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BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Health and Sanitary Circumstances

OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR

1929

BY

C. W. GEE, L.R.C.P. & S.Ed., D.P.H. (L'pool),

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

INCLUDING THE REPORT OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR,

F. WHALLEY, Cert. R.S.I.



BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.



FIFTY-SEVENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

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1929.

CONTENTS.

	Page
Bakehouses	11
Bacteriological Work	25
Bye-laws and Regulations	23-24
Closet Accommodation	8-9
Drainage and Sewage	8
Dental Inspections	46
Employment of Children... ..	47
Food	10-11
Factory and Workshop	14
Hospitals	7
Housing	28
Infectious Diseases	16
Local and Adoptive Acts... ..	23
Maternity and Child Welfare	20-21
Meteorology	6
Medical Inspection, Schools	40
Occupations	6
Population	6
Poor Law Relief	7
Premises and Occupations controlled by Bye-Laws, etc.	9
Rateable Value	7
Rivers and Streams	8
Scavenging	9
School Hygiene... ..	10
Slaughter Houses	11
Statistics	25
School Clinic	45
Sanitary Inspector's Report	33
Tuberculosis	19
Tables—Education	49
Venereal Diseases	20
Water Supply	7-8



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Waterworks Manager : A. J. PRICE, A.M.I.C.E.

Deputy Borough Surveyor : C. G. TYLER, M.Inst. M. & Cy.E.

Veterinary Surgeon : H. C. D. GOLLEDGE, M.R.C.V.S.

SANITARY STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health ... *C. W. GEE, L.R.C.P. & S.Ed. D.P.H. L'pool.

Sanitary Inspector ... *F. WHALLEY, C.R.S.I. (1, 2)

Matron Isolation Hospital... *LILY M. ARNOLD (8)

Health Visitor and Tuber- } *MARY E. SANSOM (3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

culosis Nurse ... } *EDITH C. CLARKE (3, 4)

Health Visitor (Infant Wel-

fare) ... *ELSIE F. JENKINS (3, 4, 9)

Clerk to M.O.H. ... *QUEENIE BROOKMAN

Disinfectors ... C. AXE

Midwives ... *ISABEL A. ALLEN (4)

*C. B. EDWARDS (4)

(1) Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(2) Certificate for Meat Inspection of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(3) A Trained Nurse.

(4) Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board.

(5) Queen Charlotte Maternity Certificate.

(6) Health Visitors' and School Nurses' Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

(7) Maternity and Child Welfare Workers' Certificate Royal Sanitary Institute.

(8) Certificate Bristol Lying-in Hospital.

(9) Rotunda Maternity Certificate.

*Officers towards whose salaries Exchequer Contributions are received.

†Resigned during the year.

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Councillor F. BEEL.

Mrs. A. LITTLE.

Mrs. EWENS.

Clerk to the Education Committee : H. C. C. BATTEN, D.S.O.

School Attendance Officer : W. P. TOLMAN.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT STAFF.

School Medical Officer : C. W. GEE, L.R.C.P. & S.ED., D.P.H.
(L'pool.)Dentist : ... F. E. SPRAWSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
(Lond.), L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

School Nurse : ...†MARY E. SANSOM.

EDITH C. CLARKE.

Clerk to Medical Officer : QUEENIE BROOKMAN.

†Resigned during the year.



BOROUGH OF YEOVIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the following report, which deals with the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the Borough for the year ending December 31st, 1929.

I have pleasure in thanking all Members of the Staff for their loyal and able support, and also the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for their ready support and assistance.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES W. GEE.

April, 1930.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
For the Year 1929.

A.—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE
DISTRICT.

Physical Features and General Character.

The Borough of Yeovil comprises an area of 852 acres, situated at the extreme south of the County of Somerset, on the borders of Dorset, in the midst of an agricultural district.

The town is located upon the Upper and Middle Liassic Formations. The subsoil is chiefly clay, lying upon marlstone, with the Midford Sands at Hendford Hill.

The greatest elevations within the Borough are: On the north, near Picket Witch, 337 feet; on the west, Summerlands, 233·6 feet; and on the south, Hendford Hill, 269 feet. The lowest point is on the east, beyond the Sewage Works, 96·7 feet.

Meteorology.

The climate is mild and relaxing. There is little fog and mist except in the lower parts of the town along the banks of the river.

RAINFALL.

Sewage Works: Total Rainfall 35·42 inches. Rainy Days 171.

Population.

The population at the June, 1921, Census was 14,987.

The estimated mid-year population for 1929 is 15,480.

Occupations.

The staple industry of Yeovil is the manufacture of leather gloves, including all processes from the preparation of the raw hides to the production of the finished article. This trade gives factory and home employment to a large number of persons of both sexes.

At the present moment there are 57 factories and workshops (inclusive of dressing yards). The 1929 returns showed that the total number of outworkers was 1,780, of whom

762 resided in the Borough, the remainder, 1018 in the surrounding districts.

In addition to the gloving industry, there is a large engineering firm for the manufacture of oil engines, etc., which gives employment to about 2,199 hands.

There is also a large factory for the manufacture of preserved foods and dairy produce.

The motor industry, body making and repairs, is gradually increasing, there being 16 workshops engaged in this work.

There are now 5 printing works in the town.

Poor Law Relief.

The amount of out-door relief distributed to poor persons in the Parish of Yeovil was £1,722 10s. 0d. during 1929, and the amount distributed to the unemployed was £72 16s. 0d.

Hospital and Medical Relief.

During the past year the Yeovil and District Hospital provided treatment for 731 in-patients, 313 out-patients, 102 dental attendances and 2,219 minor casualties. In the X Ray department 333 examinations were made.

The hospital has two wards, each containing 14 beds and 2 cots, and 4 private wards.

Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the Borough is £82,693 ; the sum represented by a penny rate is £323.

B.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The Water Supply is derived from three main sources, namely, Cattistock, Stockwood and Spring Pond, with two auxiliary supplies to the latter from Evershot Tunnel and Haydon Wood. All five sources are situated to the south-east, on the greensands of Dorsetshire. Cattistock is 10, Stockwood is $6\frac{1}{4}$, and the other sources about 8 miles from Yeovil. The water is conveyed to the town by gravitation

through two separate pipe lines. There is a service reservoir of 250,000 gallons for the Cattistock Supply. Two for the Supply from Spring Pond having a combined capacity of 1,267,798 gallons, and one for the Supply from Stockwood with a capacity of 750,000 gallons. The water is of medium hardness and of good quality for drinking purposes. The average consumption is 30 gallons per head per day.

Rivers and Streams.

The River Yeo for a small part of its course lies within the area of the Borough of Yeovil. A tributary to this river, before passing through the town, receives the effluent from the Preston Sewage Works.

The effluent from the Yeovil Sewage Works empties into the Yeo outside the town.

All sources of pollution of this river have been removed as far as possible.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Drainage of the town is satisfactory in all respects. The overflow sewer constructed to relieve the flooding in the West Hendford District having proved very effective.

With regard to Rustywell district, which contains 11 houses, the Council have taken steps to deal with the nuisance. The ditch and cesspools have been cleaned out, and the cesspools are being cleaned out periodically.

The Sewage Works are situated at Pen Mill. The method in force is sedimentation, which takes place in five closed tanks, the effluent being passed on to a series of contact beds and one percolating bed.

The effluent from the contact beds is discharged into an equalising pool, and with that from the percolating bed is discharged into a separator in which colloidal matter is deposited and thence to the river.

Closet Accommodation.

Practically the whole of the closet accommodation is on the water carriage system, and with very few exceptions is connected to the town sewers.

There are 10 houses which are drained to cesspools or provided with earth closets. These houses are in a position too low to be connected with the main sewers, or beyond the distance specified under the Public Health Acts, viz., 100 feet.

Scavenging.

STORAGE OF REFUSE.—Very few houses in the Borough are provided with sanitary dustbins. The receptacles which are most commonly in use are wooden boxes, dilapidated baths, buckets and even baskets. The majority of these receptacles leak, with the result that the contents escape and litter the yards and streets. On windy days the dust, pending removal, is blown about and is liable to give rise to various diseases such as sore throat, conjunctivitis, etc. These unsuitable receptacles are very difficult to empty completely owing to the contents becoming wet and clinging to the sides and bottom. Decomposition takes place in the residue, giving rise to offensive gases.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE.—All refuse in the town is collected once weekly by the Council employees and conveyed in open carts to the refuse destructor and burnt.

REFUSE DESTRUCTOR.—The refuse destructor is of the Stirling Type, and consists of two cells hand fed and clinkered.

Sanitary Inspection of Districts.

A statement of inspections made with their results is included in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are two common Lodging Houses in Yeovil containing beds for the accommodation of 35 persons. They are constantly inspected, and are kept in a satisfactory condition from the health point of view.

Houses Let-in Lodgings.

None registered.

Offensive Trades.

There are 17 dressing yards and 3 marine stores.

Underground Rooms.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in Yeovil.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition of the schools in Yeovil is on the whole satisfactory. The schools are supplied with water from the public water supply.

School Hygiene.

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
IN THE SCHOOLS.

The following is the routine adopted for the exclusion of scholars suffering from infectious diseases and those who are contacts.

The Medical Officer of Health, in his capacity as School Medical Officer, issues School Exclusion Notices to the parents and head teachers of the school which the case attends. Contacts are also excluded. Children from infected households are not allowed to return to school until Re-admission Notices are sent to the parents and head teachers. Any suspicious case brought to the attention of the teachers and school nurse is excluded until the School Medical Officer is satisfied as to the diagnosis.

DIPHTHERIA.—No child is notified as fit to return to School until Bacteriological evidence of a satisfactory character is obtained. Contacts are swabbed and excluded when necessary.

A system of Sunday School exclusion is in force. A list of the names and addresses of all children suffering from infectious diseases, and also of possibly infected contacts, is drawn up each Saturday, and a copy sent to the Superintendents of all Sunday Schools in the Borough.

FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 5 Cow-keepers, all of whom are provided with cowsheds. There are 24 retailers of milk in the town, 14 of whom have milkshops.

The cowsheds are periodically inspected and are kept in a fairly satisfactory condition. During recent years they have been properly paved and drained.

The premises of the persons registered for the sale of milk and the Milkshops are constantly inspected.

The results of analysis made for the purpose of the Food and Drugs Acts indicate that the milk retailed in the Borough on the whole is of good standard and clean.

In accordance with the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders 29 persons are registered as follows :—

- | | | | |
|---|-----|--|-----|
| (a) Number of producers on the Register | ... | ... | 5 |
| (b) Number of distributors on the Register divided
as follows :— | | | |
| (1) Distributors who are also producers | ... | 1 | |
| (2) Distributors alone | ... | ... | 24 |
| (c) The completeness of the Register and any
steps taken to make it complete... | ... | Complete | |
| (d) Particulars of any licenses granted to dis-
tributors to sell pasteurised, graded or
certified milk | ... | ... | Nil |
| (e) Any action taken as to tuberculosis milk
and tubercular cattle | ... | 3 sample taken, free
from B. tuberculosis | |

Milk for Mothers and Infants.

Provision is made for the supply of milk to necessitous cases. Investigations are made by lady members of the Committee and each case is dealt with on its merits by the Infant Welfare Committee.

Other Foods.

All places where the manufacture of food for public consumption is carried on are regularly inspected, and have been found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Bakehouses.

There are 10 Bakehouses in the Borough. During the year 1 of the old ones has been closed. The Bakehouses are constantly inspected, and are being kept in a reasonable state.

Slaughter Houses.

There are 8 private slaughter-houses, all of which are licensed. These are kept under constant supervision and are fairly satisfactory, although structurally they do not conform to modern requirements. There is no Public Abattoir in Yeovil.

Meat Inspection.

During the year inspections of the slaughter-houses and butchers' shops have been carefully carried out.

Under Section 8 of the 1924 Meat Regulations, the Yeovil Butchers' Association have given written Notice to

the Local Authority, and the hours fixed for killing in Slaughter houses are as follows :—

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

59 notices were received during the year in regard to animals killed outside these fixed hours.

MEAT MARKING.—No arrangements have been made for the Marking of Meat under the Regulations.

DISEASED MEAT.—This is conveyed to the Refuse Destructor and burnt. Fats are sent to a Firm who render them down for manufacturing purposes other than Food.

The owners of Meat Stalls in the Borough have complied with the Regulations so far as the construction of the Stalls is concerned.

The transport and handling of meat has been considerably improved, and is under careful supervision.

The meat killed and inspected during the year has been very satisfactory, but efficient inspection of the whole of the animals killed is impossible, owing to the fact that the eight private slaughter houses are situated in various parts of the town, and only by the substitution of a Public Abattoir for the Private slaughter houses can this be remedied.

The work of Meat Inspection has gradually increased during the past two or three years, and now the time of the Sanitary Inspector is largely given to this work during the first three days of the week

The following is a statement of meat condemned during the year :—

Animals and parts condemned.					Number
PIGS—	Whole carcasses	...	...	...	14
	Heads	...	...	...	48
	Internal organs alone	...	...	...	6
OXEN & CALVES—	Whole carcasses	...	...	...	6
	Fore or Hind quarters	...	...	...	5
	Heads	...	...	...	2
	Whole of Internal organs	...	...	...	17
	Livers only	...	...	...	44
SHEEP—	Whole carcasses...	...	...	...	3
	Internal organs only	...	...	...	1

Other foods condemned :

Bananas	...	...	15 Bunches
Chestnuts	...	...	... 84 lbs.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

These Acts are administered by the County Council. The taking of samples is conducted by the Police, under the supervision of the Chief Constable, who has kindly supplied through Superintendent Shorney, of Yeovil, the number, nature and results of samples taken in the Borough during the year.

Seventy-one samples were taken as follows:—

Milk	...	...	...	42
Pepper	...	...	...	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	...	...	...	1
Potted Meat	...	...	...	2
Milk Powder	...	...	...	3
Brandy	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	3
Margarine	...	...	...	1
Whiskey	...	...	...	3
Coffee	...	...	...	1
Tartaric Acid	...	...	...	1
Mineral Water	...	...	...	2
Bottled Fruit	...	...	...	1
Condensed Milk...	...	...	...	1
Cheese	...	...	...	2
Vinegar	...	...	...	1
Non-alcoholic Wine	...	...	...	1
Cider	...	...	...	1
Jam	...	...	...	1
Flour	...	...	...	1
Mustard	...	...	...	1
				—
				71
				—

All genuine. No proceedings.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These have been regularly visited during the year under review. I give below the annual return required by the Home Office.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES including Inspection made by the Sanitary Inspector.

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	45	3	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	87	4	—
Workplaces	12	1	—
Total	144	8	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:			
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—
" Ventilation	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—
Want of Draining of Floors	1	1	—
Other Nuisances	9	9	—
Sanitary Accommodation, insufficient	2	2	—
" " defective	6	4	—
" " not separate } for sexes }	1	1	—
Offences under Factory and Workshop Acts:			
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—
Breach of Special Sanitary require- ments for Bakehouses (ss. 97-100)...	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—
Total	19	17	—

3. HOME WORK.

OUTWORKERS' LIST. Section 107. Nature of Work—GLOVING.

	Number
Lists received from Employers once in the year ...	29
Outworkers	1780
Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists	29
Prosecutions: Failing to keep or permit inspec- tion of Lists... ..	Nil
" Failing to send lists	Nil

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108 :

Instances ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Notices served	...	...	...	...	Nil
Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil

Outwork in Infected Premises, Section 109, 110 : ...

Instances ...	...	...	...	...	65
Orders made (s. 110) (Gloving removed and disinfected)	...	...	...	...	65
Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on Register (s. 131) at end of year :

					Number
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	10
Gloving ...	...	...	...	...	48
Fabric Gloves	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring ...	...	...	...	...	15
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	22
Millinery ...	...	...	...	...	10
Marine Stores	...	...	...	...	2
Laundry ...	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmith	...	...	...	...	3
Sweet Making	...	...	...	...	3
Lace Repairing	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	81
					<hr/>
Total Number of Workshops on Register ...	...	...	...	...	197
					<hr/>

5. OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshops Act (s. 133, 1901)	Nil
---	-----	-----

Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901) :

Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	...	...	5
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector			5
Others ...	...	...	Nil
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :			
In use at the end of the year	...	...	Nil

Sanitary Conditions of Theatres, Cinema Houses, etc.

These have been inspected.

There are three in the town, one giving theatrical or variety performances, one giving theatrical, variety or cinema shows, and one giving cinema shows only.

The ventilation has been good in every case and the condition of the accommodation for artists is entirely satisfactory.

Means of escape in the case of fire are provided for in each building.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The means adopted in the Borough to control the spread of infectious diseases do not differ in any material details from those given in the annual report for 1925.

Scarlet Fever.

45 cases were notified during the year 1929.

Diphtheria.

65 cases were notified during the year 1929.

Antitoxin is supplied free of charge to Medical Practitioners requiring the same on application to the Health Office.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

No case of this disease was notified.

Measles.

7 cases of Measles were notified.

German Measles.

42 cases of this disease were notified.

Chicken Pox.

61 cases of this disease were notified during the year.

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis)
Regulations, 1925.**

It was not found necessary to take action under these Regulations.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No case occurred in which it was necessary to take action under Section 62.

Tuberculosis.

Age		New Cases.				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15	...	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	...	1	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
25	...	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
35	...	—	1	1	—	3	1	—	—
45	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
55	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & up-wards	}	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	3	10	5	3	5	7	1	1

All deaths from Tuberculosis were notified cases. There is no evidence of any inefficiency of notification of Tuberculosis in the district.

NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases are known to have occurred.

Whooping Cough, 18. Mumps 2.

Influenza.

The number of deaths was 7, as compared with 4 in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Somerset County Council deal with all cases of Tuberculosis notified in Yeovil.

The dispensary is situated in Southville, and is open all day on Tuesdays for the examination and treatment of patients.

Prevalence.

ALL FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925
Notifications ...	21	19	29	29	18
Number of Deaths ...	14	13	9	12	10
Death-rate per 1,000 ...	·9	·8	·5	·7	·6

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS (Phthisis).

	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925
Notifications ...	13	16	26	23	15
Number of Deaths ...	11	9	8	10	6
Death-rate per 1,000 ...	·7	·5	·4	·6	·3

During the year 1929, 21 notifications were received, 13 related to pulmonary and 8 to non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Control.

(A) On receipt of the primary notification the patient is visited and enquiries are made as to predisposing causes, contacts, and sanitary conditions of premises.

(B) Visits are paid as often as necessary for the purpose of controlling infection, the taking of temperature records, the correct use of shelters, etc. 492 primary and secondary visits were made during the year.

(c) Contacts are referred to the County Tuberculosis Dispensary for examination.

(D) The Medical Officer of Health in his capacity as School Medical Officer refers all children whom he has found to be either suffering from or threatened with tuberculosis to the dispensary.

(E) The Yeovil School Nurse is engaged by the County Council to give a portion of her time to visiting and to assisting at the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

(F) Sanitary defects, uncleanness, overcrowding, etc., are referred to the Sanitary Inspector for further action with a view to abatement. Disinfection of infected rooms, shelters, etc., is carried out when necessary. Last year 23 disinfections were made.

The Yeovil and District Tuberculosis Care Committee has continued during the past year to provide very valuable assistance in dealing with special and necessitous patients.

Venereal Disease.

A treatment centre at the Yeovil and District Hospital is provided by the Somerset County Council. Hours of attendance—Fridays, at 3 p.m., for Men; Mondays, at 3 p.m., for Women; and Mondays, at 7 p.m., for Women, and 7.30 for Men.

The Monday evening Clinic is a temporary arrangement, and will be continued only if it is found that sufficient patients attend.

Small-Pox.

Vaccination as a measure of precaution against small-pox is more and more neglected in Yeovil, and the number of exemption certificates increases every year.

The Medical Officer of Health has not been called upon to perform any vaccination under the Public Health (Small-pox Regulations, 1917).

Rabies.

There has been no case of this disease, and Yeovil was exempt from the Muzzling Order.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Midwives' Act is administered by the Somersetshire County Council. The Lady Inspector of Midwives resides at Taunton.

There are at present 9 midwives resident in the town, two of whom are engaged by the Council in the district, 4 in the Maternity Home, and one is employed by the Guardians.

During the year 1919 the Council adopted and put into operation an amended scheme for Maternity and Child Welfare work.

A supply of Milk Foods and Drugs to necessitous mothers was provided.

The Council have arranged for the provision of Home Helps.

The Maternity Home contains 1 large ward with 4 beds, and a private ward with 1 bed.

During the year 91 cases were admitted, having an average duration stay of 16·5 days.

NURSING OF MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.—Additional nurses can be engaged temporarily during epidemics of these diseases.

MOTHERS.—The Health Visitors made 580 visits to expectant mothers. The Municipal Midwives attended 182 confinements during the year.

INFANTS.—223 primary and 3214 subsequent visits were paid to infants, and 58 visits to infants suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum.

8,587 Post Natal visits were made.

1,621 visits were paid to children from 1 to 5 years of age.

Ante-natal and Infant Clinic.

This Clinic is held at the Special Subjects Centre, Eastland Road, on Tuesday afternoons, at 3 o'clock.

39 mothers attended the clinic for advice, of whom 29 were expectant mothers. 180 infants attended for the first time. The mothers made 39 and the children 878 attendances at the clinic.

27 children below school age were treated at the Treatment Clinic, Kingston. Attendances made 57.

All still-births and infant deaths are investigated. There were 10 still-births during 1929.

At the present moment there is no institution but the Union Infirmary for dealing with confinements of unmarried mothers, and children are permanently or temporarily deprived of a home with their parents. Fortunately in the past temporary homes have been found through the agency of the N.S.P.C.C.

**Infectious Diseases Affecting Parturient Women, Infants
and Young Children.**

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—During the year under review 3 cases were notified. Since 1914, 78 cases of ophthalmia have been notified. On enquiry into the back history of these cases, one child lost the sight of one eye, this was a case which occurred in the hospital. Of the cases six were treated in the Hospital, the remainder were treated at home or at the Infant Welfare treatment clinic by the Council nurses under the direction of the patients' own medical attendant or the Medical Officer of Health.

EPIDEMIC DIARRHŒA.—This disease which used to claim at one time about 80 per cent. of deaths of children occurring under two years is now almost unknown, owing to the propaganda work of the health visitor and by the education of the mothers by pamphlets and by advice given at the Infant Welfare Clinic.

Sanitary Administration.

The staff consists of the Medical Officer of Health, an Inspector of Nuisances, who is also Manager of the Sewage Works, and one Disinfector. Two Health Visitors, a Matron for the Isolation Hospital, and two Midwives are employed by the Council. The School Nurse gives a portion of her time to health visiting and to the County Tuberculosis work in Yeovil. The connection thus established between the Public Health Department of the Borough and the County Tuberculosis scheme is most desirable and has in the past yielded most satisfactory results.

When the Isolation Hospital contains no patients, the matron assists in health visiting and baby work.

Hospital Accommodation.

The Lyde Lane Isolation Hospital is employed for the isolation of scarlet fever patients.

It consists of a permanent building containing two wards, separated by a small room, and in addition the quarters for the matron, consisting of a bedroom, sitting-room, store-room and kitchen.

There is also a temporary wooden building divided into three communicating wards which is used, when necessary, as an overflow for convalescent fever cases. The ambulance house and mortuary are good brick buildings. The matron resides at the hospital and keeps it in readiness for immediate use.

There is no accommodation in the administrative block for additional nurses which greatly increases the difficulty of administration when the disease is present in epidemic form in the town.

Arrangements have been made with the Somerset County Council for the admission of Small Pox cases to the Hospital at Bridgwater. No case has occurred since the epidemic in 1909.

The following Table gives the number of cases treated at the Hospital.

Disease	Sex	Admitted during 1929	Recovered	Died	Remaining in at end of 1929
Scarlet Fever	M	26	26	..	5
	F	13	13	..	5
Total		39	39	..	10

Local and Adoptive Acts.

The Adoptive Acts in force in the Borough are :—

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

The Public Libraries Acts, 1892 to 1919.

Part of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, as follows: Part II., Part III. (except Sections 39 to 42), Part IV. (except Section 67), Part V., Part VI., Part VII., Sections 79, 80 and 86, Part VIII., Part IX., Part X., Section 95.

Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889—extension to Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The Public Health Act, 1925 : the following Parts and Sections :

Part III. ; Part IV. ; and Part V. ;

Part II. (except Sections 21 and 22 thereof).

The Administration of the above Acts is referred to under Infant Mortality, Prevention of Infectious Diseases, etc.

Bye-Laws and Regulations.

Bye-laws with respect to the Cleansing of Footways and pavements, and the Cleansing of Earthclosets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Bye-laws with respect to Common Lodging Houses, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to the Drainage of Existing Buildings, Jan. 27th, 1926.

Byelaws for the Good Rule and Government of the Borough, and for the Prevention of Nuisances, made in pursuance of Section 23 of the Municipal Corporations Act, 1882, Oct. 30th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Hackney Carriages, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Hoardings and Advertisements, Oct. 20th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to a Market, Nov. 28th, 1922.

Byelaws with respect to the Provision of means of Escape from Fire in the case of certain Factories and Workshops, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to New Streets and Buildings, Nov. 23rd, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Nuisances and with respect to the Removal or Carriage through the streets of faecal or offensive or noxious matter or liquid, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Offensive Trades, Feb. 20th, 1926.

Byelaws with respect to the Pleasure Grounds known as the Sidney Gardens and Bide's Garden, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws for the Management, Use and Regulation of the Public Baths, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws made under Section 3 of the Public Libraries Act, 1901, Oct. 30th, 1925.

Byelaws for imposing on the occupier of any premises duties in connection with the Removal of House Refuse so as to facilitate the work of collection, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws as to the Conduct of Persons frequenting the Sanitary Conveniences provided and maintained by the Council, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Slaughter Houses, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for human habitation, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Regulations in regard to Underground Rooms used as Sleeping Places, Nov. 11th, 1925.

Byelaws with respect to Whirligigs, Swings, and Shooting Ranges and Galleries, Nov. 4th, 1925.

Byelaws for Regulating the Employment of Children and Young Persons, June 18th, 1921.

Bacteriological Work.

	Positive	Negative	Total
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli ...	121	680	801
Hairs for Ringworm Spores ...	7	5	12
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli ...	0	3	3
Sputa for Tuberculosis ...	0	2	2
5 Samples of Urine for Estimation of Sugar			
2 Samples of Milk, Human			
3 Samples of Milk, Cows			

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	1929	1928	1927	1926
Mid-year Population ...	15,480	15,640	16,500	16,470
Number of Births ...	213	203	243	245
Birth-rate per 1000 ...	13·7	12·9	14·7	15·4
Number of Deaths ...	197	174	180	160
Standardized Death-rate	11·9	10·4	10·2	9·7
Infantile Mortality ...	51·6	44·3	49·3	77·5
Phthisis Death-rate ...	·7	·5	·4	·6
Cancer Death-rate ...	1·4	·8	1·0	1·0

NOTIFICATIONS :—	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925
Measles & German Measles	49	597	39	441	87
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	5	1	3	—
Tuberculosis ...	21	19	29	29	15
Other Infectious Diseases	151	53	35	44	29

Population.

The estimated population for 1929 is 15,480. (Registrar-General's estimate).

Births.

The total number of births registered was 265. This number has been corrected for transfers by the Registrar-General. The births allocated to the Borough were 213, equivalent to a birth-rate of 13·7 per 1,000. (Legitimate, males 125, females 82. Illegitimate, males 3, females 3).

Notification of Births.

The number of births notified was 277, of which 10 were still-births.

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1929.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Net deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the district									Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non-residents in Institutions in the Districts
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards	
All causes Certified . . .	197	11	2	2	9	8	18	46	101	68
Enteric Fever . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough . . .	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria . . .	9	...	...	1	6	1	1	...	...	1
Influenza . . .	7	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	3	...
Encephalitis Lethargica . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningococcal Meningitis . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System . . .	12	...	...	...	...	3	7	2	...	3
Other Tuberculosis Diseases . . .	2	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease . . .	23	...	...	...	...	...	3	8	12	6
Rheumatic Fever . . .	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Diabetes . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Cerebral Hemorrhage, &c. . .	10	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	3	4
Heart Disease . . .	39	2	1	...	...	...	2	7	27	5
Arterio sclerosis . . .	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Bronchitis . . .	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Pneumonia (all forms) . . .	8	...	...	1	...	...	3	1	3	8
Other Respiratory Diseases . . .	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 yrs.) . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cirrhosis of Liver . . .	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
Acute and Chronic Nephritis . . .	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
Puerperal Sepsis . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition . . .	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth . . .	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Suicide . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other Deaths from Violence . . .	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	6
Other Defined Diseases . . .	57	2	...	...	1	2	...	11	41	20
Causes ill-defined or unknown . . .	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
TOTALS . . .	197	11	2	2	9	8	18	46	101	68

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Cases			Vision Un-im- paired	Vision Im- paired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At Home	In Hospital				
3	3	—	3	—	—	—	

Deaths.

The deaths registered numbered 223. The Registrar-General transferred 40 of these deaths being persons not belonging to the Borough, to their usual places of residence, and 14 deaths of Yeovil residents from other districts. The net total number of deaths for the Borough was 197, equivalent to a death-rate of 12·7 per 1,000.

The death-rate for the whole of England and Wales for the year 1929 was 13·4.

TABLE IV.

INFANT MORTALITY.

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes Certified	5	...	...	...	5	1	1	...	2	6
Measles
Bronchitis
Pneumonia
Enteritis
Marasmus
Premature Births	...	3	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	3
Convulsions	1	1
Heart Congenital
Strangulated Hernia...
Death from Violence...
Congenital Heart	...	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	1
Tubercular Meningitis	1	1
	5	...	...	...	5	3	1	...	2	6

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 11, equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 51·6 per 1000 births. Legitimate 46·9. Illegitimate 4·7. The rate for the whole of England and Wales in the year 1929 was 74.

HOUSING.

General Housing Conditions of the District.

At the end of 1929 there were 3,968 houses in the Borough of Yeovil, of which 3,089 approximately were occupied by the working classes.

71 houses were erected during the year.

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	71
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority... ..	54
(ii) By other bodies or persons	2
Otherwise	15

Overcrowding.

There are still many cases of overcrowding in the Borough due principally to the fact that there is still an insufficiency of satisfactory houses, and particularly houses of a low rental.

Fitness of Houses.

The general standard of the houses in the town is fairly good, but there are a considerable number of old houses, which, if housing conditions were normal, would be condemned. The chief defects are due to the age of these properties, viz., decayed timbers and masonry, the mortar of which has

perished, due to these two factors floors and roofs have sunk, walls have become out of plumb and are crumbling gradually, whilst some of the staircases have become almost unsafe. These conditions render the task impossible of making such houses reasonably fit, but until such times as Housing Conditions permit of the re-housing of the occupants, only a small proportion can be dealt with annually. The time has now arrived when a greater proportion of such houses should be dealt with.

Whilst it is not economically possible to render these unsatisfactory houses reasonably fit, the owners are in all cases advised to carry out such repairs as will keep them dry and safe, and to keep them as wholesome as possible by lime-washing, etc.

Unhealthy Areas.

There are no unhealthy areas in the Borough and no representation has been made.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.

There is one van occupied in the Borough.

Bye-laws have been made with respect to tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures.

General and Miscellaneous.

Every effort is made to abate nuisances arising from overcrowding, but this is extremely difficult to cope with under the present shortage of houses. Many houses which, on inspection, have been found to be in an unsanitary state have been put in order.

Housing Inspection.

During the year 94 houses have been inspected and the defects recorded. The inspections carried out were as follows :

Portions of Park Street, Huish, Huish Gardens, Reckleford and Higher Kingston.

The houses inspected are of an old type, but as numerous repairs have been carried out during the past few years the

majority were found to be in a reasonably state structurally. The closet accommodation together with the drainage is, generally speaking, good, but the joint use of closets, yards and water taps is an unsatisfactory feature.

Defects of one character or another were four in 30% of the houses, and almost all these had been remedied at the end of the year.

Appendices.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	71
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme ...	54

1. *Unfit Dwelling-houses.*

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	94
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	94
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	28

2. *Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ..	28
---	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :— | |
| (a) by owners | Nil |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | Nil |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :— | |
| (a) by owners | Nil |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... | Nil |

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit... | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... | Nil |
| (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... | Nil |

CHAS. W. GEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1929.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present a brief report of the work carried out during the past year.

Nuisances.

Careful attention has been paid throughout the year to all complaints received, and the necessary steps taken to abate the nuisances as expeditiously as possible.

On the whole the work called for under notices served has been carried out fairly satisfactorily, but there still is a tendency on the part of many owners of working-class house property to make the occupiers responsible for internal decorations, and in some instances, internal repairs.

This tendency to place the responsibility on the occupiers renders the position somewhat difficult at times, and in some instances the repairs are not carried out so expeditiously.

The high cost of materials and labour is still a factor against getting really extensive structural amendments, particularly in old properties.

Meat Inspection.

The inspections during the year have been carried out as far as possible in accordance with the requirements of the Memorandum and Regulations issued by the Ministry of Health in regard to Meat Inspection.

A close inspection has been made of Slaughter-houses, Butchers' Shops and Stalls, and they have, generally speaking, been found to be kept satisfactory, and the cattle, etc., killed during the year have been of a good quality.

It is not possible to inspect all the animals killed, owing to the slaughtering being carried out in eight slaughter-houses in various parts of the town, but every effort is made to inspect as many animals as possible. This work of inspection has increased very considerably, and the first three days of the week are practically taken up by the work.

Milk Supply.

A careful and continuous inspection has been kept on the Milk Supply of the town, and the Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops have been found to be kept clean and satisfactory.

Bakehouses.

Regular inspections have been made of the Bakehouses, and although several of them are structurally unsatisfactory, they have on the whole been kept in a satisfactory condition.

Factories and Workshops.

Numerous visits have been made in connection with the above which have resulted in sanitary improvements being carried out in some of the workshops.

Outworkers' Lists have been received and dealt with.

Smoke Nuisances.

Several cases of smoke nuisance have been under observation during the year, and improvements have resulted from interviews with the Manufacturers concerned.

Summary of Inspection.

The number of inspections made, together with the result of such inspections and re-inspections, are given in the following tables :

No. of HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED... 354

No. of RE-INSPECTIONS in connection with the
abatement of nuisances, etc. ... 498

PARTICULARS OF INSPECTIONS—

Nuisances and the abatement of Nuisances...	...	201
Infectious Diseases ...	...	135
Slaughter-houses ...	...	1439
Bakehouses ...	...	31
Workshops ...	...	78
Factories ...	...	45
Offensive Trades ...	...	12
Fish Shops ...	...	20
Butchers' Shops ...	...	209
Common Lodging Houses ...	...	12
Milkshops ...	...	64
Cowsheds ...	...	10
Miscellaneous ...	...	116
Housing Regulations ...	...	94
Sewers and Drains ...	...	21

PARTICULARS OF DEFECTS FOUND—

Houses

Defective drains in connection with ...	...	21
Defective closet accommodation ...	...	19
Defective yard paving ...	...	31
Defective guttering ...	...	39
Defective ventilation ...	...	3
Defective lighting ...	...	12
Defective floors ...	...	28
Defective windows and doors ...	...	49
Defective roofs ...	...	51
Defective staircases ...	...	5
Dampness ...	...	27
Unwholesome state of walls and ceilings ...	...	43
Overcrowding ...	...	12
Keeping fowls so as to be a nuisance ...	...	6
Dirty houses ...	...	9
Rubbish lying about ...	...	12
Absence of sinks under taps ...	...	9
Absence of storage for food ...	...	16

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS—

139 notices have been served in respect of 247 houses and premises.

HOUSES AND PREMISES—

Disinfected	...	...	...	...	138
Cleansed	...	...	...	...	7
Repaired, limewashed, etc.	...	...	...	...	39
Yards repaired...	...	...	...	...	40
Yards re-paved	...	...	...	...	9
Amended lighting to rooms	...	...	...	...	5
Amended ventilation to rooms	...	...	...	...	2
Repairs to windows	...	...	...	...	59
Damp houses amended	...	...	...	...	29
Amended for storage of food	...	...	...	...	10

HOUSE DRAINAGE—

New system of drainage provided to existing houses	...	...	...	21
Intercepting chambers fixed	...	...	...	14
Ventilation shafts fixed	...	...	...	10
Defective traps condemned and removed	...	...	...	25
New stoneware gulleys fixed	...	...	...	33
New sink troughs fixed	...	...	...	12
Drainage system repaired	...	...	...	19

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION—

W.C.'s repaired, lighted and ventilated	...	...	...	19
Closets supplied with flushing cisterns	...	...	...	23
Closets supplied with pedestal pans and seats	...	...	...	19
New W.C.'s built complete	...	...	...	12

MISCELLANEOUS—

Removal of filth	...	...	...	11
Insanitary keeping of animals	...	...	...	3
Choked drains cleared and repaired	...	...	...	44
Steam disinfections	...	...	...	61

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. WHALLEY.

SCHOOL
HYGIENE.

STATISTICAL REVIEW OF WORK
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE
DURING YEAR 1929.

Children on the roll at Elementary Schools	...	...	2,169
Elementary School Children examined	...	...	1,025
Total Examinations Elementary School Children	...	...	4,673
Children having defects which required treatment or to be kept under observation	...	...	1,075
Minor Ailments treated at School Clinic	...	...	1,030
Total attendances at School Clinic	...	...	4,295
Visual Defects treated	...	...	75
Nose and Throat Defects treated	...	...	42
Children inspected by School Dentist	...	...	1,390
Children treated by School Dentist	...	...	510
Children examined by School Nurse for Cleanliness	...	...	6,562
Number of individual Children found unclean	...	...	310
Visits to Schools by Medical Officer	...	...	151
Visits to Schools by Nurses	...	...	150
Home Visits by Nurses	...	...	1,103

BOROUGH OF YEOVIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Education Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you the 22nd Annual Report which deals with the work of Medical Inspection, following up and treatment of children attending the Elementary Schools in the Borough.

The School Care Committee still continues to provide from voluntary contributions much appreciated assistance to necessitous children who do not come within the scope of relief from the Guardians.

I have pleasure in acknowledging the cordial co-operation of the Staff of the Department, the Attendance Officer, and the Head Teachers.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES W. GEE,

School Medical Officer.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1929.

INTRODUCTION.

At the beginning of 1929 there were in the Borough under the control of the Education Committee 6 schools with 9 departments.

There was accommodation for 2,386 children, 2,102 being on the roll, with an average attendance 1,761.

At the end of the year the number on the roll was 2,169 and the average attendance 1,869.

The number of children under 5 years of age attending school at the end of the year was approximately 50.

HYGIENIC CONDITION OF SCHOOLS.

Reference to this subject was made in the report of the School Medical Officer for the year 1925, and no material alteration has taken place.

The Classification of Children examined is set out in Table 1.

The name of every child suffering from a defect of sufficient importance to be brought to the notice of parents is entered on a special card and filed for following up and re-examination. If, at the time of the medical inspection, the case

appears suitable for immediate attention, steps are taken to provide the necessary treatment. Every case is followed up by the nurses of the Medical Officer's Staff, who encourage the parents to obtain medical advice or arrange for attendance at the Clinic. After treatment, a re-examination is made by the School Medical Officer on the occasion of the next visit to the school attended by the child.

Table 2 shows the number of serious defects found in systematic and special examinations, and brought to the notice of the parents.

CLEANSING OF SCHOOLS.

All the schools are provided with part-time cleaners with the exception of the Central Schools and Special Subjects Centre, for which a whole-time cleaner is provided. The part-time cleaners are also assisted by a man employed full time as a visiting cleaner and whose duties consist of looking after the latrines and play grounds. The floors and furniture of the schools are scrubbed during the Summer and Christmas vacations and the walls and windows cleansed.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE SCHOLARS.

General Facts, Scope of Inspection.

The bulk of the school inspections take place at the respective schools. The children attending the Reckleford Schools and the Central Junior School are examined at the Clinic attached to the Special Subjects Centre in Eastland Road.

A weighing machine and height standard are kept at each school.

NUMBER OF VISITS.

The following visits to the school departments and children's homes were made during 1929 :—

A. To Schools and Departments.

1. By Medical Officer :

a. For systematic inspections	...	...	...	55
b. For special inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	51
c. For enquiries as to infectious diseases, sanitary conditions, etc.	...	...	...	45

2. By School Nurse :

a.	For systematic inspections	...	...	...	55
b.	For special inspections and re-inspections	...	...	...	95
B.	To the Children's Homes	...	...	...	1,103

The Home visits do not include those made in connection with measles, german measles and other notifiable infectious diseases.

PRINCIPLE OF SELECTION OF CHILDREN FOR INSPECTION.

The children are selected by means of the special medical inspection registers. Each child is examined as soon as possible after admission to the school, for the second time at 8 years of age, for the third time at 12 years of age, and again on leaving School.

METHOD OF INSPECTION.

The School Nurse accompanies the School Medical Officer. Her work consists of recording the presence or absence of parents and the family history. She weighs and measures the child and gives the necessary assistance of undressing and dressing the girls and infants.

PRESENCE OF PARENTS AT ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

Parents or guardians were present at 441 or 43.0% of the inspections. The presence of parents is very desirable. Physical defects can be pointed out and the mother's interest in the child's welfare can be stimulated so as to yield more practical results than can be obtained by sending written notices.

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.

There was an improvement upon the previous year in the condition of boots and clothes of the children attending school. 6 cases of poor clothing and 7 cases of defective boots were found during the year.

CLEANLINESS OF THE HEAD.

Of the 532 boys inspected 11 or 2.0% had nits in their hair, and 1 or .2% had vermin.

Of the 493 girls, 10 or 2.0% had nits and 2 or .4% had vermin.

The following are the results of the systematic surprise examinations during the year 1929 :—

		Examined Number.	With Nits.		With Vermin.	
			No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.
INFANTS :	Boys	... 1497	18	1.2	12	.8
	Girls	... 1485	84	5.6	35	2.3
SENIORS :	Boys	... 1858	32	1.1	9	.4
	Girls	... 1722	101	5.8	19	1.1
All Boys		... 3355	50	1.4	21	.6
All Girls		... 3207	185	5.7	54	1.6
All Children		... 6562	235	3.5	75	1.1

CLEANLINESS OF THE BODY.

There are still many children found in school with nits and vermin in their hair in spite of the fact that a number of systematic and surprise examinations have been carried out at the schools, and repeated notices sent to parents in re-current cases.

Three children were found badly marked by flea bites.

SCHOOL BATHS.

There are no school shower or other baths. The Corporation baths are available to selected boys and girls.

NUTRITION.

Of the 1,025 children examined, 99.8 were returned as of normal nutrition, .2% as below normal. The School Care Committee provides extra nourishment in the way of milk and drugs for selected cases of malnutrition and debility. There has been no evidence of children lacking food in the past year and it has not been necessary to put into operation the feeding scheme prepared by the Education Committee some years ago.

SCHOOL CARE COMMITTEE.

Distributions made by the Committee during the year.

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	3 children
Emulsion and Virol	...	...	...	...	6	"
Boots (new)	...	...	...	...	36	"
Boots (second-hand)	...	...	...	...	3	"
Boots (repaired)	...	...	...	...	2	"
Garments :						
New	...	...	...	...	7	"
Second-hand	...	...	...	...	25	"

HEARING—EAR DISEASE.

Cases of chronic discharge from the ears are on the decrease. Of the 1,025 children examined, 2 had discharge from the ears.

Parents are beginning to realise that this disease leads to deafness and that serious complications may ensue, and in consequence seek early treatment at the School Clinic.

NOSE AND THROAT.

During the year 76 children were certified as requiring operation. Under an agreement with the Yeovil & District Hospital the Education Committee pays for all cases of children of necessitous families requiring operation for tonsils and adenoids. During the year 20 cases were operated on under this scheme. Cases operated on are followed up by the School Nurse and requested to attend the Clinic to see the School Medical Officer. An intimation is given to the teacher in order that the child's method of breathing may be kept under observation.

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the past year no children were notified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, but 7 (3 below school age) from other forms of tuberculosis. Children suspected of phthisis are asked to visit the Clinic for further examination. Those cases which require treatment and supervision are referred to the Tuberculosis Officer for the county. There are at present 27

children in the Borough notified as suffering from tuberculosis (3 below school age), 11 pulmonary and 16 non-pulmonary.

RE-INSPECTIONS AND FOLLOWING UP.

The Board of Education Table IV. gives the results of re-inspections to ascertain how far treatment has been secured.

SCHOOL CLINIC.

The Clinic is held daily at the Public Health Offices, Kingston, Yeovil, Sundays and holidays excepted :—

The following accommodation is available :—

1. Rooms for the Medical Officer and Nurse.
2. A room for the treatment of skin and ear diseases, etc.
3. A waiting room.
4. An annexe to the Medical Officer's room provides for eye examinations. Provision is also made in this room for examination on a couch and for weighing the children.

The examinations and treatment are carried out by the School Medical Officer and School Nurse. The work occupies on the average two hours every morning.

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES ATTENDED AT THE SCHOOL CLINIC DURING 1929.

	Treatment carried over from previous Year.	New cases.	Treatment completed.	Treatment not completed at the end of the year.	Total attendances.
Eye Defects	3	129	126	6	386
Ear Defects	—	39	39	—	247
Ringworm	2	19	20	1	100
Scabies	—	4	4	—	8
Impetigo	—	29	27	2	206
Verminous	—	80	80	—	126
Referred to Dentist ...	—	56	—	—	57
Tuberculosis — Re-ferred to Dispensary...	—	4	—	—	4
Other Skin Diseases...	4	56	59	1	903
Minor Ailments ...	2	677	675	4	2258
Total	11	1093	1030	14	4295

DISEASES AND DEFECTS DEALT WITH.

Diseases of the eye, ear and skin are treated, defects of eyesight are examined, spectacles being prescribed where necessary.

Special cases *re* children reported to the Medical Officer by the Committee, School Nurse, Teacher, Attendance Officer and parents are examined and advice given.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

The Education Committee have adopted the following scheme for Dental Inspection and Treatment.

Seven half-days per month for extractions and fillings.

One half-day per month for inspection.

Treatment is carried out at the Dental Clinic in Eastland Road, which consists of a room for the Dental Officer, a waiting room and a rinsing room provided with sinks, hot and cold water and all necessary apparatus.

During the year 1738 notices to attend for treatment were issued to 780 children and 446 attended. The number of visits made to the Clinic by these children were 652. 1,019 extractions, 893 temporary, and 126 of permanent teeth, and 293 fillings were made.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE SCHOOLS.—An account of the scheme for preventing the spread of infectious diseases in the Schools and Sunday Schools was given in the Public Health Report for 1925.

OTHER INSPECTIONS.

SWIMMING.—466 children desirous of receiving instruction in swimming were examined by the School Medical Officer. 20 children were found to be unfit.

ORTHOPÆDIC AND LIGHT TREATMENT.

The County Council hold their Clinics in the School Clinic at the Public Health Office, Kingston. During the past year 9 children of school age received Orthopædic treatment.

The Borough Education Committee participate in the County Council Schemes. The Borough do not pay for Tuberculosis cases, as the County Council is the Authority for providing such treatment.

CO-OPERATION OF SCHOOL OFFICERS.

The Teachers without exception afford all help in their power and many of them are enthusiastic in their work. Teachers possess a mine of valuable information concerning the capabilities and environment of the children entrusted to their charge, and the School Medical Officer is glad to have this opportunity of expressing his appreciation of their ready assistance.

The School Attendance Officer does not take part in the actual inspection. He, however, renders material aid by making out a daily return of children who are absent from school on alleged medical grounds, and who do not produce a satisfactory medical certificate, and by tracing children who have moved to other districts in the borough.

In helping to follow up children who have been excluded from school, he gives valuable assistance in seeing that the children obtain suitable treatment, and that they come to the Clinic before being returned to school.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN OF SCHOOL AGE.

Bye-laws for regulating the employment of children of school age are in operation in Yeovil.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.—The Education Committee does not employ an organiser for physical training.

JUVENILE EMPLOYMENT SCHEME.

Under an agreement between the Town Council and the County Council of Somerset, the Town Council exercise within the Borough the County Council's powers under Section 107 of the Education Act, 1921, and Section 6 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1923.

Under a scheme which has been approved by the Board of Education and the Ministry of Labour a Juvenile Employment Sub-Committee was formed comprising 17 representative members, for giving assistance to boys and girls under 18 with respect to choice of suitable employment.

The Committee have the assistance of a Juvenile Employment Officer (part time). There is ample evidence that the scheme is proving successful in the effort to select and procure occupations which are most fitted for the mental and physical capabilities of the children on leaving school.

The following table gives the statistical and other details of scholars for whom employment was found during 1929 :

	Boys.		Girls.
Aircraft Engineering ...	12	Bookbinding	4
BUILDER'S Labourers ...	2	Box Making	3
Boot and Shoe Repairing	2	Clerical Work	15
Butchering	4	Core Making	1
Bus Conductor... ..	4	Dressmaking	1
Cabinet Making	2	Domestic Service ...	25
Clerical Work	24	Engineering (Aircraft) ...	2
Core Making	2	Glove Making	74
Engineering	23	Packers	8
Errand Boys	19	Printing	1
Flax Workers	1	Shop Assistants	20
Farm Work	2	Tailoring	3
Gardening	3	Waitress	1
Gloving	18		
Lorry Boys	10		
Milk Boys	1		
Motor Mechanics ...	6	Total ...	<u>158</u>
Newspaper Boys ...	4		
Packers	2		
Painters... ..	6		
Porters "Light" ...	24		
Printers... ..	4		
Piano Tuning	1		
Shop Assistants ...	22		
Telegraph Messenger Boys	3		
Various	8		
Total ...	<u>209</u>		

TABLE I.—RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Code Group Inspections—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	304
Intermediates...	...	...	...	...	...	282
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	237
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	823
Number of other Routine Inspections	...				...	202
						<hr/>

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	...	...				1570
Number of Re-inspections	...	...	...			985
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	2555
						<hr/>

TABLE II.

A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1929.

Defect or Disease.					Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
					No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
					Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)				
Malnutrition	—	3	—	—				
Uncleanliness... ..								
(See Table IV., Group v.)								
Skin { Ringworm :								
Scalp	—	—	17	—				
Body	—	—	4	—				
Scabies	—	—	4	—				
Impetigo	1	—	29	—				
Other Diseases (non-Tuberculous)	4	—	60	—				
Eye { Blepharitis	3	—	12	—				
Conjunctivitis	—	—	19	—				
Keratitis	—	—	—	—				
Corneal Opacities	—	—	1	—				
Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	52	—	26	—				
Squint	1	—	1	—				
Other Conditions	—	—	12	—				
Ear { Defective Hearing	—	—	—	—				
Otitis Media	—	—	—	—				
Other Ear Diseases	3	—	39	—				

					(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nose and Throat	{	Enlarged Tonsils only			10	7	9	—	
		Adenoids only			1	1	5	—	
		Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids			38	4	13	—	
		Other Conditions			2	5	30	15	
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)					5	1	14	—	
Defective Speech					—	5	—	—	
Teeth—Dental Diseases... ..					19	—	56	—	
See Table IV., Group IV.)									
Heart and Circulation	{	Heart Disease :							
		Organic			2	4	1	—	
		Functional			—	2	—	—	
Lungs	{	Anæmia			—	—	—	—	
		Bronchitis			1	—	2	—	
		Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases			2	—	45	—	
Tuberculosis	{	Pulmonary :							
		Definite			4	—	—	—	
		Suspected			2	—	4	—	
		Non-pulmonary :							
		Glands... ..			2	—	1	—	
		Spine			—	—	—	—	
		Hip			—	—	—	—	
		Other Bones and Joints			—	—	—	—	
		Skin			—	—	—	—	
		Other Forms			—	—	—	—	
Nervous System	{	Epilepsy			—	—	—	—	
		Chorea			—	—	3	—	
		Other Conditions			—	2	—	—	
Deformities	{	Rickets			—	—	—	—	
		Spinal Curvature			—	—	—	—	
		Other Forms			3	1	4	—	
Other Defects and Diseases					13	4	383	59	

B. NUMBER OF individual children FOUND AT Routine MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (EXCLUDING UNCLEANLINESS AND DENTAL DISEASES).

Group	Number of Children		Percentage of Children found to require treatment
	Inspected	Found to require treatment	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
CODE GROUPS :			
Entrants ...	304	57	18.7
Intermediates ...	282	30	10.6
Leavers ...	237	32	13.5
Total (code groups)	823	119	14.4
Other routine inspections ...	202	7	3.4

TABLE III.—RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind)	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elemen- tary Schools	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institu- tion	—	—	—
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the parti- ally blind	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind	2	—	2
		Attending Public Elemen- tary Schools	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf)	(i) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	1	1	2
		Attending Public Elemen- tary Schools	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	(ii) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the parti- ally deaf	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elemen- tary Schools	—	—	—
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institu- tion	—	—	—
Mentally Defective	Feeble-minded (cases not noti- fiable to the Local Control Authority)	Attending Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children ...	—	1	1
		Attending Public Elemen- tary Schools	7	5	12
		At other Institutions ...	—	1	1
		At no School or Institution	—	1	1

			Boys	Girls	Total
Mentally Defective —cont.	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year	Feeble-minded	—	—	—
		Imbeciles	2	—	—
		Idiots	—	—	—
Epileptics	Suffering from severe epilepsy	Attending Certified Special Schools for Epileptics ...	—	—	—
		In Institutions other than Certified Special Schools	—	—	—
		Attending Public Elementary Schools	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe	Attending Public Elementary Schools	2	2	4
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
Physically Defective	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At other Institutions	—	—	—
		At no School or Institution	—	2	2
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	7	2	9
		At other Institutions	1	1	2
		At no School or Institution	—	—	—
	Delicate Children (e.g., pre- or latent tuberculosis, mal-nutrition, debility, anæmia, etc.)	At Certified Residential Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Open Air Schools	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	15	14	29
		At other Institutions	3	—	3
		At no School or Institution	—	1	1

			Boys	Girls	Total
Physically Defective (cont.)	Active non-pul- monary tuber- culosis	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry of Health or the Board	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	5	—	5
		At other Institutions ...	—	—	—
		At no School or Institu- tion	—	—	—
	Crippled Children (other than those with act- ive tuberculosis disease), e.g., children suffer- ing from paraly- sis, etc., and including those with severe heart disease	At Certified Hospital Schools	—	—	—
		At Certified Residential Cripple Schools... ..	—	—	—
		At Certified Day Cripple Schools	—	—	—
		At Public Elementary Schools	10	4	14
		At other Institutions ...	—	1	1
		At no School or Institu- tion	—	—	—

TABLE IV.—RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1929.

Treatment Table.

Group I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.)

Disease or Defect (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
<i>Skin—</i>			
Ringworm-Scalp	17	—	17
Ringworm-Body	4	—	4
Scabies	4	—	4
Impetigo	29	—	29
Other Skin Disease	60	—	60
<i>Minor Eye Defects</i> (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group 11)	45	—	45
<i>Minor Ear Defects</i>	39	—	39
<i>Miscellaneous</i> (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.)	547	77	624
Total	745	77	822

TABLE IV. (Contd.)

Group II.—Defective Vision or Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

Defect or Disease	Number of Defects dealt with			
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Submitted to refraction by private practitioner or at hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)... ..	68	7	—	75
Other Defects or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	68	7	—	75

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 47
 (b) Otherwise 7

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles :

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 19
 (b) Otherwise 35

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects.

Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treat- ment	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Author- ity's Scheme	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
20	15	35	7	42

TABLE IV. (*Contd.*)*Group IV. Dental Defects.*

(1) Number of Children who were :

(a) Inspected by the Dentist :

Aged :

Routine Age Groups	5 ...	169	Total ...	1,236
	6 ...	166		
	7 ...	178		
	8 ...	159		
	9 ...	190		
	10 ...	91		
	11 ...	97		
	12 ...	99		
	13 ...	80		
	14 ...	7		

Specials 154

Grand Total 1,390

(b) Found to require treatment 1,154

(c) Actually treated 510

(d) Re-treated during the year as the result
of periodical examination 8

(2) Half-days devoted to { Inspection ... 7 } Total 76
 { Treatment ... 69 }

(3) Attendances made by children for treatment ... 652

(4) Fillings ... { Permanent Teeth 293 } Total 293
 { Temporary Teeth — }

(5) Extractions ... { Permanent Teeth 126 } Total 1,019
 { Temporary Teeth 893 }

(6) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions —

(7) Other Operations ... { Permanent Teeth — } Total —
 { Temporary Teeth — }

Group V.—Uncleanliness and verminous condition.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year
by the School Nurses... .. 5

(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools
by School Nurses 6,562

(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean ... 310

(iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made
by the Local Education Authority 25

(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 —

(b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws —







