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Contributors

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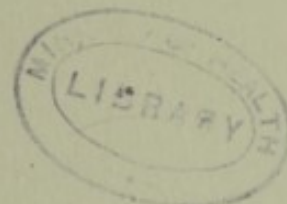


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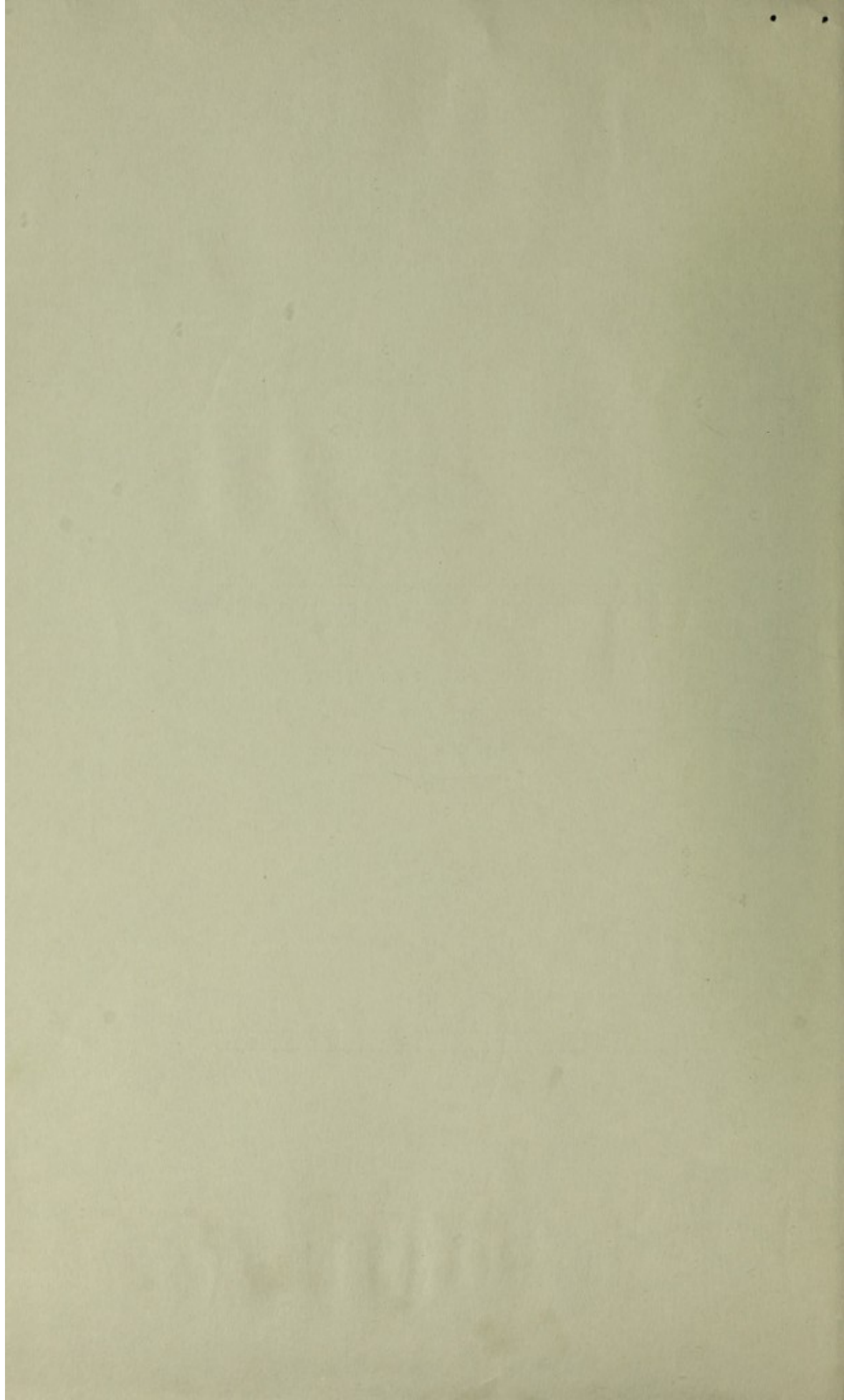
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SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE
YEAR
1954



SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor A. Buttler, J.P. (Chairman of the Council.)
Councillor E. W. Elmore (Chairman of the Committee)
Councillor S. S. Williams
Councillor H. A. Brewin
Councillor F. Costick
Councillor L. Kidd
Councillor D. G. Parr

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John W. Scholey, M.B., Ch.B.

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER.

T. E. Dagwell, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and
Other Foods.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as
applied to Buildings and Public Works.

HOUSING OFFICER'S ASSISTANT

H. G. Battram.

PUPIL SANITARY INSPECTOR

J. Foster

(From August 9th 1954)

The Surgery,
Northgate,
Sleaford.

31st December, 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1954.

I am pleased to report that the birth rate and infant mortality rate compare favourably with the national average, but the death rate gives an adverse picture. There appears to be no definite cause for this, but it must be appreciated that when dealing with relatively small numbers, the percentage can vary quite out of proportion to the real position. The general health of the community has remained good, and there has been no major outbreak of infectious disease.

The response to immunisation against Diptheria has been fairly good, but there is still only a small percentage seeking vaccination against Smallpox. I am sure this would be very much greater if the seriousness of Smallpox was fully appreciated. When the public fully realise the serious consequences of an infection, they are generally very ready to co-operate in obtaining immunisation. I am certain this will prove to be the case if immunisation against Acute Polio-myelitis became available.

I am pleased to say that some progress was made towards the establishment of a hospital in Sleaford.

I wish to thank all members of the Health Department for their help and loyalty during the past year.

JOHN W. SCHOLEY.

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.	4,549.
Population - 1951 census.	7,282.
- Registrar General's Estimate, 30. 6. 54.	7,500.
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book.	2,397.
Number of new houses completed during the year.	56.
Rateable value as at 1st October 1954.	£53,985.
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£215.

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births.	Legitimate.	51	46	97
	Illegitimate.	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>9</u>
		54	52	106
Still Births.	Legitimate	-	1	1
	Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
		1	1	2

Birth Rates

	1953	1954
Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	16.38	14.13
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	16.22	14.13
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. (England and Wales.)	15.5	15.2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.	0.55	0.27

DEATHS

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Number of Deaths.	72	64	136
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	18.88	19.14	
Death Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 of the estimated population.	17.37	17.03	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population. (England and Wales.)	11.4	11.3	

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Number of Deaths - Legitimate.	1	1	2
- Illegitimate.	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	1	1	2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		<u>1953.</u>	<u>1954.</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 live births.		25.42	18.87
Death Rate per 1,000 live births. (England and Wales.)		<u>26.80</u>	<u>25.50</u>

<u>CAUSES OF DEATH.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Respiratory Tuberculosis.	2	1	3
Other Tuberculosis.	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease.	0	0	0
Diphtheria.	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections.	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis.	0	0	0
Measles.	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus.	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast.	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.	0	0	0
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	4	6	10
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	0	0	0
Diabetes.	0	2	2
Vascular lesions of the nervous system.	10	9	19
Coronary Disease, angina.	11	4	15
Hyper-tension with heart disease.	5	3	8
Other heart disease.	22	22	44
Other circulatory disease.	3	3	6
Influenza.	0	0	0
Pneumonia.	3	2	5
Bronchitis.	4	2	6
Other diseases of the respiratory system.	0	0	0
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum.	0	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea.	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	0	1
Hyper-plasia of prostate.	0	0	0
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion.	0	0	0
Congenital Malformations.	0	0	0
Other defined and ill defined diseases.	2	7	9
Motor vehicle accidents.	1	0	1
All other accidents.	1	0	1
Suicide.	0	0	0
Homicide and operations of war.	0	0	0
	<u>72</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>136</u>
TOTAL	72	64	136

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Infectious Disease Hospitals.

No infectious disease hospital is provided in the Urban District and arrangements are made as necessary for cases requiring hospital treatment to be admitted into hospitals in the adjoining areas.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Lincoln. Water samples are sent to the Public Analyst, Mr W. W. Taylor, 1, Regent Street, Nottingham, when both chemical and bacteriological examinations are required.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 63 cases of infectious disease were notified.

Whooping Cough	25
Scarlet Fever	22
Erysipelas	4
Dysentery	4
Poliomyelitis	1
Pneumonia	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2

Food Poisoning.

No case of food poisoning was notified during 1954.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948/51.

Section 47.

No action under this section was found to be necessary during the year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1954

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my seventh annual report on the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December 1954.

The majority of the houses constituting the last phase of building on the Galley Hill Estate became available for letting towards the end of the year. For various reasons there will unfortunately be a considerable lapse of time between the completion of these houses and the first to become available on the new estate in George Street. This is most regrettable since the average waiting period on the list was rapidly reducing. It will now be increased by about one year. There has been a slight increase in the number of persons registered on the waiting list for houses.

1954 saw the end of the rationing of meat and the control of slaughtering by the Ministry of Food. The Council wisely, in my opinion in view of the likely outcome of the Interdepartmental Committee Report on Slaughterhouses and Slaughtering, took over from the Ministry of Food the slaughterhouses used by them and have since managed them as public slaughterhouses.

The year has been notable also for the impetus given by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act to Slum Clearance, and a good deal of work has been carried out to enable the Council to complete its programme as is required by section one of this Act.

I have to thank the Council for their support and my fellow Officers, in particular those in my own department, for their assistance and co-operation during the past year.

T. E. Dagwell.

October 1955

Sanitary Inspector & Housing Officer.

THE SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

HOUSING.

The building of houses for rehousing purposes continued during the year and the Galley Hill Estate neared completion. On this Estate 24 new houses and flats were let. There were also available for re-letting 6 pre-war houses and 5 post-war houses which became vacant. 35 families were therefore re-housed during the year.

No houses were built on the new site adjoining George Street Estate, the first phase being out to tender at the end of the year. I am pleased to say that includes provision for old peoples bungalows. 8 private houses were erected during the year. Council house maintenance has continued at a high level during the year although difficulty with labour arose in that the Councils part time joiner left and could not be replaced. The only brick-layer was hard pressed to carry out other than essential maintenance in view of the capital works involving the erection of almost 100 garden sheds. The remainder of the maintenance work was put to local contractors as usual.

With the increase in the number of houses to be maintained a review of the direct labour for Council houses will soon need to be made.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, requires the Council within twelve months to prepare a Slum Clearance Programme and the work on the necessary survey was commenced. Unfit housing will undoubtedly occupy much of the time of the Council and your Public Health Staff for some years to come.

Four applications for improvement Grants were received and granted during the year, the total grant being £649. It is to be regretted that greater advantage has not been taken of the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, with regard to improvement Grants and advances for reconditioning by owners of tenanted properties..

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year.

- | | |
|---|------|
| (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts. | 191. |
| Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 274. |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading (a) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. | 7. |
| (c) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 7. |
| (d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for habitation. | 32. |

Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their Officers. 32.

Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. NIL.

Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices.

(i) By owners. NIL.

(ii) By local authority in default of owners. NIL.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 4.

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices.

(a) By owners. 4.

(b) By local authority in default of owners. NIL.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made NIL.

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. 1.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. NIL.

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit. NIL.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat Inspection.

Slaughtering continued to be controlled by the Ministry of Food until the de-rationing of meat in July and approximately 300 animals weekly were slaughtered in those six months.

On the de-rationing of meat, the Council took over the lease and purchased the fittings of the Church Lane slaughterhouse, and carried on a similar arrangement with the owner of the Northgate slaughterhouse as had been in force previously. Both these slaughterhouses are now managed by the Council as Public slaughterhouses.

The first six months running was inevitably largely an experimental period since this was a new venture for the Council and the estimated use to which the slaughterhouses might be put was difficult to forecast. I can quite safely say that, on the whole, centralised slaughtering has proved satisfactory. The advantages, particularly in regard to the supervision and inspection of meat, over several small slaughterhouses cannot be over estimated.

The total of animals slaughtered during the year fell slightly, largely by reason of the fact that meat now killed in the slaughterhouses is essentially for local consumption

The amount of meat condemned during the year amounted to 19 tons 11cwt 4.1b., a decrease of 14½ tons.

The principal reasons for condemnation are stated hereunder :-

<u>BEASTS.</u>			<u>LBS</u>
7	Beasts and all organs.	Generalised Tuberculosis and Tubercular Peritonitis.	4,680
4	Beasts and all organs.	Sapraemia, Pyaemia, Septic Metritis and Mastitis.	2,524
3	Beasts and all organs.	Dropsy, Emaciation and Moribund.	1,199
2	Beasts and all organs.	Johne's Disease.	933
1	Beast and all organs.	Uraemia.	701
1	Beast and all organs.	Emphysema and ill bled.	628
	Beef and beast organs.	Various conditions and diseases.	7,027

CALVES.

1	Calf and all organs	Dropsy.	126
	Veal and calf organs.	Various conditions and diseases.	84

<u>PIGS.</u>		<u>LBS</u>
8	Pigs and all organs.	Generalised Tuberculosis. 1,363
30	Pigs and all organs.	Pneumonia, Peritonitis, Enteritis and other conditions accompanied by fever. 2,447
18	Pigs and all organs.	Dropsy and Dropsy and Emaciation. 1,805
21	Pigs and all organs.	Swine Fever. 1,863
8	Pigs and all organs.	Swine Erysipelas. 1,039
4	Pigs and all organs.	Moribund. 424
2	Pigs and all organs.	Septicaemia and Pyaemia 269
1	Pig and all organs.	Uraemia 340
1	Pig and all organs.	Jaundice. 142
1	Pig and all organs.	Purulent Joints. 126
	Pork and Pig organs.	Various conditions and diseases. 12,004

<u>SHEEP.</u>		
16	Sheep and all organs.	Dropsy, Oedema and Emaciation associated with disease. 1,117
7	Sheep and all organs.	Moribund. 560
6	Sheep and all organs.	Septic pneumonia and other septic conditions. 398
3	Sheep and all organs.	Ill-bled and Fevered. 262
3	Sheep and all organs.	Emaciation. 118
2	Sheep and all organs.	Peritonitis. 190
1	Sheep and all organs.	Gangrenous Pneumonia. 81
1	Sheep and all organs.	Caseous Lymphadenitis. 63
1	Sheep and all organs.	Metritis. 96
	Mutton and sheep organs.	Various conditions and diseases. 508

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs
Number Killed.	889	63	2,611	7,196
Number Inspected.	889	63	2,611	7,196
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	11	1	43	86
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	222	4	91	1,269
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	26.21	7.94	5.13	18.82
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	7	-	-	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	94	1	-	253
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	11.36	1.59	00.00	3.63

Other Foods.

The undermentioned foods, other than fresh meat, have been examined and found to be unfit for food.

7 tins of evaporated or condensed milk.	Damaged, Punctured.
9 tins of meat, soup or fish.	Damaged, Blown.
45 tins of Fruit, vegetables or jam.	Damaged, blown or leaking.
1 tin of Spaghetti.	Punctured.
9 lbs. of Prawns.	Decomposition.
16 lbs. of Lard.	Rendered unfit by glass splinters.
11 lbs. of rotted meat.	" "
13 lbs. of Brawn	" "
1 lb. of cooked pork.	" "
71 pork pies.	" "
14 lb. of cheese.	Unsound.
30 lb. of dried plums	Contaminated by smoke
193 ¹ lb. of prunes.	Depreciation and Fermentation.
30 ¹ / ₂ lbs of sweets.	Unsound, dirty.

Milk Supply.

The following were registered in the district at 1.1.54

Distributors	2
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Supplementary licences issued in respect of designated milk at 1.1.54 were :-

Tuberculin Tested	2
-------------------	---

Pasteurised	2
-------------	---

Sterilised	2
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Samples of milk taken have in all cases proved satisfactory

Ice Cream.

The number of manufacturers of ice cream remains at 3, of whom 1, registered for cold mix only, did not produce during the year. The remaining two premises, one of which is cold mix, were frequently inspected during the season of production.

There are still 20 premises registered for the storage and sale only.

Samples taken showed the ice cream to be of satisfactory bacterial quality.

WATER SUPPLY.

No extensions to the Council's water undertakings were carried out during the year and the source of supply proved adequate and of good quality. Results of bacteriological and chemical analysis follow :-

Date of Sample.

12th May 1954.

PER MILLION PARTS

13th October 1954.

Total Solids dried at 180°C.
Suspended Matter.
Chlorides as Chlorine.
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrate.
Oxidised Nitrogen as Nitrite.
Free and Saline Ammonia.
Albuminoid Ammonia.
Temporary Hardness.
Permanent Hardness.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80°F.
pH value.
Appearance.
Occur.
Taste & Colour.
Heavy metals.
Free Chlorine.

	Low level Reservoir.	High level Reservoir.	Low level Reservoir.	High level Reservoir.
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C. in 72 hrs.	480.00 Absent 28.40 4.25 Absent 0.152 0.104 210.00 142.00	480.00 Absent 24.85 4.25 Absent 0.176 0.128 210.00 158.00	440.00 Absent 28.40 1.75 Absent 0.004 0.004 200.00 140.00	440.00 Absent 28.40 1.75 Absent 0.004 0.004 200.00 140.00
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C in 24 hrs.	0	0	3	0
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	0	0
Coli-serogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	4	1
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C. in 48 hrs.	0	0	0	0
Bacillus coli Presumptive per 100 mls.	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No additions were made to the sewerage system during the year.

The water carriage system of the town is partially combined and partially separate, the disposal point being at the East end of town.

Work on the first part of the new sewerage scheme continued during the year and, though progress was not as speedy as the Council would have wished, it was ultimately put into operation later in the year. The Council decided following an inspection of the first part of the scheme to proceed with the remainder of the works.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse collection and disposal are under the direction of the Surveyor. Collection continues to be once weekly and proceeds without difficulty.

The controlled tip off East Road continues to operate and deals adequately with the refuse of the town.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

The two licenced sites in the area on which vans may be stationed continue to be used regularly and are generally conducted without nuisance.

RODENT CONTROL.

The rodent control service continues to keep infestation in the area to a minimum. Nevertheless the large number of minor infestations have continued to fully employ the Rodent Operator during the time available for this work. I would ask for the co-operation of the general public in the early notification of infestations as soon as they are noticed.

All areas known to be recurrently infested have been visited and treated by the operator this year. The twice yearly routine treatment of the Council's sewers has again been completed and shows the system to be reasonably clear of infestation. The barrel sewer in Westgate and the streets leading off is the main area where infestation can generally be anticipated.

The operator made 1,715 visits and in the course of these no major infestations were discovered and 254 other premises were found to harbour rats and mice but all were classified as minor infestations.

No legal proceedings were found to be necessary.