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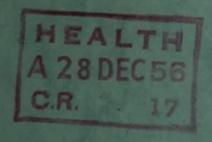
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Borough of Tamworth

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 50, CHURCH STREET, TAMWORTH.





Borough of Tamworth

ANNUAL REPORTS

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For the Year Ended 31st December, 1955.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 50, CHURCH STREET, TAMWORTH,

Borough of Tamworth

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

COUNCILLOR J. W. ROGERS, Chairman.

ALDERMAN F. W. MORGAN, M.B.E., Vice-Chairman.

ALDERMAN H. V. POWELL ALDERMAN R. M. TURNER

COUNCILLOR F. A. ALLSOPP COUNCILLOR J. T. BETTERIDGE

,, F. A. FLATMAN ,, V. T. GOLDEN (Mayor)

,, M. T. A. MATTHEWS ,, K. MUGLESTON

,, D. G. Wood ,, F. A. Wood

Medical Officer of Health:

A. FARNILL MORGAN, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

H. BIRCHWOOD, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,

Cert. Insp. of Meat and Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

P. GLADWIN, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

(Commenced February 1955).

Health Visitors and School Nurses:

MISS E. M. E. HAGSTROM, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

MRS. J. GIBBS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Tamworth

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on the state of the Public Health in the Borough of Tamworth for the year 1955.

The Birth Rate was 14.4 and the Death Rate 13.2.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 15.6 whilst there were no deaths attributable to childbirth.

An epidemic of Measles affecting 302 children occurred during 1955 but in no instance was school closure necessary.

Two cases of Poliomyelitis were notified and in both instances prompt action was taken by the Health Department to limit the spread of infection in the Borough.

Prompt and proper measures were taken by the Health Department to safeguard the Public Health in March when the town experienced extensive floods of exceptional severity.

The Health Department's Survey of unfit houses required by the Housing Rent and Repairs Act, 1954, was submitted to the Health Committee at its April Meeting. Following approval of the Report of Survey by the Borough Council it was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government by whom it was later approved.

461 dwelling-houses were considered to be unfit for human habitation within the meaning of the Act. The Borough Council advised the Minister of its intention to deal with 300 of these unfit houses in the first five years.

Six houses, included in a previous Clearance Order, were demolished in the course of the year.

Before proceeding to my Report I wish to thank the Health Department Staff for their unfailing help and the Health Committee for the consistent support and encouragement afforded me during this not uneventful year.

I will now proceed with my Report.

A. FARNILL MORGAN,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1955.

Area in Acres						2,678
Registrar General's	s estima	te of re	sident p	opulation		13,360
(Census	, 1951)					12,889
(Census	, 1931)					11,711
(Census,	, 1921)					8,032
Number of Inhabi				55) accord	ding	
to Rate Book	ks					4,134
Number of Inhabit	ed Hou	ses (Ce	nsus, 195	51)		3,688
Number of Inhabit	ed Hou	ses (Ce	nsus, 193	31)		2,785
Persons per Acre						4.9
Rateable Value—D	ecember	r, 1955			\$	(85,767
Product of id. Rat	e—Dece	mber,	1955			£330

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births—		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate		189	103	86
Illegitimate		3	I	2
		700	TO4	88
		192	104	
	Birth Rate	14.4.		
Still Births—		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate		4	2	2
Illegitimate		_	-	C11-
		-		
		= 4	2	===
Still Birth Rate 1	per 1,000 Por	ulation		-3
Still Birth Rate p	er 1,000 live	and still	births	20.4
Deaths from all Cause	es	Total.	Male.	Female.
D 4 D		176	87	89
Death Rate 1	per 1,000 Pop	ulation		. 13.2
Deaths of Infants und	ler			
One Year of Age		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate		2	2	_
Illegitimate		1	-	I
			-	_
		3	2	I
Deaths of Infants und	ler			
Four Weeks of Age	e	Total.	Males.	Female.
Legitimate		I	I	_
Illegitimate		I	_	I
		-		-
		2	I	I
Death Rate of Infants One Year of Age	s under			
	er 1,000 live	births		. 15.6
Legitimate I births	nfants per 1	,000 leg	itimate liv	-06

CAUSES OF DEATH

IF DEA	IU		
		Male.	Female.
		-	-
		-	_
		_	1
		-	
		-	_
		_	_
		_	9-
		-	_
eases		_	-
		2	4
nchus		I	_
			5
			_
		4	5
		I	_
		I	3
			23
			7
			3
			12
			5
			8
			3
			I
			I.
		_	111
	•••	-	F
•••		2	
		3	
		**	8
ases		11	0
	***		100

		1	
		Pro I	
			-
		Q=	90
		67	89
	ases c neopla em	eases nehus ne neoplasms me neopl	Male

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified together with the age groups.

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1955.

	Ses Ses					Total	Cases	s No	Notified					sths	itted fat
Disease	Total cas	Vear Under 1	r and under z	z and under 3	3 and	# sug	S and	10 and 15	12 and	20 and	nuget 45	45 and	60 and	Total De	Cases adm to Hospi
Smallpox	1:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Scarlet Fever	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
Diphtheria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	::	:	:		:	:	:	::
Puerperal Fever	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Pneumonia	11	::	::	:	:	:	-	:	:	-	::	00	1	:	2
Erysipelas	5	:	:	:	:	***	:			:		20	:	:	::
Encephalitis Lethargica	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:		::	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	::	::	:	:	:	:		:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Acute Poliomyelitis	C1		:	:	1	:	:	:		-		:	::	::	CI
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	::			:	:	::	:	:					::		:
Whooping Cough	22	:	c7	2	67	9	10		:	:::	:	:		-	::
Measles	302	7	53	35	44	54	130	-	7	-		:		:	:
Meningococcal Infection	:	::		::	:	:		:	:	:					:
Food Poisoning	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	***			:	:
Totals	342	7	31	37	47	09	141	-	-	3	1	13	1		4
	I	I	I			I			I				STREET, SQUARE,	S. S. Communication of the last	-

FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (corrected) returned to R.G.:

1st Quarter 2nd Quarter 3rd Quarter 4th Quarter

Total, Nil.

Outbreaks due to Identified Agents:

Total outbreaks, Nil.

Total Cases, Nil.

Outbreaks of Undiscovered Cause:

Total outbreaks, Nil.

Total Cases, Nil.

Single Cases:

Agent identified, Nil. Unknown causes, Nil. Total, Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Primary injections: Boosters: (all ages)

Under 5 ... 142 195

5 to 14 ... 25

Number of children immunised as at 31st December, 1955.

Last course of injections given	Under 1 year	5 to 14
A. Since 1951	552	1,194
B. 1950 or earlier	-	501

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1955.

	N	EW	CASE	S		DEA	THS	
AGE PERIODS	Pulm	onary	No Pulm	n- onary	Pulm	onary	No Pulm	n- onary
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	2-		_		_			
0-1	-	-	_	_	_	-	-	-
1-5	-	_	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15	=	_	_	-	-	-	_	_
15-25		1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	_	-	-	-	_
55-65	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	1	-	-		-	-	-
	1	3	-	-	-	_	-	_
Totals		4	-	-	-	-	-	-

Housing Act, 1936.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, all local authorities were required to make a survey and estimate with proposals for dealing in one way or another, the houses in their area which appeared to be unfit for human habitation and liable to demolition.

This survey was completed in the Borough and submitted to the Health Committee in April and forwarded to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in July and subsequently endorsed.

The following table shows the extent of the slum clearance problem in the Borough and the proposals for dealing with the matter.

Part 1. The total problem.

- (i) Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under section 11 or section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 461
- (ii) Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (i) 10

Part 2. Orders already made, etc.

- (iii) Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the local authority
- (iv) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative

Part 3. Action in the first five years.

- (v) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within five years ...
- (vi) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a clearance order or compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister

- (vii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation
- (viii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years ... 300
 - (ix) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 ...

HOUSING

The following table gives details of the Council's post-war housing programmes.

		ZELE				INGT					75375000	LWAY		
	Allo	cated	Comp	pleted	Allo	cated	Comp	oleted	A	llocat	ed	0	omple	ted
	No. of Houses	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Flats	No. of Dwellings	No. of Houses	No. of Flats	No. of Dwellings						
1947	48	66	31	42	40	52	-	-	-	-	-	_	-	-
1948	30	40	17	24	36	52	18	26	-	-	-	-	-	-
1949	48	60	2	2	-	-	58	78	-	-	-	-	-	-
1950	84	84	54	76	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1951	1-	-	106	106	-	-	-	-	118	28	146	-	-	-
1952	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	152	4	156	102	12	11
1953	1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74	28	102	168	24	19
1954	1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44	56	100	68	24	9:
1955	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33	43	8
	210	250	210	250	76	104	76	104	388	116	504	371	113	48

Housing Applications:

List	at	Ist	January,	1055-
Adring		AME	June Command	- 700

List at 1st January, 1955—	House- holders.	Lodgers.	Total.
Applicants residing in the Borough	148	419	567
Applicants residing outside Borough	148	231	379
	296	650	946
List at 31st December, 1955—			
Applicants residing in the Borough	127	259	386
Applicants residing outside Borough	162	253	415
	289	512	801

HOSPITALS

All hospitals in the Borough are included in the Lichfield, Sutton Coldfield and Tamworth Group under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and are as follows:—

> Tamworth General Hospital. St. Editha's Hospital. Tamworth Isolation Hospital.

MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION

No maternity accommodation is provided at the Hospitals in the Borough.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES

These are under the County Council (except Tuberculosis and Orthopædic Clinics) since the 5th July, 1948.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held twice weekly.

A School Clinic is held weekly.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is held weekly.

Eye Clinics are held fortnightly.

Dental Clinics are held weekly for expectant and nursing mothers, toddlers and school children.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly at the College Lane Schools.

A Chest Clinic is held weekly at the Lichfield centre.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

An ambulance is stationed at Tamworth and is available during the daytime. The Lichfield ambulance is available at all other times.

LABORATORY SERVICE

Bacteriological, pathological and chemical examinations are done at the Medical Research Laboratory, Stafford, since the 5th July, 1948, formerly the County Laboratory.

WATER SUPPLY

Source of Supply.—Well and bore hole at Hopwas Pumping Station. South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

Gallons Pumped during 1955. — 213,230,000 Gallons. Received from South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, 55,969,000.

Well.—Highest, 6ft. 6in.; Lowest, 1ft. 1in.

Treatment Before Distribution.—The supply is chlorinated en route to the high level reservoir at Hopwas, and the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company is chlorinated at source.

All dwelling houses in the Borough have a piped supply, either direct into the house or by means of standpipes.

Approximate number of houses supplied:

(a) Direct to hou	ses		Population
4,110			 13,264
(b) By means of	Standpipes	3	
24			 96

Rainfall.—The Rainfall for the year 1955 was 21.9in.

With the assistance of the bulk supply from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, it was possible to give a continuous supply to all consumers throughout the year, at pressures ranging from 30lbs. to 80lbs.

During the year, 24 samples of water have been obtained by the Health Department from domestic supplies in various parts of the Borough and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The results were satisfactory. The water is not plumbo solvent. There is a fairly high degree of hardness.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING BATHS

Routine samples were taken during the summer months when the baths were open. Bacteriological analyses were all satisfactory. "Break-point" chlorination was used.

These baths are a very valuable health asset to the

Borough and are well patronised.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report for the year 1955.

The Survey, under the Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954, of houses in the Borough which appeared to be unfit and liable to demolition was completed.

Four hundred and sixty-one houses were estimated as being unfit for human habitation and the Council considered that three hundred could be dealt with in five years and the total number over a period of ten years.

To make the appointment of an Additional Sanitary Inspector it was necessary to advertise three times, Mr. Gladwin was appointed and commenced his duties in February. His services have been a great help in carrying out the duties of the Department.

The general work of sanitary administration is summarised in the various tables.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of types of closet accommodation existing at the end of the year is as follows—

			No. of		Per cent.
No. of	No. of	No. of	Water	Per cent.	Water
Houses	Privies	Pails	Closets	Dry	Closets
4,134	6	36	4,861	0.86	99.14

The privy and pail type of closet are in the rural parts of the Borough where no sewer is available.

There are approximately 20 premises served by a system of drainage discharging to cesspools.

INSPECTIONS.

The following statement shows the number of visits and inspections to various classes of premises.

Visits and Inspections	1	Number
Inspection of drains of old property		 26
Other inspections of existing property		 310
To work in progress		 522
,, test drains and sanitary fittings		 10
,, premises re infectious diseases		 14
,, tuberculous cases		 3
,, respecting disinfection		 12
,, cowsheds, dairies and milkshops		 42
,, bakehouses		 64
,, slaughterhouses		 594
,, manure steads		 3
,, factories		 56
,, outworkers' premises		 8
,, shops re Shops Acts		 74
,, ,, re Meat Regulations		 38
,, food inspection		 232
,, offensive trades		 4
Miscellaneous visits		 72
Housing Acts	2***	 206
Caravans		 12
THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE		
		2,302

COMPLAINTS.

Nature of Complaint	t		Number Received
Choked passage drain			 10
,, slopstone waste pipe			 9
,, water closet			 32
,, yard drain			 18
Defective water closet basin			 22
,, dust bin			 146
,, wall and ceiling pla	aster		 62
,, house roof			 74
,, windows			 46
,, kitchen sink			 8
,, cooking range			 24
,, floors			 16
,, doors and frames			 18
,, wash-houses and wa	ashing	coppers	 28
,, yard surface			 5
,, walls			 22
,, gutters			 68
,, drains			 5
Dampness of house			 62
Accumulation of refuse			 8
Dirty house			
General insanitary conditions			 3 8
House infested with vermin			 5
Nuisance from keeping anima	ls		 3
Accumulation of manure			 4
Rat infested premises			 72
Emission of smoke			 20
Miscellaneous			 48
The state of the s			846

To secure the abatement of these defective conditions, 23 statutory and 164 informal notices were served.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 & 1948.

	Number	her		Number of	Jo
Premises	on Register		Inspections	Written	Occupiers
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	y		12		1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	88 88		47	9	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	87.		1	1	1
Total	102	2	59	9	
	Number	of cases in w	Number of cases in which defects were found	vere found	Number of Cases in
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred M. By H.M.	which prosecutions were instituted
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	- 1	-	1	1	7
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	1	4	1
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	1	Ĭ	1
Total	4	4	1	4	
Fight persons were returned		Out work one made the		Act and thee ware aren	wainteen as bonemas

Eight persons were returned as Outworkers under the Act, and these were engaged on wearing apparel. Visits were made and in each case the home conditions were considered suitable.

DAIRY FARMS, DAIRIES, RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK

Cowkeepers		 	10
Dairies		 	4
Retail Purvey	ors	 	12

The majority of the milk retailed within the Borough is pasteurised and sold as such. One producer/retailer is an "accredited" producer.

One dairy is licensed to pasteurise milk and the principle adopted is by the "holder" method. One dairy obtains the supply pasteurised and bottled from a large wholesaler.

Inspections of dairies, vehicles and vessels have been made and attention directed to any contravention of the Regulations.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED

AREAS) (No. 2) ORDER, 1955.

The above mentioned Order was made jointly by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Minister of Health and came into operation on the 6th December, 1955.

The Borough of Tamworth was included in a Specified Area and this meant that on and after the 6th December, 1955, all dairymen who retail milk in the Borough must sell the milk under special designation, irrespective of whether the premises from which the milk is retailed are inside or outside the area, and, any other milk which is retailed outside the specified area from those same premises must also be sold under Special Designation.

The special designations authorised to be sold are "Pasteurised," "Sterilised" and "Tuberculin Tested."

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

An employee of the Council is trained and engaged in part-time rodent control work.

One hundred and nineteen inspections were made and seventy-two premises were found to be infested. The facilities provided by the Council were made available to the owners or occupiers and the infestations were successfully treated by prebaiting and poisoning.

Half-yearly treatment of the sewers and periodical treatment of the Council's refuse disposal tip has been carried out.

SANITARY SUPERVISION OF PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

The cinemas and other places of entertainment have been periodically inspected with regard to the sanitary accommodation.

The managements have been found anxious to maintain the conveniences in a satisfactory condition, and any defects found have at once been remedied.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924-1935 Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933-1954

There are six licensed slaughterhouses in the Borough and the following animals have been killed:—

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1954	982	141	4,661	3,734
1955	926	178	3,445	6,692

During routine inspection, two cases of localised Cysticercus Bovis were found. The organs were condemned and the carcases subjected to refrigeration in accordance with the recommendations.

In April and May, daily visits were paid to the Tamworth Cold Store to supervise the trimming of meat.

The meat contained in one of the chambers was affected with white mould growth. The following meat was condemned:

Seven Pork sides		199 lbs.
Pork Trimmings	***	882 lbs.
Beef Trimmings		7 lbs.
Beef Kidneys		66 lbs.

The mechanical stunning of all animals is required and twenty-six persons are licensed to slaughter.

Carcases Slaughtered and Examined

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cow/ Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1954 Number killed	264	397	321	141	4661	3734
1955 Number killed	353	177	396	178	3445	6692
Number Inspected	353	177	396	178	3445	6692
Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned	1	-	_	2	8	22
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	22	43	26	2	126	207
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.1	24.3	7.0	2.2	3.9	3.3
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	_	_	_	_	- Asper	8
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	19	62	43	-	2	214
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5.4	35.0	11.0	_		3.3
Cysticercus Bovis	100				1 2	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	1	_	-	100	_
Submitted to refrigeration	1	1	-	-	=	-
Generalised & totally condemned	_	_	-	_	12	-

TABLE SHOWING CARCASES CONDEMNED AND DISEASED CONDITIONS.

Cattle Calves S	Sheep	Pigs	Disease			Weig	Weight in lbs.
-		65	Oedema and Pyæmia	mia	::	***	604
1 part carcase			Tuberculosis			:	70
i part carcase			Bone Taint			:	00 N
I part carcase		∞	Generalised Tuberculosis	erculosis		:	752
		1-	Swine Fever	:			522
		- 01	Swine Erysipelas		-	:	68
		0	Septic Peritonitis		:		906
			Jaundice	::	:	:	30
		-	Fevered	:			26
		1 part carcase	Injury	:	::		14
	00		Emaciation		:		237
	1		Metritis	:	:		35
01			Immature	:	:		64
		7 part carcases	White Mould	:			199
1 Carcase 3 Carcases 2 Part Carcases	9 Carcases	31 Carcases 8 Part Carcases		Sego			3,660

Organs Co	ndemned			Weight in l	
C	attle			 	3,894
C	alves			 	26
SI	neep			 ***	355
P	igs			 	3,488
					7,763
Whole and	part care	cases		 	3,660
Other Foo	ods			 	969
Total amo	ount cond	lemned	=	 	12,392

= 5 tons 10 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.

BUTCHERS' SHOPS, BAKEHOUSES AND FOOD PREPARING PREMISES

There are twenty-three butchers' shops, seven bakehouses and thirty-four food preparing premises in the Borough.

Visits of inspection have been carried out, attention being directed to the conditions and cleanliness of premises, utensils, machinery, etc., and the personal hygiene of the employees.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. BIRCHWOOD,

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

COOK OF ASSESSMENT OF THE SECOND



