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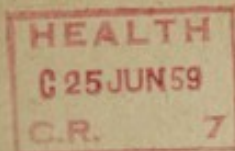
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BOROUGH OF TIVERTON

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1958

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE
AUTHORITY

- (a) Part time M.O.H.
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2 The Larches, Tiverton. Tel.2652
- (b) Chief Public Health Inspector and
Meat and Food Inspector
- Charles Jeffries, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.I.
7 St. Peter Street, Tiverton.Tel.3306
- (c) Additional Public Health Inspector
- Gerald Hill, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.



MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1955

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

1955

Printed by the Government Printing Office

Washington, D. C.

1955

1955



REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
to the Borough of Tiverton.
For the year ended 31st. December, 1958.

7, St. Peter Street,
Tiverton,
June, 1959.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to lay before you my Annual Report on the Health of the District for the year ending 31st. December, 1958.

Area. Although the Borough covers an area of 17,680 acres, the Town itself covers 300 acres only.

Population. Estimated 11,800.

Inhabited Houses. Number in 1958 was 3,972.

Rateable Value is £157,306.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate. £620

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Live (Legitimate	185	92	93)	Birth Rate:
Births (Illegitimate	2	1	1	15.0 per 1000
Still (Legitimate	6	2	4)	Total 6
Births (Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil	Rate per 1000: 32.0
Corrected Birth Rate.	15.1 per 1000			
Deaths... ..	148	66	82	Death Rate:
				12.5 per 1000
Corrected Death Rate.	...	...	...	8.7 per 1000

Deaths from Pregnancy and Childbirth, 0; Puerperal Sepsis, 0; Congenital Malformation, 1.

Deaths of Infants (under four weeks) Total 2 only.

Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age, 2 only.

Illegitimate infants under 1 year - Nil.

Illegitimate infants under 4 weeks - Nil.

Deaths from Measles - Nil.

" " Whooping Cough - Nil.

" " Diarrhoea - 1

Deaths from Cancer, 20

Uterus -		Female	1
Breast -		"	3
Bronchus-	Male	2	"
Stomach -	"	3	"
Lung -	"	-	"
Other)	"	3	"
Sites)			5
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		8	12

Total same as 1957 and one less than 1956.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

- (1) Nursing in the Home. No change.
- (2) Domiciliary Midwifery is carried out by the two 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:-

Post Hill Hospital caters for Medical and also convalescent cases.

Aged Sick. Admissions are now controlled by the recently appointed Geriatrician F. J. Simpson. It is hoped that the future will see closer and more effective co-operation between the Geriatrician and the County Welfare Officials - at times cases arise which do not appear acceptable to either party.

Whipton Isolation Hospital. Infectious cases are sent to this hospital where accommodation is always adequate.

Tiverton and District Hospital. Extensive alterations have taken place at this hospital resulting in a vast improvement in out-patient facilities. The maternity department has also been greatly improved and enlarged, a scheme which has taken in the House Surgeons flat having given a much larger nursery which was badly needed and increased space for mothers. Difficulty in staffing is a perpetual source of anxiety.

Exeter City Hospital - formerly entirely for aged sick is now taking a proportion of acute surgical and medical cases from this district.

An ante-natal Clinic is held every Tuesday at 2.30 p.m. at the Tiverton and District Hospital.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Tiverton and District Hospital twice monthly.

In view of the present risk prevailing of cross infection in Hospitals I am strongly of the opinion that arrangements should be made for a Public Health Inspector to make routine inspections of the hospitals in the area.

- (5) Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers. None in the Area.
- (6) Ambulance Facilities. No change.
- (7) Social Worker in Mental Health and duly authorised officer - Mr. W. P. Thomas, The Clinic, St. Andrew Street.

(8) Clinics and Treatment Centres:-

Minor Ailments Clinic. Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m.
Dr. Rennie and Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Remedial Exercise Clinic. Wednesdays 11 - 12 a.m.
Mrs. Sparks, the Health Visitor, in attendance.

Ophthalmic Clinic. 2nd Tuesdays in alternate months commencing January etc. Dr. Foxwell in attendance. By appointment.

Speech Therapy Clinics. Wednesdays 9 - 12 a.m.
Miss Chapman, Speech Therapist, in attendance.
Also 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons.

School Dental Service. Emergency treatment
Wednesdays 9 - 12.30 a.m. 1.30 - 4 p.m.
Other days by appointment.
Mr. Pomeroy. (Part time).
Orthodontic treatment by Mr. Whitfield by appointment.

Maternity & Child Welfare Centre. This Centre is open weekly
on Wednesdays, 2.0 to 4.0 p.m.

Relaxation Classes. Thursday afternoons 2 - 4 p.m. Run by
Health Visitors. Talks on elementary dietetics, care of baby etc.

The attendances for 1958 at Child Welfare Centre were as follows:-

Total infants attending for first time	...	...	...	103
Total children, 1 to 5 years, attending for first time.	...	...	...	47
Number on Register at end of year - Infants	...	...	...	90
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years.	...	...	...	140
Number of attendances during 1958 - Infants	...	...	...	1365
" " " " " " " - 1 to 5 years.	...	...	...	732

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.

Home Help Service. Cases are dealt with direct through Mrs. Steeksma in conjunction with the W.V.S. Some Maternity cases in the area are dealt with direct by the District Nurses.

The Orthopaedic Clinic was held on 52 Tuesdays during the year - Appointments are made by the Secretary, Mrs. D. A. Birch, and this works very well.

Number on Register, 1/1/58	...	...	...	...	...	318
" " " 31/12/58	...	...	...	...	...	279
Sessions held by Surgeons 48; After care Sister 27	...	...	...	...	...	75
New Cases...	...	...	...	...	...	425
Discharges..	...	...	...	...	...	394
Admitted to Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	107
Average weekly attendances	...	...	...	...	...	26
No of attendances.	...	...	...	...	...	1345
Admissions:	Adults..	...	...	...	...	367
	School Age	...	...	...	...	36
	Infants.	...	...	...	...	22
						425

Some of the elder patients have been trained at St. Loyes'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. Non-reported during the year.

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunization. Vaccination procedure administered by County Council and a Clinic is held for this purpose on each Wednesday. The majority of cases are dealt with by local doctors at their surgeries. The percentage of children immunised continues to be highly satisfactory.

Poliomyelitis. Registration for inoculation has proceeded apace. Inoculation against this disease is being carried out at the local factory during working hours. The response so far has been very satisfactory and should probably reach nearly 100% for the Under 25's.

It is hoped that in future, reports will be available giving the % inoculated.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1958.

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

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES

DEATHS

Age Period.	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Meninges		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Meninges	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age NK.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	6	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Notifiable Diseases.

Age Incidence.

Age Period.	Scarlet Fever	Dysentery	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 2	1	-	-	-	-	-
3 to 4	6	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 9	6	-	-	-	-	-
10 to 14	6	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 24	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 40	-	-	-	-	-	-
40 to 65	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	1	-	-
Age Unknown	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	20	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil

Age Period.	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic/Non	Acute Encephalitis Infective/Post Infective
Under 1 year	8	8	-	-
1 to 2	61	23	-	-
3 to 4	73	36	-	-
5 to 9	181	78	-	-
10 to 14	10	8	-	-
15 to 24	-	1	-	-
25 to 40	-	3	-	-
40 to 65	-	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-
Totals	333	158	-	-

Measles.

It will be seen that 333 cases of this disease were notified during the year. It is difficult to see any advantage in Measles notification as contacts are not excluded from school attendance, which of course means that any attempt at effective control is fore-doomed to failure.

Fees paid to Doctors for this procedure would cost £43.

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 PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

to the Borough of Tiverton

1st. January to 31st. December, 1958

Public Health Inspector's Office,
7 St. Peter Street,
Tiverton.

June, 1959.

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

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my thirteenth Annual Report dealing with the duties of my department during the year 1958.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

During the year under review, the Town water undertaking was taken over by the North Devon Water Board.

- (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) In the case of the Warnicombe Public Mains supply, a routine sample report indicated the water was not a Class I supply; and that chlorination had not been completely effective.
A repeat sample a few days later proved satisfactory.
- (5) The population of the Borough is 11,800, occupying 3972 houses, the greater number of which are supplied by means of public mains.

RESULTS OF SAMPLING

<u>Source of Supply.</u>	<u>No. of Samples.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Allers Public Main.	13	13	-
Warnicombe Public Main.	14	13	1
Cove Public Main.	2	2	-
Farms and Other Premises.	31	18	13

In the case of farm premises and dwelling houses advice was given and follow up visits made to assist in obtaining satisfactory water supplies.

FOOD

MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat. 583 Visits of Inspection were made to the Horsdon Abattoir for the purpose of meat inspection. Ante-mortem inspection was a regular practise of the meat inspection service.

- (1). It is unfortunate that most of the purveyors of meat in Tiverton obtain their supplies from outside the administrative area of the Borough. The animals killed in the Tiverton Borough Abattoir are of the highest quality and the number showing evidence of disease and Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis, in particular, are very low compared with the National average.

I lay stress on the 100% meat inspection carried out and this should give satisfaction to those members of the Public who purchase from meat purveyors supplied through the Horsdon Abattoir of Tiverton.

- (2). Circular FSH 15/58
Exchequer Grant towards cost of Meat Inspection.

1st. April 1958 to 31st. March 1959. (Note:- Financial year does not coincide with Calender Year).

Inspection Units = 17019

Tiverton Datum
Figure = 17700

Deficiency = 681 Units

Therefore no grant towards cost of meat inspection service available.

The following table lists the number of animals slaughtered during the year and gives details of the amount of meat and offals condemned as diseased or unsound:-

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	790	4	60	326	1631
Number Inspected... ..	"	"	"	"	"
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT T.B.:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	17	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	191	2	-	16	150
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	24.18%	50%	3.33%	10.12%	9.62%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:-					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	-	-	-	46
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.53%	-	-	-	2.88%

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>CYSTICERCOSIS:-</u>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned... ..	4	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration... ..	4	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	Nil	-	-	-	-

<u>BEEF</u>		
<u>No. of Carcases</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight</u>
1	Acute Fever and Badly Bled.	194
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>		
1	Deep and Extensive Bruising.	8
1	Abscesses.	18
2		26
<u>Offal.</u>	Various.	1631
<u>BEEF - Tuberculosis</u>		
<u>No. of Carcases</u>		
1	Tuberculosis.	400
<u>Parts of Carcases</u>		
2	"	48
<u>Offal.</u>	T.B.	513
<u>BEEF - Cysticercosis</u>		
<u>Offal.</u>	Cysticercus Bovis.	140
Total Weight of BEEF Condemned. 5 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " 1 ton. 0 cwt. 1 qrs. 16 lbs.		

<u>SHEEP</u>		
<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
1	Emaciation & Dropsy.	28
1	Dropsy.	48
1	Septic Pneumonia.	70
3	Pregnancy Toxaemia.	190
4	Septic Metritis.	257
1	Oedema & Bruising.	50
3	Acute Inflammation.	87
<u>14</u>		<u>730</u>
<u>Parts of Carcasses.</u>		
2	Injuries.	18
1	Acute Pleurisy & Pneumonia.	10
<u>3</u>		<u>28</u>
<u>Offal.</u>	Various.	140
Total Weight of MUTTON Condemned. 6 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " 5 " 0 "		

<u>CALVES</u>		
<u>No. of Carcasses</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
1	Generalised Oedema & Anaemia.	45
<u>Offal.</u>	Various.	12
Total Weight of VEAL Condemned. 1 qr. 17 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " 12 "		

<u>PIGS</u>		
<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>	<u>Disease</u>	<u>Weight.</u>
2	Inflammation.	55
2	Acute Pleurisy & Peritonitis.	267
1	" " " Pneumonia.	95
<u>5</u>		<u>417</u>
<u>Parts of Carcasses.</u>		
5	Abscesses.	39
<u>Offal.</u>	Various.	413

<u>PIGS - Tuberculosis.</u>		
<u>No. of Carcasses.</u>		<u>Weight.</u>
1	Acute Peritonitis, T.B. and Abscesses.	468
<u>1</u>	Generalised T.B.	<u>182</u>
<u>2</u>		<u>650</u>
<u>Parts of Carcasses.</u>		
40	Tuberculosis.	460
<u>Offal.</u>	T.B.	71
Total Weight of PORK Condemned. 13 cwts. 3 qrs. 26 lbs.		
" " " OFFAL " 4 " 1 " 8 "		

Condemned Meat is stained and collected for fertilizer manufacture, or utilization by the Exe Valley Fisheries at Dulverton.
Condemned Food is used for pig food when practicable, otherwise destroyed on Council's refuse tip.

53 Visits made to shops for purpose of inspection and condemnation of unsound food.

The following is a list of food condemned:-

<u>Description</u>		<u>Weight</u>	<u>Description</u>		<u>Weight</u>
		lbs.			lbs.
	Meat.....	210		Br/fd.	1337 $\frac{1}{2}$
Tinned	Meat.....	429		Fish.....	78 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Ham.....	92 $\frac{1}{4}$	Tinned	Fish.....	14 $\frac{1}{4}$
"	Soup.....	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	"	Cat Food.....	$\frac{1}{4}$
"	Vegetables.....	165 $\frac{3}{4}$	Pkts.	Dried Fruit..	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
"	Fruit.....	391 $\frac{1}{4}$	"	Cereals.....	1
"	Syrup.....	2	"	Biscuits.....	$\frac{1}{2}$
"	Marmalade.....	6	"	Flour.....	2
"	Milk.....	14	Jars	Chicken.....	$\frac{1}{4}$
"	Custard Powder....	1 $\frac{1}{2}$		Cheese.....	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Mustard.....	$\frac{1}{4}$		Chocolate....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
"	Cream.....	$\frac{1}{4}$	Box	Dog Biscuits.	1
"	Fruit Juice.....	12	Contain: "	Meat.....	119
	Cr/fd	<u>1337$\frac{1}{2}$</u>		Total	<u>1577$\frac{1}{2}$</u>
Total Weight of Food Condemned. 14 cwt. 0 qr. 9 lbs.					

Milk and Other Foods

The number of food premises in the Council's area totals 186, made up as follows:-

cont'd.

Table of food premises.

Dairies...	...	...	...	10
Meat Purveyors (Butchers)...	...	...	...	12
Bakehouses	...	...	...	11
Fishmongers	...	...	...	4
Fish and Chip Friers..	...	...	...	5
Restaurants and Cafés.	...	...	...	7
Grocers...	...	...	...	42
Greengrocers	...	...	...	10
Confectioners...	...	...	...	18
Public Houses...	...	...	...	26
Off Licensed Premises.	...	...	...	8
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	4
Hospitals etc...	...	...	...	6
School Canteens.	...	...	...	15
Boarding Houses etc...	...	...	...	8
Total				186

Registered Premises under Sec.16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Manufacture, Storage and Sale of Ice Cream...	50
Preparation etc. and Sale of Sausages, or Preserved Foods...	26
Dairies...	10

43 Inspections were carried out at Registered Food Premises, including dairies; In all cases of premises selling Ice Cream, refrigerators were inspected for cleanliness and temperature readings were taken.

In every case the refrigerators were found to be efficient and temperatures satisfactory.

Although Ice Cream is sold from 50 premises it is manufactured on the premises in only two instances.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc) Regulations are strictly enforced.

The standard of personal cleanliness in all registered premises was found to be generally high.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 - 56.

Visits to food premises and inspections of delivery vans totalled 333.

Contraventions were noted in respect of the following Regulations, the offenders notified and follow up visits made.

Regulation				
6	(Articles of Equipment) ...	...	...	2
"	8 (Prevention of Contamination of Food)...	...	...	15
"	9 (Personal Cleanliness) ...	...	...	2
"	14 (Sanitary Conveniences, etc.) ...	...	...	14
"	15 (Water Supply)...	...	...	1
"	16 (Wash-hand basins etc.) ...	...	...	10
"	17 (First Aid Equipment)...	...	...	6
"	18 (Accommodation for outdoor clothing) ...	...	...	4
"	19 (Washing facilities for food utensils and equipment)...	...	...	2
"	20 (Lighting of Rooms)...	...	...	8
"	21 (Ventilation of Rooms) ...	...	...	5
"	22 (Sleeping place communicating with a food room where open food is handled.) ...	...	...	1
"	23 (Cleanliness and disrepair) ...	...	...	57
	(Mainly disrepair and structural alterations).			
"	24 (Accumulation of refuse)...	...	...	7
"	26 (Stalls, mobile vans, etc).	...	...	5
"	29 (Transport of Meat)...	...	...	1

Letters sent in respect of Food Hygiene Regulations totalled... 13
Number of prosecutions... Nil

During the year systematic routine inspections were again carried out and extensive structural improvements and provision of hygienic fittings as required by the Food Hygiene Regulations were carried out in respect of 29 premises. In the course of routine visits of inspection advice was tendered to management and staff on food handling.

Delivery and handling of Meat.

It was found that meat was still being delivered which had not been inspected by a meat inspector, and suitable measures were taken to prevent this practise.

Sampling.

Milk samples for biological testing taken during the year totalled 3, all found satisfactory.

Milk bottles sampled for cleanliness during the year totalled 4, 1 unsatisfactory, advice given and repeat samples satisfactory.

SLUM CLEARANCE

During 1958, the Council passed resolutions declaring the following properties to be "Clearance Areas".

	<u>Number of Houses.</u>
(1) 1, 3, 5 Wellbrook Street. 8th April, 1958.	3
(2) 1, 2, 3 Cowley Moor Cottages. 12th. May, 1958.	3
(3) 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 Sharland's Square, West Exe North. 10th November '58.	10
	<u>16</u>

Individual Houses Demolition Orders.

51, 53, 55 and 57 Chapel Street. ... 4

Individual Houses Closed.

137A Chapel Street... 1

Houses Demolished during the year.

(1) 11, 12, 13 and 14 Belmont Road..	4
(2) 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 Pinkstones Court.	11
1, 2, 3, and 5 Pinkstones Court.	4
(3) 51, 53, 55, and 57 Chapel Street	4
Total houses demolished	<u>23</u>

Houses made fit during year. Sec. 9 & 16 Housing Act.

After informal action...	15
" formal action	1

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Out of a total of 15 applications, eight were finally approved. During the year improvement work was completed in the case of 9 premises and Completion Certificates issued.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948

During 1958, every effort was made to issue Certificates of adequate means of escape in case of fire.

In a number of instances this involved the occupiers of the respective factories in considerable structural work and necessitated frequent advisory visits by myself and my assistant Mr. Hill.

I am happy to be able to report that six (6) Certificates were issued during the year making a total of thirteen.

This left two premises, where structural work is in progress which will enable Certificates to be issued in due course.

A start has been made on the revision of the Factory Register and it is hoped to complete this during 1959.

FACTORIES IN DETAIL.		INSPECTIONS.		
Promises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	15	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	81	100	5	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	38	14	1	-
Totals	129	129	7	-

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)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness.	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature.	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation.	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors.	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences.					
(a) insufficient.	1	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective.	8	4	-	1	-
(c) not separate for sexes.	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	2	7	8	18	-
Totals	11	11	8	19	-

OUTWORK

Number of Out-workers required by Sect. 110.

Class 1	...	20
" 3	...	7
" 29	...	1

RODENT CONTROL

Properties Inspected.

Local Authority	...	25
Dwelling Houses	...	161
Business Premises	...	171
Agricultural	...	86
Total		<u>443</u>

67 poison treatments were carried out, in addition to the systematic treatments with the gin traps.

Mr. Luxon has again given conscientious and efficient service and largely succeeded in keeping the Town and environs free from dangerous and troublesome pests.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

The new Regulations have given the department a great deal of work to carry out in connection with existing installations and thirty (30) tanks, which had been in existence for over 20 years, have had to be tested.

Owners of petrol filling stations have been circulated and visited re the exhibition of warning notices and precautions to be observed in the filling of petrol tanks etc.

It will be noted that as a result the number of visits and inspections has approximately doubled.

43 Licences were re-issued for the storage of 39,160 gallons of Petroleum Spirit, 48,490 gallons Petroleum Mixtures, and 260 gallons Cellulose & Thinners.

1 Licence re-issued for storage of 5 cwt. Carbide of Calcium.

EXPLOSIVES ACT, 1875.

26 applications were received for the registration of premises for the storage of gunpowder and mixed explosives, and Certificates of Registration were granted.

257 Inspections were carried out in connection with the above Acts.

COUNCIL'S REFUSE TIP - ASHLEY

During the year systematic disinfection was carried on at the Council's Refuse tip, resulting in a noticeable reduction in the number of flies, wasps, and crickets.

Four (4) treatments for the extermination of rats were carried out by Mr. Luxon, the Council's Rodent Operator.

Colonies of rats amounted to major infestations on three occasions and a minor infestation on the fourth.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Water Samples taken:- Public Mains...	29
Other Premises & Farms.	31
Slaughterhouse...	583
Dairies...	34
Food & Drugs Act.	182
Delivery Vans ...	14
Milk Sampling ...	7
Shops Act. ...	44
Ice Cream and Preserved Foods	43
Food Shops re. Condemned Food	53
Factories Act....	129
Inspections re. Complaints...	193
Re-Visits. ...	559
Drainage... ..	370
Disinfection and Disinfestation	38
Infectious Diseases ...	9
Keeping of Animals ...	1
Caravans... ..	42
Slum Clearance Inspections & Revisits	441
Housing Act Visits ...	13
Rent Act... ..	15
Improvement Grants ...	127
Pet Animals Act..	4
Rodent Control...	72
Food Poisoning...	-
Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956..	1
Petroleum and Explosives Licensing...	257
Petroleum Tanks Tested. ...	30
Rag Flock Act ...	1
Waste Foods Order ...	36
Clean Air Act ...	2
Miscellaneous ...	202
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Conclusion.

Since the appointment of Mr. Hill, it is gratifying to report that it has been possible to not only deal with the routine work of meat and food inspection, drain testing, water sampling, but also to carry out a considerable Slum Clearance programme, and Improvement Grant schemes, and deal with the extra work involved under the Food Hygiene Regulations, and the Petroleum Consolidation Act and Regulations.

Members of my department and myself hope to continue to serve the interests of the Council and the Public loyally and conscientiously.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

CHARLES JEFFRIES

Chief Public Health Inspector