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WELLS



**BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**


OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

**FOR THE YEAR 1950**

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**P. A. CROWLEY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.**



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Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.

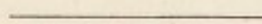


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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1950.



**P. A. CROWLEY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.**



**Tunbridge Wells :**  
**BALDWIN, LTD., GROSVENOR ROAD**  
2346-51



# BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

## HEALTH COMMITTEE :

(Constitution at 31st December, 1950).

### Chairman :

THE MAYOR (Councillor Miss M. B. WELLS).

Alderman Miss R. M. BAKER.	Councillor K. J. G. MORRISON.
Councillor N. L. GLANFIELD.	Councillor F. G. ROBINSON.
Councillor A. T. GOULDEN.	Councillor R. E. TOMSON.
Councillor W. T. WHITE.	

## STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

Medical Officer of Health ; Area Medical Officer to Kent County Council  
(Area No. 4) ; Visiting Medical Officers Infectious Diseases Hospital :

P. A. CROWLEY, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

### Senior Sanitary Inspector :

T. S. ELLIS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat and Food Cert.

### Sanitary Inspectors :

A. BARNETT, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Meat and Food Cert.  
T. ELLISON, C.R.S.I., Meat and Food Cert.  
T. STEEL, C.R.S.I., Meat and Food Cert.

### Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

D. REES, C.R.S.I.

### Health Visitors :

*Miss M. BRERETON.	*Miss R. RAYBOULD.
*Miss J. DONALDSON ( <i>Retired 7/8/50</i> ).	*Miss E. RICE-OXLEY.
*Miss M. MacLAREN.	*Miss W. M. WEST ( <i>Commenced 9/10/50</i> ).

### Matron, Infectious Diseases Hospital :

†Miss M. AITCHISON, R.F.N. (*Resigned August, 1950*).  
†Miss B. L. DE MAUGER, S.R.N., R.F.N., S.C.M. (*Appointed 1/9/50*).

**CLERICAL STAFF :****Chief Clerk :**

Mrs. D. E. TEBBIT.

**Second Clerk :**

Miss I. A. PEARSON.

**Sanitary Inspector's Clerk :**

Mr. D. A. BARMBY.

**Rodent Operators :**

B. E. MANN.      E. SMITHERMAN.

**Clinic Caretakers :**

Mr. and Mrs. W. GIBBONS.

**Relief Caretaker :**

Miss P. GIBBONS.

**PART-TIME APPOINTMENTS.****Orthopaedic Surgeon :**

\*W. H. GERVIS, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S.

**Ophthalmic Surgeon :**

\*J. COGAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.O. (Oxon.).

**Aural Surgeon :**

\*J. SYMONS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Masseuse :**

\*Mrs. D. HUNT TREWEEK.

**Public Analyst :**

A. H. M. MUTER, F.R.I.C.

\* County Staff employed locally

† Under Control of Regional Hospital Board

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**BOROUGH OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS.**

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

TOWN HALL,

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer for the Borough of Royal Tunbridge Wells.

This report relates to the calendar year 1950, and on the whole appears to me to disclose a satisfactory position.

The General Birth Rate for England and Wales (15.8 as against 16.7 for 1949) continues to fall from the high rates of the immediate post-war years and this fall has also revealed itself in the Borough figures (13.6 as against 13.64 in 1949). The maximum post-war Birth Rate for England and Wales was 20.5 in 1947, and for Tunbridge Wells 18.6 in 1946.

Fewer deaths were recorded during the year (604) than in 1949 (646) and this fall is confined in its entirety to males. The Standardised Death rate for the town for the year was 10.4 as against the death rate of England and Wales as a whole of 11.6.

The Infantile Mortality rate of 22.64 (28.4 in 1949) is the lowest ever recorded with the exception of 21 in 1939.

At no time was there any serious prevalence of infectious disease, but during the Autumn five cases of Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) were notified, four of the cases being borough residents and one non-resident.

Two cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year and in view of the increasing prevalence of this type of illness generally throughout the country this figure may be considered satisfactory. Considerable attention has been

focussed nationally on this problem owing to the dramatic onset of outbreaks. Improved food hygiene can easily prevent these occurrences. It is intended during the coming year to give a series of lectures on Food Hygiene to personnel who are, or who are likely to be, employed in the handling of food.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council, and especially the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, for their kind interest in the working of the Department and to express my thanks to the other officers for their co-operation.

In conclusion I would also like to thank the members of my own staff for their loyal and conscientious work throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

P. A. CROWLEY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## SECTION 1.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS AND PHYSICAL  
FEATURES.

## 1 (a)—Summary of Statistics.

## 1 (a)—(i) GENERAL.

Area : 6,034 acres.

Population : 38,970 (R.G.'s Estimate 1950). 35,839 (R.G.'s  
Census figure 1931).

Density of population, *i.e.*, number of persons per acre : 6.45.

Number of inhabited houses : 10,980.

Rateable value, 1950 : £488,118.

Sum produced by a penny rate : £1,963. 17s. 9d.

Mean Annual Temperature : 49.3° F.

Hours of Bright Sunshine, 1950 : 1,623.5 hours.

Total Rainfall, 1950 : 27.68 inches.

## 1 (a)—(ii) BIRTHS.

<i>Live Births (Registered) :</i>		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	506	245	261
Illegitimate	...	24	8	16
		530		

Live birthrate per 1,000 population : 13.60

Corresponding rate for 1949 : 13.64.

<i>(a)—(iii) Stillbirths :</i>		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	7	4	3
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1
		8		

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 births : 15.1.



## 1 (a)—(iv) DEATHS.

Males : 233. Females : 371. Total : 604.

Standardised Death Rate : 10.4.

Crude death rate per thousand of population : 15.50.

Corresponding rate for 1949 : 16.7.

## 1 (a)—(v) Number of women dying in, or in consequence

of child birth : ... .. Nil

Maternal mortality per 1,000 total registered

births : ... .. 0.0

## 1 (a)—(vi) INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Deaths of infants under one year of age :—

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate ... ..	12	5	7
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—

Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births : 22.64. (1949 : 28.4.)

## 1 (a)—(vii) Total number of deaths from :— 1949 1950

Measles (all ages) ... ..	2	—
Whooping-cough (all ages) ... ..	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	2	1

**1 (b)—Table showing Summary of Causes of Death during the year ended 31st December, 1950.**

No.	Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	2	2	4
2.	Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	1
3.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2
4.	Malignant Neoplasm Stomach ...	5	11	16
5.	Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	2	2	4
6.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	7	7
7.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	3	3
8.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ... ..	32	32	64
9.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	1	1	2
10.	Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
11.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	31	68	99
12.	Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	33	43	76
13.	Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	8	16	24
14.	Other Heart Diseases ... ..	47	93	140
15.	Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	7	15	22
16.	Influenza ... ..	1	2	3
17.	Pneumonia ... ..	8	4	12
18.	Bronchitis ... ..	9	16	25
19.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	3	2	5
20.	Ulcer, Stomach and Duodenum ...	5	2	7
21.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	—	3	3
22.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	4	2	6
23.	Hyperplasia of Prostate ... ..	5	—	5
24.	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	21	30	51
25.	Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	2	—	2
26.	All Other Accidents ... ..	1	14	15
27.	Suicide ... ..	4	1	5
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES ... ..	233	371	604

1 (c)—TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1950.

	RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION									RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.	
	Live Births.	Still-Births.	All Causes.	Typhoid or Para-typhoid	Tuber-culosis (all forms).	Polio-myelitis & Polio-enceph.	Whooping-cough.	Diph-theria.	In-fluenza.	Small-pox	Pneu-monia.	Diarrhoea and En-teritis (un-der 2 yrs.).	Total Deaths Under 1 year.
England and Wales ...	15.8	0.27	11.6	0.00	0.36	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.10	—	0.46	1.9	29.8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	17.6	0.45	12.3	0.00	0.42	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.09	—	0.49	2.2	33.8
148 Smaller Towns (Resident Popu-lation 25,000 to 50,000, 1931 Census) ...	16.7	0.38	11.6	0.00	0.33	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.10	—	0.45	1.6	29.4
London Administrative County ...	17.8	0.36	11.8	0.00	0.39	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.07	—	0.48	1.0	26.3
TUNBRIDGE WELLS (Registrar-General's estimated population).	13.6	0.21	15.5 *(10.4)	0.00	0.10	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.00	0.31	1.9	20.8

\* Figure in brackets is corrected figure for age and sex distribution



### 1 (d)—Physical Features and General Character.

The Borough covers over 6,000 acres and is exceptionally well wooded, with a considerable amount of pasturage in the southern portion. It lies high, most of the houses standing at a level between 300 and 450 feet above the sea. Its climate is therefore breezy and bracing, with sheltered areas in the valleys. The lowest point is 220 feet above sea level, the highest 500 feet, at Blackhurst Collecting Reservoir. It lies in the extreme south-west corner of Kent,  $34\frac{1}{2}$  miles from London. The sub-soil is mostly sandstone—the geological layer known as Tunbridge Wells Sandstone predominating; there are several clay patches—the largest towards the north end of the Borough. Hence comes the great variety of the vegetation—fir trees, birches and heather on the sandstone surfaces; oaks, beech and all types of broad-leaved trees where clay patches intervene between the surface loam and the sandstone.

The water supplies are drawn partly from protected springs in sweet chestnut woods to the south-east of the Borough, and largely from borewells into a deep sandstone layer—the Hastings Bed of Sandstone, whose nearest outcrops are in Ashdown Forest. The water is pure and soft; that obtained from the deep borewells passes through Candy pressure filters to remove its iron content before it is delivered to the town.

The main springs are situated in unfrequented woodland areas, in which inhabited dwellings are few and distant; the risk of pollution is well guarded against. The supply is a constant one, and the approximate number of premises supplied at the end of 1950 was 12,000 within the Borough and 900 outside, the approximate population served (including non-civilians) being 38,970 and 3,445 respectively).

For roughly one-half of the year the supply of water from the springs meets the requirements of the Borough. During the remaining part of the year, borewells give an



ample and pure supply of water to supplement the flow from the springs. Seven borewells are situated at Pembury, four of which are used for the abstraction of water, and there is a large reservoir capable of holding 42,000,000 gallons which is used for the storage of surplus spring water. From Pembury Waterworks the water is pumped to a service reservoir at Blackhurst, Pembury Road, 500 feet above sea-level. There it is distributed through the mains by force of gravity to the areas supplied. The borewells pass through the Wadhurst clay, and take their supply from the underlying Ashdown Sands; the nearest point at which the Ashdown Sands reach the surface is some miles distant from the borewells.

A borewell at Saint's Hill taps the same geological layer of the Ashdown Sands as the Pembury Wells, at a depth of 407 feet. After filtration in mechanical pressure filters the water from this source is pumped direct into the supply mains. The borewell and pumping plant are now being duplicated in order to provide a stand-by for emergency use.

#### 1 (e)—Population.

The population at December, 1950, is estimated by the Registrar-General as being 38,970, a slight increase from 1949 (38,780).

#### 1 (f)—Births.

Live Births numbered 530, and Still Births 8, during the year.

#### 1 (g)—Deaths.

There were 604 deaths, giving a crude death rate per 1,000 population of 15.50, as compared with 16.7 for 1949.

Owing to the age and sex distribution of the population the crude death rate of the town is always at a disadvantage as compared with the death rate for England and Wales. However, the Registrar-General has given a comparability factor and on applying this to the crude death rate the

standardised death rate for the town is 10.4, which compares favourably with the England and Wales rate of 11.6.

Deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 12, giving an infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births of 22.64.

### 1 (h)—Infant Mortality.

During 1950 twelve infants died under one year of age. Of these five were boys and 7 were girls. The following table analyses the causes of death :—

Gastro Enteritis	...	...	...	...	1
Birth Injury	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital abnormality	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	2
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	7

### 1 (i)—Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths during 1950 from conditions associated with childbirth.

## SECTION 2.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### 2 (a)—Notifiable Diseases.

One hundred and twelve cases of infectious disease were notified during 1950. The following tables give details of the seasonable and age incidence of, and the mortality from, these notifiable diseases :—

### 2 (a)—(i) Seasonable Incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, 1950.

DISEASES.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Scarlet Fever ...	—	1	5	3	8	5	4	—	—	1	5	1	33
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	1	1	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	9
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Erysipelas ...	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	2	1	1	1	—	9
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	1	2	2	1	11
Measles ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	19	—	2	13	—	39
Acute Anterior Polio-myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
	2	2	9	7	11	6	13	24	6	7	23	2	112



2 (a) ii—AGES, ETC., OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1950.

Disease.	Total cases Notified. (All ages).	Under 1 year.	1 year and under 2 years.	2 years and under 3 years.	3 years and under 4 years.	4 years and under 5 years.	5 years and under 10 years.	10 years and under 15 years.	15 years and under 20 years.	20 years and under 35 years.	35 years and under 45 years.	45 years and under 65 years.	65 years and over.	Age not given.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Deaths (Inhabitants only).
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	33	1	1	2	2	2	16	6	2	1	—	—	—	—	10	—
Pneumonia ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	12
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	4	—	1	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever (including Meningococcal Meningitis)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough	11	—	—	5	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	39	—	9	9	12	3	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	6	—
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	5	1
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	112	1	10	17	15	7	28	11	2	6	2	7	6	—	22	13

**2 (b)—Scarlet Fever.**

Thirty-three cases were notified, as compared with thirteen during 1949. The practice of isolating Scarlet Fever in the home, where home conditions were satisfactory, was continued throughout the year and it can be recorded that no secondary cases were notified. Of the thirty-three cases notified ten were admitted to hospital.

**2 (c)—Diphtheria.**

It is gratifying to record that no cases of Diphtheria were notified. The gradual decline in the incidence of Diphtheria is, without any doubt, due to the wise and widespread acceptance by parents for their children of prophylactic inoculations against this serious disease.

**2 (d)—Puerperal Pyrexia.**

Three cases were notified during the year. Modern chemotherapy has undoubtedly influenced to some extent the notification and certainly the degree of severity of this illness.

**2 (e)—Whooping Cough.**

Only eleven cases of Whooping Cough were notified during 1950, as compared with fifty during 1949.

**2 (f)—Measles.**

Thirty-nine cases of Measles were notified during the year, as compared with eight hundred and seventy-one during 1949.

**2 (g)—Food Poisoning.**

Two sporadic cases were notified during 1950. The causal organism was identified in each case, but the source of infection was not determined.

**2 (h)—Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.**

During September and October five cases of Polio-



myelitis occurred, four paralytic (one of which proved fatal), and one non-paralytic. Subsequent enquiries have revealed that of the three remaining paralytic cases two had only slight residual paralysis.

## 2 (i)—Small-pox.

No cases of small-pox occurred during the year.

## 2 (j)—Tuberculosis.

The Kent County Council are responsible for the after-care of cases of Tuberculosis occurring within the district, whilst sanatorium treatment and hospital accommodation is provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

A Dispensary is held weekly in Tunbridge Wells and up to the end of 1950 was still held at 34, Calverley Street, although since the beginning of this year it has moved to more commodious premises at the Homoeopathic Hospital.

In the Tables which follow, particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease during 1950 are shown in Table 1, whilst Table 2 shows the quarterly statements of cases on the register. The position at the 31st December, 1950, is shown in Table 3.

### 2 (j)—(i).

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non. Pul.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—15...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20...	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
20—25...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35...	2	1	—	1	2	—	—	—
35—45...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55...	2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65...	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
Over 65 ...	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
	10	8	1	3	5	4	—	—



## 2 (j)—(ii).

	1st Quarter.			2nd Quarter.			3rd Quarter.			4th Quarter.		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
<i>Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>												
Number of cases on register	114	101	215	116	103	219	116	106	222	117	107	224
New notifications ...	4	2	6	—	3	3	3	1	4	3	2	5
Cases removed and subsequently restored ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Other cases added to register (inward transfers) ...	1	—	1	2	3	5	2	2	4	3	1	4
Cases removed (removed, recovered, died) ...	3	—	3	3	3	6	4	2	6	7	7	14
Cases remaining on register	116	103	219	116	106	222	117	107	224	117	103	220
<i>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :</i>												
Number of cases on register	28	29	57	28	29	57	27	30	50	28	30	58
New notifications ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	2	2
Cases removed and subsequently restored ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other cases added (inward transfers) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cases removed (removed, recovered, died) ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2
Cases remaining on register	28	29	57	27	30	57	28	30	58	29	31	60

## 2 (j)—(iii).

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pul.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pul.	Total.
	Male.		Female.		
Cases on Register at beginning of year...	114	28	101	29	272
Cases added ... ..	20	2	14	4	40
Cases removed	17	1	12	2	32
Remaining ... ..	117	29	103	31	280

## 2 (k)—Scabies.

A Cleansing Station is provided at the Central Clinic. Cases were treated as follows :—

Cases Notified.		Cases Treated (including second Treatment).		No. of Families involved.
From Clinic.	Other Sources.	Showing symptoms.	Not showing symptoms but treated as a precautionary measure.	
5	—	5	—	4

## 2 (l)—Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation is the responsibility of the Kent County Council. The weekly clinic is still maintained and the numbers attending continue to be satisfactory. Immunisation was also carried out at the Rusthall and Silverdale Infant Welfare Centres.

I am again indebted to Dr. A. Elliott, the County Medical Officer, for the following table giving the position at 31st December, 1950 :—

Year of Birth.	Primary Inoculations.	Reinforcing Inoculations.
1950 ...	24	—
1949 ...	265	—
1948 ...	64	—
1947 ...	33	—
1946 ...	5	12
1945 ...	16	63
1944 ...	17	76
1943 ...	12	53
1942 ...	12	58
1941 ...	3	47
1940 ...	2	22
1939 ...	4	27
1938 ...	1	14
1937 ...	—	4
1936 ...	—	4
Total ...	458	380

## 2 (m)—Vaccination.

Vaccination of infants against small-pox is also carried out on the same days as the immunisation sessions, and the following return, also furnished by the County Medical Officer gives the number of persons who were vaccinated against small-pox during the year ended 31st December, 1950 :—

Age at 31st December, 1950.	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated ...	131	95	20	17	263
Number Re-vaccinated	—	5	14	56	75



**2 (n)—Laboratory Facilities.**

There is a small Laboratory attached to the Public Health Department where routine examinations are made.

The Laboratory at County Hall, Maidstone, and at the Kent & Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells, now deal with all other investigations for the Borough.

**SECTION 3.**

**HOSPITALS, MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES,  
NURSING IN THE HOME, AMBULANCE FACILITIES,  
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT.**

**3 (a)—Hospitals and Maternity Homes.**

The following are the hospitals under the jurisdiction of the Regional Hospital Board situated in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells :—

The District Hospital, Mount Ephraim (formerly the Kent & Sussex Hospital).

The Homoeopathic Hospital.

Tunbridge Wells and District Maternity Home.

Tunbridge Wells and District Isolation Hospital.

Rusthall Grange Convalescent Home for Children.

**3 (b)—Nursing Homes.**

	Number of Homes	Number of Beds provided for :		
		Maternity	Others	Total
(a) Homes first registered during year ... ..	—	—	—	—
(b) Homes on the register at the end of the year	15	3	134	137

The inspections are carried out by the Medical Officer of Health, who also supervises the adaptation of fresh premises for nursing home purposes, paying as many visits as occasion requires. The number of inspections made of Nursing Homes during the year was 45.



**3 (c)—Ambulance Facilities.**

These services are the responsibility of the Kent County Council, the two main ambulance stations serving the Tunbridge Wells area being :—

- (i) St. John Ambulance Brigade Station.
- (ii) Pembury Hospital Station.

**3 (d)—Nursing in the Home.**

Nursing in the Home is undertaken by Home Nurses employed by the Kent County Council. The majority of the domiciliary midwifery cases in the Borough are undertaken by the District Midwives also employed by the Kent County Council.

**3 (e)—Section 47 of the National Assistance Act.**

No action was necessary under this Section during the year.

**SECTION 4.****SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

I am indebted to Mr. T. S. Ellis, Senior Sanitary Inspector, for the preparation of the details in this and Section 5 of the Report.

**4 (a)—Water Supply.**

The mains water supply was satisfactory in both quantity and quality throughout the year.

Fifteen samples of water were taken for Bacteriological Examination at regular intervals during the year by Officers of this Department. The examinations showed the water supply to be in a satisfactory condition.

The Staff of the Waterworks Department in addition take regular samples of the raw and treated water.

Seven samples for Bacteriological Examination were taken of the Chalybeate Spring water.

### Private Water Supplies.

Very few premises in the Borough are not supplied with Corporation mains water.

Thirty-five bacteriological samples and two chemical samples were taken from private supplies.

Eleven Bacteriological samples taken from seven sources of supply were reported contaminated. In cases of contaminated supplies the occupiers were advised to boil water for drinking purposes. The houses involved are in rural areas well away from town mains. Where possible, attempts are being made to get an improved water supply to the affected houses.

During the year a treatment plant has been installed to treat the water supply of a farmhouse and buildings. This supply had been found to be contaminated. Samples taken after the installation of the plant have showed the plant to be very efficient.

The following are chemical analyses by the Public Analyst of two samples of water taken on the 6th November, 1950 :—

### Sample of Water from 15in. Main, Pembury Road.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.					
<i>Determination.</i>					<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.006
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Oxygen absorbed at 80° F.—in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	0.016
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.01
Chlorine (in Chlorides)	...	...	...	...	2.85
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	...	...	...	...	4.7
Total Solid Matter (dried at 180° C.)	...	...	...	...	26.5
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	4.25
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	None
Carbonate of Soda	...	...	...	...	9.28
Reaction (pH)	...	...	...	...	7.0
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc, Iron)	...	...	...	...	Slight trace of iron
Appearance in two foot tube	...	...	...	...	Colourless and clear
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	0.30 p.p.m.
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	1.65



### Sample of Water from Saint's Hill Supply, Langton.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.					
<i>Determination.</i>					<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.004
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	...	0.0005
Oxygen absorbed at 80° F.—in 4 hours	...	...	...	...	0.005
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	0.01
Chlorine (in Chlorides)	...	...	...	...	3.0
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	...	...	...	...	4.9
Total Solid Matter (dried at 180° C.)	...	...	...	...	33.5
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	10.0
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	None
Carbonate of Soda	...	...	...	...	8.48
Reaction (pH)	...	...	...	...	6.9
Metals (Lead, Copper, Zinc, Iron)	...	...	...	...	Slight trace of iron
Appearance in two foot tube...	...	...	...	...	Colourless and slightly turbid
Free Chlorine	...	...	...	...	0.15 p.p.m.
Free Carbon Dioxide	...	...	...	...	2.97

#### 4 (b)—Drainage and Sewerage.

The greater portion of the Borough has a main drainage system, portions of the town having the combined system and some districts being served by separate surface and foul water sewers.

There are over 200 premises not on the main sewer. These premises are situated in rural parts of the district. The greater number of these drain into cesspools which are emptied by the Corporation eight times a year without charge. A scheme is to commence shortly to provide main drainage to some houses in Sandhurst Road now draining to cesspools.

The Council are making arrangements to instal a small sewage treatment works outside the Borough to treat the sewage from 33 houses in the Borough at present draining to an inadequate cesspool outside the Borough. In addition a scheme is under consideration for the drainage of the Ferrars Estate and some adjoining premises.



Fifty-six water tests and 17 smoke tests were made of drains during the year.

**4 (c)—Closet Accommodation.**

All premises in the Borough except for 25 houses in rural parts have water closets. The houses without water closets have either pail closets or Elsan closets.

**4 (d)—Refuse Collection and Disposal.**

During the year the whole of the Borough has been on a weekly refuse collection. The refuse collected has been disposed of by controlled tipping in a tip on the outskirts of the town. No complaints were received of nuisances from the tip during the year. Regular treatments were carried out during the year to keep down insect pests. The Rodent Operators continued to make monthly inspections of the tip and carried out the necessary treatment when required. The tip at present in use will be completed in the near future.

Thirteen thousand, seven hundred and seventy-five dust-bins are periodically emptied, the total weight of refuse dealt with during the year being 10,885 tons (figures supplied by the Cleansing Department).

**4 (e)—Eradication of Vermin.**

Twenty-one premises were treated for bugs during the year. The number of treated premises was well below the usual number, and was probably due to the cooler summer. Six premises were treated for fleas.

No charge is made for the treatment of bugs and fleas.

Seven premises were treated for cockroaches, mainly business premises. A charge is made for these treatments.

Powder containing D.D.T. has been found to have a marked effect in eradicating these pests.

No serious troubles were encountered during the year from the other various insect pests, again due to unfavourable climatic conditions.

#### 4 (f)—**Rodent Control.**

Complaints of rat and/or mice infestation received during the year numbered 441.

The greater portion of these rat infestations occurred in the gardens of private dwelling houses. There is no doubt the keeping of chickens and the erection of unraised wooden sheds in back gardens do encourage the breeding of rats. With the free service to private dwellings there is a tendency for householders to expect the Corporation to clear their properties of rats, without taking any precautions themselves to keep the rat population down. It is still the duty of occupiers to help in the matter by removing all harbourages for rats.

There has been an increase during the year of the amount of work carried out at business properties. The cost of this work is borne by the occupiers of the premises.

Two poisoning treatments of the sewers were carried out during 1950. With the different routine of treatment more satisfactory results were obtained. Owing to the age of a number of the sewers only by regular treatment can the rats in the sewers be kept to reasonable numbers.

#### 4 (g)—**Swimming Bath.**

Regular samples are taken of the bath water from the Corporation-owned swimming bath in Monson Road. The samples are a reliable check on the efficiency of the treatment plant.



Twenty-eight samples were taken of the bath water, 24 for bacteriological examination, and 4 for chemical examination. The results of the Laboratory examinations on the whole proved to be very satisfactory.

The pH value of the water was too low throughout the year. This low pH hinders the adequate chlorination of the water. An acid water plus chlorine causes slight discomfort to the bathers. The Baths Committee placed an order for an apparatus to increase the pH of the water, and when this is installed it will be possible for an increased amount of chlorine to be added to the water, thus making for a safer water without added discomfort to the bathers.

#### **4 (h)—Milk and Dairies.**

There are only four dairies in the town, plus a few milk shops selling bottled milk. The four dairies are all licensed to pasteurise milk, and 98 per cent. of the milk retailed in the Borough is either pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested.

One hundred and forty-two samples were taken during the year from the pasteurisation plants. One hundred and thirty-four samples passed the tests. Eight failed the tests. Five samples failing the tests were found to be due to the inaccuracy of the thermometers in use in the plant.

One sample of raw milk taken for biological examination was found to contain tubercle bacilli. Immediate steps were taken for the milk from the farm to be pasteurised until the affected animals were found. Two cows from the farm were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order. A sample taken after the slaughter of the cows was found to be free from Tubercle.

#### **4 (i)—Ice Cream.**

Eighty-three premises are registered for the sale of ice cream. Of these, eight manufacture ice cream, the re-



mainder retail in the main pre-packed ice cream from large manufacturers.

Fifty-two samples were examined Bacteriologically and were graded as follows :—

Grades 1 and 2 (Satisfactory)	...	...	29
Grade 3 (Poor) ...	...	...	11
Grade 4 (Unsatisfactory)	...	...	12

The results are not as satisfactory as one would desire, but no pathogenic organisms were found in the samples.

All unsatisfactory samples are repeated after enquiries have been made into the methods of manufacture, storage and handling of the ice cream.

Up to the present there has been no legal standard for the ingredients in ice cream, but on the 1st March, 1951, the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1951, will come into operation and from that date ice cream must contain 5 per cent. fat, 10 per cent. sugar and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. milk solids other than fat. Samples examined by the Public Analyst during the year ranged from 1.97 per cent. fat to 13.85 per cent. fat.

#### 4 (j)—Meat Inspection.

The two slaughterhouses under the control of the Ministry of Food are in regular daily use, including Sundays during the peak periods of slaughter. The slaughterhouses are in operation for the area in Kent around Tunbridge Wells, as well as for butchers in the Borough.

The slaughterhouses are old and too small for the number of animals slaughtered. They are badly sited and not on the main sewer. It is hoped that an abattoir will be erected in the near future in a more suitable position in the Borough.

The table of carcasses inspected in the report shows the amount of meat inspection carried out. Every carcass and

organs slaughtered during the year was inspected by a qualified Meat Inspector. There has been an increase in the amount of slaughtering during the year.

Four cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* were found during the year. Diagnosis of the cysts was confirmed by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. It was not found necessary to destroy the carcasses, but the meat was treated to freezing for 21 days, thereby making it safe for use.

#### **4 (k)—Food Poisoning Outbreaks.**

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred in the Borough during the year. Two cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. The causal organism was identified in each case but the source of infection was not determined.

#### **4 (l)—Clean Food Campaign.**

In 1950 a survey was completed of all the food premises in the Borough. The survey revealed there were 388 premises in which various types of foods were handled and sold.

One hundred and ninety-six of these premises were found to be without constant hot water for hand-washing purposes. Before the end of the year 66 of these premises had been provided with running hot water and many other traders had placed orders for the necessary appliances. Many other improvements were carried out to improve the hygiene of food establishments.

The Borough Council have adopted the Byelaws for the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air. Every food trader has been supplied with a copy of the Byelaws.

It has not been easy to arouse enthusiasm in some of the older persons in the cleanly handling of food as people tend to get fixed in their methods. Many of the shops and stores



are taking a great interest in food hygiene and in many of them improvements have been carried out without any requests from the Department.

During the year some Talks on Food Hygiene have been given to various organisations, and it is hoped during the coming year to increase the number of these lectures and use in conjunction with them suitable short films and film strips to give added interest.

It is also intended during the coming year to give some short talks to senior school children on the precautions to be taken in the handling of food. Numbers of young people enter the food trades every year, and if some elementary principles can be driven home early in life it will save having to correct faults later in their lives.

#### **4 (m)—Movable Dwellings.**

As a result of the housing shortage a number of applications have been received from persons for a licence to occupy caravans on land at various parts of the Borough. Three licences for a limited period were issued during the year. Satisfactory provisions have been made for refuse disposal, sanitary conveniences and water supply in each case.

There is no licensed caravan site in the Borough.

#### **4 (n)—Factories Act, 1937.**

There are 334 premises in the Borough registered as factories. They comprise 198 where mechanical power of one type or another is used, and 136 without the use of mechanical power.

Two hundred and twenty-seven visits were made to mechanical factories, and 106 visits to non-mechanical factories. Twenty-five defects were found and 16 remedied during the year.

## Factories Act, 1937.

## 1. INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	136	106	5	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority... ..	197	227	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	1	2	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	334	335	9	—

## 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 (S.1)	7	6	—	1	—
Overcrowding ... (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ... (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ... (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	2	2	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective ...	2	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	2	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ... ..	11	5	—	2	—
TOTAL ... ..	25	16	—	4	—



## Outwork.

(Sections 110 and 111.)

Nature of Work	Section 110.			Section 111.		Prosecutions
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110. (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-whole-some premises	Notices served	
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	2	—	—	—	—	—

**Table No. 1.**—The following table gives a general summary of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year 1950 :—

	<i>Number</i>					
Houses inspected under the Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	16
Houses inspected other than under the Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	577
Number of visits to houses	...	...	...	...	...	2,384
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	487
Visits to Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	82
„ „ Butchers' shops	...	...	...	...	...	169
„ „ Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	162
„ „ Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	240
„ „ Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	104
„ „ Restaurants and Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	105
„ „ Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	792
„ „ Theatres, Cinemas, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ „ Other Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	739
Visits to Baths	...	...	...	...	...	20
„ „ Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Factories	...	...	...	...	...	335
„ „ Movable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	15
„ „ Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ Stables	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ Streams, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	9
„ „ Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	115
„ „ Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	13





**2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 344

**3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—**

*(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. | 7 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—       |   |
| (a) By owners ... ..   | 3 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..   | 4 |

*(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—*

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. | 16 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—               |    |
| (a) By owners ... ..  | 14 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..  | 2  |

*(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... .. | 0 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ..    | 0 |

*(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..  | 0 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... .. | 0 |

**4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—**

The housing situation in Tunbridge Wells is no better or no worse than exists in similar sized towns throughout the country. The Housing Register of the Housing Department shows that there were 1,435 applicants for new accommodation at the end of the year.

With respect to overcrowding, without a survey as was carried out in 1935 no accurate figure can be given.

One of the more serious aspects of housing is the deterioration of the smaller types of property owing to the great increase in the cost of building repairs and the low rental yield from cottage properties, so that many owners are not in a position to maintain their properties in a proper state of repair. Unless this problem of insufficient return from the properties is tackled on a national level very soon much of the cottage property will rapidly deteriorate at an increasing rate with each succeeding year.

Slum clearance to any great extent cannot be commenced for many years to come, therefore it is essential that the existing properties should be kept in a reasonably habitable condition and in a satisfactory state of repair.

During the year preliminary steps have commenced to carry out a small slum clearance scheme in the Culverden Street area with the active support of the owners of the properties involved.

**Table No. 3—Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

	<i>Number</i>
<b>(a) Milk Supply :—</b>	
Licences in force at the end of the year :—	
Pasteurisers' Licences ... ..	4
Dealers' Licences : Pasteurised Milk ... ..	10
"    "    Tuberculin Tested milk ... ..	7
"    "    Sterilised milk ... ..	1
Supplementary Licences : Pasteurised milk ... ..	3
"    "    Tuberculin Tested milk ... ..	6
"    "    Sterilised milk ... ..	1
Number of Distributors of Milk in the Borough :—	
(a) with premises inside the Borough ... ..	10
(b) with premises outside the Borough ... ..	8
Number of dairies in the Borough (excluding farms) ... ..	4
Number of shops selling bottled milk ... ..	12
Six samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, 7 for biological examination and 142 samples to the prescribed tests for pasteurised milk at the County Laboratory. One sample of sterilised milk was submitted for the turbidity test.	
<b>(b) Meat and other Foods :—</b>	
Number of Government-controlled slaughterhouses in use ... ..	2
"    "    visits to slaughterhouses ... ..	792
"    "    home-killed carcasses examined at time of slaughter ... ..	19,381
"    "    visits to other food premises (excluding bakehouses) ... ..	1,529



## (c) (i) Details of Food found to be unfit for human consumption in Government Slaughterhouses :—

Item of Food :	Weight :				Tubercular weight :			
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.
Beef (home-killed) ...	15	12	2	0	including 10	17	1	5
„ (offals) „ ...	18	9	0	5	„ 8	1	3	20
Pork „ ...	1	2	0	1	„ 6	2	14	
„ (offals) „ ...		3	0	22	„ 3	9		
Veal „ ...		1	0	9				
„ (offals) „ ...		1	1	21	„			8
Mutton „ ...		8	2	1				
„ (offals) „ ...		8	2	22				

## (ii) Details of Food found to be unfit for human consumption in Retail and Wholesale Food Premises :—

Item of Food :	Weight :			
	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.
Brawn ...				21½
Cake Mixtures ...			3	25
Cheese ...				18
Choc Malt Spread ...				12
Dates ...				6½
Fats ...				7½
Fish (canned) ...		1	0	20½
Fish (cured) ...		1	3	24
Fish (fresh) ...		1	1	18
Flour ...				24
Fruit (canned) ...		5	1	18
Fruit (dried) ...		1	2	13
Jam ...		1	3	19
Jellies ...			1	20¾
Marmalade ...			2	8
Mayonnaise ...		1	3	2¾
Meat (canned) ...		9	0	24
Meat (cured) ...		1	3	1¾
Meat (fresh) ...	1	2	1	9
Meat (imported) ...		6	0	8
Milk (canned) ...		12	2	1
Mincemeat ...				1¾
Olives ...				½
Pastes ...				5
Pickles ...				6
Poultry and Game ...		1	0	15
Puddings ...		8	3	14
Rabbits ...			2	4
Sauces, etc. ...			1	24¼
Sausages and Sausage Meat			1	27
Shell-fish (canned) ...				1¾
Shell-fish (fresh) ...	1	0		27
Soups ...			1	7
Spaghetti ...				9
Vegetables (canned) ...		4	0	16
Miscellaneous Foodstuffs				12¾

Total weight of food found to be unfit :— 40 tons 13 cwts 3 qrts 22½ lbs.

## CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed ... ..	3511	1536	3957	9747	630
Number inspected ... ..	3511	1536	3957	9747	630
All diseases except Tuber- culosis :—					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	2	19	3	24	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	1257	693	20	374	60
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	35.86%	46.35%	0.58%	4.08%	10.95%
Tuberculosis only :—					
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	14	21	Nil	Nil	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	336	364	3	Nil	6
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	9.97%	25.07%	0.08%	Nil	1.27%

TOTAL CARCASSES INSPECTED ... 19,381.



**SAMPLES TAKEN DURING 1950 UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT,  
1938.**

Nature of Sample.	Examined.			Adulterated.		
	Formal.	Informal	Total	Formal.	Informal	Total
Baking Powder ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bitter Beer ...	3	—	3	—	—	—
Boracic Powder ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Coffee ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cream of Tartar ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Eucalyptus Oil ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Honey ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream ...	—	6	6	—	—	—
Ice Cream Powder ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Jam (Raspberry) ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Lemon Cheese ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Lemon Curd ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Malt Choc. Spread ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Malt (Extract of) ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk ...	65	28	93	17	6	23
Olive Oil ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper Flavoured Compound ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pepper (White) ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Sal Volatile ...	1	1	2	1	1	2
Sausages ...	—	4	4	—	—	—
Sausages (Chippolata) ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausage Meat ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Strawberry Flavour ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Tincture of Iodine ...	—	2	2	—	—	—
Vinegar (Malt) ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Vinegar (Virgin) ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
Zinc Ointment ...	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	69	68	137	18	7	25

### FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING.

One hundred and thirty-seven samples were taken of various foods and drugs during the year. The Food and Drugs Table shows the variety of articles sampled.

Twenty-five samples were reported by the Public Analyst to be deficient or adulterated.

Many of the milk samples found to be below the statutory standard for solids-not-fat were naturally poor milk, and the deficiency of solids was not due to the addition of water. The solids-not-fat content in milk has been falling during the past few years throughout the country. It would appear that producers of milk have been paying more attention to quantity than to quality of late.

Nine of the adulterated milk samples were taken from a consignment of milk supplied to an institution in the Borough. The samples contained varying amounts of added water ranging from 2 to 7 per cent.

Police Court proceedings were taken against the suppliers of the milk and after prolonged hearings the defendants were found guilty and fined £1.

Four milk samples were found to be deficient in solids-not-fat. The farmer was cautioned by letter.

An informal sample of Sal Volatile was reported as adulterated. This was followed by a formal sample which was also found to be adulterated. The vendor was cautioned by letter.

Three milk samples taken in course of delivery to a dairy were found to be low in solids-not-fat. The farmer was cautioned by letter.

One informal sample of milk taken in course of delivery at a wholesale dairy was found to contain only 2.58 per cent. of milk-fat as against the required standard of 3.0 per cent. This informal sample was followed by formal samples from a whole consignment of milk from the same farmer. One of the



latter samples was found to be deficient in solids-not-fat. The farmer was cautioned by letter.

Two formal samples of milk taken during delivery to a dairy were found to be deficient in solids-not-fat. Again the farmer concerned was cautioned by letter.

One informal sample of milk taken at a dairy contained only 2.7 per cent. of milk-fat. Formal samples taken later of the whole consignment were all reported as genuine.

Two samples taken in course of delivery to a dairy were found to be very low in solids-not-fat content. "Appeal to cow" samples were taken at the farm and these gave similar results. The farmer was cautioned by letter.

## SECTION 5.

### WEATHER INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR 1950.

Tunbridge Wells Municipal Meteorological Station is an official Auxiliary Station reporting daily to the Meteorological Office of the Air Ministry. The Observers are Mr. A. Barnett, Mr. T. Ellison and Mr. T. Steel, who are members of the Staff of the Health Department.

The instruments are situated in the Calverley Grounds with the exception of the sunshine recorder and the standard barometer, which are established on the roof of the Earls Court Hotel, Mount Ephraim, and in the Health Department of the Town Hall respectively.

After the annual inspection of the station, which was carried out by an Inspector from the Air Ministry on the 16th November, a letter was received from the Director of the Meteorological Office of the Air Ministry stating that the arrangements of the Station and the recordings of the Observers were most satisfactory.

Below is given a general summary for each month throughout the year:—

JANUARY.—The amount of sunshine during the month was above average. The rainfall was less than half the



average, being 1.08 inches as against the average of 2.77 inches. Slight snow occurred on the 19th and 25th of the month and there were four fogs recorded at the observation hours.

FEBRUARY.—During February the recorded sunshine was slightly below average whilst the rainfall of 5.12 inches was more than twice the average of 2.29 inches for the month. Only three heavier rainfalls have been recorded in February during the past 50 years : 5.48 ins. in 1935 ; 5.16 ins. in 1916, and 6.32 ins. in 1900. Wind reached gale force on the 12th and 25th. Hail, thunder and lightning occurred on the 8th.

MARCH.—As in January the sunshine was again slightly above average, and the rainfall was nearly 1 inch below the average of 2.23 inches. Three fogs were recorded during the month.

APRIL.—Sunshine was slightly above average as was the rainfall. Heavy snow occurred on the 24th, 25th and 26th, and at the 9.0 a.m. reading on the 26th the depth of snow recorded was 5 inches. The snowfall on the 25th was the equivalent of 1.14 inches of rain and was the heaviest fall in one day during the year. Thunder was noted on 2 days and hail was recorded on 3 days.

MAY.—Sunshine during May was 32 hours below average and the rainfall also was slightly below average. Hail occurred on the 2nd and thunder was heard on the same day and on the 21st. The last air and ground frosts in the Spring were on the 5th of the month.

JUNE.—In June 56 hours of sunshine above the average were recorded whilst the rainfall was half an inch below average. Thunder occurred on 3 days. The most sunshine on any one day during the year was on the 11th when 15 hours were recorded. The highest temperature in the shade during the year was 88 degrees F. on the 6th June.



JULY.—Again both sun and rain were slightly above average, with thunder on 3 days.

AUGUST.—Sunshine was once more below the average. Rainfall also was slightly below the average although measurable rain fell on 20 days, and thunder occurred on 5 days. The hottest night during the year was 13th August, when the temperature did not fall below 61 degrees F.

SEPTEMBER.—September again was a very poor month with sunshine more than 30 hours below average and rain on 22 days. Thunder occurred on 2 days with a gale on the 6th.

OCTOBER.—This month was exceptionally dry, being the driest October this century. Measurable rainfall amounted to only 0.32 inches as against an average of 3.53 inches, and of this amount 0.17 inches fell on one day, the 9th. The first fogs of the winter occurred during the month. The first ground frost of the winter was on the 26th and the first air frost on the 27th.

NOVEMBER.—This was another wet month, the rainfall being  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches above the average with 5.02 inches falling on 22 days. Sunshine was average. Hail occurred on 1 day, and there were 2 fogs.

DECEMBER.—The 37 hours of sun during December was only three-quarters of average and was the lowest since 1937. Rainfall was nearly  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches below average for the month, although it snowed on 14 days. It was foggy on 4 days. The lowest air temperature was 19 degrees F. on the 17th December, whilst the minimum on the ground was 16 degrees F. on the 5th and 17th December.

GENERAL.—The rainfall of 27.68 inches for the year was 2.69 inches below the 70 year average of 30.37 inches. The sunshine figure of 1,623.5 hours was 6.3 hours above the average for the past 36 years.

The wind at 9.0 a.m. was North on 22 days, North-East

on 47 days, East 22 days, South-East 21 days, South 34 days, South-West 101 days, West 68 days and North-West 50 days. No calms were recorded at the observation hour.

The mean amount of cloud at 9.0 a.m. was 6.6, 6.7 being the average (10 representing completely overcast sky). During observations the amount of cloud is now expressed in oktas, or eighths of the sky covered by cloud, instead of being given in tenths, but for the purpose of this report the latter method has been continued.

Sunless days during the year numbered 67, the average being 66. Rain days numbered 182, being 11 above average. There were 15 fogs and it was misty on 27 other mornings.

The mean temperature in the shade for the year was 49.3 degrees, this being the average. The mean daily range was 14.5 degrees, this also being the average. The mean temperature was above average for the first three months of the year, below for April and May, rising above for June and July, was average for August and below for the remainder of the year. Soil temperature 4 feet below ground level was above average from January to September, but below for the remaining three months.



## METEOROLOGICAL NOTES, 1950.

Months.	Sunshine.		Rainfall.		Mean Temperature. In shade, 4ft above ground.		Temperature Underground.			
							One Foot.		Four Feet.	
	1950.	36 year Average.	1950.	70 year Average.	1950.	60 year Average.	1950.	50 year Average.	1950.	36 year Average.
January ...	Hrs. 59 Mins. 6	Hrs. 52 Mins. 18	Inches. 1.08	Inches 2.77	°F. 38.6	°F. 38.2	°F. 40.0	°F. 39.3	°F. 44.1	°F. 43.2
February ...	70	42	72	18	5.12	2.29	42.5	39.0	42.5	42.1
March ...	136	24	125	18	1.35	2.23	45.1	41.7	44.6	42.8
April ...	163	24	155	30	2.63	2.00	45.7	47.3	47.4	46.8
May ...	179	18	211	24	1.55	1.96	52.8	54.5	51.7	51.5
June ...	276	24	220	42	1.42	1.91	62.3	60.7	59.7	56.9
July ...	216	0	211	30	2.65	2.24	61.9	63.7	62.7	60.3
August ...	184	12	195	36	2.10	2.37	61.3	63.3	63.3	61.6
September	117	54	150	42	2.56	2.23	58.6	59.2	60.4	60.2
October ...	117	24	111	0	0.32	3.53	49.1	52.6	55.4	56.1
November...	65	42	63	30	5.02	3.54	42.5	45.7	48.8	50.3
December ...	37	0	47	24	1.88	3.30	33.0	41.2	43.4	45.6
WHOLE YEAR	1,623	30	1,617	12	27.68	30.37	49.3	50.7	52.0	51.4

