Of 6 samples of undesignated milk taken,

4 were classified Category A, 1 Category B and 1 Category C. Of 6 samples of designated milks, 3 of Pasteurised, 1 Sterilised and 1 T.T., all passed the prescribed tests. I sample of T.T. milk failed to pass the Methylene Blue test.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, dealer's licences issued comprised 7 for the sale of Pasteurised Milk, 7 for T.T. Milk and 2 for Sterilised Milk. 1 supplementary licence for the sale of T.T. Milk and 1 for Pasteurised Milk were also issued.

WATER SUPPLIES

The result of samples of water taken from the various sources supplying the Borough and submitted for bacteriological examination are summarised below:—

| Type of Water | No. of Samples | Satisfactory | Suspicious | Unsatisfactory |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|------------|----------------|
| Chlorinated | 27 | 27 | _ | |
| Unchlorinated | 32 | 13 | 4 | 15 |

PRESERVED FOOD, ETC. SEC. 14 FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

The number of premises registered under the above Act remains unchanged at 42.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

No licences were issued under the above Act during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

15 applications for Licences to station moveable dwellings on various sites were received and approved. During the year the Council agreed to increase the number of sites available for caravans from 6 to 12 and the necessary sanitary accommodation was provided.

HOUSING INSPECTION

| No. of Visits | | 190 |
|---------------------------------------|------|-----|
| No. of Houses inspected | | 126 |
| No. of Houses, inspected and recorded | | 63 |
| No. of visits made for the purpose | | 127 |

| 24 |
|-----|
| 42 |
| |
| 8 |
| |
| 11 |
| |
| 1 |
| |
| 10 |
| |
| 2 |
| 18 |
| Nil |
| Nil |
| |
| 2 |
| Nil |
| |

Rather better progress has been made during the year towards improvement of housing conditions. The Tenter Lane Clearance Area was confirmed and the 8 houses (together with 1 which was the subject of a separate Demolition Order) vacated. Substantial progress was also made towards closing one side of Lumby's Terrace by the Closing Order procedure. It would appear that before much headway can be made with further Clearance Areas, provision must be made for a larger proportion of Old Peoples' Dwellings and small houses for childless families as these areas are known to contain a high proportion of such families.

Recent legislation has resulted in new duties and thus 5 reports supporting the making of improvement grants after inspection of the premises and also 3 Certificates of Disrepair were issued towards the end of the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Enquiries were carried out in respect of 32 cases of Scarlet Fever notified in the Borough and appropriate measures of disinfection were carried out in all cases. Disinfection was also carried out in respect of 10 cases of Tuberculosis following the removal of the patients from the premises.

Once again no case of infestation by bugs was discovered during the year.

RAG FLOCK ACT 1951

There were no additions to the register of premises under the above Act during the year, the existing single registration remaining in force.

L. J. ROLL,

June, 1955

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



