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Yeovil Rural District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31ST DECEMBER, 1948

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Whitby, Printer, Yeovil

# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

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*Medical Officer of Health :*

P. P. FOX, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Sanitary Inspector :*

CHARLES A. WILSON, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

*Additional Sanitary Inspectors :*

BRYNMOR MORRIS, M.S.I.A.

GRAHAME S. H. PEATY, M.S.I.A.

*Assistant Housing Inspector :*

S. R. BARHAM.

*Assistant Housing Manager :*

(Miss) M. J. TAEE.

*Sanitary Inspector's Clerk :*

(Mrs.) CHRISTINE J. WOOD.



## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS of YEOVIL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1948.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

The number of births during the year under review shows an appreciable decline as compared with 1947, the figures being 324 as compared with 382. This decrease is reflected in the birth rate which is 17.3 as compared with 21.71 for 1947.

The Infantile Mortality rate was 24.7 as compared with 34 per 1,000 for England and Wales.

The Illegitimate Birth rate again shows a decline, the rate for 1948 being 37 as compared with 47.3 for the previous year.

The Crude Death rate for the year was 10.3 as compared with 13.42 for the year 1948.

### HOUSING.

Attention was drawn in my previous annual report to the unsatisfactory rate of the progress of building. The Sanitary Inspector has referred in his report to the difficulties which face the authority in providing houses, the lack of which the authority is fully cognisant. Despite the efforts which have been made, it must be recorded that the number of houses provided during the year was less than in 1947, the figures being :—

|      | Permanent<br>Traditional<br>Houses. | Swedish<br>Timber<br>Houses. | Conversion of Huts<br>into<br>Living Accommodation. |
|------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1947 | 44                                  | 16                           | 48  |
| 1948 | 30                                  | 16                           | 10  |

It will also be noted that the survey of houses, as recommended by the Hobhouse Report, shows that the number of unfit houses to date is 273; the Sanitary Inspector has reported that the present rate of building is little more than equal to the number of unfit houses which are falling into disuse. If I appear to be over-stressing facts of which the authority are aware, it is because I regard adequate housing, which includes a satisfactory water supply and sewage, as a major factor in the promotion of the good health of the community.



## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT.

During the year the responsibility for the administration of Section 47 of the above Act was placed on the authority, and two cases were dealt with. The purpose of this Section is to secure the necessary care and attention for people, who by reason of grave chronic disease or other disability, are living under insanitary conditions and are not able to look after themselves or are not looked after by other persons. The procedure to be followed involves the authority applying to a court of summary jurisdiction for the necessary order which is valid for a maximum period of three months. The procedure is somewhat lengthy so that there may be an interval of 4—6 weeks from the date when grounds for action are noted to the date at which the action is implemented. It is suggested that a more expeditious method would be that in urgent cases the authority be authorised to make the necessary arrangements either with or without a magistrate being consulted, the order to be a temporary one only, the circumstances being reviewed at the next court of summary jurisdiction when the order could be confirmed or cancelled.

## WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE.

The necessity for an improved water supply becomes more urgent and considerable progress in the preliminary planning has taken place. The provision of adequate sewage arrangements is receiving the consideration of the appropriate committee and details of the progress made is recorded in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In general, the health of the community has been satisfactory, there being no epidemics of any infectious diseases. There was a slight increase in the number of new cases of tuberculosis notified, 16 cases being notified as compared with 13 for the previous year. In connection with tuberculosis, a mass radiography unit visited Yeovil in April and October. The general public and certain factories were notified by public advertisements and by letter. It is hoped to extend this service in 1949.

I wish to record my appreciation of the help and support given me in the carrying out of my official duties by the members of the Council, of the helpful co-operation received from the staff of the County Health Department and to express my appreciation of the work carried out by the members of the staff.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient servant,  
P. P. FOX.



## SECTION A.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

|  |  |     |     |     |               |
|--|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| Area   | ...  | ... | ... | ... | 53,495 Acres. |
| Registrar-General's estimate of                    |  |     |     |     |               |
| (a)  | Resident Population, mid-1948                                    | ... | ... | ... | } 18,670      |
| (b)  | Average Population appropriate to the calculation of death rates | ... | ... | ... |               |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according |  |     |     |     |               |
|  | to Rate Books  | ... | ... | ... | 5,902         |
|  | Rateable Value   | ... | ... | ... | £80,813       |
|  | Sum represented by a penny rate                                  | ... | ... | ... | £326          |

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

|  |     |     | Total. | M.  | F.   |
|--|-----|-----|--------|-----|------|
| Live Births—Legitimate                                   | ... | ... | 312    | 154 | 158  |
| Illegitimate   | ... | ... | 12     | 6   | 6    |
| Still Births—Legitimate                                  | ... | ... | 7      | 4   | 3    |
| Illegitimate   | ... | ... | 1      | 1   | —    |
| Deaths   | ... | ... | 194    | 86  | 108  |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population    | ... | ... | ...    | ... | 17.3 |
| Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births | ... | ... | ...    | ... | 24.1 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population        | ... | ... | ...    | ... | 10.3 |

## DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

|                        | Births. | Rate per 1,000 total<br>(live and still) births |
|------------------------|---------|---|
| Puerperal Sepsis       | Nil     | Nil   |
| Other Puerperal Causes | Nil     | Nil   |

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS under One Year of Age.

|   |     |     |     |     |      |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| No. of Deaths under 1 year                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8    |
| All Infants per 1,000 Live Births                       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24.7 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22.3 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil  |
| • Deaths from Cancer (all ages)                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28   |
| "    "    Measles (all ages)                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil  |
| "    "    Whooping Cough (all ages)                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil  |
| "    "    Diarrhoea (under 2 years)                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil  |

|                                      |     |     |     | 1948  |         |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| CAUSES OF DEATH.                     |     |     |     | Males | Females |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever        | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Cerebral Spinal Fever                | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Scarlet Fever                        | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Whooping Cough                       | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Diphtheria                           | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System   | ... | ... | ... | 3     | 2       |
| Other Forms of Tuberculosis          | ... | ... | ... | 1     | —       |
| Syphilis                             | ... | ... | ... | 1     | —       |
| Influenza                            | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Measles                              | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Poliomyelitis                        | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Encephalitis                         | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Cancer                               | ... | ... | ... | 14    | 14      |
| Diabetes                             | ... | ... | ... | —     | 1       |
| Intracranial Vascular Lesions        | ... | ... | ... | 8     | 24      |
| Heart Disease                        | ... | ... | ... | 25    | 35      |
| Other Diseases of Circulatory System | ... | ... | ... | 2     | 4       |
| Bronchitis                           | ... | ... | ... | 3     | 2       |
| Pneumonia                            | ... | ... | ... | 2     | 1       |
| Other Respiratory Diseases           | ... | ... | ... | 2     | 3       |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum        | ... | ... | ... | 1     | —       |
| Diarrhoea                            | ... | ... | ... | 1     | —       |
| Appendicitis                         | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Other Digestive Diseases             | ... | ... | ... | 2     | 2       |
| Nephritis                            | ... | ... | ... | 5     | 3       |
| Puerperal Sepsis                     | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Other Maternal Causes                | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| Premature Births                     | ... | ... | ... | 2     | —       |
| Congenital Causes                    | ... | ... | ... | 1     | 3       |
| Suicide                              | ... | ... | ... | 2     | —       |
| Road Traffic                         | ... | ... | ... | 2     | —       |
| Other Violence                       | ... | ... | ... | —     | —       |
| All other Causes                     | ... | ... | ... | 9     | 14      |
| Total Deaths                         |     |     |     | 86    | 108     |



## SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA.

- |                                 |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. (a) LABORATORY FACILITIES    | } No Change. |
| (b) AMBULANCE FACILITIES        |              |
| (c) CLINICS & TREATMENT CENTRES |              |
| (d) NURSING IN THE HOME.        |              |

Two Health Visitors and Twelve District Nurses attend to the Midwifery, Nursing, and Infant Welfare work in the District.

## SECTION C.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

## 1. WATER SUPPLIES—

Martock Extension to Parrett Works 4,495 feet 3in. main completed.

Closworth—Scheme of water supply for village commenced.

Odcombe—Construction of 1,000,000 gallon reservoir commenced.

## 2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Scheme of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal for the Parish of Chilthorne Domer was about to be commenced.

Rivers and Streams—No action taken.

## 3. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Salvage work is undertaken in all Parishes.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

|                                      |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Inspections of Sewerage and Drainage | ... | ... | 158 |
| Inspections for Nuisances            | ... | ... | 147 |
| Informal Notices served              | ... | ... | Nil |
| Drainage Tests and Inspections...    | ... | ... | 133 |
| Rooms Disinfected                    | ... | ... | 9   |
| Dairies and Cowsheds Inspections     | ... | ... | 156 |



|                               |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Inspection of Water Supplies  | ... | ... | ... | 296  |
| Slaughterhouse Inspections    | ... | ... | ... | 16   |
| Rodent Control Investigations | ... | ... | ... | 3082 |

**Shops and Offices.**—It was not found necessary to take any special action under the provision of the Shops Act, 1934.

**Smoke Abatement.**—It was not found necessary to take any action.

#### 4. SCHOOLS.

Improvements in many schools owing to the introduction of school meals and washing facilities.

### SECTION D.

#### HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

|       |   |     |     |     |      |
|-------|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 1 (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under P.H., or Housing Acts)   | ... | ... | ... | 2343 |
| (b)   | Number of inspections made for the purpose  | ... | ... | ... | 2506 |
| 2 (a) | Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under H. Con. Reg. 1925 and 1932                            | ... | ... | ... | 1830 |
| (b)   | Number of inspections made for the purpose  | ... | ... | ... | 1978 |
| (c)   | Number of houses in which no action was found necessary   | ... | ... | ... | 770  |
| 3     | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                    | ... | ... | ... | 246  |
| 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 | ... | ... | ... | 814  |

#### HOUSING ACTION.

|     |   |     |     |     |     |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) | Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | ... | ... | ... | 62  |
| (b) | Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action  | ... | ... | ... | Nil |



## ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

### 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 |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—        |     |
| (a) | By owners ... ..   | Nil |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners ...  | Nil |

### Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

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

### Proceedings under Sections 11, 13 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936.

|     |   |     |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..      | 3   |
| (2) | Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..         | Nil |
| (3) | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertaking was given not to let ... .. | 2   |

### Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

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



## HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING.

|     |       |  |        |     |           |
|-----|-------|--|--------|-----|-----------|
| (a) | (i)   | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year   | ... .. | 100 | estimated |
|     | (ii)  | Number of families dwelling therein  | ... .. | 210 | „         |
|     | (iii) | Number of persons dwelling therein   | ... .. | 700 | „         |
| (b) |       | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year   | ... .. | 21  |           |
| (c) | (i)   | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year   | ... .. | 36  |           |
|     | (ii)  | Number of persons concerned in such cases  | ... .. | 254 |           |
| (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 |           |

## SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## MILK SUPPLY.

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| Number of Producers on the Register                         | ... .. | 459 |
| Number of Distributors on the Register divided as follows : |        |     |
| (i) Distributors only                                       | ... .. | 9   |
| (ii) Distributors who are also Producers                    | ... .. | 125 |
| Cowsheds and Dairies inspected...                           | ... .. | 156 |

## SAMPLES OF MILK TAKEN FOR EXAMINATION.

|                         |        |     |
|-------------------------|--------|-----|
| For Tubercle Bacilli    | ... .. | Nil |
| Reported unsatisfactory | ... .. | —   |

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

|                                    |        |    |
|------------------------------------|--------|----|
| Number of Slaughterhouses Licensed | ... .. | 17 |
|------------------------------------|--------|----|

## CARCASSES INSPECTED.

|                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Cows            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Calves          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Sheep and Lambs | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | —   |
| Pigs            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ..  | 2   |
| Horses          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 158 |

## TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned :

|      |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Cows | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Pigs | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

Percentage of the number inspected affected with

|              |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|

NUMBER OF BAKEHOUSES IN THE DISTRICT... 20

NUMBER OF OFFENSIVE TRADES CARRIED  
ON IN THE DISTRICT ... .. 1

## FOOD INSPECTION.

The following food was condemned during the year :

|                 |     |                         |
|-----------------|-----|-------------------------|
| Bacon and Ham   | ... | 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.   |
| Beef            | ... | 231 lbs.                |
| Calves Liver... | ... | 20 lbs.                 |
| Fish            | ... | 23 $\frac{1}{2}$ stones |
| Horseflesh      | ... | 208 lbs.                |

## CANNED FOODS.

|            |     |     |     |         |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Jam        | ... | ... | ... | 1 tin   |
| Meat       | ... | ... | ... | 21 tins |
| Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 12 tins |
| Fish       | ... | ... | ... | 53 tins |
| Milk       | ... | ... | ... | 16 tins |
| Fruit      | ... | ... | ... | 13 tins |

## WATER SUPPLY.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Number of Samples taken for Bacteriological Examination... | 121    |
| Number of Samples reported satisfactory                    | ... 88 |
| Number of Samples reported not entirely satisfactory       | ... 14 |
| Number of Samples reported unsatisfactory                  | ... 19 |



## ADULTERATION.

The Council is not a Local Authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

## SECTION F.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified. There were no deaths.

The absence of infection among school children is now a conspicuous and highly satisfactory feature.

The following children are now immunised:—

954 School Children\* (5—14 years inclusive).

764 Children under School Age (1—4 years inclusive).

1798 School Children have received 3 injections.

\*These figures refer only to children attending County maintained schools. It has not been possible to ascertain figures for children in the district attending other schools though it is believed that the great majority of these children are also immunised. Children under one year are also not included.

108 patients were admitted to South Petherton Isolation Hospital during the year. 52 of them were from Yeovil Rural District.

| Disease.              |     |     | Total<br>Cases<br>Notified | Admitted<br>to<br>Hospital | Hospital<br>Deaths | Total<br>Deaths |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Scarlet Fever         | ... | ... | 12                         | —                          | —                  | —               |
| Dysentery             | ... | ... | 6                          | —                          | —                  | —               |
| Measles               | ... | ... | 84                         | —                          | —                  | —               |
| Whooping Cough        | ... | ... | 38                         | —                          | —                  | —               |
| Puerperal Pyrexia     | ... | ... | 3                          | —                          | —                  | —               |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | ... | ... | 1                          | —                          | —                  | —               |
| Pneumonia             | ... | ... | 7                          | —                          | —                  | 3               |
| Erysipelas            | ... | ... | 1                          | —                          | —                  | —               |





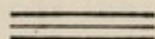
**TUBERCULOSIS.**  
**NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.**

| Age Periods.   |     |     | New Cases.   |    |                  |    | Deaths.      |    |                  |    |
|----------------|-----|-----|--------------|----|------------------|----|--------------|----|------------------|----|
|                |     |     | Respiratory. |    | Non-Respiratory. |    | Respiratory. |    | Non-Respiratory. |    |
|                |     |     | M.           | F. | M.               | F. | M.           | F. | M.               | F. |
| 0-1            | ... | ... |              |    |                  |    |              |    |                  |    |
| 1-5            | ... | ..  |              |    |                  |    |              |    |                  |    |
| 5-15           | ... | ... | 1            | 1  |                  | 1  |              | 1  |                  |    |
| 15-25          | ... | ... | 2            | 1  |                  |    |              | 1  |                  |    |
| 25-35          | ... | ... | 2            | 3  | 1                | 2  | 2            |    |                  |    |
| 35-45          | ... | ... |              |    |                  |    |              |    | 1                |    |
| 45-55          | ... | ... |              |    |                  |    | 1            | 1  |                  |    |
| 55-65          | ... | ... | 1            | 1  |                  |    |              |    |                  |    |
| 65 and upwards | ... |     |              |    |                  |    |              |    |                  |    |
| Total          | ... | ... | 6            | 6  | 1                | 3  | 3            | 3  | 1                | —  |

Total New Cases 16.

Deaths 7.

# Yeovil Rural District Council.



## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1948.



*To the Chairman and Members of the Yeovil Rural District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1948.

### HOUSING.

The improvement in the standard of housing accommodation in the district cannot be achieved until a much greater number of new permanent houses can be erected each year. The present rate of building continues to be little more than equal to the number of unfit houses which are falling into disuse.

Every effort to improve the position has been made by the Council's Housing Committee, but they are restricted in their activities by the small number of new permanent houses allocated to the district and by the numerous controls and restrictions which have to be surmounted, with a substantial loss of time and energy, before one of the houses already allocated can be built.

The following houses were completed during the year :—

|   |     |     |    |
|---|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Permanent Traditional Houses                    | ... | ... | 30 |
| (b) Permanent Prefabricated Houses                  | ... | ... | 16 |
| (c) Conversion of Huts into Living Accommodation... |     |     | 10 |

There were in course of erection at the end of the year :—

|                                    |     |     |    |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Permanent Traditional Houses   | ... | ... | 12 |
| (b) Permanent Prefabricated Houses | ... | ... | 38 |



In addition to the Council's programme, the following houses were completed by private enterprise :—

|  |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Permanent Traditional Houses         | ... | ... | 8  |
| (b) Conversions of buildings into Houses | ... | ... | 11 |
| (c) Temporary Houses                     | ... | ... | 5  |

There were in course of erection by private enterprise at the end of the year :—

|                              |     |     |    |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Permanent Traditional Houses | ... | ... | 11 |
| Temporary Houses             | ... | ... | 2  |

The Survey of all houses as recommended by the Hobhouse Report on Rural Housing, and as required by the Ministry of Health is proceeding, and the position at the end of the year was as follows :

|             |   |     |      |       |
|-------------|---|-----|------|-------|
|             | No. of Houses recorded  | ... | 2962 |       |
| Category 1. | No. of houses fit in all respects   | ... | 1076 | 36.3% |
| „ 2.        | No. of houses with minor defects  | ... | 689  | 23.3% |
| „ 3.        | No. of houses requiring extensive repairs or structural alteration            | ... | 846  | 28.6% |
| „ 4.        | No. of houses suitable for re-construction under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts | ... | 155  | 5.2%  |
| „ 5.        | No. of houses unfit   | ... | 351  | 11.8% |

These figures, together with the fact that there are approximately 900 applicants for new houses on the file, give some indication of the problem confronting the Council's Housing Committee, particularly during this period when—in spite of every effort on their part—so little progress is made in the provision of permanent housing accommodation.

## BUILDING LICENSING.

The powers delegated to Local Authorities by the Minister of Works under the control of Civil Building (Defence Regulation 56A) have been further modified. In particular, mention is made of the raising of the “free limit” to £100 per house on the 1st July, which resulted in a substantial decrease in the number of licence applications to be dealt with, as compared with previous years.



Licences were granted as follows :

|  |     |     |       |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| (a) New Houses—Private Enterprise              | ... | ... | 13    |
| (b) Conversions and Adaptions                  | ... | ... | 32    |
| (c) Other Work (repairs and maintenance, etc.) |     | ... | 269   |
|  |     |     | <hr/> |
| Total  | ... | ... | 314   |
|  |     |     | <hr/> |
| Applications for Licences Refused              | ... | ... | 3     |

## PLANS.

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.  
1st July, 1948—"appointed day."

|   |     |     |            |
|---|-----|-----|------------|
| <i>Plans submitted before 1st July, 1948</i>  | ..  | ... | <b>142</b> |
| Plans approved under the Council's Building Byelaws   | ... | ... | 134        |
| Plans submitted, but subsequently withdrawn   | ... |     | 4          |
| Approval not required under Building Bye-laws   | ... |     | 4          |
|   |     |     | <hr/>      |
|   |     |     | 142        |
|   |     |     | <hr/>      |
| Interim Development Permission Certificates issued  |     |     | 131        |
| Plans submitted, but subsequently withdrawn   | ... |     | 4          |
| Interim development certificates not required   | ... |     | 3          |
| Plans deferred until after July 1st   | ... | ... | 3          |
| Interim development Refusal certificates issued   | ... |     | 1          |
|   |     |     | <hr/>      |
|   |     |     | 142        |
|   |     |     | <hr/>      |
| <i>Plans submitted after 1st July, 1948</i>   | ... | ... | <b>108</b> |
| Plans approved under the Council's Building Bye-laws  | ... | ... | 82         |
| Plans previously approved under Building Bye-laws and resubmitted for planning reasons only | ... |     | 5          |
| Approval not required under Building Bye-laws   | ... |     | 18         |
| Plans disapproved under Building Bye-laws   | ... |     | 3          |
|   |     |     | <hr/>      |
|   |     |     | 108        |
|   |     |     | <hr/>      |



Council's Planning observations on the Applications :—

|  |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|
| Recommended Planning Approval ...            | ... | ... | 96  |
| "                    " Disapproval ...       | ... | ... | 5   |
| "            part Approval, part Disapproval | ... | ... | 1   |
| Planning Permission not required...          | ... | ... | 5   |
| "                    " previously given ...  | ... | ... | 1   |
|  |     |     | 108 |

## WATER SUPPLY.

Extensions or Improvements of Supplies :—

Martock extension to Parrett Works (1,500 yds. of 3in. main) completed.

Closworth—scheme of water supply to village commenced.

Odcombe—construction of 1,000,000 gallon reservoir commenced.

121 samples of water, from public and private supplies, were submitted to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination, as follows :—

|                                | Public<br>Supplies. | Private<br>Supplies. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Total No. of Samples taken ... | 100                 | 21                   |
| Satisfactory ...               | 82                  | 6                    |
| Not quite satisfactory ...     | 10                  | 4                    |
| Unsatisfactory ...             | 8                   | 11                   |
|                                | — 100               | — 21                 |

There was a general shortage of water in the district and it was again necessary to impose restrictions on consumers in several parishes.

The preparation of the proposed comprehensive scheme of water supply, including the construction of an impounding reservoir at Sutton Bingham and large trunk mains throughout the district to link up most existing mains, was continued.

The following is a summary of the present position regarding houses and population supplied with water :—

|   | No. of<br>Houses. | Population. |
|---|-------------------|-------------|
| Public supply direct into houses ...                          | 3912              | 12292       |
| Public supply by means of stand-<br>pipes ... ..              | 1379              | 4412        |
| Private piped supplies<br>(supplying more than two houses)... | 105               | 324         |
| Without piped supply ... ..                                   | 485               | 1542        |
|   | —                 | —           |
| Total for the District ...                                    | 5881              | 18570       |
|   | —                 | —           |

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Work on a scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal for the village of Chilthorne Damer was about to be commenced.

Schemes for the Parishes of Ilchester, East Coker, West Coker and Mudford are in course of preparation.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The centralised slaughtering of animals outside the district has continued.

16 licences in respect of private slaughterhouses were renewed and one new licence was granted during the year.

## FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These are in a fairly satisfactory condition.

There are 20 Bakehouses in the District.

## COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Registered producers of milk numbered 459, of which 49 were producers of Accredited and 57 Tuberculin Tested Milk.



## REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE.

The amount of salvageable materials collected during 1948 was as follows :—

|                      | Amount Collected. | Value.  |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------|
| Waste Paper ...      | 83 tons 11 cwts.  | £534 17 |
| Textiles ...         | 1 ton 15 cwt.     | 35 10   |
| Metals ...           | 22 tons 16 cwts.  | 68 9    |
| Bottles and Jars ... | 377 dozen         | 58 14   |
|                      | Total ...         | £697 10 |

## RODENT CONTROL.

The campaign against rats was continued with good results.

33 infestations were dealt with on business premises.

76 infestations were dealt with on private premises.

In addition, 72 infestations on the Local Authority's surface properties—*e.g.* Council Houses, Sewage Disposal Works, Refuse Tips—were successfully dealt with.

Sewers were test baited and found generally to be free from infestation.

861 dead rats were recovered during the year, with an estimated total kill of 3,875 rats.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. WILSON,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector,*

*Inspector of Meat and other Foods,*

*Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.*