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BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1948

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE
AUTHORITY

(a)

Part time M.O.H.

G. Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer to the Hospital:

T. N. Rudd, M.D., M.R.C.P.

District Medical Officer to Guardians:

G. Nicholson, M.D., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

(b)

Sanitary Inspector
and Meat and Food Inspector

Charles Jeffries.

M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.





REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
to the Borough of Tiverton
For the year ended 31st December, 1948

II, St. Peter Street,
Tiverton,
May, 1949.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending 31st December 1948.

Area. Although the Borough covers an area of 17,660 acres, the Town itself covers 300 acres only.

Population 11,230

Inhabited Houses. Number in 1948 was 3182

Rateable Value is £67,932

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £275

Extracts from Vital Statistics

		Total	Males	Females	
Live Births {	Legitimate	201	105	96	} Birth Rate: 18.4 per 1000
	Illegitimate	6	3	3	
Still Births		6	3	3	} Rate per 1000 Births 28.2 (Total Live & Still Births)
Illegitimate Still Births	Nil.				
Deaths	... 127	62	65		} Death Rate: 11.3 per 1000

Deaths from Pregnancy and Childbirth, 0. Puerperal Sepsis 0. other causes 0.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age. All infants per 1000 live births ... 28.9

Legitimate infants per 1000, legitimate live births 24.8

Illegitimate infants, under one year. 1 death.

Deaths from Measles Nil

" from Whooping Cough Nil

" from Diarrhoea Nil

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 10.8 and the Birth Rate 17.9. The Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales was 34 per 1,000 live Births.

Deaths from Cancer Breast 1, Oesophagus 2 Stomach and Duodenum 2 Other sites 14 Total 19

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

- (1) Nursing In The Home. No change.
- (2) There is one Midwife practising in the Area, in addition to the four district nurses.
- (3) Laboratory Facilities There are two in the Area - The County Laboratory and that connected with the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital.
- (4) Hospitals. There are two in the Area. The Tiverton Joint Isolation Hospital has proved seriously inadequate owing to the lack of staff which, I am given to understand, is unobtainable. The above hospital was closed for the reception of infectious diseases during the year. Cases are now received at the Isolation Hospital, Whipton Exeter.

Tiverton and District Hospital deals with surgical, medical and maternity cases. There are 50 beds, 11 of which are devoted to maternity cases. Accommodation is very strained at times in all departments and is not really adequate. Maternity cases are regularly refused booking owing to lack of space.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is now held at the above Hospital twice monthly.

- (5) Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. None in the Area.
- (6) Ambulance Facilities. No Change.
- (7) Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

Out-patient departments (under control of the Local Authority)
 - School Minor Ailments, each morning, 9 to 10 a.m.
 Wednesdays, S.M.O. in attendance, 9 to 12 noon.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. This Centre is open weekly on Wednesdays 2-4 p.m.

Ante-natal clinic at the Tiverton and District Hospital on Tuesday 3 p.m.

The attendances for 1948 were as follows:-

Total infants attending for first time ...	...	...	III
" children, 1 to 5 years, attending for first time	...	...	14
Number on Register at end of year - Mothers ...	...	...	275
" " " " " " " Infants ...	...	...	169
" " " " " " " 1 to 5 years ...	...	...	106
Number of attendances during 1947 - Mothers ...	...	...	2021
" " " " " " " Infants ...	...	...	1535
" " " " " " " 1 to 5 years ...	...	...	619

The Mothers and Children have had supervision and advice both at the Welfare weekly by the Medical Officer and the Health Visitor, and in their houses by the Health Visitor. Simple treatment has been given where considered sufficient, in other cases the mothers were referred to their private doctor for treatment.

The Orthopaedic Clinic was held on 49 Tuesdays during the year- 12 sessions by the Surgeon and 37 by the after-care Sister.

Number on Register, 1/1/48 ...	...	...	...	...	327
" " " 31/12/48 ...	...	...	...	...	286
Sessions held ...	...	...	...	...	49
New Cases ...	...	...	...	...	175
Discharges ...	...	...	...	...	302
Admitted to Hospital ...	...	...	...	...	23

Average weekly attendance 28.5
Number of Attendances 1417

Admissions :- Adults 175
" I T.B. 1
School Age 67
" " I T.B. 1
Infants 17
261

Some of the elder patients have been trained at St. Loe's College for the Disabled, in connection with the Clinic, the aim being the complete rehabilitation of the patients.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Scabies This appears to be diminishing.

Diphtheria Immunization. A regular monthly clinic is held for this purpose and it is well attended. Administration of this procedure was transferred to the County Council during the year.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1948.

Age Period.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15		1						
20						1		
25				1	1	1		
35		1						
45		1	1		1			
55			1					1
65 and over		1	1					1
Totals		4	3	1	2	2	2	

Notifiable Diseases

Age Incidence

Age Period	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia
Under 1 year				
1 to 3				
3 to 5				
5 to 10	2			
10 to 15	1			
15 to 25				
25 to 40				2
40 to 65				1
65 and over				
Age Unknown				
Totals	3			3

Erysipelas

Measles

Whooping Cough

Acute Poliomyelitis

	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis
Under 1 year			1	
1 to 3		2		
3 to 5		1	1	
5 to 10				
10 to 15				
15 to 25				1
25 to 40				
40 to 65	1			
65 and over				
Age Unknown				
Totals	1	3	2	1

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925).
No action taken.

Public Health Act, 1925. No action taken.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE NICHOLSON

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
to the Borough of Tiverton
1st January to 31st December, 1948

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Town Hall, Tiverton.
15th June 1949.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Tiverton.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this, my third Annual Report on the work carried out in my department during the year ended 31st December, 1948.

It has not been possible to carry out systematic house to house reconditioning of unfit houses, but many individual premises have been repaired and improvements to sanitary conveniences and washing facilities carried out as the result of informal action.

The number of applicants on the Council's Housing List continues to be high, in spite of the considerable number of families rehoused by the Council since the end of hostilities.

Also there appears to be a fairly large floating population, which adds considerably to the number of premises requiring inspection in connection with the Points Scheme.

The number of applications at December 1948 was 387, and the family groups were as follows:-

	Residing in Borough	Residing outside Borough	Combined Total
(1) Aged Couples	9	1	10
(2) Aged Widows	4	1	5
(3) Single Men desirous of marrying	4	1	5
(4) Young married couples without children	63	12	75
(5) Married couples with 1 child	133	22	155
(6) Married couples with 2 children	68	11	79
(7) Married couples with 3 children	37	3	40
(8) Married couples with more than 3 children	13	5	18
Totals	331	56	387

It will be noted from a perusal of the above table that there appears to be a great need for a two bedroom house and the Housing Committee did in fact decide after consideration of a report giving these figures to include a number of 2 bedroom maisonettes or flats in their housing programme.

A distressing feature of the housing shortage is the number of families who are without separate homes and the following table

gives the proportion of such families to the Total, and also the proportion of applicants engaged in Agriculture or associated industry.

SUMMARY OF LIVE APPLICATIONS

Classification of Applicants	Total No. of Separate Families	No. of applicants included in Col.(2) who are Agricultural Workers.	No. Of applicants included in Col. (2) who are associated Agricultural Ind:
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Borough	Outside Borough	Borough
			Outside Borough
A. Without Separate Homes.	155	27	8
B. With Separate Homes.	176	29	5
C. Total	331	56	13

It is gratifying to learn that following consideration by the Housing Committee of the Ministry of Health's recent report of the Housing Management Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee it was decided that the Council's Points Scheme so closely approximated to the suggestions contained in the Ministry's report that it was unnecessary to amend our own points scheme.

I would like to record my appreciation of the great assistance afforded me by Miss R. Newton, clerk in my department, in connection with the Council's Points Scheme for the letting of houses.

The Borough boundaries embrace a large area of country typically rural in character, much of which being devoted to dairy farming. As a result of inspections and advice from myself a number of cowsheds and dairies have been reconstructed and several new cowsheds and dairies provided, whilst several are in course of construction. A considerable number of visits have been made in connection with Ministry of Agriculture Grant Aid Scheme to improve water supplies and the suitability of proposed sources of supply investigated.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

- (1) The water supply for the Town has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations have been made at regular monthly intervals of the treated water going into supply.
Water from the Allers supply (source springs at Norwood Common, supplemented by pumping from River Eke is both filtered and chlorinated.
Water from the Warnicombe Supply is only chlorinated.
- (3) The waters have no plumbic solvent action.
- (4) No contamination during year.
- (5) The number of dwelling houses in the Borough and population supplied from public mains are 2732 houses, 11,230 population.
The water is piped in direct to approximately 2192 houses, whilst approximately 540 houses are supplied by means of stand pipes. These latter houses being situated principally in Courts.

Results of Sampling

Public Main Supplies

Source of Supply.	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Allers	12	12	-
Warnicombe	13	13	-
Farms and other premises.	24	12	12

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse. Regular collections of refuse and salvage have been maintained.

SALVAGE				KITCHEN WASTE			
	tons	cwts	qrs		tons	cwts	qrs
January	4	0	0	January	6	13	0
February	7	0	0	February	4	17	0
March	7	5	0	March	7	0	0
April	9	15	0	April	4	6	0
May	11	0	2	May	10	6	0
June	7	3	0	June	6	0	2
July	4	14	2	July	5	17	2
August	5	8	3	August	6	13	0
September	9	16	0	September	7	13	3
October	5	7	2	October	8	5	0
November	9	12	2	November	6	9	1
December	6	9	3	December	5	14	0
	87	12	2		79	15	0

Inspection and Supervision of Meat and Foods

296 Visits of Inspection were made to the Council's Abattoir for the purpose of Meat Inspection.

The following table shows the numbers of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the year:-

<u>Beasts.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>	<u>Private Pigs.</u>
454	1117	2628	13	213

This makes a total of 4,425 animals examined during the year.

The following is a list of the meat and offal condemned as diseased or unsound:-

BEEF

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Emaciation & Dropsy	377
1	Septicaemia	403
1	Acute Fever	457
3		1237 lbs

<u>Parts of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1 Broken leg.		6
Neck of beef.	Actinomyces.	10
Pt. Hind/qt.	Deep & extensive bruising.	30
		46 lbs

Offal Various 5517 lbs

	tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Total Weight of BEEF condemned		11	1	23
" " " " Offal "	2	9	1	1
(not including T.B.)				

Beef

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight</u>
18	T.B.	8653

Parts of Carcasses

Ribs	T.B. and Abscesses.	36
Hnd/qt.	T.B.	119
		155

Offal T.B. 3152

	tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Total Weight of T.B. Beef Condemned	3	18	2	16
" " " " " Offal "	1	8	0	16

CALVES

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
6	Inflammation	211
3	Jaundice	137
5	Umbilical Pyaemia	229
1	Immature	17
2	Emaciation and Dropsy	151
1	" " " & Fevered	46
1	Decomposition	60
1	Severe Injuries & General Dropsy	70
1	General Jaundice & Dropsy	56
21		977

Parts of Carcasses

1 Shoulder Veal	Injury	12
-----------------	--------	----

Offal Various 210

	cwts	qrs	lbs
Total Weight of VEAL Condemned	8	3	9
" " " " Offal "	1	3	14
(not including T.B.)			

Calves

<u>No. of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Gangrenous Pneumonia & T.B.	66
1	General T.B.	44
2		110

Calves cont.

<u>Offal</u>	T.B.			15 lbs
Total Weight of VEAL Condemed. T.B.	3	grs.	lbs.	
" " CALVES' Offal "	"			

SHEEP

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
17	General Inflammation	829
12	Gangrenous Pneumonia	512
21	Emaciation & Dropsy	802
2	Emaciation & Anaemia	68
1	Injuries	49
1	Jaundice	35
2	Inflammation & Dropsy	82
1	Uraemia	35
1	Abscess & Emaciation	59
1	Gangrene & Inflammation	38
1	Pneumonia & Gen. Dropsy	37
1	Septic Metritis	80
2	Inflammation & Ill Bled	87
1	Insufficient Bleeding	40
1	Pyæmia	64
2	Deep & Extensive Injuries & Bruising	70
1	Abscess & Inflammation	38
1	Jaundice & General Dropsy	49
1	Severe Injuries. Moribund	66
70		3040 lbs

Parts of Carcasses

10 prs. Hnd/qts.	Inflammation	231
2 Shoulders.	Ulcers	14
1 "	Abscess	3
1 pr. Legs	Dropsy	18
1 pr. Hnd/qts.	Inflammation & Abscess	34
1 Fh nk.	Inflammation	4
1 pr. Hnd/qts.	Bruising	17
Loin & Shoulder	Injury	11
Side & Part Neck	Deep Bruising & Injury	35
Part. Legs & Shoulder	Deep Bruising & Injury	19
2 Part Necks	Abscess	7
Pr. Hnd/qts.	Ulcers	14
		407 lbs

<u>Offal</u>	Various				1351 lbs
Total Weight of Mutton Condemed	1	tons	cwts	grs	lbs
" " " Sheep Offal "					

PIGS

<u>No. of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Erysipelas	227
1	Acute Fever & Mammitis	157
2		384 lbs

Pigs (cont)

<u>Parts of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
I leg	Ulcers	22
I Head	Injuries	6
I Flank	Inflammation	19
I Hnd/qt.	Injury	18
Pt. Hnd/qt. and udder	Mastitis & Injury	44
I Piece of fat	Inflammation	1
		<u>110</u> lbs
Total Weight of PORK Condemed	cwts 4 qr 1 lb	

Pigs

2	T.B.	412	lbs
<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	29	lbs
Total Weight of T.B. Pork Condemed.	cwts 3 qrs 2 lb		
" " " " Pig's Offal "	" 1 I		

Unsound Food 72 Visits were made to Food Premises in connection with the condemnation of Unsound Food.
The following is a list of food condemned:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>
	<u>Lbs</u>		<u>lbs</u>
Tinned Vegetables.....	134 $\frac{1}{4}$	Bottled Vinegar.....	2
" Peas.....	35 $\frac{1}{4}$	" Sandcheve.....	1
" Stringed Beans... 16		" Bovril.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
" Baked Beans..... 37		" Fruit.....	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Tomato Juice..... 21		" Jam.....	3
" Tomatoes..... 9		" Honey.....	1
" Fruit.....	236 $\frac{1}{2}$	" Mincemeat.....	1
" Marmalade..... 63		Packets Sponge Mix.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Jam.....	131	" Semolina.....	2
" Fruit Juice..... 15 $\frac{3}{4}$		" Pale Flour.....	2
" Jelly..... 9		" Rye.....	2
" Veal Loaf..... 4 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Cereals.....	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
" M & V Ration..... 36		" Dried Egg.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Meat Lunch..... 14 $\frac{1}{4}$		Carton F.Z. Liver.....	10
" Danish Pork Brawn 2		" Liver.....	5
" Corned Beef..... 51 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Veal.....	8
" Sausage..... 23 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Beef.....	252
" Meat Hash..... 8		" Mutton.....	82
" Meat..... 41		" Turkey.....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Sausage Meat..... 1		" Butter.....	116
" Beef Leaf..... 2 $\frac{1}{4}$		" Processed Cheese.. 15 $\frac{1}{4}$	
" Dog's Food..... 10		" Cheese.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Soup.....	195	" Cheese.....	10
" Evaporated and...		" Sugar.....	8
" Full Cream Milk.. 150 $\frac{3}{4}$		" Fish.....	603
" Fish.....	123 $\frac{1}{4}$	" Gelatine.....	22
" Cod Liver Paste 10		" Jelly.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
" Pate De Foie Gras $\frac{1}{2}$		" Dried Prunes.....	15
Bottled Pickles.....	37 $\frac{1}{2}$	" Dried Peaches.....	32
" Pickled Walnuts 1		" Dates.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Stuffed Olives 5		" Luncheon Sausage.. 5	
" Fruit Sauce 17		" Smoked Bacon.....	16 $\frac{1}{4}$
" Sauce.....	1	" Milk.....	100

Total Weight of Food Condemed I ton. 4 cwts. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. 12 ozs.

Ice Cream

<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
20	13	7

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	5
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	93
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	296
Farms & Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	116
Inspections (re Sewerage etc)...	...	...	...	...	...	206
Re-visits following complaints..	...	...	...	...	...	165
Water Samples taken:-						
Public Mains	...	...	...	...	...	25
Other Premises and Farms	...	...	...	...	...	24
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	207
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	90
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	58
Council's Points Scheme:-						
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	134
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	129
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	175
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	12
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	7
Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	20
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	3
Disinfection etc....	...	...	...	...	...	61
Total Visits						<u>1834</u>

SUMMARY OF SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED

Nuisances abated....	...	...	...	...	...	42
House roofs repaired and made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	8
Eaves, gutters, etc., repaired and renewed..	...	...	...	...	...	5
Damp walls remedied.	...	...	...	...	...	2
External plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Chimney stacks repaired, etc....	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Plaster walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Kitchen stoves repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls repaired and rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of refuse removed.	...	...	...	...	...	6
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Staircase repaired..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities..	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sink waste-pipes renewed..	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Supply extended	...	...	...	...	...	10
Drainage improved...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Drains repaired or relaid,.	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drainage Disposal plants repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
New drainage disposal plants provided.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soil pipes and Drain Vent pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sanitary Accommodation

Additional Water Closets and Basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	23
Cisterns replaced and repaired..	...	...	...	...	...	1
Seats replaced	...	...	...	...	...	23
Other defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	6
Water Closet pans renewed.	...	...	...	...	...	4

Factories in Detail

Inspections

Premises (1)	(2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of				Occupiers prosecuted (6)	(7)
			Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)				
(i) Factories in which Sec: I, 2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.		4	2	2			-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority		48	5	3			-	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.		48	13	-			-	
Total		100	20	5			-	

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			
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness		4	4	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (a) insufficient.		2	2	-	-	-	-
Total		6	6	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL

The Council's Rodent Operator, Mr. E. Luxon, has completed a further year's good work and it is noticeable that infestations at private dwellings in the town have almost completely been wiped out.

I feel confident that regular treatment of the Council's sewers is largely responsible for this and infestation in these sewers is now confined to a very small section of the town.

During the past year treatments have been necessitated largely at or adjacent to premises where domestic animals (poultry and pigs) have been kept.

The Borough Council's surface properties; refuse tip, salvage depot etc, have been regularly treated and it is possible to report that there are no reservoir type infestations existing in the area. Major infestations are few apart from farms in the area where they are frequent.

I have received several expressions of appreciation of the Council's rodent service from large business concerns during the year and I can confidently state that the service is performing a most useful public Health service in ridding the district of rats and mice.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

48 Licences were reissued for the storage of 98,025 gallons of petroleum spirit, 4000 gallons of Crude Benzo, 600 gallons of Tractor Vaporizing oil, 230 gallons paraffin, 100 gallons cellulose and 50 gallons of Naptha.

5 premises were inspected and advice on mode of storage given in respect of new applications and licences granted.

43 Premises were revisited in respect of annual licencing.

3 Licences issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium.

EXPLOSIVES ACT 1875

13 Applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives. The premises of all applicants were inspected and reports made to the General Purposes Committee.

13 Certificates of registration were granted.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the very helpful attitude of the Public Health and Housing Committees to me in my endeavour to serve the interest of the Council and the residents of the town.

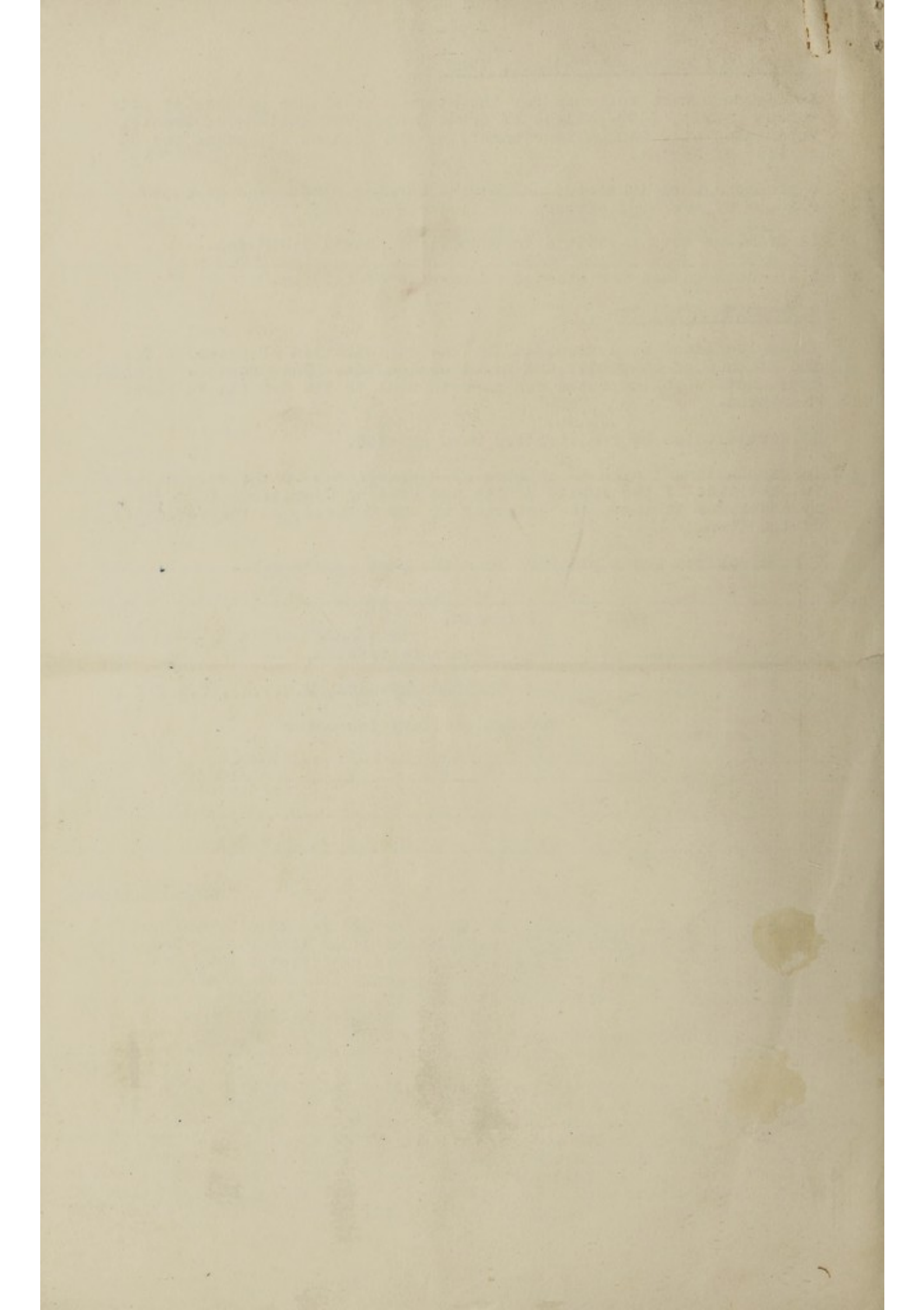
I have derived great pleasure from the past year's work.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES JEFFRIES, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,

Borough Sanitary Inspector



REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR

to the Borough of Tiverton

1st January to 31st December, 1948

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Town Hall, Tiverton.
15th June 1949.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Tiverton.

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this, my third Annual Report on the work carried out in my department during the year ended 31st December, 1948.

It has not been possible to carry out systematic house to house reconditioning of unfit houses, but many individual premises have been repaired and improvements to sanitary conveniences and washing facilities carried out as the result of informal action.

The number of applicants on the Council's Housing List continues to be high, in spite of the considerable number of families rehoused by the Council since the end of hostilities.

Also there appears to be a fairly large floating population, which adds considerably to the number of premises requiring inspection in connection with the Points Scheme.

The number of applications at December 1948 was 387, and the family groups were as follows:-

	Residing in Borough	Residing outside Borough	Combined Total
(1) Aged Couples	9	1	10
(2) Aged Widows	4	1	5
(3) Single Men desirous of marrying	4	1	5
(4) Young married couples without children	63	12	75
(5) Married couples with 1 child	133	22	155
(6) Married couples with 2 children	68	11	79
(7) Married couples with 3 children	37	3	40
(8) Married couples with more than 3 children	13	5	18
Totals	331	56	387

It will be noted from a perusal of the above table that there appears to be a great need for a two bedroom house and the Housing Committee did in fact decide after consideration of a report giving these figures to include a number of 2 bedroom maisonettes or flats in their housing programme.

A distressing feature of the housing shortage is the number of families who are without separate homes and the following table

gives the proportion of such families to the Total, and also the proportion of applicants engaged in Agriculture or associated industry.

SUMMARY OF LIVE APPLICATIONS

Classification of Applicants	Total No. of Separate Families	No. of applicants included in Col.(2) who are Agricultural Workers.		No. Of applicants included in Col. (2) who are associated Agricultural Ind:	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
	Borough	Outside Borough	Borough	Outside Borough	Borough Outside Borough
A. Without Separate Homes.	155	27	8	2	16 3
B. With Separate Homes.	176	29	5	-	22 2
C. Total	331	56	13	2	38 5

It is gratifying to learn that following consideration by the Housing Committee of the Ministry of Health's recent report of the Housing Management Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee it was decided that the Council's Points Scheme so closely approximated to the suggestions contained in the Ministry's report that it was unnecessary to amend our own points scheme.

I would like to record my appreciation of the great assistance afforded me by Miss R. Newton, clerk in my department, in connection with the Council's Points Scheme for the letting of houses.

The Borough boundaries embrace a large area of country typically rural in character, much of which being devoted to dairy farming. As a result of inspections and advice from myself a number of cowsheds and dairies have been reconstructed and several new cowsheds and dairies provided, whilst several are in course of construction. A considerable number of visits have been made in connection with Ministry of Agriculture Grant Aid Scheme to improve water supplies and the suitability of proposed sources of supply investigated.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

- (1) The water supply for the Town has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.
- (2) Bacteriological examinations have been made at regular monthly intervals of the treated water going into supply. Water from the Allers supply (source springs at Norwood Common, supplemented by pumping from River Exe is both filtered and chlorinated. Water from the Warnicombe Supply is only chlorinated.
- (3) The waters have no plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) No contamination during year.
- (5) The number of dwelling houses in the Borough and population supplied from public mains are 2732 houses, 11230 population. The water is piped in direct to approximately 2192 houses, whilst approximately 540 houses are supplied by means of stand pipes. These latter houses being situated principally in Courts.

Results of Sampling

Public Main Supplies

Source of Supply.	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.
Allers	12	12	-
Warnicombe	13	13	-
Farms and other premises.	24	12	12

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse. Regular collections of refuse and salvage have been maintained.

SALVAGE

KITCHEN WASTE

	tons	cwts	qrs		tons	cwts	qrs
January	4	0	0		6	13	0
February	7	0	0		4	17	0
March	7	5	0		7	0	0
April	9	15	0		4	6	0
May	11	0	2		10	6	0
June	7	3	0		6	0	2
July	4	14	2		5	17	2
August	5	8	3		6	13	0
September	9	16	0		7	13	3
October	5	7	2		8	5	0
November	9	12	2		6	9	1
December	6	9	3		5	14	0
	87	12	2		79	15	0

Inspection and Supervision of Meat and Foods

296 Visits of Inspection were made to the Council's Abattoir for the purpose of Meat Inspection.

The following table shows the numbers of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir during the year:-

<u>Beasts.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>	<u>Private Pigs.</u>
454	1117	2628	13	213

This makes a total of 4,425 animals examined during the year.

The following is a list of the meat and offal condemned as diseased or unsound:-

BEEF

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Emaciation & Dropsy	377
1	Septicaemia	403
1	Acute Fever	457
3		1237 lbs

<u>Parts of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1 Broken leg.		6
Neck of beef.	Actinomyces.	10
Pt. Hnd/qt.	Deep & extensive bruising.	30
		46 lbs

<u>Offal</u>	Various	5517 lbs			
		tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Total Weight of BEEF condemned			11	1	23
" " " " Offal "	2		9	1	1
(not including T.B.)					

Beef

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Weight</u>
18	T.B.	8653

Parts of Carcasses

Ribs	T.B. and Abscesses.	36
Hnd/qt.	T.B.	119
		155

<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	3152
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		tons	cwts	qrs	lbs
Total Weight of T.B. Beef Condemned		3	18	2	16
" " " " " Offal "		1	8	0	16

CALVES

<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
6	Inflammation	211
3	Jaundice	137
6	Umbilical Pyaemia	229
1	Immature	17
2	Emaciation and Dropsy	151
1	" " " & Fevered	46
1	Decomposition	60
1	Severe Injuries & General Dropsy	70
1	General Jaundice & Dropsy	56
21		977

Parts of Carcasses

1 Shoulder Veal	Injury	12
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<u>Offal</u>	Various	210			
		cwts	qrs	lbs	
Total Weight of VEAL Condemned		8	3	9	
" " " " " Offal "		1	3	14	
(not including T.B.)					

Calves

<u>No. of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Gangrenous Pneumonia & T.B.	66
1	General T.B.	44
2		110

Calves cont

<u>Offal</u>	<u>T.B.</u>				15 lbs
		qrs.	lbs.		
Total Weight of VEAL Condemed. T.B.		3	26		
" " CALVES' Offal "	"		15		

SHEEP

<u>No. of Carcases.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>	
17	General Inflammation	829	
12	Gangrenous Pneumonia	512	
21	Emaciation & Dropsy	802	
2	Emaciation & Anaemia	68	
1	Injuries	49	
1	Jaundice	35	
2	Inflammation & Dropsy	82	
1	Uraemia	35	
1	Abscess & Emaciation	59	
1	Gangrene & Inflammation	38	
1	Pneumonia & Gen. Dropsy	37	
1	Septic Metritis	80	
2	Inflammation & Ill Bled	87	
1	Insufficient Bleeding	40	
1	Pyæmia	64	
2	Deep & Extensive Injuries & Bruising	70	
1	Abscess & Inflammation	38	
1	Jaundice & General Dropsy	49	
1	Severe Injuries. Moribund	66	
70		3040	lbs

Parts of Carcases

10 prs. Hnd/qts.	Inflammation	231	
2 Shoulders.	Ulcers	14	
1 "	Abscess	3	
1 pr. Legs	Dropsy	18	
1 pr. Hnd/qts.	Inflammation & Abscess	34	
1 Fh nk.	Inflammation	4	
1 pr. Hnd/qts.	Bruising	17	
Loin & Shoulder	Injury	11	
Side & Part Neck	Deep Bruising & Injury	35	
Part. Legs & Shoulder	Deep Bruising & Injury	19	
2 Part Necks	Abscess	7	
Pr. Hnd/qts.	Ulcers	14	
		407	lbs

<u>Offal</u>	<u>Various</u>					1351 lbs
		tons	cwts	qrs	lbs	
Total Weight of Mutton Condemed		1	10	3	3	
" " " Sheep Offal "			12	0	7	

PIGS

<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>	
1	Erysipelas	227	
1	Acute Fever & Mammitis	157	
2		384	lbs

Pigs (cont)

<u>Parts of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
I leg	Ulcers	22
I Head	Injuries	6
I Flank	Inflammation	19
I Hnd/qt.	Injury	18
Pt. Hnd/qt. and udder	Mastitis & Injury	44
I Piece of fat	Inflammation	1
		<u>110</u> lbs
Total Weight of PORK Conderned	cwts 4 gr 1 lb 18	

Pigs

2	T.B.	412	lbs
<u>Offal</u>	T.B.	29	lbs
Total Weight of T.B. Pork Conderned.	cwts 3 qrs 2 lbs 20		
" " " " Pig's Offal "	" 1 " 1		

Unsound Food 72 Visits were made to Food Premises in connection with the condemnation of Unsound Food.
The following is a list of food condemned:-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Weight</u>
	<u>Lbs</u>		<u>lbs</u>
Tinned Vegetables.....	134 $\frac{1}{4}$	Bottled Vinegar.....	2
" Peas.....	35 $\frac{1}{4}$	" Sandcheve.....	1
" Stringed Beans... 16		" Bovril.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
" Baked Beans..... 37		" Fruit.....	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Tomato Juice..... 21		" Jam.....	3
" Tomatoes..... 9		" Honey.....	1
" Fruit..... 236 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Mincement.....	1
" Marmalade..... 63		Packets Sponge Mix.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Jam..... 131		" Semolina.....	2
" Fruit Juice..... 15 $\frac{3}{4}$		" Pale Flour.....	2
" Jelly..... 9		" Rye.....	2
" Veal Loaf..... 4 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Cereals.....	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
" M & V Ration..... 36		" Dried Egg.....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Meat Lunch..... 14 $\frac{3}{4}$		Carton N.Z. Liver.....	10
" Danish Pork Brawn 2		" Liver.....	5
" Corned Beef..... 51 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Veal.....	8
" Sausage..... 23 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Beef.....	252
" Meat Hash..... 8		" Mutton.....	82
" Meat..... 41		" Turkey.....	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Sausage Meat..... 1		" Butter.....	116
" Beef Loaf..... 2 $\frac{1}{4}$		" Processed Cheese..	15 $\frac{3}{4}$
" Dog's Food..... 10		Box Cheese.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Soup..... 195		" Cheese.....	10
" Evaperated and...		" Sugar.....	8
" Full Cream Milk.. 150 $\frac{2}{3}$		" Fish.....	603
" Fish..... 123 $\frac{1}{2}$		" Gelatine.....	22
" Cod Liver Paste 10		" Jelly.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
" Pate De Foie Gras $\frac{1}{2}$		" Dried Prunes.....	15
Bottled Pickles 37 $\frac{1}{4}$		" Dried Peaches.....	32
" Pickled Walnuts 1		" Dates.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" Stuffed Olives 5		" Luncheon Sausage..	5
" Fruit Sauce 17		" Smoked Bacon.....	16 $\frac{1}{4}$
" Sauce 1		" Milk.....	100

Total Weight of Food Conderned 1 ton. 4 cwts. 3 qrs. 21 lbs. 12 ozs.

Ice Cream

<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
20	13	7

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	5
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	93
Slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	296
Farms & Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	116
Inspections (re Sewerage etc)	...	...	...	...	...	206
Re-visits following complaints	...	...	...	...	...	165
Water Samples taken:-						
Public Mains	...	...	...	...	...	25
Other Premises and Farms	...	...	...	...	...	24
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	207
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	...	90
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	58
Council's Points Scheme:-						
Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	134
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	129
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	175
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	12
Petroleum	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	7
Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	20
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	3
Disinfection etc	...	...	...	...	...	61
Total Visits						1834

SUMMARY OF SANITARY DEFECTS REMEDIED

Nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	42
House roofs repaired and made watertight	...	...	...	...	...	8
Eaves, gutters, etc., repaired and renewed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	...	2
External plastering repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Chimney stacks repaired, etc	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Plaster walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	12
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Kitchen stoves repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls repaired and rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sewers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Staircase repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sink waste-pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Supply extended	...	...	...	...	...	10
Drainage improved	...	...	...	...	...	8
Drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drainage Disposal plants repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
New drainage disposal plants provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soil pipes and Drain Vent pipes renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1

Sanitary Accommodation

Additional Water Closets and Basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	23
Cisterns replaced and repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Seats replaced	...	...	...	...	...	23
Other defects remedied	...	...	...	...	...	6
Water Closet pans renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4

Factories in Detail

Inspections

Premises		Number on Register	Number of			
(1)	(2)		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	(7)
(i) Factories in which Sec: I, 2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.		4	2	2	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority		48	5	3	-	
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.		48	13	-	-	
Total		100	20	5	-	

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		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness		4	4	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (a) insufficient.		2	2	-	-	-	-
Total		6	6	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL

The Council's Rodent Operator, Mr. E. Luxon, has completed a further year's good work and it is noticeable that infestations at private dwellings in the town have almost completely been wiped out.

I feel confident that regular treatment of the Council's sewers is largely responsible for this and infestation in these sewers is now confined to a very small section of the town.

During the past year treatments have been necessitated largely at or adjacent to premises where domestic animals (poultry and pigs) have been kept.

The Borough Council's surface properties, refuse tip, salvage depot etc, have been regularly treated and it is possible to report that there are no reservoir type infestations existing in the area. Major infestations are few apart from farms in the area where they are frequent.

I have received several expressions of appreciation of the Council's rodent service from large business concerns during the year and I can confidently state that the service is performing a most useful public Health service in ridding the district of rats and mice.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

48 Licences were reissued for the storage of 98,025 gallons of petroleum spirit, 4000 gallons of Crude Benzo, 600 gallons of Tractor Vaporizing oil, 230 gallons paraffin, 100 gallons cellulose and 50 gallons of Naptha.

5 premises were inspected and advice on mode of storage given in respect of new applications and licences granted.

43 Premises were revisited in respect of annual licencing.

3 Licences issued for storage of Carbide of Calcium.

EXPLOSIVES ACT 1875

13 Applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives. The premises of all applicants were inspected and reports made to the General Purposes Committee.

13 Certificates of registration were granted.

In conclusion, I wish to express my appreciation of the very helpful attitude of the Public Health and Housing Committees to me in my endeavour to serve the interest of the Council and the residents of the town.

I have derived great pleasure from the past year's work.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

CHARLES JEFFRIES, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,

Borough Sanitary Inspector

