# Contributors

Totnes (England). Rural District Council.

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# TOIM'S RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL





"Rushbrook", TOTNES, Devon.

BRART

October, 1957

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Centlemon,

1956.

I have the honour to submit ny annual report for the year

Dr. S.C. Jellicoe was Medical Officer of Health up to the 4th August, 1956 when he retired. I was appointed Medical Officer of Health 1st June, 1956 and took over on his retirement. As I have been recognised as his deputy since 1946, I have kept in close touch with the conditions and circumstances of the District.

During the year there has been little change in the vital statistics. The health of the population has been very good apart from one case of Scarlet Fever, three cases of Policnyelitis and two separate cases of Dysentery.

Immunisation against Policnychitis was commenced during the year and, together with immunisation against Diptheria and Whooping Cough, and vaccination against Smallpox, is being carried out by General Practitioners and the clinics.

Considerable progress has been and is being made in the improvement of water supplies in our Parishes. The maintenance and supervision of water supplies has been taken over almost entirely by the South Dovon Water Board.

The Housing Survey has been continued and I regret to note that there are a considerable number of sub-standard dwellings still in use and that the demand for good houses with modern facilities is greater than the supply. I am of the opinion that these are major fact<sup>575</sup> in bringing about the "drift from the land" and it is only by vigorously tackling these problems that we can play our part in reversing this drift and, at the same time, provide encouragement and opportunity for our young married couples to raise families under ideal conditions.

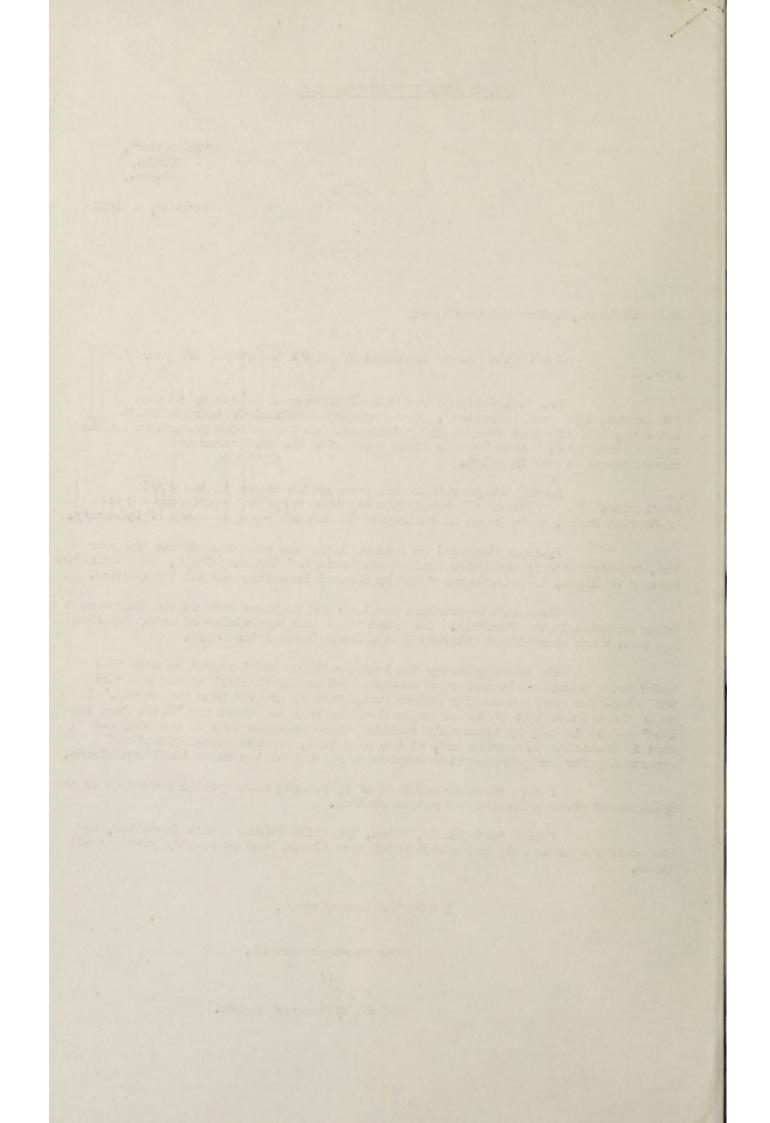
I have in other sections of my report, made special reference to the problems of river pollution and rodent control.

I wish to thank Mr, Waine, The Chief Public Health Inspector, and his staff for their help and advice which have always been so readily given at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

Modifie Fricor of Health.



1. Statistics

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General

Aroa	80.978 acres
Length of Coastline	2 miles
River frontage of tidal water	17 miles
Population (1931 consus)	12,362
Population (1951 consus)	13,923
Population (estimated mid year 1956)	13.950
Number of dwelling houses	
Ratcable Value	
Estimated product of a penny rate	
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The Rural District is essentially agricultural with some Parishes predominantly residential, whilst there are a few small industrial establishments.

2. Vital Statistics

(a) Births	M	F	TOTAL
Live Births			
Logitima to Illogitima to	103 2	92 1	195 3
Birth rate por 1,000 estimated resident population (corrected)			16.49
Still Births			
Logitimato Illogitimato	-	1	1
Still birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			0.072
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births			5.09

These figures for the Rural District are materially affected by the fact that mothers requiring hespital confinament are admitted to the Torquay or Plymouth Groups of Hospitals which are situated outside the District. Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2018 with funding from Wellcome Library

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# (b) Doaths

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	M	F	TOTAL
No. of deaths	118	119	237
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			16.99
Ditto (corrected)			9.68
Deaths from puerperal sepsis		NIL	NIL
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age			
Logitimate Illegitimate	3	2	5 1
Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age			
All infants por 1,000 live births Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate	births		30.3 25.6
live births			333.3
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age			
Logitimato	2	1	3
Illegitimato	1	-	1
Doath rate of infants under 4 wooks of age			
All infants per 1,000 live births			20.2
Legitimate infants por 1,000 legitimate live births			15.3
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births			333•3

### (b) Dorthu

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C. Causes of Doath - Statistics Provided by the Registrar General

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		M	F	TOTAL
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	0	1
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2
10.	Malignant neoplasms, stamach	1	1	2
11.	Malignant neoplagas, breast	0	5	5
13.	Malignant nooplasms, uterus	0	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lympathic neoplasms	3	8	11
16.	Diabotos	0	3	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	11	17	28
18.	Coronary disease, angina	21	13	34
19.	Hypertonsion with heart disease	2	1	3
20.	Other heart discase	24	34	58
21.	Other circulatory disease	8	5	13
22.	Influenza	1	0	1
23.	Pneumonia	5	7	12
24.	Branchitis	5	2	7
26.	Ulcer of stanch and duodenum	1	3	4
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	3	5
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	0	3
31.	Congenital malformations	0	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases	15	12	27
34.	All other accidents	4	2	6
35.	Suicido	2	0	2
		118	119	237

Causes of Dorth - Statistics In which by the Heydatter Concern

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3. Infectious Diseases

Discase	Total number of cases notified	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	1	0
Acute pneumonia	6	0
Acute Policnyelitis	3	0
Opthalmin noonatorum	1	0
Motales	58	0
Whooping Cough	25	0
Dysentery	2	0

## DYSEWIERY

(a) A child developed an infantile type of dysentery - the source of infection could not be traced.

(b) A child was found to be a carrier and was the source of a number of separate cases which occurred in other parts of the country. The child had been demiciled in Pakistan.

## 4. Tuberculosis

12 cases were notified of which 11 were respiratory and 1 was non-respiratory. There was one death (female) from respiratory causes.

# 5. Health Services

The district is well served by General Practitioners, Hospitals, the Ambulance and Car Service, District Nurses, Health Visitors etc. A Mobile X Ray unit visits the District from time to time. There are Public Health Laboratories at Plymouth and Exeter and a pathological laboratory at the Torbey Hospital.

There is a nucleus of Home Helps in the District but they. are beset by many problems, the greatest being the lack of transport and the distance to be covered. There is no provision for Meals on Wheels. The domiciliary care of the aged is made difficult by the last two factors. There is an understandable desire of old people to remain in surroundings with which they are familiar - often unhealthy, insanitary and with no modern amenities wherein Home Helps will not work. Only steady progress in rehousing coupled with improvements where possible to existing houses can hope to solve this problem.

The number of hospital and welfare beds available for the aged are inadequate at present to meet the demand, and it is statistically evident that the propertion of old people in the population is rapidly increasing so the demand can be expected to increase rather than decrease.

### 6. National Assistance Acts 1948/51 - Section 47

Under the above Section action had to be taken on two occasions, both being females living alone.

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#### CALL THE COAL

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(b) i clight and fromd to be a curter and was the source of a mander of separate error which occurves in other parts of the country. The civits inf bem dediction in Fidates.

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#### hoping of Local

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	Holne	Herbertanford	Harborton	Halwell	Dittishem	Diptford	Deen Prior	Dertin ton	Cornworthy	Ciarston Perrors Gelmpton	Buckfestleigh West Coombe Scoriton Micheloombe	Berry Penercy	Ashprington Village Ashprington, Tuckanhay		7. WATER SUPHIE
	283		954	248	529	369	196	1192	292	971	295	374	316	1951 Census of Population	
5.	х	х	х	м	н	х		х	м		хх		х	South Devon Weter Board	SOURCE OF SUPPLY
	х									жж				Paignton U.D.C. Main	TTL
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	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	XX	х х	х	× *	Private Supply	
	Some proporties supplied by Peignton but S.D.W.B. took over smell local piped supply.	sutto	Local supply taken over by Board NOT moor and source.		Mains to be laid in 1957.	Main laid within the year.	Piped supply	Local source not mourland supply - complaint of discolouration.	Mains laid late 1956	Part supplied by mains (Lord Churston) & one other private supply.	not moorland water-springs not moorland water-springs	Several private supplies	Mains to be laid in 1957 Mains to be laid in 1957	Reportes	

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yer absorptied by Joseph . " Riviale supplies are wells independent supplying outting resolated fains ducilitying outtinde the economic scope of sources."	Philip	Stoke Gabriel	Staventon	South Brent	Rattery	North Huish Avanviok	Morleigh	-Marldon	Littlehenpsten	Kingswear	Parish
	2062	867	649	1851	364	338	94	783	171	730	1951 Census of population
6.	жжжж	м	ж	X	х	x	х			х	South Devon Water Board
istration frames		х	х					х			Prignton U.D.C. Main Supplies
	Le saite l sen Granse play ertel u Basis Leer	e chens Gebeurs e para e	Х			x				х	Private Piped Water Supplies
	×	×	Х	×	×	**	×	*	х	and de le	Private Supply
		S.D.W.B. distributes Peignton Water. Further works in hend.	A combined chlorinated supply.					Distribution by South Devon Water Board.			Remarks

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articula a			Distribution by South Jords " South Jords "					holasiratia hantdara A	actudiratedis "A.M., A.M., A.M.	

Bacteriological samples are frequently taken by the South Devon Water Board and by your Public Health Inspectors. With a few exceptions, notably the parishes of Harberton, including Harbertonford, Berry Pemeroy, Staverton, Littlehempston, Tuckenhay, Ashprington and Holne, the District has now a first class water supply both as regards quality and quantity. In the Parish of Dertington frequent complaints have been received regarding discolouration and suspended matter. The water is, however, reported as being satisfactory from the bacteriological point of view. Main supplies do not, of course reach all isolated farms and dwellings, which, for the most part have private supplies some of which give cause for anxiety from time to time. In this connection it is of interest to note that no causes of illness during the year have been attributed to water supplies.

# 8. Sewartine

There is irrefutable evidence that there is pollution of the River Dart and its tributaries by the discharge of sewage, either directly or indirectly. In this connection it is noted that neighbouring authorities upstream have commenced the installation of modern sewage works. At the some time it is recognised that some pollution occurs within our boundary and progress is being made to eliminate these various sources.

PARISH	REMARKS
TRANSIN PLANT	The second second and the second of second sec
Ashrington	Scheme for main drainage and works approved and commenced during the year.
Berry Panaroy	Only 4 Council Houses connected to a small septic tank and filter. Other dwellings have cesspools.
Buckfastleigh West	The humlets of Coambe, Scoriton, and Michelaambe have septic tanks.
Churston Ferrers	Sowage from Old Village is pumped into the Paignton tunnel sever. Broadsands/adjoining development gravitates to the Paignton tunnel sever. Galmpton village is severed and has disposal works, but there are properties with septic tanks.
	The sewer is about to be extended in order to pick up the new Grammer School. New housing developments are to be connected to this extension.
Cornworthy	There is a small septic tank for the greater propertion of the village but now that mains water is available, consideration will be given for the provision of sewers and a disposal works.
Dortington	Three of the large villages in this parish have sewers and disposal works, but further works are necessary for the other villages.
Down Prior	The individual cottages have cesspeels or septic tanks.
Diptford	There are some unsatisfactory sewirs whilst various other properties have cesspools and septic tanks. Now that mains water is available a sewerage scheme is being prepared.
Dittishom	There are three separate outfalls for this village. Permission is being sought to extend the severs.

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Halwell.

Harberton

Holne

Kingswear

Littlehampston

Marldon

Morleigh

North Huish

Rattery

South Brent

Staverton

Stoke Gabriel

Ugborough

9.

A scheme is being prepared to sewer the village.

There are small disposal works for this village and the village of Harbertonford.

There is a shall disposal works.

There are soveral outfalls into tidal waters for this large village.

The individual cottages in this hamlet have their own cosmpools, or septic tanks.

This village, together with Compton, has been severed and the great majority of properties have been connected to the sever.

A scheme is being prepared to deal with the present unsatisfactory state of affairs.

There is a small disposal works for the hamlet.

There is a small disposal works for the village.

This large village is sewered and has a disposal works.

A scheme has been prepared to improve the sewerage and outfall for the area near the Church.

A scheme has been prepared for Ministerial approval.

The villages of Ugborough and Bittaford have disposal works whilst the homlets of Filhem and Wrangaton have individual cesspools or septic tanks for the cottages.

#### Pest Control

Rodent control in particular is unsatisfactory. The Rodent Operator works on a part time basis of 2 weeks in every 5, this being by a reament with Totnes Borough Council who employ him. His work is slowed up and hampered by the fact that he has no transport solely available for his own use and he often has to share a vehicle with other Council employees. This necessitates him losing time unnecessarily in travelling out of his way for their benefit but to the detriment of his productive time. A further weakness in rodent control arises out of the fact that certain agricultural holdings have contracts for rodont destruction with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (The late A.E.C.). This results in two authorities overlapping, the covering of the some ground twice and an increase in the cost per hour for the work done. The general attitude towards rodent destruction is very lax and the re ulations are not being observed or enforced to the full.

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# 10. Camping and Caravan Sites.

The number of sites is on the increase. There are three approved sites for caravans - these are situated at:-

Bitter and Wood, (15 Caravans), Webland Farm, South Brent (20 Caravans), Cheston. South Brent (15 Caravans). These sites are limited to a three year licence including Smokey town In. Marldon (6 caravans)

There are eight approved sites for temporary caravan accommodation situated throughout the district which are licensed annually. During the year ten licenses were issued for separate single caravan sites whilst a further ten licenses remained in force from the provious year.

It is also known that several other sites are used but the length of use of the site does not infringe the Town and Country Planning Act nor the Public Health Act.

There is one holiday complicensed under the Town and Country Flanning Act which has eighty chalets providing accomposation for 212 persons. The increase in popularity of caravan holidays or tent dwellers, even if only seasonal or temporary, necessitate the provision of licensed sites upon which some measure of control can be imposed. To have the sites licensed assists the periodic inspection of the sites and ensures comparative freedom from nuisances and incanitary conditions. The control and supervision of caravan sites will be further facilitated when the County Council's policy regarding standards is introduced.

Approved sites for the most part give no cause for complaint.

### 11. Food

# (a)Meat.

During the year the foll owing animals have been slaughtered and inspected:-

74 Steers, 148 Heifers, 38 Calves, 797 Sheep, 358 Pigs, making a grand total of 1414.

Total weight of meat condenned - 9 cwt. 61 stone.

The greatest cause of condomnation in beasts' livers was liver fluke (distantosis) which accounted for 29 whole or part livers. Number of pig's heads condomned because of T.B. Lesions - 9. 22 sheep's livers were condomned because of parasitic infection.

One six pound tin of Ox Tongues was also condomned.

## Knacker's Yards and Slaughter Houses.

Those are six slaughterhouses licensed to operate and one knacker's yard.

In practice, only four slaughterhouses and the Enacker's yard operate. Two slaughterhouses are situated at South Brent, one slaughterhouse and the Enacker's yard at Ugborough and one slaughterhouse at Galmpton in the Parish of Churston Ferrers. Improvements are necessary to the two slaughterhouses in South Brent before they are re-licensed for the period 1957-58.

In principle I have strongly opposed the re-licensing of the two South Brent shaughterhouses oring to the fact that the premises are situated in very close proximity to dwelling houses and are poor in structure and hygicane. At one of them, animals a siting shaughter are confined in a stall which opens directly into the shaughter bay.

#### Our file man Dereston Life an

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firre are older percent alter for transmy entropy control allocated throughout the district which are licented manually. Datas the year ten incomes ware thread for accurate disple entropy alter added a further ten licences particed in firred for the percine year.

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In principle I have a rangly opposed the realloanding of the the tail or the first and also distributed with to the first that the privitees are distributed in very class presided by to destify houses and my poor in structure and hy done. At one of the, mindle a citility also give the tracture in a stall which opens diversity into the church by by. I am firmly convinced that this fact constitutes cruelty to animals. The widespread scattering of the alaught rhouses coupled with the comparatively small numbers of animals killed at frequent intervals, makes meat inspection very energies work, and comparatively a very expensive service to maintain. It is hoped that in the near future, plans for contralised slaughtering units will materialise when facilities will be infinitely better than some pirvate owners are able to maintain or provide. All animals slaughtered have been inspected despite a period when the office of additional inspector was empty for several menths.

# (b) Milk.

The Rural District is within the special designated area created by the Minister in 1954. Generally speaking only Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised milk is consumed - there being little evidence of storilised milk on sale.

There are 15 dairies in the district retailing pre-bottled T.T. or Pasteurised milk.

# (c) Ice Cream .

All ice crean rotailed in the district has been heat treated and is pro-packed. There are 28 registered premises.

(d) Food Hygiene Repulations.

An explanatory leaflet has been sent to all proprietors of catering establishments. Inspections reveal that attention has been paid to the regulations but in a few cases individual approach by the inspectors has brought forth improvements.

# (e) Unsound Food.

Unsound meat is stained green and is collected by fellmongers operating in the district.

# 12. Housing.

The Housing Survey has been continued throughout the year.

Total number of dwellings in the district	+504
Number of dwellings surveyed during 1956.	285
Number placed in categories 1 (fit in all respects)	65
Number placed in categories 2 (minor defects)	85
Number placed in categories 3 (Major defects)	85
Number placed in categories 4 (Major defects and lack of amenities)	25
Number placed in categories 5 (Unfit)	25

2 blocks of 5 cottages each were represented for Clemance Area action.

During the year 4 premises were represented as being unfit for human occupation. the owners, however, gave undertakings to convert the cottages into 2 separate dwellings and were accepted by the Council. I an runny contractor that but had one to take to an and to to admine. The while and an articlar of the should discover oughly sith the comparisively and attract of admine tilled at frequent intervals, and and incodict way arrows work, and concentively a very approxime service to establish it is inped that is the new future, then are established simplification, with a inped that is the new future, then are established simplification, it is inped that is the new future, then are established simplification, whit is inped that is minimized or provide. All minima simplification (drive a taken or shift to minimize or provide. All minima simplification into the insected dentity a particle with the different into an a interval and the conting.

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The Moral District is addin the special designated area arealed by the Minister in 1954. Constally specific only Discoulin Nated or Datedayd will is constant - there being hittle orthonor of starilized will an o'le.

There are 15 defrice in the district revealing pro-bottled T.T. or Bulerrand

#### (a) Ion Gram .

All foo avan rotalad in the district in been hert tructed and is pro-polod.

#### (A) Poor Bystone Rowell (A)

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Unexand mont is addined (row rad is collected by fellmanara operative in the district.

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Rendrag the your & provides were represented as baing wills for haven searedien. the second powers, give undertaidings to convert the authous into 2 separate ' dealling and were, asserted by the Council. Undertakings accounted by the Council in lieu of Demolition Orders over the years are as follows:-

1956	1955	· <u>1954</u>	1953	<u>1952</u>
2+	7	4	<i>l</i> <sub>1</sub> .	1 Demolition Order.

Premises subject to confirmed Clearance Orders made up to and including 1956 and still remaining or occupied at the end of the year:-

- (a) 2 cottages standing, one occupied Chapel Cottage, Ridgeway, Marldon.
  Order confirmed 3rd February, 1939.
- (b) 2 cottages standing, one occupied Oak Tree Cottages, Maridan. Order confirmed 3rd February, 1939.
- (c) 5 cottages standing, all unoccupied The Exchange, Nouth Brent. Order confirmed 9th May, 1956.
- (d) 5. cottages standing, two occupied Old Road, Harbertonford. Order confirmed 13th July, 1956.

With regard to (d) the Council has resolved to erect two aged persons bungalows in order to rehouse the occupants.

# 13. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

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#### DISPECTIONS

Premises		Number		r of	
		an Rogistar	Inspections	Written Notices.	
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	14	2.	-	
(ii)	Factories not included. th(i)in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	147	20	2	
(111)	Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced	-	-	-	
	TOIMI	53	22	2	

# CASES IN WHICH D FECTS WERE FOUND

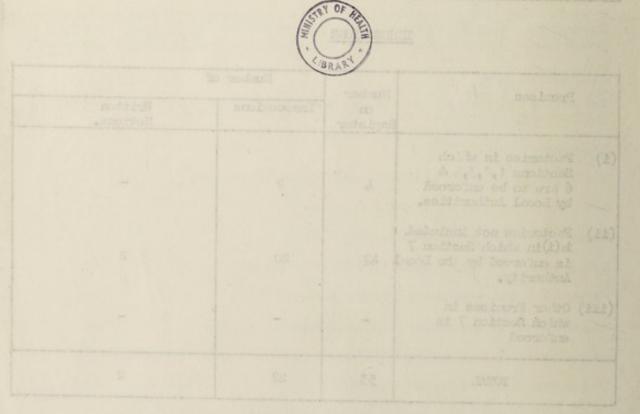
Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Senitary Conveniences (S.7)	2	2
(a) Unsuitable or defective	2	2
TOT/IL	2 <sub>1+</sub>	4

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- 1966 and utilit revaluing or complet at its and of the yours
- (a) Z contribut standing, and co unical Caral Cotters, Iddgemar, Evringe,
- (b) 2 softwood standing, and compled Ook live Cottores, Murican, Order configured and Districtly, 1939.
- (a) 3 courtes shaving all mocorded the Redence, Nouth Brant. Onles
  - (d) 5. authors acadenis two scouled Old Hoad, Hararton and Cadar

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