

[Report 1938] / Medical Officer of Health, Warminster & Westbury R.D.C.

Contributors

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Public Health Act, 1875.



REPORT

On the Health and Sanitary Condition of the
WARMINSTER AND WESTBURY
RURAL DISTRICT

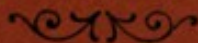
for the year

1938

Presented to the
Warminster & Westbury Rural District Council
by

I. B. LAWRENCE,

*Medical Officer of Health of the
Warminster and Westbury Rural
Sanitary Authority.*



WESTBURY, WILTS :
A. E. & H. HOLLOWAY, EDWARD STREET.
1939.



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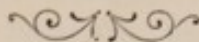
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WARMINSTER AND WESTBURY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

on the Health and Sanitary Condition of the Warminster
and Westbury Rural District for the Year
ending 31st December, 1938.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Warminster
and Westbury Rural District Council.*

I HAVE the honour to present my Annual Report for the year
ended 31st December, 1938.

I should like to express my thanks to the Officers and Staff
of the Council for the valuable help they have given me during
the year.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

1. Medical Officer of Health.

I. B. LAWRENCE, M.B., D.P.H., 8, High Street,
Warminster.

2. Public Vaccinators.

R. C. HODGES, B.A., M.B., Warminster.

E. T. SHORLAND, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Westbury.

E. LEWIS, M.B., Codford.

H. HINTON, M.B., Heytesbury.

C. KINGSTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Trowbridge.

W. K. A. RICHARDS, M.C., M.B., Westbury.

R. W. GRAHAM-CAMPBELL, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
Warminster.

3. Vaccination Officers.

S. DAVIS, 8, High Street, Warminster.

W. D. CASE, 24, Station Road, Westbury.

4. Sanitary Inspectors.

Senior—T. R. COX, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., 8, High Street,
Warminster.

Additional—C. S. PIPER, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Clerk—A. H. HALE.

General Statistics.

Figures for 1937 are shown in brackets.

Area—87,096 acres.

Resident Population—11,590. (11,657).

Number of Inhabited Houses—3,731. (3,675).

Rateable Value—£47,274. (£46,517).

Product of a Penny Rate under Rating and Valuation Act, 1925—£203. (£200).

Social Conditions.

Chiefly Agricultural District.

One Leather Tannery employing some 200 people.

200 outworkers employed in Glove making.

Unemployment—Low.

Extract from Vital Statistics of the Year.

Figures for 1937 are shown in brackets.

BIRTHS.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ...	87 (76)	82 (74)	169 (150)
Illegitimate ...	1 (2)	2 (3)	3 (5)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	88 (78)	84 (77)	172 (155)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate—14·8 per 1000. (12·8 per 1000).

Birth Rate for England and Wales—15·1 per 1000. (14·9 per 1000).

STILL-BIRTHS.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ...	5 (6)	5 (4)	10 (10)
Illegitimate ...	Nil (1)	1 (Nil)	1 (1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5 (7)	6 (4)	11 (11)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

DEATHS.

Male, 88 (70). Female, 88 (71). Total, 176 (141).

Death Rate—15·17 per 1000. (12·09 per 1000).

Death Rate for England and Wales—11·6 per 1000. (12·4 per 1000).

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth—(Nil).

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate ...	2 (1)	3 (2)	5 (3)
Illegitimate ...	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)	Nil (Nil)
	2 (1)	3 (2)	5 (3)

Causes of Death.	Males	Females	Total
Pneumonia	7	5	12
Bronchitis	3	3	6
Other respiratory diseases ...	...	2	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	...	3
Other Tuberculosis	1	...	1
Cancer	24	16	40
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...
G.P.I., tabes etc.	1	...	1
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	...	...	...
Appendicitis ... ..	...	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	...	...
Other Liver disease ... ..	...	...	...
Aneurysm ... ..	...	...	...
Other circulatory disease ...	5	5	10
Other digestive disease ... ..	...	3	3
Heart Disease	20	26	46
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	...	3	3
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	...	1	1
Other Puerperal disease ... ..	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Premature Birth, etc. ... ..	...	3	3
Senility	3	3	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	4	6	10
Diabetes ... ..	...	...	...
Suicide	1	1	2
Other violence	6	4	10
Other defined causes	7	5	12
Ill-defined or not known ... ..	...	...	...
Diarrhœa, two years and over ...	...	..	...
Diarrhœa, under two years	1	...	1
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...
Influenza	1	1	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	1
TOTALS ...	88	88	176

Number of Cases of Infectious Disease.

Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	(Nil)
Diphtheria	8	(3)
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	(3)
Scarlet Fever	9	(8)
Pneumonia	3	(1)
Erysipelas	4	(1)

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1938.

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

The number of Cases on the Register at the end of the year was 38; of these 20 were cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 12 males and 8 females; and 18 non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 11 males and 7 females.

Hospitals provided by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

Tuberculosis—(i) Winsley Sanatorium.
(ii) Harnham, Salisbury.

Maternity—Both County Council and private beds are available at the Trowbridge and District Hospital and also at the Salisbury Infirmary.

Children—Orthopædic Hospital, Bath.

Fever—Trowbridge and Warminster Isolation Hospitals.

Smallpox—Swindon.

Other Hospitals Serving the District.

Prideaux Hospital, Westbury.
Trowbridge Hospital.
Warminster Hospital.
Westbury & District Hospital.

Clinics.

Maternity and Child Welfare—Warminster & Trowbridge.
Venereal Disease—Trowbridge and Salisbury.
Cancer—Trowbridge and Salisbury.

Laboratory.

There is an arrangement with the Salisbury General Infirmary for the regular sampling of our Water Supplies.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious cases—Isolation Hospital Ambulances at Warminster and Trowbridge.
Non-infectious and accident cases—Trowbridge Red Cross Ambulance. Ambulance provided by Warminster Urban District Council.

Nursing Arrangements.

Dilton Marsh	...	Resident Midwife.
Chapmanslade, Corsley and Horningsham	}	Midwife at Corsley.
Bratton, Edington, Tinhead and East Coulston	}	Midwife at Edington.
Steeple Ashton, West Ashton, Keevil and Bulkington	}	Midwife at Steeple Ashton.
North Bradley, Southwick and Heywood	}	Midwife at North Bradley.
Heytesbury, Upton Lovel, Corton, Norton Bavant, Bishopstrow, Knook and Boyton	}	Midwife at Heytesbury.
Codford, Stockton, Sherrington and Chitterne	}	Midwife at Codford.
Sutton Veny, Longbridge Deverill, Hill Deverill, Brixton Deverill, Kingston Deverill	}	Midwife at Longbridge Deverill
Upton Scudamore and Imber.		Midwife at Warminster.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Scavenging.

The collection and disposal of House Refuse is now carried out in the Parishes of Boyton and Sherrington, Bratton, Brixton Deverill, Chapmanslade, Chitterne, Codford, Corsley, Dilton Marsh, East Coulston, Edington, Heywood, Horningsham, Keevil, Kingston Deverill, Longbridge Deverill, North Bradley, Southwick, Steeple Ashton, Sutton Veny, Upton Scudamore and West Ashton.

This leaves nine parishes in which no refuse collections are made, and in these cases such collections are pending or there are ample facilities for disposal in the parish.

Negotiations are being made with the Westbury Urban District Council, which, if successful, will enable this Council to deposit all the refuse from the whole district at the Westbury Urban District Council Refuse Dump.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Sewerage Plants under the control of the Warminster and Westbury Rural District Council :

1. Heywood Council Houses.
2. North Bradley Council Houses.
3. Southwick Council Houses, Frome Road.
4. Southwick Council Houses, Bradley Road.
5. Dilton Marsh Council Houses.
6. Woodmarsh Sewer, Drynham Lane, North Bradley.
7. Codford Council Houses.
8. Heytesbury Council Houses.
9. Hill Deverill Council Houses.

The three last mentioned have been installed during the year in consequence of the erection of new Council Houses, and the plant at North Bradley has been enlarged for the same reason.

Reports were received of inspection of the following plants by the County Council as under :—

(a) Dilton Marsh. Since the last inspection certain improvements have been made to these works. The capacity of the settling tank has been increased to 600 gallons and the filter distributor and clinker have been renewed. New sludge beds have also been constructed. The works generally were in good order but it is understood that they are overloaded and now receive sewage from 40 council houses. A sample of the effluent obtained from the outfall into the ditch was reported by the Analysts to be very bad. The ditch was in a foul condition.

(b) Heywood. (i) Old Council Houses. These works are exactly the same as noted at last year's inspection. The ditch into which the effluent discharges was completely overgrown and therefore it was impossible to obtain a sample. (ii) New Council Houses. These works were unchanged and it was impossible to obtain a sample of the effluent, as the ditch into which it discharges was completely overgrown.

(c) North Bradley. (i) Council Houses. The old works have been abolished and new works, comprising a settling tank, a filter bed operated by a tipper, and a humus chamber, brought into operation on the 2nd August, 1938. Four additional houses have been connected to the works, making a total of fourteen houses. A sample of effluent taken from the outfall into the ditch was reported by the Analysts to be poor. (ii) Drynham Lane. The condition of these works is precisely the same as last year. A sample of the effluent taken from the outfall into the ditch was reported by the Analysts to be poor. The ditch was in a very foul state.

(d) Southwick. (i) Frome Road (Council Houses). These works comprise a settling tank and filter bed, the latter being completely ineffective. A sample of the effluent, which was badly discoloured, was taken from the outfall into the ditch and was reported by the Analysts to be very bad. (ii) Bradley Road (Council Houses). These works were in exactly the same condition as last year. The ditch into which the effluent discharges was in a foul state but it was impracticable to obtain a sample.

In the Medical Officer's last report to the Council, he stated that in his opinion the following parishes would benefit by proper sewage disposal schemes :—

Codford, Dilton Marsh, North Bradley, Sutton Veny, Southwick, Chapmanslade and Heytesbury.

I am glad to say that the Council have, in the cases of North Bradley, Southwick and Dilton Marsh enlisted the services of a consulting engineer to submit a scheme for these districts.

Arising out of complaints regarding nuisances due to drains in the village of Heytesbury. I inspected the area, accompanied by the Sanitary Inspector, and made the following report to the Council on the 11th July, 1938 :—

“A detailed inspection of the drainage of properties in the High Street, Heytesbury, was made on the 22nd June, 1938. The result is as follows :—

It was found that the number of houses and buildings discharging waste water etc. into the highway drains, and thence to the open ditch, numbered nineteen. Of these, fifteen discharge directly into the roadside gutter and eventually run into a road gully. The other four are connected to the same or similar road gullies below the ground level, the whole empties into the open ditch between the Angel Inn and Mrs. Walford's property, and continues parallel with the last mentioned garden, then is piped across the back lane, and runs again through an open ditch in Captain Thring's garden, ultimately discharging, untreated, into the River Wylye.

On the day of inspection, waste water was seen running in the gutters on both sides of the main road, the ditch was blackened and gave rise to an offensive smell throughout its whole length, and is undoubtedly a Public Health nuisance, as well as a source of River Pollution.

It is also to be noted that two overflows from sewage plants, namely Mrs. Walford's and one from the Angel Inn empty into this ditch.

It is my considered opinion that a number of houses, including the laundry and the shop next to the Scout Shed discharge directly without treatment into the river near the bridge. The almshouses at the East end of the village also discharge into the river."

I would like to endorse Dr. Broomhead's remarks, in his last report, on insanitary ditches, and again emphasise the fact that we should help the farmer in every way to ensure a clean cow by providing proper sewage disposal and water supplies, otherwise how can we ever hope to obtain clean milk.

Nutrition and Physical Training.

In my examination of School Children, I have come across numerous cases of poor physique, subnormal nutrition and poor stance. In trying to find out the causative factors, I have come to the conclusion that insufficient rest plays a large part.

Lack of Rest. This is essentially the case in the "active" type of child. The child looks tired, with dark rings under the eyes. Shoulders are bent because the muscles are tired and unable to keep the shoulders back. These children are always on the move, and are usually thin because even at meal times they eat as fast as they can, so that they can get out to play, when really they should do the opposite, and rest after each meal in order to give the stomach sufficient time to digest the food, and so build up the body and replace the energy used up.

Incorrect Food, lacking in the necessary vitamins also plays a part.

I should like to add that milk is one of the best foods, and that I should like to see the amounts of milk taken in school doubled.

Physical training, especially in its latest form, has no doubt improved the physique, deportment and health of the child, but you cannot expect much response from a child who is already tired, and of poor nutrition.

I have often been told by parents that their six years old child goes to bed at eight o'clock. He should be in bed two hours earlier, and I have seen children still younger out in the streets at eleven o'clock.

Surely it is beneficent to both children and parents that they should go to bed early, so that both may enjoy more rest.

Water Supplies.

The Council have now made arrangements with the Salisbury General Infirmary whereby all piped public supplies are examined bacteriologically quarterly, and chemically annually. Regular reports of samples of water supplied to the District by the Trowbridge, Melksham and District Water Board, and the Westbury and Dilton Marsh Joint Water Committee are received.

Whilst many of the analyses show a satisfactory result, too much weight should not be attached to them, as they are only indications of the purity or otherwise of the sample of water at the time of sampling. Factors requisite for the constant purity of a water supply are safe collection, storage, and distribution; at any of these points in a water scheme pathological organisms may enter.

The regular sampling of supplies in the District commenced in January, 1939, but I think it advisable to incorporate the results in this report:—

BISHOPSTROW. Served from the Warminster Public Supply; sample taken, the report of which shows this to be a pure water.

BOYTON AND SHERRINGTON. Sample taken from Manor Farm, Corton, the result of which shows this to be a pure water.

BRATTON. The water supply to this Parish remains as shown in the report for the year 1936. It is doubtful if this supply will be sufficient in times of drought. This Parish is included under the Regional Water Scheme.

BULKINGTON. The Public Supply in this Parish is still practically untreated river water. This Parish is included under the Regional Water Scheme.

CHAPMANSLADE. A piped supply to this village is administered by the Rural District Council. The Analyst reports that bacteria of intestinal origin are present, but only in negligible numbers.

CODFORD. Relies on shallow wells. The following report was made to the Rural District Council on the 2nd January, 1939:—

“During the last three months we have had three complaints about the polluted well water supplies at the following properties:—

1. Col. Sneyde.
2. Overton House, Codford.
3. Cottages behind Mr. Bee's shop, occupied by Burton, Hale and Higgs.

In each of these cases samples of the water were reported by the Pathologist as unfit for drinking purposes.

Most of the wells in the Parish are shallow, and of course are always liable to contamination.

Mr. Cox, our Sanitary Inspector, has previously recommended a Public Water Supply for Codford owing to the shortage of water, and in 1934 drew up a scheme, but it was turned down by the Parish Council.

In my opinion a proper and wholesome water supply should be provided for this Parish, especially in view of the fact that if another crisis arises, refugees would again be billeted at Codford, and so increase the risk of epidemics."

CORSLEY and HORNINGSHAM. Longleat Estate Supply. The Analyst reports this supply as in every way suitable for drinking purposes. The fact that it is definitely acid should be noted in regard to potential plumbo-solvency.

CORTON (part of the Parish of Boyton). Individual wells.

CROCKERTON (part of the Parish of Longbridge Deverill). Relies on individual wells. A piped supply to this hamlet would be an advantage.

DILTON MARSH. Served by the Westbury Urban District supply. The Analyst reports this as a pure water, fit for drinking purposes.

EAST COULSTON. The water supply in this Parish is from a Public Well at The Woodlands, which serves several cottages at one end of the village, and there is also a primitive piped supply from Baynton House.

The Analyst's report on samples from both of these supplies shows that bacteria of intestinal origin are present in numbers sufficient to render the water undesirable for drinking purposes. This Parish has been included in the Regional Water Scheme.

EDINGTON. The water supply to this Parish is still far from satisfactory, and remains as shown in the report for 1936. This Parish is included in the new Regional Water Scheme.

HEYTESBURY, KNOOK and NORTON BAVANT. Supplied by the Heytesbury Estate. The Analyst reports this supply as a very pure water.

HEYWOOD, NORTH BRADLEY and SOUTHWICK. Supplied by the Trowbridge, Melksham & District Water Board. Monthly reports on samples taken are now received, and these are quite satisfactory.

HINTON. Individual wells. This Parish is included in the Regional Water Scheme.

IRELAND (North Bradley). A further sample shows the well serving the cottages at Ireland, North Bradley to be still polluted. No steps have yet been taken to remedy this defect.

IMBER. The water supply in this parish is the responsibility of the War Department.

KEEVIL. Relies on individual wells, and a supply from the Jubilee Pump. The latter is reported by the Analyst as being not altogether satisfactory. This Parish is included in the Regional Water Scheme.

LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL. Supplies by the Longleat Estate Company. This supply is reported by the Analyst as showing some pollution with bacteria of intestinal origin. This is sufficient to render this water undesirable for drinking purposes, if permanently present. A further sample taken from the reservoir shows the presence of bacteria of intestinal origin, but only in negligible numbers. The Longleat Estate Company have been approached with a view to improving the supply.

STEEPLE ASHTON. A Public Supply administered by the Rural District Council. This supply is reported by the Analyst as a very pure water. During the drought of 1934 the supply was considerably diminished, and as a result this parish is included in the Regional Water Scheme.

STOCKTON. Stockton Estate Supply. The Analyst reports that this supply shows the presence of bacteria of intestinal origin, but only in negligible numbers.

A second supply, owned by Mr. Yeatman Biggs, is reported to be a very pure water.

SUTTON VENY. A Public Supply administered by the Rural District Council. A sample is reported by the Analyst as follows: "Bacteriological examination shows some pollution with bacteria of intestinal origin. It is sufficient to render this water undesirable for drinking purposes, if permanently present."

UPTON LEVEL. Individual wells.

UPTON SCUDAMORE. Trowbridge, Melksham and District Water Board's supply. A sample taken shows the presence of bacteria of intestinal origin in negligible numbers, and a second sample shows the supply from the source to be pure. The storage reservoir appears to be the cause of the pollution, and arrangements are being made to clean out the tank.

WEST ASHTON. Parish well and individual wells. This Parish is included in the Regional Water Scheme.

Well Supplies Generally.

Few of the wells in general use are satisfactory. In many cases either the wells or their coverings are defective. Should pathological organisms at any time be introduced into their vicinity, undoubtedly the supply would be infected.

In view of this, no attempt has been made to analyse many well supplies whose structure would predispose to contamination. Even if a satisfactory analysis were obtained, the wells could never be looked upon as safe.

Camping Sites.

No licences have been issued in respect of camping sites in the District during 1938.

Smoke Abatement.

No cases of smoke nuisance have been reported during the year.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The only privately owned pool open to the public is Shearwater, which is a natural lake, and is the property of the Longleat Estate Company.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No houses have been found to be infested with bed bugs in the District during 1938. Two applications of Zaldicide are sprayed for the purpose of freeing houses found to be infested.

Ordinary inspections are made of the belongings of tenants before their removal to Council Houses.

The Local Authority carry out the work of disinfestation.

The Council Houses are regularly supervised with a view to preventing infestation.

Schools.

School Closures in the District during 1938.

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Period of Closure</i>	<i>Reason</i>
Chapmanslade ...	10. 1.38—28. 1.38	Measles
Crockerton ...	31. 1.38—24. 2.38	do.
Codford St. Peter ...	11. 2.38—11. 3.38	do.
Codford St. Mary ...	14. 2.38—11. 3.38	do.
Longbridge Deverill	1. 3.38— 1. 4.38	do.
North Bradley ...	31. 5.38— 3. 6.38	do.
North Bradley ...	13. 6.38—17. 6.38	do.
Codford St. Peter ...	4.10.38—11.11.38	Whooping Cough
Stockton ..	11.10.38—21.10.38	Scarlet Fever
Codford St. Mary ...	24.10.38—22.12.38	Whooping Cough
Longbridge Deverill	28.11.38—22.12.38	Whooping Cough

School Water Supplies and Drainage Arrangements.

<i>School</i>	<i>Water Supply</i>	<i>Result of sample of supply</i>	<i>Sewage Disposal</i>
Bratton ...	Piped supply from Mr. King-Church's well ...	None	Pail Closets
Chapmanslade ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
Chitterne ...	Fetches from well in nearby house	None	Pail Closets
Codford St. Mary	Fetches from well in nearby house	None	Pail Closets
Codford St. Peter	Fetches from Major Allsworth's well	None	Pail Closets
Corsley ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
Crockerton ...	Fetches from pump in nearby cottage	None	Pail Closets
Dilton Marsh C.E. (Junior ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
Dilton Marsh Council (Inf'ts)	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
Edington ...	Well on School premises ...	None	Cesspool
Heytesbury ...	Piped supply from private source ...	Good	Pail Closets
Heywood ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets

<i>School</i>	<i>Water Supply</i>	<i>Result of sample of supply</i>	<i>Sewage Disposal</i>
Horningsham ...	Connected to Long-leat Estate supply	Good	Pail Closets
Imber ...	Fetches from well in village ...	None	Pail Closets
Keevil ...	Piped supply from neighb'ring farm	Fair	Pail Closets
Kingston ...	Fetches from pump in nearby cottage	None	Pail Closets
Deverill ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Poor	Pail Closets
Longbridge ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
North Bradley ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
Southwick ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Water Car. System
Steeple Ashton...	Piped supply laid on ...	Good	Pail Closets
Stockton ...	Fetches from pump in village ...	Fair	Pail Closets
Sutton Veny ...	Piped supply laid on ...	Poor	Pail Closets
West Ashton ...	Fetches from well in village ...	None	Pail Closets

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following is a summary of the inspections and visits made during the year.

Water Supply	...	...	228
Drainage	...	...	382
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	13
Scavenging	...	..	36
Rats and Mice	...	...	5
Schools	...	...	3
Nuisances	...	...	107
Works in Progress	...	...	656
Houses Inspected	...	..	64
(Public Health and Housing Acts)			
Revisits	...	...	127
Total Visits <i>re</i> Overcrowding	...	...	47
Infectious Disease	...	...	56
Slaughterhouses, etc.	...	...	171
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	184
Foodshops, etc.	...	...	31

Factories.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	8	...	...
Factories without mechanical power	27	...	...
Other Premises ... ..	...	...	...
Total	35	...	...

2.—Defects found.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ..	3	3	...	...
Overcrowding ... ..	..	...	...	...
Unreasonable Temp'ature ... ..	...	...	...	...
Inadequate Ventilation ... ..	...	...	...	...
Ineffective Drainage of Floors ... ..	...	...	...	...
Sanitary Conveniences {	insufficient ... ..	...	...	...
	unsuitable or defective	2	2	...
	not separate for sexes ... ..	...	...	...
Other offences ... ..	...	...	...	...
Total	5	5	...	...

Housing Acts.

Number of New Houses Erected and entered on Rate Book during the Year.

	1937	1938
(a) By Private Persons or Bodies	37 ...	38
(b) By the Local Authority	12 ...	28

HOUSING ACT, 1935—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	23 ...	4
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	23 ...	4
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	163 ...	21
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	6 ...	2
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	14 ...	19
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	86 ...	158
(iii) Total number of cases relieved to date	21 ...	40
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil ...	Nil

Additional information required by County Council (Section 32 (2) Housing Act, 1930).

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	127 ...	64
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	152 ...	127
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	113 ...	58
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	133 ...	121

	1937	1938
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	12 ...	9
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	62 ...	45

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 ...	68 ...	34
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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 ...	Nil ...	Nil
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners ...	Nil ...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil ...	Nil

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	Nil ...	Nil
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(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners ...	Nil ...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil ...	Nil

(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 ...	5 ... Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	9 ... Nil

(D) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil ... Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been made fit ...	Nil ... Nil

Particulars of the Council's activities under the "Slum Clearance" provisions of the Housing Acts 1930/36 at the end of the year were :

	1937	1938
Number of Demolition Orders made	23	Nil
Number of houses demolished	18	18
Number of houses in respect of which undertakings for repair have been accepted ...	66	80
Number of houses rendered fit for occupation as a consequence of such undertakings ...	60	76
Number of houses in respect of which undertakings to close have been accepted ...	25	26
Number of houses closed as a consequence of such undertakings (which have not been cancelled)	20	23
Number of houses closed as a consequence of under-takings and subsequently used in enlarging adjoining houses	4	5
Number of houses in respect of which statutory notices to repair have been served ...	2	2
Number of houses repaired as a result of statutory notices	1	1
Number of houses made fit as a result of informal notices preliminary to formal notices	473	507

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

Supervision of all food premises, vendors' carts, stalls, etc., is maintained by routine inspections.

There are now only two slaughter-houses in the District, one being registered and the other licensed. The manner in which these are conducted is satisfactory, and it is seldom that complaint has to be made to the occupier. The use of the third slaughter-house has been discontinued, the owner purchasing his meat, and so registration has lapsed.

All the animals slaughtered in the District are inspected, with the occasional exception of a few sheep killed at awkward times and moved from the area.

For the purpose of meat inspection the following visits have been made during the year:—

Visits to Slaughter-houses	...	138
Visits to Butchers' Shops	...	13
Visits to Farms, Cottages, etc.	...	7
		<hr/>
		158
		<hr/>

As a result of the above, the following animals were inspected:—

Bovines	...	...	149
Sheep and Lambs	...	...	152
Pigs	...	...	47
			<hr/>
			348
			<hr/>

Milk and Dairies.

Number of Cowsheds brought up to standard	...	17
Number of Informal Notices served	...	50
Number of Statutory Notices served	...	1
Total number of Milk and Dairies Inspections	...	209

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

I. B. LAWRENCE.

July, 1939.

TABLE OF MEAT FOUND TO BE DISEASED and voluntarily surrendered during the Year 1938.

BOVINES.	Carcases	Parts of Carcases	Heads and Tongues	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Mesenteries	Kidneys	Spleens
Abscesses	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...
Angoma	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Dropsy & Emaciat'n	1	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Flukes	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...
Mutilation	...	1 leg	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis	2	...	9	17	17	9	6	2	2
TOTALS	3	1	10	20	19	24	7	3	3
PIGS.									
Fatty degeneration	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Cysts	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Pleurisy	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis	...	...	6	4	4	4	4	...	...
TOTALS	6	6	6	6	6	8	4	...	...
SHEEP.									
Cysts	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Flukes	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Strongylosis	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
TOTALS	...	...	...	4	...	4	...	...	...

APPENDIX.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES, AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.(ENGLAND & WALES—LONDON, 126 GREAT TOWNS AND 148 SMALLER TOWNS).
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admini- strative County
Rates per 1,000 Population				
BIRTHS :				
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS :				
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS :				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age)	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available		
Others	2.19			
Total	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (<i>i.e.</i> Live and still)				
MATERNAL MORTALITY :				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available		
Others	2.11			
Total	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS :				
Puerperal Fever	} 14.42	} 18.08	} 12.51	} 3.53
Puerperal Pyrexia				
				} 15.46



