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C. 4421 (1) WATFORD



BOROUGH OF WATFORD

Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1951

R. C. M. PEARSON
M.D., M.R.C.P. (Ed.), D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

R. V. JACOB
M.S.I.A. (CERT. SAN. INST.)
Senior Sanitary Inspector

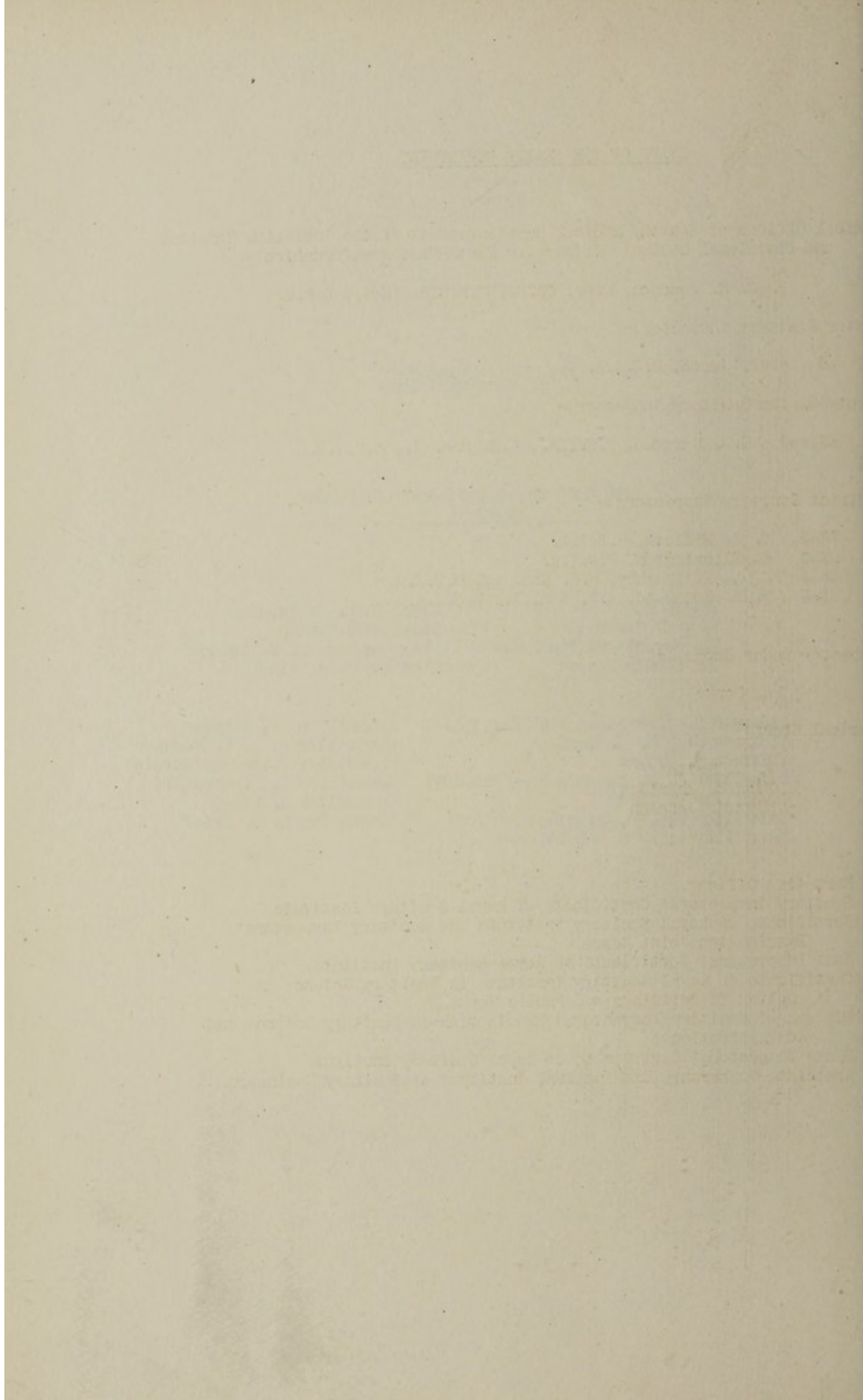


COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Members of the Health Committee
1950-51

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Chairman: | Alderman L. C. Johnson |
| Vice-Chairman: | Alderman J. Davis |
| The Worshipful The Mayor: | Alderman Mrs. M. E. Bridger |
| The Deputy Mayor: | Alderman F. H. Vince |

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Alderman H. J. Bridger died Feb. 1951 | Councillor H. Horwood |
| Alderman Mrs. M. A. Ward | Councillor H. A. E. Munter |
| Alderman J. Wright | Councillor J. Sutton Curtis |
| Councillor L. W. Edwards from Feb. 1951 | Councillor C. W. Tyrwhitt |
| Councillor W. Heath | Councillor A. Welsh |
| Councillor Mrs. M. Higgins | Councillor L. D. White |
| Councillor R. N. E. Hinton | |



STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital
and Divisional Medical Officer for South-West Hertfordshire:-

R. C. M. Pearson, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.P. (Ed), D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:-

+Ø R. V. Jacob, M.S.I.A.

Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector:-

ESxs=Ø K. H. Marsden, F.S.I.A., A.R. San. I., A.M.I.S.E.

District Sanitary Inspectors:-

xØ G. F. Willcox, M.S.I.A.

Ø E. Ellerington, F.S.I.A.

Ss=Ø J. L. Willoughby, M.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

s=Ø T. B. Rosamond, A.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

Inspector under Shops Act:-

A. Corke

Clerical Staff:-

* R. A. Smith
Miss M. Sherlock
Miss M. Johnson

- * Part-time Officer.
- + Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
- = Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
- Ø Meat Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
- s Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as applied to Buildings and Public Works.
- x Diploma of Sanitary Inspectors' Examination in Sanitary Science and Administration.
- S Smoke Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute
- E Associate Membership Examination, Institute of Sanitary Engineers.

Health Department,

Town Hall,

WATFORD.

July, 1952.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my ninth Annual Report and the Thirtieth of its kind for the Borough. My Interim Report which was presented to you in February contained much of the details now included but at that time without the comparative data from the Registrar General some of its significance was lost. Also in these days when little time is left for thought after routine and pressing duties have been performed the Annual Report cannot be finished until the "holiday" month of August.

On the statistical side 1951 may be considered a satisfactory year, the second lowest Infant Mortality Rate being recorded, with no maternal deaths and no deaths from infectious diseases in spite of large outbreaks of Measles and Whooping Cough. It cannot be emphasised too often that these two infectious diseases, namely Measles and Whooping Cough, are now the most serious from the morbidity as well as the mortality point of view amongst small children. Satisfactory control, as well as reasonable housing conditions and a knowledge of how to nurse children suffering from these diseases goes a long way to keep the death rate down, as well as reduce long term illness in the child population. There are, however, still far too many injuries and even deaths amongst children due to home accidents which can be prevented.

Last year I mentioned an upward trend in the tuberculosis notifications and I give later an explanation to account for a further rise in 1951. I hope to see tuberculosis in the next ten years go the same way as diphtheria in the last ten years but the problem is not nearly such an easy one. It must not be forgotten that "to find" is the first essential, then "to isolate" (not necessarily in the old sense of this term) and all the time "to educate". These are the keys to the control of this disease. The weapons for finding and isolating are improving quickly but education has to start afresh almost with each new case and family. The setting up of a Library Service for domiciliary tuberculosis patients is a sound preventive measure and one to be welcomed. Similar provision, of course, is also made for tuberculosis patients in hospital.

Although Watford can be justifiably proud of its consistently low Infant Mortality Rate there is still a wastage of child life within the realms of prevention. More careful classification helps to pin point the opportunities which exist for lowering still further the number of still births and infant deaths, particularly those as a result of home accidents. Other lines of approach are indicated elsewhere.

The census figures for the population over 65 years of age are not yet available in detail but it seems quite certain that the numbers are increasing year by year and will continue to do so in spite of the strain of the increasing speed of life to-day. By next year a report of the Survey by the Staff of the London School of Hygiene will reveal the services available to Old People both in Health and Sickness so that at the present moment any comments on the position would be premature beyond saying that the Hospital Management Committee is reviewing its provision of beds for the Aged Sick particularly during the winter months.

Much has been said and written about co-operation within the National Health Service but a moment's reflection on the pre-1948 era does not conjure up a memory of perfection. However, I feel certain that every year brings an improvement in team work towards the common goal of promoting the health of the individual within the community.

Even seven years after the end of hostilities it will be noted from the Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector that little can be done to improve the living conditions for families accommodated in old property. Where at all possible deterioration is checked but the position must be viewed with growing disquiet since good housing conditions are recognised as an essential priority in the prevention of ill-health both physical and mental.

I shall be very sorry to leave Watford but the happy working arrangements with the General Practitioners, Hospital and Teaching Staffs will remain a very pleasant memory.

Although Dr. M. Ward is not a member of the Borough Staff she has been most valuable as a Deputy with her knowledge gained from many years' work in Watford.

I am grateful to Mr. Jacob who, during his many years in Watford, has built up an almost unique mine of information which he has always willingly placed at my disposal, and it has provided a background for the team work existing amongst the District Inspectors. Mr. Marsden deserves a special word of thanks for his quiet but persistent work on all aspects of Food Hygiene.

Often forgotten are the Rodent Operatives, Department Assistant and, of course, the Clerical Staff who complete the team.

Once again I should like to thank the Council for the never failing backing which I have received right through from the difficult days of 1943 to the uneasy peace of 1952.

I have the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,

R. C. M. PEARSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION "A"

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

| | | |
|--|-----|---------|
| Area (acres) ... | ... | 5,275 |
| Estimated civilian population to mid-year 1951 ... | ... | 72,700 |
| Number of inhabited houses (estimated) ... | ... | 20,215 |
| Rateable value at 1.4.51 ... | ... | 656,026 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate ... | ... | 2,670 |

| Number of Live Births - | Male | Female | Total |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | 494 | 474 | 968 |
| Illegitimate | 22 | 27 | 49 |
| | <u>516</u> | <u>501</u> | <u>1,017</u> |

| Number of Still Births - | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Legitimate | 13 | 15 | 28 |
| Illegitimate | - | 2 | 2 |
| | <u>13</u> | <u>17</u> | <u>30</u> |

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Total number of Births (Live and Still) | ... | ... | 1,047 |
| Total number of Deaths | ... | ... | 827 |

| Causes of Death:- | 1950. | 1951. |
|---|------------|------------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory ... | 16 | 14 |
| Tuberculosis, other ... | 2 | 2 |
| Syphilitic disease ... | 3 | 1 |
| Diphtheria ... | - | - |
| Whooping Cough ... | - | - |
| Meningococcal infections ... | 1 | - |
| Acute poliomyelitis ... | 3 | - |
| Measles ... | - | - |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases ... | 2 | 2 |
| Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... | 18 | 20 |
| Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... | 24 | 20 |
| Malignant neoplasm, breast ... | 16 | 9 |
| Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... | 6 | 5 |
| Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... | 79 | 65 |
| Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... | 3 | 4 |
| Diabetes ... | 3 | 5 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system ... | 106 | 112 |
| Coronary disease, angina ... | 86 | 89 |
| Hypertension with heart disease ... | 32 | 27 |
| Other heart disease ... | 102 | 123 |
| Other circulatory disease ... | 34 | 35 |
| Influenza ... | 2 | 23 |
| Pneumonia ... | 49 | 56 |
| Bronchitis ... | 46 | 62 |
| Other diseases of respiratory system ... | 6 | 12 |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... | 12 | 13 |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... | 4 | 1 |
| Nephritis and nephrosis ... | 6 | 4 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate ... | 16 | 13 |
| Congenital malformations ... | 9 | 6 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... | 88 | 70 |
| Motor vehicle accidents ... | 6 | 5 |
| All other accidents ... | 10 | 20 |
| Suicide ... | 12 | 9 |
| Homicide and operations of war ... | - | - |
| All causes | <u>802</u> | <u>827</u> |

Infantile Deaths (under 1 year) -

| | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Legitimate | 12 | 7 | 19 |
| Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| | <u>12</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>19</u> |

Birth Rate and Death Rate, 1951

| | <u>Watford</u> | <u>England and Wales</u> | <u>London Administrative County</u> | <u>126 County Boroughs and Great Towns</u> |
|---|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) - | | | | |
| Live Births | 14.0 | 15.5 | 17.8 | 17.3 |
| Still Births | 0.41 | 0.36 | 0.37 | 0.45 |
| Death Rate (per 1,000 population) - | | | | |
| All causes | 11.4 | 12.5 | 13.1 | 13.4 |
| Whooping Cough | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Influenza | 0.32 | 0.38 | 0.23 | 0.36 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Tuberculosis | 0.22 | 0.31 | 0.38 | 0.37 |
| Smallpox | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Poli-encephalitis) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| Pneumonia | 0.77 | 0.61 | 0.61 | 0.65 |
| Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years) (per 1,000 live births) | N.K. | 1.4 | 0.7 | 1.6 |

Maternal Mortality Rate -
(per 1,000 total births)

| | | |
|------------------------|------|------|
| Puerperal Sepsis | 0.00 | 0.10 |
| Other puerperal causes | 0.00 | 0.69 |
| All puerperal causes | 0.00 | 0.79 |

Infant Mortality Rate -

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|------|
| All infants, per 1,000 live births | ... | ... | ... | 18.7 |
| Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births | ... | ... | ... | 19.4 |
| Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births | ... | ... | ... | 0.0 |

COMPARATIVE RATES

| | <u>Watford 1950</u> | <u>Watford 1951</u> | <u>England and Wales 1950</u> | <u>England and Wales 1951</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Birth Rate (live births) | 13.9 | 14.0 | 15.8 | 15.5 |
| Death Rate | 10.8 | 11.4 | 11.6 | 12.5 |
| Infant Mortality Rate | 23.1 | 18.7 | 29.8 | 29.6 |
| Maternal Mortality Rate | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.86 | 0.79 |

Comments -

(1) Infectious Diseases.

After two successive years of epidemic poliomyelitis, 1951 was notable that its outbreaks were limited to certain parts of the country with only sporadic cases elsewhere. Watford was fortunate in having only three paralytic cases and one non-paralytic case.

Scarlet Fever notifications fell, but quite a severe outbreak of Catarrhal Jaundice occurred in the town during the spring and early summer. At that same time the highest number of notifications of measles was recorded.

(2) Violence.

Five persons lost their lives in motor vehicle accidents in Watford (six last year). There were seven fatal home accidents compared with four last year. Looking at it from the point of view of age at least six fatal accidents occurred in people over 70 years of age and six in children under five.

(3) Birth Rate.

The birth rate remained almost the same at 14.0 (13.9 last year). This figure has remained for a number of years considerably below the national figure but it would seem that it is now steady.

Giving consideration to the incidence of premature births, (i.e., 5½ lbs. and under in weight), the figures are 6.1% in 1951 and 5.6% in 1950. Putting these premature births into their weight groups they can be tabulated as follows:-

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|----|
| 2 lbs. and under | ... | 2 |
| 2 lbs. to 3 lbs. | ... | 4 |
| 3 lbs. to 4 lbs. | ... | 18 |
| 4 lbs. to 5 lbs. | ... | 14 |
| 5 lbs. to 5½ lbs. | ... | 24 |

Ten deaths took place amongst these children (males 4, females 6). Six during the first 24 hours and the remaining four whilst under one week old. No premature babies died within the first month after discharge from hospital.

(4) Still Birth Rate.

The rate of 28.7 is a considerable increase on last year, but once again must be taken into consideration at the same time as the infant mortality rate which has fallen almost to its lowest figure recorded.

Classifying the reason for the various still-births where it could be ascertained with a fair degree of certainty, the South-West Herts figures are as set out below:-

| | <u>1949</u> | <u>1950</u> | <u>1951</u> |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Prematurity and Toxaemia ... | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| Prematurity and other causes | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Toxaemia | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| Malformation | 7 | 7 | 8 |
| Birth injury | 9 | 14 | 14 |
| Placental Disease | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| Erythroblastosis | 2 | 2 | 7 |
| Maternal Disease | 5 | 3 | 5 |
| Abnormality of Cord | 1 | 4 | 10 |
| Cause unknown | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| | <u>41</u> | <u>46</u> | <u>61</u> |

Quite possibly the 1951 figures are exceptional and the higher rate is unlikely to persist but details reveal a marked increase due to abnormalities and malpositions of the cord as well as a rise in the rate due to erythroblastosis.

(5) Deaths in Infancy.

The figure of 18.7 has been bettered only once, in 1949 (18.6), and is well below the national figure of 29.6.

The following causes of death amongst infants under one were recorded:-

| | <u>1947</u> | <u>1948</u> | <u>1949</u> | <u>1950</u> | <u>1951</u> |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Prematurity | 15 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 5 |
| Malformation | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Birth injuries | - | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 |
| Collapse of lung | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Respiratory diseases | 8 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Other diseases of infancy | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Infectious diseases | - | 4 | 2 | 3 | - |
| Accidents | 2 | 2 | - | - | 2 |
| Not traced | 2 | 3 | - | - | - |
| | <u>41</u> | <u>28</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>24</u> | <u>19</u> |

There is still scope for further reduction amongst accidental deaths, but too much emphasis must not be placed on these figures year by year, but rather when taking into account a number of years.

Of the 19 infant deaths occurring in 1951, ten died within 24 hours, a further three less than a week old and another three whilst still under one month old, leaving three during the next eleven months.

The neo-natal death rate was therefore 15.7 compared with 15.9 in 1950.

(6) Death Rate. The rate of 11.5 was slightly higher than last year, probably due to an increase in deaths due to influenza. No maternal deaths occurred.

(7) Sex of Infants.

The sex ratio of 1,030 boys to every 1,000 girl infants is a little higher than last year.

(8) Illegitimate Births. (per 1,000 total births).

| | <u>England and Wales.</u> | <u>Watford.</u> |
|------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| 1939 | 42 | 50 |
| 1944 | 68 | 72 |
| 1945 | 94 | 95 |
| 1946 | 67 | 66 |
| 1947 | 52 | 58 |
| 1948 | 51 | 52 |
| 1949 | 50 | 56 |
| 1950 | 51 | 36 |
| 1951 | 51 | 49 |

SECTION "B"

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

GENERAL.

Further progress has been made by the opening of sixteen additional beds at Holywell Hospital for the care of tuberculosis and the upgrading of another ward which should be ready in 1952. Also there has been a steady reduction in the waiting lists for admission to General Hospitals with the notable exception of the aged sick during the winter months. This matter has given the Hospital Management Committee concern and is being fully investigated.

It was possible to go right through 1951 without having to curtail the arrangements for the removal of tonsils and adenoids.

The Rehabilitation Unit under the care of the Hospital Management Committee is now in full swing at Garston Manor, taking patients not only from the Watford hospitals, but much further afield.

The necessity for every possible degree of co-operation, both within the National Health Service and between it and its allied services has been recognised by national circulars and steps will be taken in 1952 to bring about further improvements. It cannot be emphasised, however, too often that such co-operation is a personal matter and depends upon frequent meetings, both as individuals and groups at all levels so that free discussion can take place and difficulties reach solution.

It is a pleasure to record here that the work started in 1950 by the Staff of the London School of Hygiene has begun to get into its full stride and on more than one occasion has been able to produce evidence of great value to the build-up of the service in the area. At this stage it would only be fair to say that all aspects of the use made of the National Health Service by old people are being studied, that a survey has started enquiring into the cases of congenital malformations, efforts are being made to find the most economic and effective method of recording information by General Practitioners about their patients and that many aspects fundamental to the planning of future development on new estates are being investigated. Obviously much of this information will take quite a long time to collect and will therefore not be available for perhaps some years to come, but all the same it can be considered a credit to the health services in the area that this type of work can be undertaken without causing dis-harmony by the enquiries undertaken.

(a) Clinic Services.

The arrangements made for the treatment of scabies in the patients' home have proved satisfactory.

Set out below are the Infant Welfare, Toddlers, Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic figures for 1951:-

(1) Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Birth Notifications.

1951.

| | Live Births. | | Still Births. | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | Notified by Doctors | Notified by Midwives | Notified by Doctors | Notified by Midwives. |
| King Street | 6 | 1046 | - | 32 |
| General Hospitals | - | 2 | - | - |
| Private Nursing Homes | 163 | 25 | 2 | - |
| Domiciliary | 20 | 319 | - | 6 |
| Isolation Hospital | - | - | - | - |
| | 189 | 1392 | 2 | 38 |

Total Live Births 1950 ... 1522 Still Births 1950 ... 35
 " " " 1951 ... 1581 " " 1951 ... 40

(ii) Infant Welfare Clinic Attendances.

1951.

| Infants | Sess-ions. | 1st Att. under 1. | Re-visits. | 1st Att. over 1. | Re-visits | Total. | Consul-tations. | Food only. |
|----------------|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|-----------|--------|-----------------|------------|
| Central Clinic | 102 | 381 | 5885 | - | 1583 | 7849 | 1842 | 588 |
| Harebreaks | 100 | 203 | 3036 | 2 | 1205 | 4946 | 1292 | 773 |
| Socuts Hall | 51 | 81 | 1892 | 3 | 560 | 2536 | 577 | 271 |
| Stanborough | 51 | 133 | 2103 | 2 | 404 | 2642 | 594 | 200 |
| Wiggenhall | 51 | 87 | 1244 | 2 | 586 | 1919 | 716 | 392 |

(iii) Toddlers Clinic Attendances.

1951

| Toddlers | Number of Sessions | First visits | Re-visits | Consul-tations | Weighings only | Total Attendances |
|-----------|--------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Central | 93 | 317 | 940 | 1257 | 873 | 2070 |
| Leavesden | 51 | 75 | 768 | 808 | 125 | 933 |

(iv) Attendances at Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

| | Ante-Natal | | Post-Natal | | Consultations Ante-Natal & Post-Natal |
|------------------------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|---|
| | First Visits | Revisits | First Visits | Revisits | |
| Central Clinic 1951 | 302 | 1676 | 201 | 425 | 1474 |
| Stanborough 1951 | 64 | 251 | 47 | 1 | 337 |

(v) Day Nurseries.

Throughout the year the system of checking all admissions and reviewing all those in attendance in June and December has been carried out with satisfactory results.

Beechwood Day Nursery was opened in October 1951 and took the place of Beulah Hall which was in requisitioned property. This is a Nursery taking children of all ages up to five years, beautifully designed and constructed on the unit system. It has been visited by representatives of many other Local Authorities.

(vi) Health Visiting.

During 1950 18,053 visits were made but the figure fell during 1951 to 12,992. The actual number of visits has fallen as much as 40% during the last three years, but this should be taken as an indication that the frequency and scope of health visiting has altered so that unless the type of family necessitates a frequent check being kept, the visit becomes more educative and personal.

(vii) Home Nursing.

Visits made during 1950 were 45,514 which rose to 50,034 in 1951, some of the increase being due to the fact that nursing services are rendered outside the Borough boundaries.

(b) Laboratory Services.

Provision is available for investigation of all outbreaks of infectious disease and as will be seen from the Senior Sanitary Inspector's report help was willingly given when it was necessary to investigate small outbreaks of food poisoning.

(c) Health Education.

The work of consolidating the gains brought about by the introduction of bye-laws under the Food and Drugs Act has been the main feature of work during the year.

(d) National Assistance Act, 1948.

Section 47. No case has required investigation.

Section 50. Arrangements were made on two occasions (four in 1950).

(e) Swimming Baths.

Samples of the water were taken monthly during the year, during or immediately after groups of school children had been swimming in the pool. On all occasions the samples were very satisfactory, very few organisms being found and none at all of a faecal type.

SECTIONS "C", "D", AND "E".

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA, ETC.

WATER.

Mr. L. C. Kimberlin, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., Water Engineer and Manager, has kindly supplied the following information:-

(i) The supply has been satisfactory, both in quantity and quality, throughout the year 1951. Owing to exigencies in connection with the installation of the electrical pumping plant at Watford Fields Pumping Station the quantity of water pumped and softened at that Station was below normal and in consequence approximately one quarter only of the total quantity of water supplied to the Borough was softened. No progress has been made in obtaining Government sanction to install softening plant at The Grove Pumping Station, which would enable the whole supply to be softened.

(ii) Bacteriological examinations of the supply were made regularly, as follows:-

1. Watford Fields Supply:

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Raw water. | Monthly. |
| Treated water. | Weekly. |
| High Level Reservoir.) | Monthly, staggered |
| Low Level Reservoir.) | fortnightly. |

Chlorine residual tests of the water leaving the Pumping Station were taken hourly, and the supplies from the High Level and Low Level Reservoirs were similarly tested, at 4-hourly intervals.

2. The Grove Supply:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Raw water. | Fortnightly. |
| Treated water) | Monthly, staggered |
| Reservoir) | fortnightly. |

Chlorine residual tests of the water leaving the Pumping Station were taken at hourly intervals.

With the exception of a slight abnormality in one sample from the Watford Fields supply caused by bacteria of a non-faecal type, which was eliminated by the super-chloramine treatment, before going into supply, all the analyses showed the supply to be of a high standard of purity.

Bacterial analyses of samples taken quarterly from the area of the Borough served by the Colne Valley Water Company have also proved entirely satisfactory.

Chemical analyses of the raw water at Watford Fields and The Grove have shown that the water from both these sources is hard in character but of the highest standard of organic purity.

(iii) There is no plumbo solvenoy.

(iv) The work of removing the ball hydrants, which in certain circumstances are a potential source of pollution of the water supply has been completed this year.

(v) A survey of water supplies to temporary dwellings, and also to the few permanent dwellings which have no main supply, revealed the following position:-

(a) Temporary dwellings at:-

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Langley Road Camp. | 9 families. Each family has a separate tap. (Population 30). |
| 108 Leavesden High Road. | Caravan dwellers have a standpipe in yard. (Population 4). |
| Rear of 82 Leavesden High Road. | One caravan dweller uses a standpipe supply. |
| 275 Sheepcot Lane. | 6 persons occupying 2 caravans share one standpipe. |

(b) Permanent dwellings at:-

| | |
|---|--|
| Puxley House, North Orbital Road. | Premises supplied by outside standpipe only. Plumbing installed in the house, but not connected to the service pipe. (Population 3). |
| Leavesden High Road. (112 - 118 even numbers). | 4 families share one standpipe supply. (Population 18). |
| Leavesden High Road. 120 - 124B (5 houses) | 5 families share one standpipe supply. (Population 9). |
| Munden Drive Cottage. | One family uses standpipe supply. (Population 3). |
| Forge Cottages, Leavesden. Nos. 4, 5 and 6. | 3 families use 3 standpipe supplies. (Population 7). |
| Ganders Ash, Leavesden. Nos. 4, 5 and 6. | 3 families share one standpipe supply. (Population 6). |
| Waterdell Farm Cottage. | One family uses standpipe supply. (Population 5). |

SANITARY INSPECTION.

The following table is a record of the visits and inspections made by the sanitary inspectors during the year 1951.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| <u>Houses -</u> | | | |
| Public Health Act | ... | ... | 287 |
| Housing Act | ... | ... | 227 |
| Overcrowding | ... | ... | 84 |
| <u>Factories -</u> | | | 342 |
| <u>Rats and Mice Infestation -</u> | | | |
| Premises inspected | ... | ... | 116 |
| Sewer baiting | ... | ... | 12 |
| Other visits | ... | ... | 51 |
| <u>General -</u> | | | |
| Refuse accommodation | ... | ... | 517 |
| Keeping of animals | ... | ... | 39 |
| Tents, vans and sheds | ... | ... | 61 |
| Theatres, cinemas, etc. | ... | ... | 26 |
| Public houses | ... | ... | 70 |
| Schools | ... | ... | 2 |
| Smoke observations and industrial nuisances | ... | ... | 178 |
| Vacant land and dumps | ... | ... | 77 |
| Vermineous premises - initial inspections | ... | ... | 10 |
| Fly prevention | ... | ... | 14 |
| Other insect pests | ... | ... | 34 |
| Drainage inspections and tests | ... | ... | 329 |
| Infectious diseases | ... | ... | 181 |
| Common yards and passages | ... | ... | 5 |
| Petroleum Acts | ... | ... | 61 |
| Shops Act | ... | ... | 21 |
| Rag Flock & other Filling Materials Act, 1951. | ... | ... | 24 |
| Court Proceedings | ... | ... | 4 |
| Interviews with owners | ... | ... | 431 |
| Miscellaneous visits | ... | ... | 597 |
| <u>Revisits to Premises Under Notice -</u> | | | |
| Public Health Act - Houses | ... | ... | 463 |
| Public Health Act - Others | ... | ... | 280 |
| Housing Act | ... | ... | 670 |
| Other revisits | ... | ... | 31 |
| <u>Meat and Foods -</u> | | | |
| Slaughterhouses | ... | ... | 2,750 |
| Visits re food inspection | ... | ... | 574 |
| Butchers shops | ... | ... | 67 |
| Fishmongers, poulterers and fried fish shops | ... | ... | 14 |
| Grocers, greengrocers and fruiterers | ... | ... | 26 |
| Dairies and milk shops | ... | ... | 30 |
| Ice cream premises | ... | ... | 114 |
| Restaurants and dining rooms | ... | ... | 242 |
| Preserved food rooms | ... | ... | 44 |
| Milk samples | ... | ... | 52 |
| Ice cream samples | ... | ... | 85 |
| Food (Adulteration) samples | ... | ... | 97 |
| Food (Bacteriological) samples | ... | ... | 29 |
| Public Market | ... | ... | 190 |
| Bakehouses | ... | ... | 50 |
| Other food premises | ... | ... | 16 |
| Suspected food poisoning | ... | ... | 7 |
| | | | 9,631 |
| Number of complaints received and investigated | | | 1,163 |

NUISANCES ABATED AND DEFECTS REMEDIED.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|--------------|
| <u>HOUSES -</u> | | | |
| Roofs repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 105 |
| Walls repointed, rendered or repaired | ... | ... | 47 |
| Dangerous walls rebuilt | ... | ... | 7 |
| Wallplaster repaired | ... | ... | 121 |
| Floors repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 42 |
| Ceilings repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 61 |
| Windows repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 137 |
| Fireplaces repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 45 |
| Cooking ranges repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 3 |
| Coppers provided or repaired | ... | ... | 2 |
| Sinks provided or renewed | ... | ... | 4 |
| Wastepipes repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 10 |
| Interior water supply provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| Repairs to water supplies | ... | ... | 8 |
| Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 76 |
| Eaves guttering repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 84 |
| Stairs repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 3 |
| Doors repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 42 |
| Coalhouses provided or repaired | ... | ... | 1 |
| Chimneys and stacks repaired or abolished | ... | ... | 46 |
| Yards, etc. paved or repaired | ... | ... | 2 |
| Damp proof courses provided | ... | ... | 17 |
| Rooms cleansed and redecorated | ... | ... | 12 |
| Additional ventilation provided | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sub-floor ventilation improved | ... | ... | 1 |
| <u>DRAINAGE -</u> | | | |
| Drains or sewers cleared of obstruction | ... | ... | 64 |
| Drains or sewers repaired or reconstructed | ... | ... | 33 |
| Cesspools repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 1 |
| Soil pipes, vent shafts, etc., repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 8 |
| <u>WATER CLOSETS -</u> | | | |
| Compartments repaired | ... | ... | 28 |
| Compartments cleansed | ... | ... | 3 |
| Pedestals renewed | ... | ... | 27 |
| Cisterns repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 40 |
| Flushpipes repaired or renewed | ... | ... | 10 |
| <u>MISCELLANEOUS -</u> | | | |
| Dustbins provided | ... | ... | 209 |
| Offensive accumulations removed | ... | ... | 5 |
| Animals - nuisances abated | ... | ... | 1 |
| <u>CONTRAVENTIONS REMEDIED IN -</u> | | | |
| Butchers premises | ... | ... | 6 |
| Tents, vans and sheds | ... | ... | 1 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | 1,315 |

ADMINISTRATION - NOTICES.

| | Served | Complied with | Outstanding at 31st Dec., 1951. |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| <u>Public Health Act, 1936:</u> | | | |
| Informal | 246 | 267 | 64 |
| Statutory | 138 | 147 | 11 |
| <u>Housing Act, 1936.</u> | | | |
| Informal | 117 | 105 | 89 |
| Statutory | 18 | 16 | 12 |
| <u>Factories Act, 1937:</u> | | | |
| Informal | 29 | 15 | 43 |
| Food & Drugs Act, 1938 | 57 | 21 | 66 |
| Pests (Destruction) Act. | 1 | - | 1 |
| | 606 | 571 | 286 |

During the immediate post war years the sanitary inspectors had to deal with a large accumulation of serious housing defects and invariably these were brought to their notice via complaints from harassed tenants.

The high cost of repairs in conjunction with the comparatively low controlled rents of cottage properties dictated the policy, from 1948 onwards of restricting Notices to the minimum repairs essential to maintain these properties in a habitable condition. The figures in the following table clearly demonstrate the effect of this reduced activity by the sanitary inspectors:-

| Housing defects remedied in compliance with Notices | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
| 3,433 | 4,024 | 1,417 | 1,180 | 1,092 |

The same circumstances have discouraged owners from voluntarily undertaking many routine items of property maintenance such as the painting of woodwork, repointing of walls, etc.

It can be said that there is a slow but continuous deterioration in the state of repair of most of the low rented houses within the Borough and it is unlikely that this will be halted until the sanitary inspectors can resume their normal house to house inspection work. Before this can be done the cost of building repairs must be reduced or the Rent Restrictions Acts amended.

117 Housing Act and 140 Public Health Act informal notices were served during 1951 requiring the execution of repairs, and in only 22 cases was it necessary for the Council to serve statutory notices. Six of these notices were enforced by the Council carrying out the repairs in default of the owners.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

One outcome of the housing shortage is an increase in the number of caravan dwellings. There are now more caravan dwellings than there are suitable sites available and, in common with other local authorities, the Borough Council is concerned over the unsatisfactory sites which are being used.

During 1951 eighteen caravan dwellings have been placed in the Borough contrary to the provisions of the Hertfordshire County Council Act. Proceedings have been instituted against the occupiers of two of these and in both cases the Court made an Order to remove.

NEW HOUSES.

The Borough Engineer has kindly supplied the undermentioned information regarding new houses erected during 1951.

(a) By the Local Authority - 398) Total number of houses built since
 (b) By private individuals - 50) 1946 - 1,833.

The Borough Treasurer has kindly supplied the following information:-

| | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| 1. Number of Council houses occupied on 31st December, 1951. | ... | 3,255 |
| 2. Number of requisitioned premises occupied on 31st December, 1951. | | 92 |
| 3. Number of families housed in requisitioned premises on 31st December, 1951. | ... | 201 |

DUSTBINS.

In accordance with the policy adopted by the Council 130 statutory notices were served during 1951 on the owners or the occupiers of premises requiring the provision of dustbins. In 45 cases the notices were enforced by the supply of dustbins in default. One owner unsuccessfully appealed against the notice served upon him.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Intermittently throughout the year dense smoke has been emitted from seven factory chimneys within the Borough, and people living near to the factories have from time to time suffered a severe nuisance.

A statutory notice was served in April requiring a laundryman to abate a serious smoke nuisance. During the six months that this notice remained in force the chimney was kept under observation and smoke was recorded on several occasions but not in such quantity as to constitute a statutory nuisance.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During 1951 the following meat and other foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

| | | Lbs. |
|--|-----|---------|
| <u>HOME KILLED MEAT AND OFFAL.</u> | | |
| Beef (including 66 carcasses) ... | ... | 49,054 |
| Pork (including 61 carcasses) ... | ... | 8,793 |
| Veal (including 33 carcasses) ... | ... | 1,410 |
| Mutton (including 6 carcasses) ... | ... | 555 |
| <u>Offal from Bovines -</u> | | |
| 769 heads ... | ... | 23,158 |
| 723 tongues ... | ... | 3,618 |
| 2,507 sets lungs ... | ... | 25,068 |
| 178 hearts ... | ... | 890 |
| 1,592 livers and 1,282 part livers ... | ... | 33,749 |
| 316 spleens ... | ... | 632 |
| 184 skirts ... | ... | 371 |
| 188 tripes and 70 manifolds ... | ... | 7,497 |
| 71 udders ... | ... | 1,256 |
| 274 sets intestines ... | ... | 8,110 |
| 68 tails ... | ... | 137 |
| 460 mesenteries and other fat ... | ... | 6,060 |
| 65 sets of feet ... | ... | 1,142 |
| Blood ... | ... | 1,936 |
| <u>Offal from Pigs -</u> | | |
| 209 plucks ... | ... | 1,355 |
| 110 livers ... | ... | 364 |
| 499 sets lungs ... | ... | 1,339 |
| 217 heads and tongues ... | ... | 3,743 |
| 419 other organs ... | ... | 1,758 |
| <u>Offal from Sheep and Lambs -</u> | | |
| 53 plucks ... | ... | 229 |
| 455 livers ... | ... | 1,106 |
| 115 sets lungs ... | ... | 234 |
| 319 other organs ... | ... | 1,117 |
| <u>Offal from Calves -</u> | | |
| 42 heads ... | ... | 246 |
| 103 plucks ... | ... | 385 |
| 74 other organs ... | ... | 409 |
| <u>IMPORTED MEAT.</u> | | |
| Beef ... | ... | 410 |
| Mutton ... | ... | 4,004 |
| Pork ... | ... | 11 |
| Offal ... | ... | 21 |
| <u>OTHER FOODS.</u> | | |
| Bacon ... | ... | 36 |
| Wet fish ... | ... | 786 |
| Cured fish ... | ... | 350 |
| 404 cans Ham ... | ... | 5,117 |
| 43 cans Corned meats ... | ... | 148 |
| 1,922 cans and 10 barrels Fruit ... | ... | 19,285 |
| 92 cans Fruit and tomato juices ... | ... | 102 |
| 2,594 cans Milk ... | ... | 2,280 |
| 1,126 cans Various meats ... | ... | 2,024 |
| 1,750 cans Vegetables ... | ... | 1,989 |
| 1,130 cans Fish ... | ... | 391 |
| 2,285 cans Soups ... | ... | 1,007 |
| 285 cans Jam and marmalade ... | ... | 452 |
| 62 cans Cereals ... | ... | 61 |
| 136 cans Sardines ... | ... | 37 |
| Carried forward | | 224,232 |

| | | Lbs. |
|---------------------------|-----|---------|
| Brought forward | | 224,232 |
| 62 cans Sausages | ... | 65 |
| 422 cans Tomatoes | ... | 632 |
| 12,832 cans Liver paste | ... | 2,606 |
| Sweets and chocolates | ... | 181 |
| Cereals | ... | 200 |
| Cooked Meats | ... | 16 |
| Dried fruit mixture | ... | 37 |
| Ice cream | ... | 90 |
| Shell eggs and dried eggs | ... | 33 |
| Dried fruit | ... | 35 |
| Milk powder | ... | 1,504 |
| Fruit puddings | ... | 20 |
| Custard Powder | ... | 28 |
| Rabbits | ... | 240 |
| Cooked fish pie | ... | 112 |
| Dough | ... | 448 |
| Imported geese | ... | 83 |
| Sugar | ... | 126 |
| 19 bottles Sauces | ... | 14 |
| Cheese | ... | 31 |
| Tea | ... | 14 |
| Biscuits | ... | 100 |
| 235 cans Baby foods | ... | 66 |
| 120 table jellies | ... | 51 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | 47 |
| Total | | 231,011 |

Total weight of meat and other foods condemned during the year 1951 - 103 tons, 2cwts., 2 qtrs., 11 lbs. This is 20½ tons less than was condemned during 1950. Comparison of the two years figures show that although some 10 tons more foodstuffs were condemned in shops and warehouses during 1951, 30½ tons less meat and offal were condemned in the slaughterhouses. This is not due to a lowering in the standard of meat inspection. The reasons may be :-

1. The falling incidence of tuberculosis in cattle slaughtered in Watford.
2. The encouragement which the Ministry of Food give to farmers to send only fat cows to the collecting centres, and
3. The total number of cows slaughtered in Watford during 1951 was 400 less than during 1950.

The following table indicates the extent of tuberculosis and other diseases found on post-mortem examination of the animals slaughtered during the year 1951:-

| | Cattle excluding cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| Number killed and inspected | 6,263 | 1,577 | 3,883 | 13,188 | 5,093 |
| <u>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 5 | 5 | 25 | 6 | 53 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 2,556 | 632 | 10 | 582 | 706 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis. | 40.9 | 40.4 | 0.9 | 4.5 | 14.5 |
| <u>Tuberculosis Only.</u> | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 27 | 29 | 8 | - | 8 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 478 | 434 | 2 | - | 144 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis. | 8.0 | 29.3 | 0.3 | - | 3.0 |

For comparison purposes, the percentages of the animals found to be diseased during the post-war years are set out in the following table.

| | Cattle excluding cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs |
|--|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis: | | | | | |
| 1947 ... | 38.6 | 35.8 | 0.8 | 8.7 | 16.8 |
| 1948 ... | 39.3 | 37.0 | 0.9 | 5.2 | 27.9 |
| 1949 ... | 42.4 | 37.5 | 0.8 | 4.5 | 20.6 |
| 1950 ... | 42.5 | 39.8 | 0.9 | 7.3 | 14.3 |
| 1951 ... | 40.9 | 40.4 | 0.9 | 4.5 | 14.5 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis: | | | | | |
| 1947 ... | 12.3 | 48.7 | 0.07 | - | 3.1 |
| 1948 ... | 12.4 | 44.5 | 0.5 | - | 7.9 |
| 1949 ... | 10.0 | 38.6 | 0.2 | - | 5.1 |
| 1950 ... | 10.5 | 36.5 | 0.4 | - | 5.5 |
| 1951 ... | 8.0 | 29.3 | 0.3 | - | 3.0 |

CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year 8 calves, compared with 20 during 1950, were found to be infected with tuberculosis of congenital origin. Four of these calves could not be identified; the remaining four were notified to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Animal Health Division, whose investigations on the farms concerned resulted in the detection of one tuberculous cow. This cow was slaughtered before action could be taken under the Tuberculosis Order.

Representations have been made to the Ministry of Food regarding the unsatisfactory method of labelling calves in the Collecting Centres; the gummed labels that are used are frequently detached during transit of the animals to the slaughterhouse and they cannot thereafter be identified.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

370 cases of *Cysticercus bovis* were discovered in the 7,840 cattle slaughtered in Watford during 1951. This gives an incidence rate of 4.7% compared with 6.0% for the year 1950 and 4.2% for 1949.

The infected carcasses were received from no less than 58 collecting centres in the South of England extending over a wide area. Animals imported direct from Ireland showed an incidence of 6.0%.

One carcass was found to be heavily infected with viable cysticerci and was condemned.

The following table shows the sites of the cysts in the lightly infected carcasses. These carcasses were sterilised and used only for manufacturing purposes:-

| | Head | | | Heart | Diaphragm |
|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------|-------|-----------|
| | External Masseter Muscle | Internal Masseter Muscle | Tongue | | |
| Viable Cysts | 78 | 19 | 4 | 5 | - |
| Degenerate Cysts | 144 | 28 | 8 | 127 | 21 |

The cysts in 96 cases (26%) were viable indicating that the infections were of recent origin. This compared with 31% for the year 1950.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

During the year symptoms of notifiable diseases were found on four occasions in animals slaughtered as "casualties" in Watford. The cases of suspected Anthrax and Foot and Mouth Disease were not confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture, but two cases of suspected Swine Fever were confirmed and appropriate action was taken by the responsible authorities.

ICE CREAM.

Purity.

There are seven premises within the Borough in which ice cream is manufactured. The producers are well aware of the importance of maintaining a high standard of hygiene throughout their processing and their co-operation with the sanitary inspectors has been good.

Samples of ice cream are frequently submitted for bacteriological examination and the following table shows the results of the 74 samples which were taken during 1951.

| | | |
|-----------|----|---------------------------------|
| Grade I | 39 |) 81% of total satisfactory. |
| Grade II | 20 | |
| Grade III | 14 | |
| Grade IV | 1 | |

106 premises within the Borough are registered for the sale of ice cream but on the great majority of these wrapped ice cream only is sold.

Composition.

By a Statutory Order which came into force on the 1st March, 1951 the Ministry of Food prescribed that ice cream shall contain not less than 5% of fat, 10% of sugar and 7.5% of milk solids, other than fat.

Twelve samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical examination. The reports are summarised in the following table:-

| Sample Number | Fat Content | Sugar Content | Milk Solids | Water etc. |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| 1. | 10.75 | 14.00 | 10.15 | 65.1 |
| 2. | 10.44 | 12.00 | 8.75 | 68.81 |
| 3. | 8.20 | 11.03 | 7.70 | 73.07 |
| 4. | 6.54 | 14.56 | 12.72 | 66.18 |
| 5. | 11.18 | 12.30 | 9.22 | 67.30 |
| 6. | 12.58 | 11.67 | 11.05 | 64.70 |
| 7. | 4.50 | 16.51 | 9.05 | 69.04 |
| 8. | 10.00 | 12.31 | 14.14 | 63.55 |
| 9. | 10.61 | 12.00 | 9.10 | 68.29 |
| 10. | 11.38 | 13.20 | 9.50 | 65.92 |
| 11. | 9.79 | 11.20 | 7.90 | 71.11 |
| 12. | 13.06 | 12.50 | 8.70 | 65.74 |

The above analyses indicate that a good quality ice cream is being sold in Watford.

FOOD HYGIENE.

With the adoption of a Code of Hygiene for the Bakery and Confectionery trades the Council has now set a minimum standard for six of the principal food trades within the Borough. During the year the sanitary inspectors have continued their efforts to secure full compliance with the codes by all food traders. There is, however, much work to be done before this attainable goal is reached.

In accordance with Ministry of Food Circular MF.20/51, the Council has decided to issue a notice for display in all food shops requesting persons not to bring dogs into food premises.

Six complaints of foreign matter in bread and confectionery have been reported to the Council. Five of these were first offences and warnings were issued to the bakers concerned. In the sixth case the baker had previously been warned for a similar offence and the Council authorised the institution of proceedings which resulted in a conviction.

Particular attention has been devoted to the hygiene problems associated with the manufacture of meat into sausages and pies - foodstuffs which are notoriously the cause of food poisoning outbreaks. The co-operation in these investigations of a large-scale manufacturer within the Borough has been invaluable.

The following improvements have been effected as a result of periodic inspection of the various food premises:-

| Defects remedied | Registered Rooms | Other Rooms |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Food rooms reconstructed | 2 | 7 |
| Walls and ceilings repaired or renewed | 5 | 18 |
| Floors repaired or renewed | 2 | 7 |
| Doors and windows repaired or renewed | 3 | 5 |
| Sanitary conveniences disconnected from food rooms | 1 | 2 |
| Ventilation improved | 2 | 11 |
| Lighting improved | 1 | 4 |
| Rooms cleansed and redecorated | 6 | 42 |
| Apparatus, utensils, etc. cleansed, repaired or renewed | 1 | 7 |
| New refuse accommodation provided, sinks repaired or renewed | - | 5 |
| Additional sinks provided | - | 4 |
| Wash-basins repaired or renewed | - | 1 |
| Additional wash-basins provided | 5 | 8 |
| Repairs to water supplies | - | 1 |
| Constant hot water provided | 3 | 3 |
| Soap and towels provided | 2 | 4 |
| Wiping cloths improved | - | 1 |
| | 33 | 130 |

The use of one factory canteen was discontinued because of its unsuitability for the preparation and sale of food.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS.

On the 1st October, 1951 the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 was amended to provide that the occupier of every lairage must water and feed animals under his control at the times prescribed in the new Act. These provisions are enforceable by the Local Authority.

MEAT HYGIENE.

Two slaughterhouses in Watford have been requisitioned for use by the Ministry of Food; both are badly sited in the centre of the town and they are congested during peak-killing periods. The design of the New Street slaughterhouse is outdated. The Ministry are loth to spend public money on improvements to requisitioned properties and meat hygiene suffers accordingly.

The Council has decided that these slaughterhouses should be replaced by a modern abattoir and cattle market on the outskirts of the Borough. On the 1st August, 1951 the Minister of Agriculture announced the Government's policy on slaughterhouses and he stated that plans submitted by local authorities would be welcomed.

In the light of this statement the Council instructed the Borough Engineer to prepare a scheme for approval by the Ministry of Food so that a suitable site can be earmarked.

Contamination of meat during its distribution to shops has again been considered and it is the Council's opinion that all new vehicles for the transport of home killed meat should be so designed that meat can be hung.

FOOD POISONING.

Three outbreaks of food poisoning involving 16 persons were notified during 1951.

In two of these outbreaks detailed investigations failed to reveal either the infecting organism or the responsible foodstuff.

The third outbreak was caused by a dysentery organism; four persons were involved and certainly one and probably another of these persons contracted the disease in North Africa. The other two cases were secondary infections.

Again the Public Health Laboratory Service has been of great assistance during the investigations.

A summary of the outbreaks is set out in the following table:-

| Total Number of Outbreaks. | Number of Cases. | Number of Deaths | Organisms responsible with number of outbreaks of each. | Foods Suspected. | Remarks. |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|---|------------------|---|
| 3 | 16 | Nil | Shigella flexneri Z - 1 | Nil | The Shigella flexneri infection was contracted in North Africa. |

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Registrations in respect of three dairies and twenty three distributors of milk have been authorised by the Council under the above Regulations.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences have been granted during the year for the processing or sale of heat-treated milks:-

(a) Pasteurised

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| (i) Dealers Licence to pasteurise milk | ... | 2 |
| (ii) Dealers Licence to sell pasteurised milk | ... | 13 |
| (iii) Supplementary Licence to sell pasteurised milk | ... | 3 |

(b) Sterilised.

| | | |
|---|-----|----|
| (i) Dealers Licence to sterilise milk | ... | 1 |
| (ii) Dealers Licence to sell sterilised milk | ... | 18 |
| (iii) Supplementary Licence to sell sterilised milk | ... | 1 |

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following licences have been granted during the year:-

| | | |
|---|-----|----|
| (i) Dealers Licence for the sale of Tuberculin Tested Milk | ... | 10 |
| (ii) Supplementary Licence for the sale of Tuberculin Tested milk | ... | 2 |

Close supervision has been maintained on the purity of milk sold within the Borough and the following samples have been submitted to the Bacteriologist for examination:-

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Sterilised Milk | ... | 17 |
| Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk | ... | 10 |
| Pasteurised Milk | ... | 25 |
| Synthetic Cream | ... | 1 |

All these samples of milk complied with the statutory standards, and the synthetic cream was satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938:

The Report of the Public Analyst on samples submitted for examination during the year 1951 is as follows:-

"The number of samples examined under the Food and Drugs Act during the period under review amounted to 97, of which 28 were Formal and 69 Informal.

Of the Formal samples, 24 consisted of Milk and the following table shows their average composition, as compared with those examined during the previous year -

| | | <u>Fat.</u> | <u>Solids, not Fat.</u> |
|------|-----|-------------|-------------------------|
| 1950 | ... | 3.47% | 8.80% |
| 1951 | ... | 3.54% | 8.79% |

It will be seen that the average Fat content for the year under review is a little higher than for 1950, but the percentage of Solids, non Fat constituents has remained practically unchanged.

The average figures are, however, well above the Statutory limits and may be regarded as satisfactory.

The Milks, generally, were of good quality and in only one instance did a sample fail to comply with the Milk Regulations in respect of its composition.

This particular Milk had a Fat content of only 2.55%, showing a deficiency of 0.45% as compared with the Statutory minimum limit of 3.00%.

Two 'Appeal to Cow' samples were subsequently taken, representing both the evening and morning milkings. These, on analysis, gave the following results.

| | | <u>Fat.</u> |
|--------------|-----|-------------|
| Evening Milk | ... | 3.84% |
| Morning Milk | ... | 2.92% |

From these figures it will be seen that there is an appreciable variation in the Fat contents of the evening and morning Milk.

In my experience it is not unusual for morning milkings to be deficient in Fat, and for this reason I have always advocated that such Milk should be blended with other Milk of more normal Fat content before being sold to the Public.

In this particular instance, had the two milkings been mixed together, the general quality of the retail product would have been satisfactory.

The Vendor of the Milk in question was warned and no legal proceedings were instituted.

All the Milk samples examined during the year conformed with the requirements of the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, in respect of their freedom from preservatives.

Your Chief Inspector, Mr. R.V. Jacob, has also submitted to me for examination during the year, a selection of different varieties of Food, Drugs, etc., the chief of which I will refer to under the following headings.

Foods - Apricot and Strawberry Jam, Self Raising Flour, Coffee Essence, Meat Paste, Vanilla Essence, Milk Whipping Compound, Beef and Pork Sausages, Redcurrant Jelly, Fish Paste, Fish Cake, Lemon Curd, Table Jellies, Custard Powder, Baking Powder, Cake Flour, Sardines, Loose Coffee, Powdered Gelatine, Cream Bun, Orange and Lemon Squash.

Condiments - White Pepper, Loose Vinegar, Ground Ginger, Mustard, Tomato Sauce, Curry Powder, Sweet Pickle, Mixed Spice, Olive Oil, Salad Cream, Horseradish Sauce.

Drugs - Glauber Salts, Seidlitz Powder, Glycerine, Honey Cough Mixture, etc.

The great majority of the Food products and Condiments, on examination, were found to be of good quality and in a sound, edible condition.

I found it necessary, however, to report against two samples, one consisting of Baking Powder and the other of Tomato Sauce.

The Baking Powder was deficient in available Carbon Dioxide, containing only 5.2% instead of the Statutory minimum of 8.0%.

The Tomato Sauce showed a Copper content of 72 parts per million on the dry solids, which is appreciably in excess of the standard laid down by the Tomato Ketchup Order, 1949, No. 1817. This order stipulates that the amount of Copper must not exceed 50 parts per million on the dry solids.

Both these irregularities were brought to the notice of your Chief Inspector, who, I understand, communicated with the firms concerned.

The five samples of Sausages complied with the Statutory Rule and Order in respect of their Meat content.

All the samples of Drugs, on analysis, were found to conform with the requirements of the British Pharmacopoeia in respect of their strength and general composition.

I was again requested this year to examine and report on the general quality of the Ice Cream sold in the Watford District.

The analysis of twelve samples was carried out and in the table recorded on page 22 are given the contents of these samples.

Your Chief Inspector has also submitted to me during the year under review a number of special samples, the majority of which were connected with complaints in respect of their condition, etc., and I will now refer to these.

Norwegian 'Livial'

Two tins were examined, one of which was found to contain an amount of Arsenic equivalent to 1/9th grain per lb., and the second 1/20th grain per lb.

In both cases the Arsenic content was very high and considerably above the maximum amount permitted in Foodstuffs.

I was subsequently informed that your Public Health Department had condemned the whole consignment of this Norwegian 'Livial', which was deposited in the Watford area.

St. Marnet Concentrated Tomato Soup.

This Tomato Soup was alleged to be heavily contaminated with Tin and, on analysis, I found that it contained as much as 4.8 grains per lb.

I advised your Chief Inspector that a quantity such as this rendered the Tomato Soup quite unsuitable for human consumption.

Deposit in Milk Bottle.

The deposit in question consisted of an opaque white film, firmly adhering to the glass. When submitted to a chemical examination it was found to be composed of sand, silica and lime.

This indicated that the deposit probably consisted of a small fragment of cement which had accidentally dropped into the bottle.

White Sugar.

This was submitted following a complaint that the Sugar had a 'salty' flavour. On analysis it was found to consist of 80% of Sugar and 20% of Salt.

It would appear, therefore, that this complaint was fully justified.

Milk.

This sample consisted of a portion of Milk which had been served to a customer in a Cafe in Watford, who complained that it contained some foreign matter.

A careful inspection revealed the presence of a number of small black particles in suspension. These were separated out and submitted to analysis.

They were found to consist of small particles of the protein of the Milk which had become charred during heating.

Sausages.

I was requested to examine these Sausages and report as to the cause of their unsatisfactory flavour. On analysis they were found to contain 69% of Meat, which was in a quite sound condition.

The Fat portion of the Sausages, however, showed an acidity of 3.5% and gave positive reactions for rancidity, which was undoubtedly the cause of the unpleasant flavour complained of.

Medicine.

This was an emulsion of Liquid Paraffin and Magnesia, and a complaint had been received that it contained black particles which were gritty on the palate.

A careful inspection showed that the medicine possessed a slight yellow shade and a few minute dark specks were isolated, and when chemical tests were applied these were found to consist of Oxide of Iron.

The size of these specks, however, was so small that they could not possibly be detected on the palate. There was no suggestion of grittiness and I expressed the opinion that this particular complaint was quite unjustified.

Icing on Jam Sponge.

In this instance I received a small black foreign body which, I was informed, had been found on the icing of a Jam Sponge.

When this black substance was submitted to a microscopical examination, it showed evidence of the presence of well defined animal hairs, having the characteristic structures of rodent hairs.

This definitely indicated that the foreign matter in question consisted of rat excreta, and I reported my findings accordingly to your Chief Inspector.

Australian Apricot Pulp.

This was submitted following the inspection of a consignment in which a number of the cans showed evidence of bulging. On this account, I was informed that the Pulp had been removed from the tins, transferred to barrels, and treated with Sulphur Dioxide.

I was asked to examine the Pulp in respect of its Tin content, which I found to amount to 0.2 grain per lb., or 30 parts per million.

I reported that although at the moment there are not any Statutory limits for the Tin content of Foodstuffs, I was of opinion that this amount would not be regarded as at all excessive.

Fruit Cake Mixture.

A complaint had been received that this Cake Mixture was unpalatable.

When analysed it was found to contain 1.68% of Fat and this Fat had a strong rancid odour, such as to render the Mixture quite unsuitable for domestic use.

Canned Braised Pork Kidneys.

These Kidneys, on inspection, were found to have an abnormal green colour. When the contents were removed, it was observed that the inside of the tins were heavily coated with Sulphide of Iron.

This substance has an iridescent greenish black appearance and a close inspection of the Kidneys showed that small flakes of this Sulphide of Iron had been deposited on the surface.

As a precautionary measure, a bacteriological examination was made and the results of this were quite satisfactory.

I, therefore, advised your Chief Inspector that the slight contamination with this Sulphide of Iron had not, in my opinion, rendered these Pork Kidneys unsafe for human consumption.

Sewage Sludge.

I was requested during the year, by your Engineer's Department, to make a detailed analysis of a specimen of the Sludge from the Corporation's Sewage Farm.

This gave results which were quite normal for a Sludge of this character.

This, I think, completes my summary relating to the various samples taken in the Borough of Watford during the past year, and, in submitting my Report, I would like, at the same time, to acknowledge the valuable help and assistance that I have received from your Chief Inspector, Mr. R.V. Jacob, your Deputy Chief Inspector, Mr. K.H. Marsden, and their colleagues in the Public Health Office at Watford.

(Signed) C.W. McHugo,

Public Analyst for the
Borough of Watford."

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.

139 premises are licensed for the storage of inflammable liquids of various kinds which in view of their "flash point" come within the provisions of the above Acts.

The general method of storage is by means of an underground tank situated in ground away from any occupied building. There are a few cases where small storage containers made of impervious material are housed in open spaces. No licence allows for storage within a building and the local authority has power to impose such conditions as they think expedient as to the mode of storage on each licence. All premises are periodically inspected.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

Part 1 - Health Provisions.

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | Occupiers prosecuted |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| | | Insp- ctions | Written Notices | |
| Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 51 | 58 | 4 | - |
| Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 320 | 277 | 19 | - |
| Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 12 | 7 | 1 | - |
| Total | 383 | 342 | 24 | - |

Cases in which defects were found.

| | Number of cases in which defects were found. | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were insti- tuted. |
|--|--|----------|------------------|------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Insp. | By H.M. Insp. | |
| Want of cleanliness (Sec.1) | 1 | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| Overcrowding (Sec.2) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Unreasonable temperatures (Sec.3) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Inadequate ventilation (Sec.4) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec.6) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Sanitary Conveniences (Sec.7) | | | | | |
| (a) insufficient | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| (b) unsuitable or defective | 15 | 13 | - | 3 | - |
| (c) not separate for sexes | - | - | - | 1 | - |
| Other offences against the Act. | - | - | 3 | - | - |
| Total | 17 | 14 | 5 | 4 | - |

Part 11 - Safety, Section 34 - Means of Escape in Case of Fire.

Twenty five factories were surveyed during the year in connection with the requirements of the above mentioned Section of the Factories Act, 1937, and as a result nine new Certificates were issued. The Chief Sanitary Inspector is the Corporation's Authorised Officer for this work.

With the co-operation of the Borough Engineer plans of proposed factories or alterations to existing premises are submitted to this department for observation. This procedure has proved most helpful and beneficial and has justified the time spent on such examination.

Part VIII - Outwork. (Sections 110 and 111).

| <u>Nature of Work.</u> | <u>Number of out-workers as required by Sec. 110 (1)(e).</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Artificial flowers - making etc. ... | 38 |
| Brushmaking ... | 19 |
| Carpet making ... | 1 |
| Cardboard making for fireworks ... | 1 |
| Lampshades - painting ... | 1 |
| Leather and plastic work ... | 16 |
| Wearing apparel making ... | 46 |
| Total | 122 |

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

A summary of the work carried out under Shops legislation is set out in the following table:-

| | | |
|---|-----|-------|
| Routine visits to shops and inspection of records | ... | 1,033 |
| Visits to shops regarding early closing day | ... | 170 |
| Evening visits to shops and observations after legal closing hours | ... | 19 |
| Visits to shops in respect of Sunday Trading | ... | 74 |
| Number of infringements investigated and appropriate action taken to remedy matters complained of | ... | 112 |
| New shops added to records | ... | 16 |
| Shops closed down | ... | 12 |
| Statutory Notices served | ... | 1 |

Proceedings were successfully instituted against one shop keeper for failing to comply with a notice requiring him to provide suitable and sufficient washing facilities for the use of persons employed in a shop.

ERADICATION OF INSECT PESTS.

| | | |
|---|-------|----|
| Number of premises dealt with for bugs by the Department | | |
| Council houses | ... | 2 |
| Other houses | | 4 |
| Number of Council houses dealt with for bugs by the Housing Department | | - |
| Number of premises dealt with for other insect pests by the Health Department | ... | 6 |
| | Total | 12 |

One stream, in which mosquitoes were breeding, was cleansed by the Corporation.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

This Act came into force on the 1st November, 1951. Its purpose is to secure the use of clean materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined.

Eight premises in Watford have been registered for upholstery work and two premises have been licensed for the storage of rag flock.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

This Act came into operation on the 31st March, 1950. Central administration was transferred from the Minister of Food to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the primary obligation of maintaining an area free from rodent infestation was placed upon local authorities instead of individual occupiers.

In co-operation with the Borough Engineer the public sewers have been subjected to two rat destruction campaigns in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Council has continued its policy of providing a free service for domestic dwellings.

The following statistics, as required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, show the work carried out by the two rodent operatives during 1951.

| | Type of Property | | | | Total |
|--|------------------|-----------------|--------------|---|--------|
| | Local Authority | Dwelling Houses | Agricultural | All other (including Business & Industrial) | |
| I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 & 2). | 84 | 21,141 | 5 | 1,833 | 23,063 |
| II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1951 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise (Notes 1, 2 & 3). | (a) - | 369 | - | 49 | 418 |
| | (b) 47 | 184 | - | - | 231 |
| III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 & 3). | Major 5 | 83 | - | 3 | 91 |
| | Minor 5 | 177 | - | 7 | 189 |
| IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 & 3). | 1 | 47 | - | 21 | 69 |
| V. Number of infested properties (under III & IV) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 & 3). | 11 | 307 | - | 31 | 349 |
| VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:- | | | | | |
| (1) Treatment | - | - | - | - | - |
| (2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing). | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | - | - | - | - | - |
| VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notice under Section 4. | - | - | - | - | - |
| VIII. Legal Proceedings | - | - | - | - | - |
| IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out | | 73 | | | |

NOTES.

Note 1. A property means a property separately entered in the Valuation Roll for area.
Note 2. Council houses should be included under Dwelling Houses. Premises used by Local Authority for purposes of trade should be included under Business or Industrial Premises. Sewers should not be included. Only properties devoted to agricultural or horticultural production should be included under Agricultural Properties. Combined dwelling and business premises where occupied by the same person should be included under Business Premises otherwise they should be entered separately.
Note 3. II, III, IV and V in each case relate to the number of properties inspected as defined in Note 1 and not the number of inspections, infestations or treatments at each property.

SECTION "F".

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The total number of notifications received during the year was 1,787 compared with 667 in 1950. After correction the total was reduced to 1,786.

| | <u>Notifications.</u> | <u>Confirmed.</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Scarlet Fever | 63 | 62 |
| Diphtheria | 1 | 1 |
| Polio-myelitis - paralytic | 3 | 3 |
| " - non-paralytic | 1 | 1 |
| Meningococcal Infections | 2 | 2 |
| Pneumonia | 37 | 37 |
| Erysipelas | 6 | 6 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 13 | 13 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | - | - |
| Infective Hepatitis and Catarrhal Jaundice | 66 | 66 |
| Whooping Cough | 160 | 160 |
| Measles | 1410 | 1409 |
| Acute Encephalitis (Post Infectious) | 1 | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | 2 |
| Dysentery | 22 | 22 |
| Typhoid Fever | 1 | 1 |
| | <u>1787</u> | <u>1786</u> |

Scarlet Fever.

Very few cases of Scarlet Fever occurred until towards the end of the last quarter when a mild outbreak occurred in two schools. Full investigations took place, which together with the school holidays brought the outbreak under control.

Diphtheria.

One mild case of diphtheria occurred, the first for five years. This was probably an imported case.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

It is pleasing to note that the figures for 1951 are a definite improvement on those of 1950 which when taken into consideration with the work done by the General Practitioners in this preventive measure at least 75% of the children at risk can be considered protected. It must not be forgotten, however, that although diphtheria has virtually disappeared from this area it has not necessarily been eliminated. To maintain this freedom an adequate level of immunisation is essential and it should be realised that there have been set-backs during recent years so that the present rate must be maintained and if possible improved upon in the future.

It is felt that consistent publicity by organised persuasion is the only really effective method of keeping immunisation constantly before the parents of young children and in doing this local health authority Staff have a most important part to play.

Immunisation figures, 1951

| | Under 5. | 5 - 14. | Total. | Reinforcing. |
|---|----------|---------|--------|--------------|
| (a) By County Staff: | | | | |
| In Watford Borough | 595 | 94 | 689 | 1152 |
| In remaining areas of South-West Herts | 697 | 184 | 881 | 1519 |
| (b) By General Practitioners, South-West Herts | 549 | 61 | 610 | 96 |
| Total | 1841 | 339 | 2180 | 2767 |

Poliomyelitis.

The four cases recorded in 1951 (three of them paralytic and one non-paralytic) all made satisfactory recoveries. Three of the cases with no known connection between them occurred in August and the other in November. There were no deaths.

Age Groupings.

| | | |
|--------|---------|---------|
| 5 - 10 | 16 - 25 | 36 - 45 |
| 1 | 2 | 1 |

All the cases were admitted to Holywell Hospital and then transferred for further orthopaedic treatment according to their requirements.

It is always worth emphasising that early diagnosis and care of the doubtful case to see that no abnormal physical activity is undertaken are the most useful procedures in reducing the severity of attack.

Whooping Cough.

The number of notifications shows a slight fall but the incidence of the disease during the warm weather remains the same.

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

The figures for 1951 were as follows:-

| | | |
|------------------------|------|-------|
| 1st Visits | | 457 |
| Revisits | | 794 |
| Total injections given | | 1251. |

Meningococcal Infection.

Two confirmed cases occurred both of which recovered.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.

One case of typhoid fever was notified, the infection having been contracted whilst on holiday.

Infective Hepatitis and Catarrhal Jaundice.

For the second year in succession the notifications rose, this time from 38 to 66, most of the cases occurring during the first half of the year. There was a general scatter throughout the town although in a number of instances more than one case occurred in a family.

Smallpox.

Six smallpox contacts, none of these very intimate and all of them vaccinated were kept under close supervision. All remained well. These contacts came from abroad and were not related to outbreaks of smallpox in this country.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

It would appear that there has been a considerable increase in primary vaccinations. 1206 children under five years were vaccinated in South-West Hertfordshire, with the probability that approximately half of them lived in the Borough. If this level can be maintained, then the pre-1948 figure of about 40% vaccinated will be reached again.

Measles.

The largest number of notifications since the disease became notifiable in 1940 were received during 1951, namely 1410. This epidemic started in December, 1950, rose to its peak in February and gradually faded away from April onwards. No deaths occurred.

Acute Encephalitis.

One case following mumps was notified. The patient made a good recovery.

Food Poisoning.

Four notifications were received covering three outbreaks, but on investigation 16 cases were revealed. The outbreaks occurred, one in each of the second, third and fourth quarters. All cases recovered.

Dysentery.

A number of sporadic cases were notified, the figure being rather more than in recent years, probably due to better identification of the disease.

Scabies.

Eleven cases were treated in their own homes. It was not necessary to use hospital facilities.

Tuberculosis.

There were 86 notifications compared with 78 in 1950, 61 in 1949 and 89 in 1948.

| | New Cases | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|----------------|------------|----|----------------|----|------------|----|----------------|----|
| | Pulmonary. | | Non-Pulmonary. | | Pulmonary. | | Non-Pulmonary. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 | 3 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 | 2 | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - |
| 10 | - | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 | 9 | 10 | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| 25 | 9 | 10 | - | 2 | - | 1 | - | - |
| 35 | 11 | 6 | 1 | - | - | 4 | - | - |
| 45 | 10 | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| 55 | 6 | - | - | - | 5 | - | - | - |
| 65 and upwards | 6 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Untraced | - | - | - | - | 1 | 2 | - | - |
| | 59 | 38 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 |

Last year attention was drawn to the rising incidence amongst males, particularly in the 20 - 35 age groups. This trend continues but in addition there is a general upward rise of notifications. It is hoped that the improved facilities in the area for X-raying patients, the careful and regular examination of contacts and the general awareness that much can be done in the treatment of tuberculosis as well as the use of Mass Radiography has brought to light a number of cases in the early stages, which would otherwise perhaps have not been found until a time when treatment would be more difficult. It is worth noting that no deaths occurred under 25 years of age and that the total deaths fell from 18 to 16.

The attention given by the Housing Committee to the applications from families where a case of tuberculosis exists as well as the work done by the Home Help Service in such households is an encouragement to both the Medical and Almshouse Staff treating this type of patient.

The scheme for the investigation, follow-up and treatment with B.C.G. of children leaving school has continued, but it is too early yet to be able to draw any conclusions from the results obtained.

Mass Radiography Unit.

It was unfortunate that this unit was unable to visit Watford during 1951 but arrangements have already been made for a visit during 1952.

Venereal Diseases.

These cases were treated at Shrodells Hospital Special Clinic.

Cancer.

121 deaths took place in 1951 compared with 120 in 1950, 151 in 1949, 133 in 1948 and 143 in 1947.

Watford Isolation Hospital.

324 cases of infectious disease were admitted to the wards of the hospital, this being the highest figure since 1945, but in 1945 the figure included 130 cases of Scarlet Fever whereas last year only 64 cases of this infection were admitted.

Naturally quite an unusual number of children with Measles had to be taken in and as in recent years the hospital has been used for the investigation of possible cases of poliomyelitis so that the number admitted with this disease far exceeded those discharged with the same diagnosis. One child died as a result of Measles and another following Whooping Cough.

In addition 107 cases of tuberculosis were admitted and 87 discharged. Four deaths occurred.