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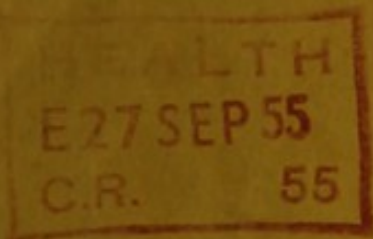
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH.

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

OF THE

BOROUGH OF TAUNTON
FOR THE YEAR 1954



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

August, 1955.

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

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fourth Annual Report for the year 1954.

The outstanding feature of the year was the incidence of measles, a total of 515 cases occurring, one of the highest figures ever recorded.

The housing situation in 1954 continued to be very difficult resulting in serious hardship to the many families involved.

Although definite administrative progress has been made in respect of the new water scheme it must be a matter of concern that the new supply will not be in service until 1960.

Excellent progress was made on the new sewage scheme during the year.

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, 1954.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	2,434
Population (estimated by Registrar General, mid-year)	34,820
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1954 (according to the rate books)	9,309
Rateable value at the end of 1954	£269,391
Estimated product of a penny rate	£1,060

VITAL STATISTICS

Births, live legitimate	Male 252	Female 210	Total 462	
Births, live illegitimate	Male 9	Female 4	Total 13	
Births, still legitimate	Male 5	Female 2	Total 7	
Births, still illegitimate	Male —	Female —	Total —	
Birth rate, total, corrected by factor 0.99	...	...	...	13.66
live	..	..	..	13.50
still	..	..	..	0.19
illegitimate	..	..	..	0.36
Deaths, Male 205, Female 229	...	...	...	Total 434
Death rate, crude	...	...	...	12.46
corrected by factor 0.91	...	...	...	11.33
Deaths of infants under one year of age, Male 5, Female 3	...	...	...	Total 8
Infant Mortality rate	...	...	...	16.84
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age	...	...	...	1
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	2.1

Taunton's population is again almost static, the total increase being only 120, compared with 60 the previous year.

The number of illegitimate live births was only 13 (1953—28).

The infant mortality rate, i.e. the number of deaths in children under one year per 1,000 live births, which is generally conceded to be one of the most sensitive public health indices, reached an all time low level of 16.84.

This figure reflects the greatest credit on the services provided, both public and private.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S TABLE OF DEATHS

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	3	6
Tuberculosis, other	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	1	2	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	5	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung	10	2	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	9	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	5	5
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	20	17	37
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	38	42	80
Coronary disease, angina	21	21	42
Hypertension with heart disease	3	6	9
Other heart disease	44	59	103
Other circulatory disease	8	3	11
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	10	11
Bronchitis	8	3	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	3	6
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	6	3	9
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	3	1	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	19	32
Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	6
All other accidents	3	5	8
Suicide	1	1	2
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—

The above table again shows heart and vascular diseases to be by far the commonest causes of death. Cancer of the lung rose from nine to twelve, including two females.

Motor accident deaths rose from 2 to 6 and for the seventh year in succession there were no deaths associated with childbirth.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1954

Disease				Originally notified	Removed to I. Hospital	Corrected Numbers	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	22	2	22	—
Whooping cough	...	...	...	142	—	142	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—							
Paralytic	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Measles	...	...	...	515	1	515	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	9	—	9	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	4	—	4	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis—							
Infective	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Post-infectious	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	9	1	9	—
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	2	1	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—							
Respiratory	...	...	...	31	—	31	8
Non-respiratory	...	...	...	5	—	5	1
Malaria (B.T.) contracted abroad...				—	—	—	—

Infectious Diseases

Measles dominated the picture during 1954. Fortunately there were no deaths amongst the 515 cases, the vast majority being very mild.

In 1954, following the mass of new data released at the World Health Organisation Conference on Poliomyelitis, the Council decided to try out rigid home and garden quarantine for all domiciliary contacts of cases occurring in private houses.

This new experiment aroused much interest both in respect of its value and its practicability, and had a very limited trial in 1954 inasmuch as there was only one case, although the household concerned amounted to eleven including four wage-earners.

The scheme was based on the proven fact that, normally, at least 50 per cent of domiciliary contacts are excreting the virus in their faeces for at least three weeks. It was therefore decided that all the domiciliary contacts, not merely the children, be asked to

stay inside the house and garden for three weeks and that nothing (other than milk bottles which had stood in Chloros for 24 hours) should leave the premises.

The scheme was voluntary but strongly supported by public opinion. The employers of the wage-earners concerned readily agreed to pay the wages less National Health Insurance, and the County Medical Officer of Health agreed to the local Health Visitor being detailed to iron out the innumerable practical difficulties. Events proved that, certainly as regards the one case which occurred, the scheme was fully practicable and there is no doubt that until better methods of controlling the disease are available, the scheme will be continued in respect of sporadic cases.

The surrounding district of Taunton Rural District Council readily agreed to collaborate.

TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-pulmonary</i>
Cases of the Borough Register 31.12.54 ...	231 (245)	38 (49)
Number of new cases during the year ...	31 (50)	5 (9)
Number of deaths during the year ...	6 (—)	1 (—)
Average yearly deaths during the pre-war decade	15	3.3

(Figures in brackets are those of 1953)

The above table shows that the unprecedented absence of mortality due to this disease which occurred in 1953 was not repeated in 1954. There was, however, an appreciable reduction in the numbers of new cases notified.

WATER SUPPLY

The total amount of treated water put into supply in the Borough and adjoining areas was 611 million gallons, an increase of 28 millions 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.

The continual increase in treated water put into supply in the Borough and adjoining areas each year (1954 showing a 5 per cent increase on 1953) again underlines the urgency of the new scheme. If any of the five years which have still to elapse, before the new supply is available, should prove to be a drought year serious and potentially dangerous difficulties are likely to arise. It is at least some reassurance to learn that Ministry approval has now been granted following a public inquiry.

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
27	—	8	—	*150	5	7	—

(*Including three from Musgrove borehole and two from Wellington R.D.C.)

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 the work is now half way to completion.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 47

No cases were dealt with during the year.

HOUSING

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

TABLE 1.

No. of Post-War Houses erected to 31st December, 1954		Programme for 1954	
By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise	By Local Authority	By Private Enterprise
1,466	183	154	—

Houses required:—

To abate overcrowding	...	...	...	...	90
To overcome unsatisfactory conditions	...	...	...	...	913
Total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of 1954					1,524

TABLE 2.

Details of Post-War Houses:—

						Rent
Temporary Bungalows	...	...	...	225		19/2
Permanent Bungalows	...	...	...	84		27/7
Woollaway Bungalows	...	...	...	1		27/7
Brick Bungalows	...	...	...	10		21/3
Bedsitting Room Flats	...	...	...	12		9/0
Four bedroomed houses	...	...	...	8		28/7
Three bedroomed houses	...	...	...	757	26/6 —	24/3
Two bedroomed houses	...	...	...	199		23/4
Two bedroomed flats	...	...	...	106	18/7 —	12/6
One bedroomed flats	...	...	...	34		12/0
Huts	...	...	...	30		11/6
				1,466		

TABLE 3.

	Houses erected during 1954	In course of erection	Conversions
Local Authority ...	206	60	—
Private Enterprise	5	46	7

TABLE 4.

Condemned houses still occupied:—

Owned by the Corporation	...	...	...	...	...	36
Under requisition powers	...	...	...	...	...	3
Let by the Council as agents for the owners	...	...	...	...	...	12
Licensed for occupation	...	...	...	...	...	29
Occupied continuously since date of Clearance Orders	...	...	...	...	...	39

The above figures are again disappointing, there being only 206 Council Houses erected during the year as against a programme of 244 and the position continues to give acute concern to all involved.

Nevertheless, although the present position can only be regarded as depressing, the future, if not for this year, at least for next, contains real hope. I am indebted to the Housing Architect for the following information which it is certain will be very welcome in many Taunton families:—

1. Houses to be completed between April, 1955, and March, 1956 (including 18 three-storey flats) ... 154
 2. Houses expected to be in contract between April, 1955, and March, 1956, but not completed (including 16 maisonettes over shops and 12 three-storey flats) 450
-
- 604
3. Roads and Sewers are under construction for 800 houses on the Priorswood Estate.

This impressive programme which has only become possible by surmounting many frustrating setbacks and difficulties should go a long way to relieving most of the present well-nigh intolerable

cases of housing hardship. The task is formidable, there being still 1,524 applicants for Council Houses and 119 families living in houses which were condemned as unfit for human habitation many years ago; nevertheless, the Council's programme, which is within measurable distance of achievement, is a substantial one, making maximum use of available resources.

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 County Medical Officer in attendance) and Wednesdays (Midwives in attendance).

The attendances in 1954 were:—

				<i>Mondays</i>	<i>Wednesdays</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total attendances	...	...	...	502	973	1,475
New cases	...	...	...	166	58	224

Post-Natal Clinic

This is held at the Health Centre, Tower Lane, on the second and fourth Thursdays in each month. The attendances in 1954 were:—

Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	22

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 Park 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 1954, 21 premature infants were born in hospitals, of whom two died; three were born at home, of whom one died.

Home Visiting of Infants

This is carried out by four Health Visitors. Their work in 1954 included :—

First visits to children under five years of age ...	...	658
Re-visits to children under five years of age ...	...	7,398
Visits to ante-natal cases ...	...	26
Other visits (infectious diseases, old people, etc.) ...	...	1,034
		9,116

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 1954 the attendances of infants at these centres totalled 6,531, including 439 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
1954 ...	412	472	87.28	51	334

The percentage of infants immunised shows a gratifying increase on the previous year. This is partly due to the absence of poliomyelitis and also a more intensive drive to secure a satisfactory rate. The private doctors and the Health Visitors concerned deserve much of the credit for these good results.

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. 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.

Orthopædic 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 Hospital 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	...	...	...	...	...	2,061
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	896
Total						2,957
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2,377
(3) Number referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2,145
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	1,465
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	3,594
(6) Half-days devoted to:—Inspection 26, Treatment 395½	...	...	...	...	...	421½
(7) Fillings:—						
Permanent teeth 1,503, Temporary teeth 209	...	...	...	...	...	1,712
(8) Number of teeth filled:—						
Permanent teeth 1,397, Temporary teeth 187	...	...	...	...	...	1,584
(9) Extractions:—						
Permanent teeth 375, Temporary teeth 1,545	...	...	...	...	...	1,920
(10) Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	...	371
(11) Other operations:—						
Permanent teeth 628, Temporary teeth 409	...	...	...	...	...	1,037

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

	Adults	Pre-school Children
(1) Number of cases inspected	37	104
(2) Number found to require treatment	29	98
(3) Number of cases treated	23	86
(4) Number of attendances	78	171
(5) Administration of general anæsthetics	10	13
(6) Number of teeth extracted	99	164
(7) Number of teeth filled	8	4
(8) Number of fillings	8	5
(9) Scaling and gum treatment	2	—
(10) Silver Nitrate treatment	—	19
(11) Other treatment	10	43

The Day Nursery

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

Accommodation is provided from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a maximum of 30 children.

The average daily attendance during 1954 was 21.5, the vast majority of the children on the register belonging to the Priority 1 group.

Home Help Service

This service is administered in the County Hall, Taunton.

During 1954, 219 Borough residents received assistance in their homes. These included the following types of cases:—

Maternity	...	...	...	...	...	24
Old age and infirmity	...	...	...	...	...	83
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	13
Chronic Sick	...	...	...	...	...	32
Post operation	...	...	...	...	...	16
Post and pre-natal	...	...	...	...	...	21
Families of children	...	...	...	...	...	4
Others	...	...	...	...	...	26

Many of the above would have been unable to remain at home without the Home Help's assistance.

Ambulance Service

The main ambulance station is situated at Musgrove Park Hospital. A service throughout the 24 hours is provided by five ambulances.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year 1954

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, 1954.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Housing and General Sanitary Work

Houses inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts ...	133
Re-inspections ...	314
Infectious diseases, in connection with ...	39
Factories ...	33
Drainage, in connection with ...	302
Rodent Control (excluding visits made by Rodent Operator) ...	21
Public conveniences ...	10
Houses let in lodgings ...	11
Moveable dwellings ...	45
Stables, piggeries ...	5
Offensive trades ...	16
Smoke observations ...	29
Verminous premises ...	21
Common lodging houses ...	4
Refuse disposal, in connection with ...	5
Shops ...	111
Interviews ...	160
Cinemas and places of entertainment ...	4
Schools ...	2
Miscellaneous sanitary visits ...	115
Pet shops ...	7
Scrap metal dealers ...	7
Meteorology ...	308

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:—

Wall plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	14
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	12
New roofs provided	...	...	...	...	1
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	50
Rain water pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Dampness eradicated	...	...	...	...	7
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	2
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	11
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Skirting repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous repairs	...	...	...	...	10
Drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	14
Gullies renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	13
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	3
New W.C.s provided	...	...	...	...	3
Drains cleared	...	...	...	...	42
Septic tanks emptied	...	...	...	...	2

Housing Act, 1936; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953

During the year 2 Closing Orders were made in respect of two houses under these Acts as being unfit for human habitation. The Closing Order on part of one of these houses was subsequently determined, the said part of the house having been made fit.

Housing Act, 1936—Section 11

Housing Act, 1949—Section 2

During the year the Demolition Order made on a house in 1938 was quashed, the house having been made fit for habitation.

Complaints

During the year 471 complaints were received at the Health Department. These complaints had reference to the following matters:—

Housing conditions	...	...	...	...	94
Drainage	...	...	...	...	64
Rats or mice	...	...	...	...	124
Unsound food	...	...	...	...	108
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	81

All these complaints were investigated and appropriate action taken.

Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954—Section 6

At the commencement of the year 28 houses that had been closed under Clearance Orders were being occupied under powers conferred by the above Act. During the year one house was closed as being unfit for further occupation, and two new licences were granted bringing the total number of houses occupied under the Act to 29.

Public Health Act, 1936—Section 24

During the year 23 sewers were found to be chocked, 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, 21 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	...	...	...	...	195
Visits involved	...	...	...	..	1,011
Treatments at business premises	...	...	...	...	32
Visits involved	...	...	...	..	153
Treatments at premises owned by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	5
Visits involved	...	...	...	..	27
Visits on search work	...	...	...	...	617

Disinfection

Disinfection of premises and bedding after the removal of patients suffering from Tuberculosis, or after death, was carried out to 20 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 Dwellings—						
Sites for moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	3
Individual moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	11

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	...	...	...	...	...	6
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Licences 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 50 samples of the water at the St. James' Street Baths, taken at the inlet and outlet ends, were tested for residual chlorine. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD INSPECTION

Visits in connection with the inspection and supervision of foods

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	815
Foodshops	...	...	...	...	...	198
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	64
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	42
Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	34
Restaurants, Hotels and Cafés	...	...	...	...	...	54

Milk Supply

There are 14 registered dairies and 16 registered distributors of milk operating within the Borough. Two of the distributors operate from premises outside the Borough. Fourteen of the local distri-

butors hold licences to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk and eleven 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, 35 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk, and 49 samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk being sold within the Borough were submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination. Of these, 33 of the Tuberculin Tested samples and 44 of the Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) samples were reported as being satisfactory. Two samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk and five samples of Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk were reported as being unsatisfactory. All unsatisfactory reports are referred to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries or the Somerset County Council as the case may be for investigation.

Ice Cream

The registrations of premises under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream are as follows:—

Manufacture and sale	...	...	...	...	3
Storage	...	...	...	...	1
Storage and sale	...	...	...	...	93

Sampling of Ice Cream

During the year, 36 samples of ice cream were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. The results were as follows:—

					Hot mix	Cold mix
Grade 1	...	...	...	...	25	3
Grade 2	...	...	...	...	7	1
Grade 3	...	...	...	...	1	—
Grade 4	...	...	...	...	1	2

Food Inspection

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

CANNED FOOD

Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	383	tins
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	83	"
Beans	...	...	...	...	...	44	"
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	84	"
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	380	"
Beetroot	...	...	...	...	...	6	"
Carrots	...	...	...	...	...	7	"
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	22	"
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	26	"
Jellied Veal	...	...	...	...	...	14	"
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	42	"
Prawns	...	...	...	...	...	4	"
Salmon	...	...	...	...	...	2	"
Crabmeat	...	...	...	...	...	3	"
Minced or corned beef	...	...	...	...	...	97	"
Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	...	107	"
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	...	2	"
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	4	"
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	...	...	42	"
Tongues	...	...	...	...	...	37	"
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	55	"

OTHER FOODS

Sugar	...	...	...	...	...	20	lbs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	1½	"
Frozen Egg	...	...	...	...	...	39	"
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	36	"
Chicken	...	...	...	...	...	73	"
Chopped Pork	...	...	...	...	...	7	"
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	69	"
Flour	...	...	...	...	...	35	"
Turkey	...	...	...	...	...	10	"
Turkish Delight	...	...	...	...	...	56	"
Dried Apricots	...	...	...	...	...	55	"
Paste	...	...	...	...	...	9	jars
Cake flour	...	...	...	...	...	7	packets
Gravy browning	...	...	...	...	...	2	bottles
Kippers	...	...	...	...	...	11	boxes
Faggots	...	...	...	...	...	237	
Cakes	...	...	...	...	...	14	
Pies	...	...	...	...	...	11	

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Prosecutions

During the year, 3 prosecutions were instituted for offences under the above Act, viz. :—

<i>Trader</i>		<i>Offence</i>		<i>Result of Case</i>
Fishmonger	...	Wire in fishcake	...	Fine imposed
Baker	...	Staple in crumpet	...	Fine imposed
Baker	...	Wire in bread	...	Fine imposed

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Section 13

The routine inspection of catering premises has continued and a total of 54 visits were made to this type of business. Generally speaking, the owners of cafés, restaurants and snack bars have been co-operative, and our requirements as to structure, decoration, equipment and methods have been met without recourse to statutory action. The following works have been carried out during the year :—

W.C.s provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Urinals	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Refuse bins renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Artificial lighting provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
New preparation tables provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drainage improvements	...	...	...	...	...	2
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hygiene notices posted	...	...	...	...	...	1
Paper towels provided	...	...	...	...	...	2

Meat Inspection

The slaughtering of food animals on behalf of the Ministry of Food was concentrated into one Government Slaughterhouse and a bacon factory up to the end of June when Government control on meat ended. This resulted in the licensing of three private slaughterhouses in addition to the bacon factory.

The following animals were slaughtered during the year :—

Beasts	...	...	...	...	...	1,885
Cows	...	...	...	...	...	720
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	...	...	...	10,369
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	5,627
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	52,275

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

	Cattle (excl. cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep, Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,885	720	5,627	10,369	52,275
Number inspected	1,885	720	5,627	7,500	52,275
Whole carcasses condemned for disease other than T.B. ...	3	1	6	35	51
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned ...	1,694		30	988	2,315
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	*65.1%		.6%	13.6%	4.5%
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	3	7	2	—	26
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned ...	613		4	—	3,437
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B.	23.9%		.1%	—	6.6%

*The percentage of diseases other than T.B. in cattle is greatly distorted by the prevalence of flukes in bovine livers.

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

Home-killed Pork	...	...	...	36 lbs.
Home-killed Beef	...	...	...	395 lbs.
Imported Beef	...	...	...	164 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	23	4	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	152	72	11	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ...	6	—	—	—
TOTAL	184	95	—	—

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	7	7	—	1	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	7	—	7	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	4	4	—	1	—
TOTAL	22	22	—	11	—

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 ...	625	—	—	—	—

I am,

Your obedient servant,

P. J. GOUGH,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

METEOROLOGICAL READING FOR 1954

Month	Barometer			Thermometer			Sunshine			Rainfall			
	Mean	Max.	Min.	Mean	Max.	Min.	Hours	Max. Reading	No. of Sunless Days	Inches	Days Rain fell	Days with 0.04in. or more	Max. Reading
January	30.01	30.60	29.40	40.9	59	14	45	5.75	11	1.81	18	9	.60
February	29.78	30.40	29.20	39.41	55	16	62.5	6.0	3	2.18	21	13	.51
March	29.77	30.07	28.72	43.72	59	16	96.25	8.25	6	4.05	20	12	.66
April	30.23	30.57	29.67	45.45	61	26	198.0	12.0	2	0.14	4	nil.	(snow)
May	29.96	30.28	29.45	48.31	73	32	169.5	13.0	1	1.47	18	10	.60
June	29.90	30.24	29.24	56.5	70	40	151.25	14.0	1	2.59	14	9	.50
July	29.42	30.24	29.40	58.5	71	42	146.0	12.25	2	2.01	17	11	.84
August	29.82	30.24	29.28	58.98	76	41	157.0	10.75	2	2.31	18	8	.75
September	29.53	30.17	29.53	56.3	78	33	146.25	8.75	1	2.54	23	16	.54
October	29.93	30.37	29.55	54.09	67	27	77.25	7.5	5	1.75	27	11	.30
November	29.81	30.58	29.20	45.45	62	23	49.00	5.25	10	6.20	26	20	1.08
December	29.58	30.40	28.44	43.9	59	23	45.00	4.5	13	2.43	20	8	.76
TOTAL	29.84	—	—	49.24	—	—	1,343	—	57	29.48	226	127	—

1910

1911

1912

1913

1914

1915

1916

1917

1918

1919

1920

1921

1922

1923

1910

1924

1925



