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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH**



**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**

OF THE

**BOROUGH OF TAUNTON  
FOR THE YEAR 1952**



Public Health Department,  
St. Paul's House,  
TAUNTON.

*July, 1953.*

The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses,  
**THE BOROUGH OF TAUNTON**

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my second Annual Report for the year 1952.

The health of the Borough was satisfactory during the year. The notifications of measles and whooping cough were comparatively low although there is reason to believe that many of the actual cases are not notified.

Taunton has now been completely free from diphtheria for an unbroken period of five years compared with an average pre-war incidence of 40 cases.

It is regrettable that for various reasons the progress made in the water and sewerage schemes during 1952 has been slight.

1952 brought relief to some of the most urgent housing applications but with this important exception the general situation remains unchanged and it must be admitted that no real progress is being made in this thoroughly unsatisfactory position.

I wish to express my grateful appreciation to Alderman A. J. West, J.P., and the Public Health Committee for the unfailing help and consideration I have received and the friendly co-operation extended to me by my fellow officials.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

**LEO FAY,**

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## BOROUGH OF TAUNTON

### Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, 1952

#### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	2,434
Population (estimated by Registrar General mid-year)	...	...	...	...	...	34,600
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1952 (according to the rate books)	...	...	...	...	...	9,088
Rateable value at the end of 1951	...	...	...	...	...	£262,866
Estimated product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£1,035

#### VITAL STATISTICS

Births, live legitimate	Male	229	Female	230	Total	459
Birth, live illegitimate	Male	8	Female	10	Total	18
Births, still legitimate	Male	3	Female	7	Total	10
Births, still illegitimate	Male	—	Female	—	Total	—
Birth rate, total	...	...	...	...	...	14.07
live	...	...	...	...	...	13.7
still	...	...	...	...	...	0.2
illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	0.5
Deaths, Male 204, Female 184	...	...	...	...	Total	388
Death rate, crude	...	...	...	...	...	11.21
corrected by factor 0.95	...	...	...	...	...	10.64
Deaths of infants under one year of age, Male 8, Female 5	...	...	...	...	Total	13
Infant mortality rate	...	...	...	...	...	27.2
Deaths from Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	—

The increase in population last year was only 330, compared with 600 the previous year. The birth rate has again dropped sharply from 18.4 in 1950, 15.9 in 1951, to 13.7 in 1952, and is now almost back to the low levels of pre-war years.

## REGISTRAR GENERAL'S TABLE OF DEATHS

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	7	2	9
Tuberculosis, other ... ..	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease ... ..	1	—	1
Meningo-coccal infections ... ..	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	3	2	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..	6	1	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	10	10
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	21	17	38
Diabetes ... ..	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	27	36	63
Coronary disease, angina ... ..	28	17	45
Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	4	5	9
Other heart disease ... ..	37	42	79
Other circulatory disease ... ..	11	11	22
Influenza ... ..	3	—	3
Pneumonia... ..	8	4	12
Bronchitis ... ..	10	2	12
Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	5	1	6
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—	1
Congenital malformations ... ..	1	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	12	15	27
Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	2	4
All other accidents ... ..	6	3	9
Suicide ... ..	4	1	5

The above table shows the causes of all deaths during 1952. It will be noted that again the commonest cause of death is heart disease closely followed by cerebro vascular diseases ("strokes"). Cancer shows a slight increase from 58 to 63, but cancer of the lung has dropped from 11 to 7. Coronary disease, angina, shows a sharp and probably significant increase from 35 to 45. Medical attention is being increasingly devoted to this disease as not only does it strike in the prime of life, i.e. between 40 and 60 years of age, but it is felt that in many cases it is not an inevitable disease, i.e. it can be prevented, or at least postponed to an age when its economic results at least, are less catastrophic. Deaths associated with childbirth are again conspicuous by their absence which is the most valuable indication of all of the efficiency of the maternity services in the town and reflects great credit on all concerned. It is now 5 years since a death from this cause occurred in a Taunton resident.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Infectious Disease — 1952

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Originally Notified</i>	<i>Removed to I. Hospital</i>	<i>Corrected Numbers</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
Scarlet Fever ... ..	54	15	54	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	11	—	11	—
Ac. Poliomyelitis:—				
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis ... ..	2	2	2	—
Measles ... ..	77	2	77	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ac. Pneumonia ... ..	7	—	7	—
Dysentery ... ..	7	—	7	—
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ac. Encephalitis:—				
Infective Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
P. Infective Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	5	—	5	—
Mening. Infection ... ..	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	5	2	5	—
Ophth. Neon. ... ..	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis:—				
*Respiratory ... ..	38	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory ... ..	5	—	—	—
*Including removals-in ... ..	1	—	—	—
Malaria (B.T.) contracted abroad ... ..	1	1	—	—

The above table shows that 1952 was a good year. Whooping cough dropped sharply from 124 cases in 1951 to 11 in 1952, and measles from 303 in 1951 to 77 in 1952. Scarlet fever of a mild type increased from 24 to 54, and there were only two cases of poliomyelitis, both being non-paralytic. For the fifth successive year no case of diphtheria occurred in the Borough but I do not hesitate to repeat once more that this happy state of affairs can only be maintained if the young mothers, who probably have never seen diphtheria, realise that without immunisation their children are just as susceptible as ever.

There were no notifications of food poisoning.

## TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Pulm</i>	<i>Non-Pulm</i>
Cases on the Borough Register, 31.12.52...	223	45
No. of new cases during year ... ..	30	4
No. of deaths during the year ... ..	9	1
Average yearly deaths during the pre-war decade ... ..	15	3.3

### Mass Radiography

The static unit was in Taunton from 16th December, 1952, to 1st January, 1953. The figures for adult attendances are not yet available but 958 children of school leaving age were examined. One was found to have active and three inactive tuberculosis.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47

No cases were investigated during the year.

## WATER SUPPLY

The total amount of treated water put into supply in the Borough and adjoining areas was 578 million gallons, a drop of 10 million gallons on the previous year. Although it was not found necessary to cut the supply during the year, the rainfall being normal, the lack of filter and storage capacity, together with the ever increasing demand, was responsible for an intermittent and inadequate supply in the higher reaches of the Borough and particularly in the more rural areas.

It is greatly to be regretted that owing to various delays, progress in the various administrative stages of the new Clatworthy water scheme was almost negligible in 1952. The period which must elapse before this scheme can operate is still approximately three years and a prolonged drought at any time during this period would raise public health problems of an acute and dangerous nature.

The existing storage capacity equals approximately 80 days' supply. The storage in 1949, owing to drought, was depleted to approximately 16 days' supply.

With the completion of the 800 million gallons impounding reservoir at Clatworthy, and allowing a generous estimate of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons per day gross requirement, the total storage would be approximately 172 days at Clatworthy.

The raw water is an upland surface water reasonably soft and with no plumbo solvent action. Before distribution it is subjected to



sedimentation, filtration and chlorination, and the following table indicates the efficiency of the treatment, which results in a water which is extremely safe, although occasionally the chlorination slightly affects its palatability.

RAW WATER				TREATED AFTER GOING INTO SUPPLY			
BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL		BACTERIOLOGICAL		CHEMICAL	
Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
24	—	4	—	142	2	4	None

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The present existing facilities for the treatment and disposal of sewage in the Borough are seriously inadequate. A new scheme costing over half a million pounds is, however, well under way and it is hoped that the project will go out to tender towards the end of 1953, the Public Enquiry and Ministry approval stages having been completed.

### HOUSING

I am indebted to the Housing Officer and the Housing Architect for the following tables:—

TABLE 1.

No. of Post-war Houses erected to 31st December, 1952		Programme for 1953	
By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise
1,115	83	263 houses 4 flats	46 —

**Houses Required:—**

To abate overcrowding	...	...	...	259
To overcome unsatisfactory conditions	...	...	...	1,379
Total number of applicants for council houses at the end of 1952	...	...	...	2,161

TABLE 2.

<i>Details of Post-war Houses</i>						<i>Rent</i>
Four bedroomed houses	...	...	...	8	...	27/-
Three bedroomed houses	...	...	...	558	...	25/-
Two bedroomed houses	...	...	...	120	...	22/-
Two bedroomed flats	...	...	...	66	...	17/6
One bedroomed flats	...	...	...	34	...	11/3
Bedsitting flats	...	...	...	12	...	9/-
Temporary bungalows, two bedroomed	...	...	...	225	...	18/-
Permanent bungalows, two bedroomed	...	...	...	84	...	26/-
Permanent bungalows, two bedroomed (brick)	...	...	...	10	...	20/-
Converted nissen huts	...	...	...	48	...	11/4
				1,165		

TABLE 3.

	Houses erected during 1952	In course of erection	Conversions
Local Authority ...	75	202	—
Private Enterprise ...	27	17	9

TABLE 4.

**Condemned Houses still occupied:—**

Owned by the Corporation	...	...	...	...	60
Under Requisition Powers	...	...	...	...	45
Licensed for occupation	...	...	...	...	30
Occupied continuously since date of Clearance Orders	...	...	...	...	44
				Total	179

Only 102 new houses were completed during 1952, including 27 erected by private enterprise, and although 219 are in course of erection during 1953, it must be repeated again that we are not even holding our position quite apart from improving it. There are well over 2,000 applicants for Council houses and although this figure may exaggerate the real position, nevertheless it is certain that at least half of the applications refer to real hardship cases. At the present rate of progress, far too many people will be inadequately and badly housed for far too many years.

## HEALTH SERVICES Administered in Taunton M.B. by the Somerset County Council

### Ante-Natal Clinic

This is held at the Health Centre, Tower Lane, on Mondays (Assistant Medical Officer in attendance), and Wednesdays (Midwives in attendance).

During 1952 the attendances were:—

			<i>Monday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total attendances	...	...	550	1,191	1,741
New cases	...	...	119	223	342

### Post-Natal Clinic

This is held at the Health Centre, Tower Lane on the second and fourth Thursdays in each month. During 1952, 46 cases were seen.

### Premature Baby Service

In addition to the arrangements for the care of full time children a special service is provided for premature infants. If there is a risk that a child will be born after less than 37 or 38 weeks gestation, arrangements are made for the admission of the expectant mother to Musgrove Hospital, where special facilities are available and special equipment is provided where necessary.

On the birth of a child it is visited at home, with the co-operation of the Health Visitors, by Assistant Nursing Officers with special training for this work.

During 1952, 25 premature infants were born in hospitals, of whom 2 died; eight were born at home, four of these being subsequently transferred to hospital. Four were nursed entirely at home, and three survived.

### Home Visiting of Infants

This is carried out by four Health Visitors. Their work in 1952 included:—

First visits of children under five years of age	...	...	...	428
Re-visits of children under five years of age	...	...	...	5,744
Visits to ante-natal cases	...	...	...	2
Other visits (infectious diseases, old people, etc.)	...	...	...	257
				<hr/> 6,431 <hr/>

### Infant Welfare Centres

There are now three held in the town:—

Tower Lane on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

Halcon Chapel on Wednesday afternoons.

Harcourt Street Adult School on Friday afternoons.

During 1952 the attendances of infants at these centres totalled 6,079, including 400 new cases.

### Immunisation of Infants against Diphtheria

Year	Total "Primaries" under 5 years	Live births of preceding year i.e. "potential"	Percentage immunised	Total "Primaries" 5-14 years	Total reinforce- ments
1952	376	545	68.9	41	467

Approximately half the primary injections are given by the family doctor. Practically all the reinforcements are given at the schools by the Assistant School Medical Officers.

### Distribution of Welfare Foods

National dried milk, orange juice and cod liver oil for infants, and vitamin tablets for expectant mothers, provided by the Ministry of Food are distributed at the Welfare Centres, and in addition valuable food accessories, such as certain proprietary brands of dried milk, breakfast cereals, rose hip syrup and malt extract, are distributed to mothers and children by the voluntary workers of the Taunton Infant Health Society.

### Orthopaedic Clinic

This is held in the Health Centre on Wednesdays and Fridays, the Surgeon attending twice a month. This service is the responsibility of the Regional Board but is administered on an agency basis by the Somerset County Council.

## Dental Clinic, Tower Lane

The treatment given to school children was as follows:—

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—					
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	1,028
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	734
				<b>Total</b>	<b>1,762</b>
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	1,271
(3) Number referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	1,165
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	1,555
(5) Attendance made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	4,296
(6) Half-days devoted to Inspection 8, Treatment 831	...	...	...	...	839
(7) Fillings—					
Permanent teeth 1,567, Temporary teeth 272	...	...	...	...	1,839
(8) Number of teeth filled—					
Permanent teeth 1,689, Temporary teeth 253	...	...	...	...	1,942
(9) Extractions—					
Permanent teeth 470, Temporary teeth 2,008	...	...	...	...	2,478
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	885
(11) Other operations—					
Permanent teeth 1,796, Temporary teeth 704	...	...	...	...	2,500

The treatment given to expectant and nursing mothers and to pre-school children is shown below:—

			<i>Adults</i>	<i>Pre-School Children</i>
(1) Number of cases inspected	...	...	31	151
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	22	138
(3) Number of cases treated	...	...	21	140
(4) Number of attendances	...	...	66	286
(5) Administration of general anaesthetics	...	...	11	121
(6) Number of teeth extracted	...	...	43	233
(7) Number of teeth filled	...	...	26	34
(8) Number of fillings	...	...	29	34
(9) Scaling and gum treatment	...	...	5	1
(10) Silver nitrate treatment	...	...	—	28
(11) Other treatment	...	...	16	78

## The Day Nursery

This is situated at Victoria Park, East Reach, and is open each week day except public holidays.

Accommodation is provided from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a maximum of 48 children. The average daily attendance during 1952 was 34.7.

## Home Help Services

This service is administered in the County Hall, Taunton. During 1952, 231 Borough residents received assistance in their homes.

These included the following types of cases:—

Maternity	...	...	...	...	71
Old age and Infirmary	...	...	...	...	65
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	10
Chronic illness	...	...	...	...	29
Emergency illness	...	...	...	...	53
Families of motherless children	...	...	...	...	5

Many cases of old age and chronic illness have received help for some years.

## Ambulance Service

The main ambulance station is situated at Musgrove Park Hospital. A service throughout the 24 hours is provided by four ambulances and three sitting-case cars.

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
 OF THE  
**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
 For the Year 1952

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my annual report for the twelve months ending December 31st, 1952.

**SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS**

**Housing and General Sanitary Work**

Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts	...	202
Re-inspections	... ..	194
Infectious diseases, in connection with	... ..	112
Factories	... ..	74
Drainage, in connection with	... ..	254
Rodent Control (excluding visits made by Rodent Operator)	...	45
Public conveniences	... ..	11
Houses let in lodgings	... ..	6
Moveable dwellings	... ..	77
Stables, piggeries	... ..	8
Offensive trades	... ..	23
Smoke observations	... ..	16
Verminous premises	... ..	17
Common lodging houses	... ..	6
Refuse disposal, in connection with	... ..	1
Shops	... ..	12
Interviews	... ..	179
Cinemas and places of entertainment	... ..	4
Schools	... ..	6
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	... ..	117
Pet shops	... ..	8
Scrap metal dealers	... ..	7

**Housing Repairs.** The work of repairs to houses is still being dealt with under Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1936. During the year the following work was carried out:—

Drains unchoked or repaired	...	...	...	48
Remedial measures taken against dampness	...	...	...	2
Water supply improved	...	...	...	5
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	19
New W.C's. provided	...	...	...	5
Fireplaces repaired	...	...	...	1
Water closets repaired	...	...	...	3
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	8
Doors repaired	...	...	...	7
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	1
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	3
Floors	...	...	...	5
Yards paved	...	...	...	2

**Housing Act, 1936—Section 12.** During the year Closing Orders were made in respect of parts of two buildings. The housing accommodation in each case being unfit for that purpose.

**Complaints.** During the year 540 complaints were received at the Health Department. These complaints had reference to the following matters:—

Housing conditions	...	...	...	49
Drainage	...	...	...	64
Rats or mice	...	...	...	268
Unsound food	...	...	...	95
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	64

All these complaints were investigated and appropriate action taken.

**Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.** At the commencement of the year, 28 houses that had been closed under Clearance or Demolition Orders were being occupied under powers conferred by these Regulations. During the year one house was closed as being unfit for further occupation, and three new licences were granted, bringing the total number of houses occupied under the Regulations to 30.

**Public Health Act, 1936—Section 24.** During the year 16 sewers were found to be choked, and were cleansed by the Corporation. Sewers dealt with under this Section are those that were maintainable by owners of property under previous Public Health Acts. Two of these sewers were found to be defective and were amended by the Corporation at the cost of the owners.



## VERMIN

During the year, 14 houses were treated for various forms of insect pests with satisfactory results.

**Rodent Control.** The Corporation's Rodent Operator continued the systematic search for rodents, and treatment of premises where infestation was found. The following work was carried out during the year:—

Treatments at private dwellings	...	...	...	245
Visits involved	...	...	...	1,168
Treatments at business premises	...	...	...	34
Visits involved	...	...	...	167
Treatments at premises owned by the Local Authority	...	...	...	11
Visits involved	...	...	...	55
Visits on search work	...	...	...	685

**Disinfection.** Disinfection of premises and bedding after the removal of patients suffering from Tuberculosis, or after death, was carried out at 36 houses.

## SPECIAL CLASSES OF PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS SUBJECT TO CONTROL BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

### Public Health Act, 1936

Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	1
Offensive Trades— Tanners	...	...	...	1
Hide and Skin Depots	...	...	...	1
Rag and Bone Merchants	...	...	...	4
Moveable Dwelling—Sites for moveable dwellings	...	...	...	3
Individual moveable dwellings	...	...	...	12

### The Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

Registered Premises	...	...	...	9
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

### Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907—Section 86

Dealers in old metal and places of business registered under this Section	...	...	...	5
---	-----	-----	-----	---

### Pet Animals Act, 1951

Licences issued to keep pet shops	...	...	...	4
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

The conditions prevailing at the above premises during the year were found to be satisfactory.

**Sampling of Swimming Bath Water.** During the year, 24 samples of the water at the St. James' Street Baths taken at the inlet and outlet ends were examined by the Bacteriologist. The reports on all samples were satisfactory.

## FOOD INSPECTION

### Visit in connection with the inspection and supervision of foods

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	884
Foodshops	...	...	...	...	...	248
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	105
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	25
Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	62
Restaurants, Hotels and Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	85

**Milk Supply.** There are 15 registered dairies and 17 registered distributors of milk operating within the Borough. Two of the distributors operate from premises outside the Borough. Fourteen of the local distributors hold licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk, and four hold licences to sell Pasteurised Milk, whilst two of the distributors from outside the Borough hold supplementary licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk, and two for Pasteurised Milk.

There are four milk pasteurising plants within the Borough, but these are controlled by the Somerset County Council.

**Sampling of Milk sold under Special Designations.** During the year, 40 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and 27 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk being sold within the Borough were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination. Of these, 31 of the Tuberculin Tested samples and all the Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) samples were reported as being satisfactory. Nine samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk were reported as being unsatisfactory. All unsatisfactory reports are referred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for investigation.

**Ice Cream.** The registration of premises under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream are as follows:—

Manufacture and sale	...	...	...	6
Storage	...	...	...	1
Storage and sale	...	...	...	72

**Sampling of Ice Cream.** During the year, 21 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. Five of the samples could not be tested owing to a failure of the cooling system. The results of the remainder were as follows:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	...	11
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	2
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	2
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	1

**Food Inspection.** As a result of inspection of food at foodshops and warehouses, the following commodities were condemned:—

#### CANNED FOOD

Fruit	...	...	...	...	1,575 tins
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	156 „
Spinach	...	...	...	...	1 „
Soup	...	...	...	...	104 „
Milk	...	...	...	...	138 „
Steak	...	...	...	...	4 „
Mixed Vegetables	...	...	...	...	27 „
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	4 „
Baked Beans	...	...	...	...	28 „
Peas	...	...	...	...	90 „
Meat	...	...	...	...	395 „
Fish	...	...	...	...	221 „
Xmas Pudding	...	...	...	...	3 „
Rabbit	...	...	...	...	11 „
Jam	...	...	...	...	23 „
Beetroot	...	...	...	...	1 „
Carrots	...	...	...	...	63 „
Sausages	...	...	...	...	19 „
Fish Paste	...	...	...	...	29 „
Lamb Tongue	...	...	...	...	5 „

### OTHER FOODS

Biscuits ...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Cheese ...	...	...	...	...	153 „
Butter ...	...	...	...	...	2 „
Fruit ...	...	...	...	...	32 „
Ham ...	...	...	...	...	635 „
Cake ...	...	...	...	...	73 „
Coconut ...	...	...	...	...	7 „
Ketchup ...	...	...	...	...	3 bottles
Piccalilli ...	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Mincemeat ...	...	...	...	...	4 „
Coffee Essence ...	...	...	...	...	1 bottle
Tea Cakes ...	...	...	...	...	6 doz.
Sponge Mixture ...	...	...	...	...	79 pkts.
Chicken ...	...	...	...	...	40
Geese ...	...	...	...	...	4
Eggs ...	...	...	...	...	4
Fish Cakes ...	...	...	...	...	22
Kippers ...	...	...	...	...	84 lbs.
Chocolate ...	...	...	...	...	16½ „
Sausages ...	...	...	...	...	54 „

### FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938

#### Prosecutions

During the year, 5 prosecutions were instituted for offences under the above Act, viz:—

<i>Trader</i>	<i>Offence</i>	<i>Result of Case</i>
Dairyman ...	Dirty milk bottle ...	Fine imposed
Dairyman ...	Dirty milk bottle ...	Fine imposed
Grocer ...	Cereals contaminated with mouse droppings	Fine imposed
Grocer ...	Biscuits infested with beetles ...	Fine imposed
Dairymen ...	Cigarette end in milk bottle ...	Case not proved and dismissed

**Food & Drugs Act, 1938—Section 13.** Following the survey of catering establishments in 1951, representations were made to the occupiers of such premises to bring their premises in line with the requirements of the above Section, and during the year the following work was carried out:—

Structural repairs ...	...	...	15
Re-decoration ...	...	...	33
Equipment provided ...	...	...	13
Drainage improved ...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous improvements ...	...	...	16

**Meat Inspection.** There are two slaughterhouses in use within the Borough, a Government slaughterhouse and a bacon factory. The former supplies meat to Taunton Borough, Taunton Rural, Wellington Urban, Wellington Rural and Langport Rural Districts. In addition, carcasses are occasionally exported to other centres.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year:—

Beasts	...	...	...	...	...	1,592
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	1,358
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	11,997
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	1,624
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	42,576

59,147

The inspection of the above carcasses revealed disease as set out in the following table:—

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep, Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	1,592	1,358	1,624	11,997	42,576
Number inspected ... ..	1,592	1,358	1,624	8,500	42,576
Whole carcasses condemned for disease other than T.B. ...	14	18	11	65	60
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned ...	2,347		16	792	1,565
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ... ..	79.5%		0.9%	9.3%	3.6%
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	15	24	—	—	52
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned ...	626		—	—	2,312
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B. ... ..	21.2%		—	—	5.4%

In addition, the following meat was condemned on butchers' premises on account of bone taint and other causes:—

**Home Killed Pork**  
114 lbs.

**Home Killed Beef**  
610 lbs.

**Home Killed Mutton**  
26 lbs.

**Imported Beef**  
145 lbs.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

### 1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes as to provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	26	24	4	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	152	50	6	—
3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	3	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>181</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>—</b>

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ... ..	5	4	—	5	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	1	1	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation ... ..	6	6	—	5	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	1	—	—	1	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	2	—	3	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) ... ..	1	1	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ... ..	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>—</b>

**OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111).**

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list	Section 110		Section 111	
		No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making of wearing apparel ...	411	—	—	—	—

I am,

Your obedient servant,

**P. J. GOUGH,**

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*





