

**[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Weymouth & Melcombe Regis Borough.**

**Contributors**

Weymouth and Melcombe Regis (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1949

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/p7f25u9f>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY



# ANNUAL REPORT

---

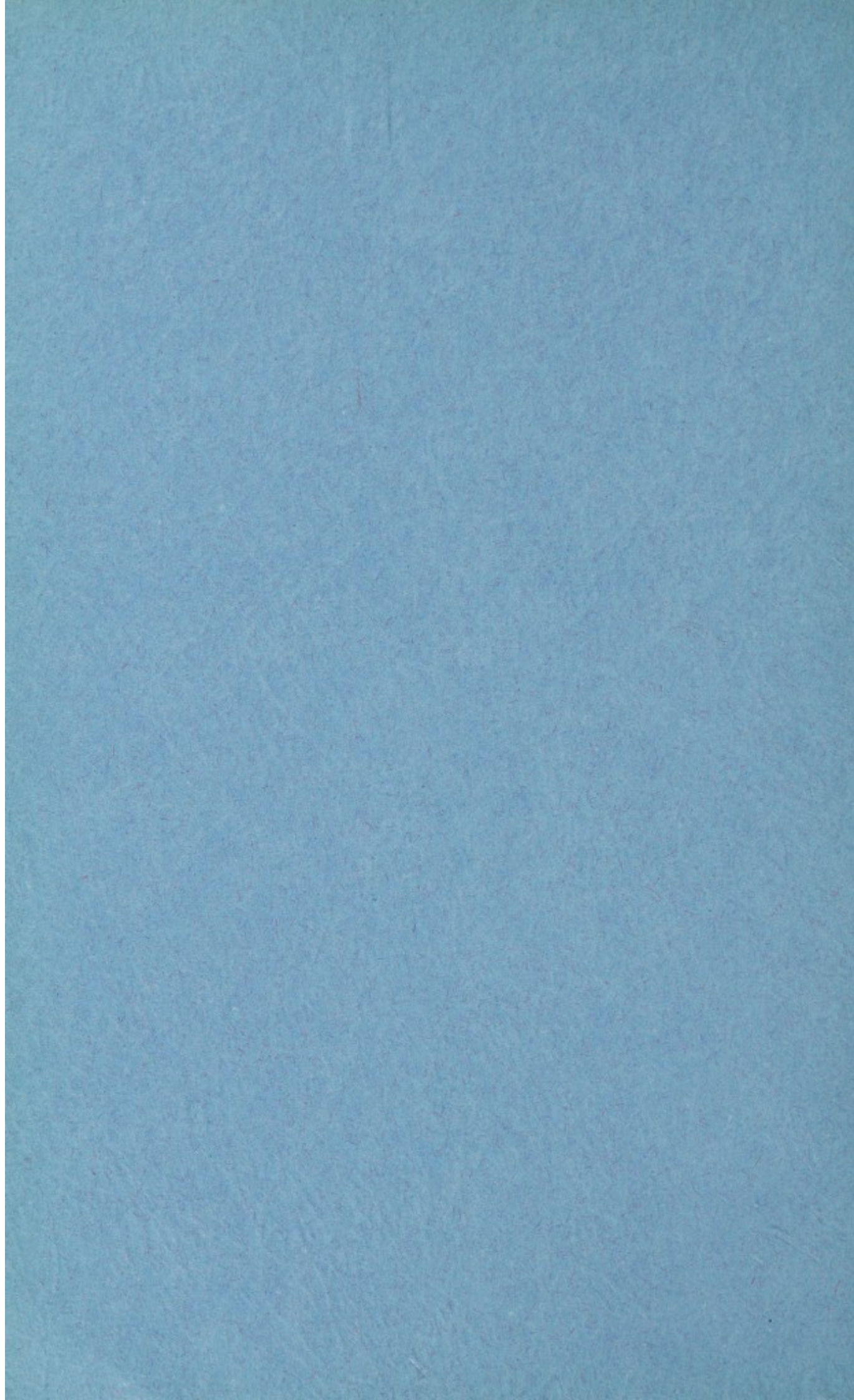
on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY  
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE  
BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH  
AND MELCOMBE REGIS FOR  
THE YEAR 1949

---

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health*







# ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health and Sanitary Circumstances  
of the Borough of Weymouth and  
Melcombe Regis for the year 1949

---

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

	PAGE
Introduction	5
Statistics	7
Infectious Disease	11
Infestation	16
National Assistance Act, 1948	18
Water Supply	18
Mosquito and Midge Control	20
Camping Sites	27
Food Hygiene	28
Housing	28
Statistics of Sanitary Administration	31

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

THE MAYOR (Alderman A. P. BURT, J.P.)

Alderman A. BILES, J.P. (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. C. WOOTTON, M.A. (Vice-Chairman)

Ald. R. S. COMBEN, C.B.E., J.P.	Alderman H. A. MEDLAM
Councillor A. J. G. HOUSE	Councillor E. W. HUTCHINGS
Councillor LAWSON JONES	Councillor Mrs. I. A. LEGH
Councillor Mrs. F. G. MEGORAN	Councillor I. R. OXLEY
Councillor E. W. PRIDDLE	Councillor C. PRICE

---

## STAFF—PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### Medical Officer of Health:

E. J. GORDON WALLACE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

### Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

CHARLOTTE A. G. WARD, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### Chief Sanitary Inspector :

L. H. VALE, M.S.I.A. (Up to 30-9-49)  
H. HANDSCOMB, M.R.S.I. (From 21-11-49)

### District Sanitary Inspectors :


R. G. S. NEWBOULD, M.S.I.A.  
A. L. HARRIS, M.S.I.A.

### Rodent Officer :

Mr. S. T. ETHEREDGE

### Clerical Staff :

Mr. V. M. V. CLARKE (Up to 28-5-49)  
Mr. F. H. HOUSE (From 1-11-49)  
Mrs. L. MADDOCK (Up to 30-7-49)  
Miss M. STEELE (From 8-8-49)



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30268540>



HEALTH CENTRE,  
WESTHAM ROAD,  
WEYMOUTH  
June, 1950

**To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis**

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your information and consideration my Report for the year 1949, on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

I have to report that the health of the community was maintained during the year and that there no outbreak of serious infectious disease. As was to be expected, a considerable number (566) of cases of measles was reported but there were no deaths from this disease which was prevalent from the month of May onwards. In more than half the number of cases (304) measles affected children between the ages of 5 to 10 years.

The Borough escaped extremely lightly from infantile paralysis although a number of patients were admitted from surrounding areas to the Weymouth Infectious Diseases Hospital.

No cases of diphtheria or cerebro-spinal fever were notified.

During the year the Public Health Committee gave considerable attention to the mosquito and midge nuisance and extracts from various reports on these subjects are reproduced. It is to be hoped that the Town Council will, in the not too distant future, be able to tackle Lodmoor as a whole and thus eliminate this mosquito breeding area.

At the end of September, Mr. L. H. Vale, Chief Sanitary Inspector, left to take up a similar appointment in Folkestone and he was succeeded by Mr. H. Handscomb, of Surbiton.

Throughout the year the Sanitary Inspectors have given close attention to those numerous factors which are so important in maintaining a high standard of environmental hygiene. The statistical details of their work set out in this report cannot completely convey an adequate impression of all that has been done.

A great deal of the Inspectors' time has been occupied with interviews and visits concerning housing applications. At the time of writing this report there are still some 1750 families on the



Council's waiting list and it seems that many years must elapse before the demand for adequate housing accommodation is satisfied. In the meantime it is not practicable to take action under the Housing Acts to secure the demolition of sub-standard houses which in more normal times would be regarded as unfit for human habitation.

The influence of housing on health was referred to by the Right Hon. the Earl De La Warr in his Inaugural Address to the Annual Congress of the Royal Sanitary Institute at Eastborne, in April, 1950, and I feel that I cannot do better than quote his words. " . . . . last year Exchequer and personal payments amounted to over £450 millions for the National Health Scheme, and during the same period the sum of £9 million was allowed for subsidising new permanent houses, and just over £6 million for the school health services. Clinics and hospitals are great and wonderful institutions and provided that we have the nurses to staff them the more we have within reason, the better; but if we had to choose between a hospital bed and having a house to ourselves, there is not much doubt where our choice would lie, on both personal and health grounds. Bad housing is one of the major causes of bad health. It leads not only to insanitary overcrowding but, almost equally important, to family rows, to irritation, to break-up of marriages and to mental anxiety. Every day it is building up a need for more doctors, more clinics and more hospitals and wasting our national resources on having to deal with illness that should never have occurred. When we reflect on the millions of pounds that we are now spending on various schemes of social improvement and then remind ourselves that only a little more than half the number of new houses will be built in 1950 as were built in 1938, we cannot but wonder if we are really putting first things first."

Once more I am happy to place on record my appreciation of the ready co-operation in the work of the Department afforded by my professional colleagues in practice in the Borough.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Council for their kindness and consideration and my fellow official and the Health Department staff for their unfailing assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

E. J. GORDON WALLACE,

*Medical Officer of Health*

## SECTION A.—STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) excluding 331 acres of tidal water	7,007
Civilian Population (mid 1949) estimated by the Registrar General	35,970
Total Population (mid 1949) estimated by the Registrar General	36,020
Estimated Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1949)	10,850
Rateable Value (31st March, 1949)	£320,597
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1949/50)	£1,275

---

## CHIEF INDUSTRIES &amp; EXTENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT

I am indebted to Mr. N. A. Pick, Manager of the Weymouth Employment Exchange for the following information :—

## Registered Unemployed Persons

	1948	1949
March	369	478
June	250	201
September	261	197
December	590	441

The eight main occupations in this area, according to employment figures, are :—

1. Distributive Trades.
2. Hotel and Catering.
3. Building and Civil Engineering.
4. General Engineering.
5. Local Government Services.
6. Agriculture.
7. Omnibus Services.
8. Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing.



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF BOROUGH SUPPLIED BY REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR 1949.

Total Births—582.

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian population—16.18

Live Births—573.

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	284	261	545
Illegitimate	...	14	14	28
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	298	275	573
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated civilian population—15.9

Stillbirths—9.

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	7	2	9
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	7	2	9
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population—0.25

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—15.46

Deaths—450. Males—226. Females—224.

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated civilian population—12.5

Comparability Factor—0.82

Standardised Death Rate—10.25

## Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	5	4	9
Illegitimate	...	3	—	3
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	8	4	12
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## Infant Mortality Rates.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	20.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	16.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	107.1

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	...	Nil
Other maternal causes	...	Nil

**TOTAL DEATHS 1949.** (Registrar General's Official Returns)  
All causes—450. Male—226. Female—224.

Causes of Death.			Males	Females
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers		...	...
2.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System		6	1
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	1	1
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	2	1
9.	Influenza	...	1	4
10.	Measles	...	...	...
11.	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis	...	1	1
12.	Acute Inf. Encephalitis	...	...	...
13.	Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M.); Uterus (F.)	...	3	2
14.	Cancer of Stomach and duodenum		12	7
15.	Cancer of Breast	...	...	9
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	33	24
17.	Diabetes	...	2	2
18.	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	...	24	40
19.	Heart Disease	...	74	62
20.	Other Diseases of Circ. System	...	8	10
21.	Bronchitis	...	7	6
22.	Pneumonia	...	7	12
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	1	3
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	2	...
25.	Diarrhoea, under two years	...	1	...
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	...	4	8
28.	Nephritis	...	3	6
29.	Puerperal and Post-abort. Sepsis	...	...	...
30.	Other Maternal Causes	...	...	...
31.	Premature Birth	...	2	1
32.	Congenital Mal: Birth Injuries: Infantile Diseases	...	5	2
33.	Suicide	...	2	...
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	...	1	...
35.	Other Violent Causes	...	3	1
36.	All Other Causes	...	21	20
TOTALS			226	224



Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case-rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1949. Provisional Figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.B.'s. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000-50,000 at 1931 Census	London Admin. County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—				
<b>Births :</b>				
Live Births ...	16.7(a)	18.7	18.0	18.5
Still Births ...	0.39(a)	0.47	0.40	0.37
<b>Deaths :—</b>				
All Causes ...	11.7(a)	12.5	11.6	12.2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ...	0.45	0.52	0.42	0.52
Influenza ...	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.11
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioence- phalitis	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
Pneumonia ...	0.51	0.56	0.49	0.59
<b>Notifications :—</b> (Corrected)				
Typhoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Scarlet Fever ...	1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46
Whooping Cough	2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70
Diphtheria ...	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07
Erysipelas ...	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54
Pneumonia ...	0.80	0.91	0.60	0.55
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18
Acute Polioence- phalitis ...	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Food Poisoning	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—				
<b>Deaths :—</b>				
All causes under 1 year of age ...	32(b)	37	30	29
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	3.0	3.8	2.4	1.7
<b>Notifications :—</b> (Corrected)				
Puerperal fever and pyrexia ...	6.31	8.14	5.30	6.82

## Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
140 Abortion with Sepsis	0.11	8
141 Abortion without Sepsis	0.05	4
147 Puerperal infections	0.11	—
142—146 { Other maternal Causes	0.71	—
148—150 {		

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population

(b) Per 1,000 related births

## COMMENTS ON THE VITAL STATISTICS.

**Births.**

The birth rate of 16.18 was again lower than that of preceding years, (18.5 in 1948, 20.77 in 1947 and 20.67 in 1946).

Live births exceeded the number of deaths by 123.

**Deaths.**

The total number of deaths was 450—226 males and 224 females—giving a crude death rate of 12.5 per 1,000 population. By applying the comparability factor 0.82 the standardised death rate is found to be 10.25. (The Comparability Factor is worked out for each district by the Registrar General. Its object is to level out differences in the age and sex constitution of the population of the various districts and its use enables us to obtain standardised death rates which are more fairly comparable and more accurate than the crude death rates.)

There were no deaths from diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, scarlet fever or cerebro-spinal fever.

There were no maternal deaths.

The infant mortality rate of 20.9 per 1,000 live births was slightly higher than the record figure of the previous year (18.54) but nevertheless, still compares favourably with that for the Country as a whole. (32 per 1,000 live births.)

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

A total of 566 cases of Measles was notified during the year. Most of these occurred during the months April, May and June. There were no deaths from this disease.

It is now ten years since Measles became a notifiable disease under the Measles and Whooping Cough Regulations, 1940, made by the Minister of Health on 9th February, 1940.



The following table shows the number of cases of Measles notified each year since that date :—

Year	No. of Cases of Measles (Civilian and Non-civilian)			
1940	...	...	...	35
1941	...	...	...	739
1942	...	...	...	5
1943	...	...	...	744
1944	...	...	...	57
1945	...	...	...	449
1946	...	...	...	126
1947	...	...	...	471
1948	...	...	...	86
1949	...	...	...	566

These figures bear out the biennial periodicity of Measles which has already been observed in large cities, but has been reported to be less regular in smaller towns. It is even more obvious when shown in graph form as on page 13, with the total number of notifications for each year shown in quarterly sub-totals.

### Whooping Cough

The number of cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year was 119, compared with 288 during 1948. There were no deaths.

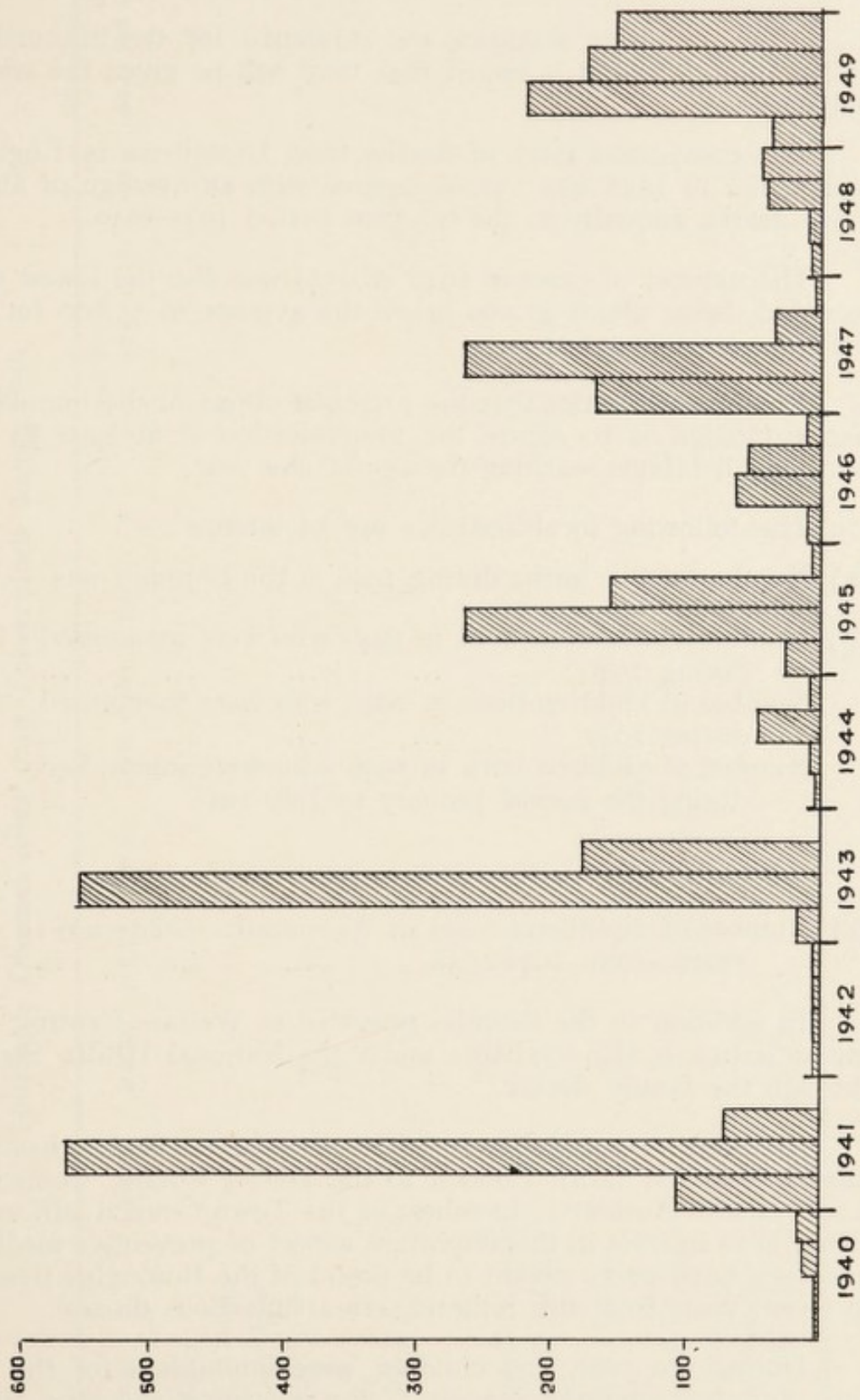
### Poliomyelitis

Three cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during 1949, two of them being resident locally. One of these, an adult female, made a complete recovery, while the other—a five year old boy—is still receiving treatment in an orthopaedic hospital. The third patient was an adult female visitor who was ill on arrival in Weymouth. After being nursed for some time in an 'iron lung' she recovered sufficiently to be transferred to an orthopaedic hospital, where, however, she died later. One case of polio-encephalitis was also notified—a ten year old boy who had just arrived in the town after a voyage from Australia. This patient was extremely ill on admission to hospital where he died three days later.

No case of Diphtheria was notified during the year.

Following receipt of Ministry of Health Circular 40/49 dated 22nd April, 1949, the Health Committee made a special report on

## PERIODICITY OF MEASLES—1940-1949





Diphtheria Prophylaxis to the Town Council of which the following is an extract :—

“ The following statistics are submitted for the information of the Council and it is hoped that they will be given the widest publicity :—

The provisional total of deaths from Diphtheria in England and Wales in 1948 was 150, compared with an average of about 2,800 deaths annually in the ten year period 1931-1940.

The number of cases in 1948 (8,034) was also the lowest ever recorded, being about 47,000 below the average of 55,000 for the ten year period 1931-1940.

The Minister states that the principal object of the immunisation campaign is to secure the immunisation of at least 75 per cent. of all infants reaching the age of one year.

The following local statistics are of interest :—

(a) Number of live births during 1946 in the Borough was	681
(b) Number of children born in 1946 who were immunised during 1946	38
Number of children born in 1946 who were immunised during 1947	499
Number of children born in 1946 who were immunised during the period January to July 1948	142
	<hr/> 679
(c) Number of diphtheria cases in Weymouth—children 0-15 years—from 1942-1948	Nil

In addition to the facilities provided at Welfare Centres, free immunisation is also available under the National Health Service through the family doctor.”

Although responsibility for diphtheria immunisation has now passed from the Town Council to the Dorset County Council as Local Health Authority, members of the Town Council still maintain a keen interest in this important aspect of preventive medicine and they have every reason to be proud of the Borough's freedom in recent years from this hitherto serious infectious disease.

During the year, 594 children were immunised for the first time and 1,152 re-inforcing or “ booster ” injections were given, the great majority of these in schools at periodic medical inspections.

Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis during 1949.

DISEASE	1st Qr.	2nd Qr.	3rd Qr.	4th Qr.	Total	Under 1	1—	AGE INCIDENCE				65 and over	Un- known
								3	5—	10—	15—		
Scarlet Fever	2	1	4	2	9	...	2	...	6	...	...	1	
Whooping Cough	40	32	22	25	119	6	40	...	36	...	2	2	
Ac. Poliomyelitis	...	...	2	1	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	
Ac. Polioencephalitis	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Measles	35	224	155	152	566	12	96	125	304	7	6	13	
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ac. Pneumonia	15	5	4	3	27	...	1	...	1	...	2	6	
Dysentery	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Ac. Encephalitis Leth.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Erysipelas	3	3	2	5	13	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Food Poisoning	...	2	5	1	8	...	1	...	1	...	2	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	



## Food Poisoning

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning during the year, but eight individual cases, all of whom made good recoveries, were notified. All cases were fully investigated, but it was not possible to ascertain the cause of any of these illnesses.

When Food Poisoning is suspected it is most important that immediate notification should be made to the Public Health Department—preferably by telephone—as a delay of even a few hours makes it very much more difficult to investigate the case satisfactorily.

## Laboratory Facilities

The investigation and control of infectious diseases in this area is greatly facilitated by the assistance and advice which is always available from Dr. T. V. Cooper and his staff at the County Laboratory, Dorchester, which provides a full and extremely efficient bacteriological service.

## INFESTATION.

### Scabies and Head Infestation.

The tables which follow indicate that once more there has been a considerable reduction in the number of cases of Scabies and Head Infestation to be dealt with.

#### SCABIES

Year	Total No. notified	No. Notified by Practitioner	No. Notified by Public Health Dept.	Total Number of Treatments (incl. contacts)
1943	618	218	400	2187
1944	598	124	474	1882
1945	275	72	203	1078
1946	198	63	135	992
1947	80	32	48	599
1948	71	23	48	241
1949	26	6	20	67

In addition 15 patients from Portland, 3 from Dorchester Borough, 2 from Bridport, and one each from the Dorchester Rural District and the Weymouth Port Health Authority were treated, having 27, 7, 4, and 2 treatments respectively.

#### HEAD INFESTATION

Year	Number of Infested Persons	Adult	School	Under 5	Total No. of Treatments
1944	594	148	411	35	894
1945	305	87	283	35	405
1946	310	117	203	40	461
1947	164	40	96	28	304
1948	143	19	110	14	266
1949	106	13	80	13	197



The above table indicates the reduction in head infestation which has taken place during the last six years. It shows that during 1949 only 1.3% of individual schoolchildren in this area had dirty heads, and while this low figure is not to be regarded with equanimity, it certainly compares favourably with the incidence of head infestation in schoolchildren throughout England and Wales. There are no comparable statistics available nationally for infestation in adults and pre-school children.

In his Report as Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Education for the years 1946 and 1947 (published in 1949), Sir Wilson Jameson describes the statistics on head infestation as "profoundly disappointing." These figures show that for the Country as a whole 9.7 per cent. of schoolchildren were found to have dirty heads in 1946, while in 1947 the figure was 9.3 per cent. In these two years our local figures were 3.8 per cent. and 1.67 respectively.

To what factors can we ascribe our relatively low head infestation rate? Here, each schoolchild is examined just over five times each year—and family contacts of any infested child are energetically followed up—while the national figures show that throughout the Country a cleanliness inspection took place just under 3 times each year. At these inspections, our School Nursing Sisters are assisted by two Nursing Assistants who relieve the qualified staff of many routine duties thus enabling them to concentrate on their more professional work.

It is of interest to note that arrangements of this kind are commended in the Chief Medical Officer's Report referred to above.

These Assistants carry out their duties most efficiently, and they are well liked by both parents and children.

### **Chiropody Clinic**

During the year there was considerable correspondence between the Town Council, the Dorset County Council and the Ministry of Health as to who was responsible for this service. It would appear that in due course, the County Council will assume financial responsibility, but in the meantime the Town Council has decided that the facilities, originally provided in 1934, must continue to be available.

The services of Mr. John Williams, M.Ch.S., have been very much appreciated and 565 attendances were made at 50 sessions.

### **Mortuary**

The Town Mortuary in Commercial Road continued to be used both as a Mortuary and as a Post Mortem Room, but it appears that increasing use is being made of the better facilities for P.M. examinations at the Weymouth and District Hospital.



## Registration of Nursing Homes

As from the 1st April, 1949, the powers as Local Supervising Authority which had been exercised for many years by the Borough Council were withdrawn by the Dorset County Council which is now responsible for the registration and supervision of all Nursing Homes in the County.

## National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

Under this Section the Town Council is empowered to take steps to secure the removal to suitable accommodation of persons in need of care and attention. In this connection the Council has delegated its powers to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee who can authorise the appropriate proceedings to be taken on the certificate of the Medical Officer of Health.

Action was taken in one case during the year. The person concerned was an elderly man who lived alone in unsatisfactory conditions and who required urgent medical and nursing attention. Some years previously this same person had been removed to an Institution by a Magistrates' Order under Section 106 of the Weymouth and Melcombe Regis Corporation Act 1935—for which Section 47 of the National Assistance Act has now been substituted.

In the present instance the Magistrates made an Order—on the 25th January, 1949—for the person to be removed to hospital for three months; before this period had expired, however, the patient had to be certified and removed to a Mental Hospital where he died a short time later.

## WATER SUPPLY

The water in the Borough is provided by the Weymouth Waterworks Co., the main supplies being from springs at Empool and Sutton Poyntz. The water being fairly hard does not give rise to danger from plumbo solvent action, and both quality and quantity have been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year. No outbreaks of illness which could be traced to the water have occurred and it may be said that the supply continues to be very good for drinking and domestic purposes and shows a high degree of purity.

In the Preston and Sutton Poyntz areas of the Borough there are 21 houses with no mains water supply. These are all dependent on public standpipes belonging to the Waterworks Co., fixed in various positions in the village.

The closest co-operation is maintained with the Engineer and Manager, Mr. S. E. Barrett, A.M.Inst.C.E., and there is constant exchange of the results of samples taken by the Company and Health Department Officers.



## SUMMARY OF BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Total Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
92	91	1	Nil

## CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Samples taken 24-10-49.

		Fountain, Empool	Sutton Poyntz
Appearance	...	Bright and Clear No Colour	Bright and Clear No Colour
Reaction	...	pH. 7.2 Parts per 100,000	7.5 Parts per 100,000
Free and Saline Ammonia		Less than .001	Less than .001
Albuminoid Ammonia		Less than .001	Less than .001
Chlorine (as Chlorides) equivalent to Sodium Chloride	...	2.10 3.45	2.20 3.60
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs.)		0.006	0.10
Nitrate	...	absent	absent
Nitrogen in nitrate	...	0.41	0.38
Total solids	...	34.5	29.5
Loss on ignition	...	4.5	3.0
Appearance on ignition		No charring	No charring
Hardness: Temporary		22.4	18.4
Permanent		2.6	1.9
Total	...	25.0	20.3
Lead and Copper	...	absent	absent

## (a) Physical Examination

Colour	...	None	None
Appearance	...	Clear	Clear
Taste	...	Normal	Normal
Smell	...	None	None

## (b) General Chemical Examination

Reaction	...	pH. 7.2 Parts per Million	7.5
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	N	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen	N	Less than 0.01	Less than 0.01
Nitrous Nitrogen	N	absent	absent
Nitric Nitrogen	N	4.1	3.8
Hardness—Calculated from Mineral Analysis			
Temporary	...	224	184
Permanent	...	26	19



Permanganate figure (4 hours 80° F.) ...	0.06	0.10
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ...	224	184
Total solids ...	294	245

### MINERAL ANALYSIS

Calcium Ca ...	94.2	77.0
Magnesium Mg ...	3.5	2.7
Sodium Na ...	14	12.8
Carbonate CO <sub>3</sub> ...	134.4	110.4
Chloride Cl ...	21	22
Sulphate SO <sub>4</sub> ...	8.3	4.1
Nitrate NO <sub>3</sub> ...	18.2	17.0
Iron ...	0.015	0.015
Lead and Copper ...	absent	absent

### MOSQUITO AND MIDGE CONTROL

#### Mosquitoes

In the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1914 (the late Dr. W. B. Barclay) there is reference to an area of marsh land (Lodmoor) "being below high water and subject to the inflow of the tide, this being controlled to a certain extent by tidal flaps. The water is slightly brackish in consequence. Of recent years this has become a breeding place for mosquitoes and to such an extent during the past two summers as to become a serious nuisance to the inhabitants of Melcombe Regis North."

In his Annual Report for the year 1923, Dr. Barclay wrote at some length on the mosquito problem and refers to "large expanses of water like the marsh lands to the North of the Borough Boundary, Radipole Lake with its adjacent Chafey's Lake and Smith's Marsh which are prolific breeding places."

In almost every Annual Report since then, some reference has been made to mosquitoes and in 1928, and again in 1937, advice was sought from the British Mosquito Control Institute of Hayling Island.

In 1938, the Town Council, on the advice of the Health Committee, authorised the clearing out of the Western Channel of Radipole Lake and the mechanical digging of connection dykes through Chafey's and Little Chafey's Lakes. In my Annual Report for that year I was able to report that these steps had materially reduced the large number of stagnant pools which in those areas had formed ideal breeding places for mosquitoes. In the same year, a tidal flap was constructed in the Greenhill Sluice by the owner of the land concerned, and this helped in the drainage of Lodmoor. In 1940, however, this sluice was put out of



commission as a defence measure and Lodmoor is now as excellent a breeding ground for mosquitoes as ever it was.

Towards the end of 1948 and in 1949, the Town Council sought further advice from the Cooper Research Bureau (Messrs. Cooper, McDougall and Robertson) whose Chief Biologist, Dr. H. J. Crauford Benson visited the town and submitted a very full report on the problem. The British Mosquito Control Institute was also called upon to advise and a most useful report was received from Mr. J. Staley.

Both these reports (extracts are given on pages 22—26) were produced at the Public Local Inquiry on the 15th February 1949, into the Town Council's proposals to acquire Lodmoor by compulsory purchase. At this inquiry 17 bottles of water were produced showing Mosquito larvae taken from various places on Lodmoor from the 25th—28th January, 1949 !

It is probable that all this marsh land will come into Corporation ownership during 1950 and steps can then be taken for the watercourses and ditches to be cleared and systematically linked up.

I feel sure that the Town Council will wish to tackle this matter energetically and thus get rid of a nuisance which has persisted for well over a quarter of a century.

### **Midges**

Reference to "insects found in clouds on the Radipole Lake Drive and its vicinity" was made by the late Dr. Barclay in his Annual Report for the year 1927. In Ministry of Health Memo 238/Med (On Measures for the Control of Mosquito Nuisances in Great Britain 1949) these midges are described as "mosquito like flies of the family Chironomidae of which the best known belong to the genus Chironomus, which may also be a nuisance, although they do not bite. They breed in the soft mud at the bottom of streams, ponds and canals and domestic water containers. The larvae of one species, often seen in water butts, are commonly termed "blood-worms." At times they may appear in dense clouds at sunset."

Many complaints were received about these midges interfering with the amenities of Radipole Park Drive pleasure gardens and tennis courts, and this problem was also specially studied by the Cooper Research Bureau. Following this, arrangements were made to attack these insects on the wing by means of an insecticidal smoke cloud, incorporating D.D.T., which was distributed by means of a device fitted to the engine exhaust of a lorry. Two treatments were carried out in August, 1949, and it is considered that, given suitable weather conditions with little or no wind, the treatment will be effective. It is intended to carry on with this method during 1950.



**Extract from Report dated 28th January, 1949, of  
Dr. H. J. Crauford Benson, The Cooper Technical Bureau**

" It is painfully obvious that permanent works, e.g. draining, filling in, cultivation, etc., is the only satisfactory method of control.

There are two obvious problems, namely the Radipole Lake problem, and the Lodmoor Marsh problem. They are quite separate, and each calls for careful consideration and action.

**Radipole Lake**

This is essentially a midge problem. Chafey's Lake has ceased to be a problem as it is now dry, and should remain so unless exceptional flooding occurs. Little Chafey's Lake is unlikely to cause trouble as the water in the ditches is now flowing, the water level in Radipole Lake is controlled and the big drainage ditch on the west side of Radipole Lake is being cleaned and opened. This area, however, should be watched particularly if the water level is allowed to rise. Radipole Lake itself is the main problem. As the water level is now controlled the amount of mosquito breeding that is likely to occur is small, and will be confined to pools on the islands and around the edges of the lake. Midges will breed readily throughout the area. It appears, therefore, that midges are the main source of worry and that they will be a nuisance on all sides of the lake, more particularly on the east side where the ornamental gardens, tennis courts, etc., will attract a large number of the local residents and visitors.

**Lodmoor area.**

This is entirely a mosquito problem, mainly caused by the salt marsh mosquitoes *Aedes caspius* and *Aedes detritus*. The area is at present owned by farmers and others, and it is essential if any proper control of mosquitoes is to be achieved that the whole area should be brought under one ownership. It is understood that a compulsory purchase order for this area has been made, but not yet confirmed. It is hoped that the order will be confirmed as it will greatly assist the Weymouth health authorities in any action that they take.

**General Considerations**

These problems are unlikely to cause any health hazard, but they do cause considerable irritation to the local residents and summer visitors. It would appear that the nuisance value is very high because not only can midges and mosquitoes lower the value of property near to Radipole Lake and Lodmoor, but they can also "drive away" summer visitors, and Weymouth is an important holiday resort.



The areas involved are large, and there is no question that the only proper solution to these problems is by permanent works, i.e. draining, filling in of ditches, raising of the soil level, and cultivation. The Radipole Lake Development Scheme when completed will cure that problem. In the meantime temporary measures should be taken with the object of abating the nuisance, not necessarily curing it. The Lodmoor area is rather more difficult. A development scheme there would undoubtedly be the best solution, but if that is not possible, proper permanent drains should be built with sluice gates, etc., to the sea to control the water level. This is expensive, and it would be of greater value to Weymouth to develop the area, thereby saving the cost of installing and maintaining permanent works. A development scheme would improve the rateable value of the area so increasing the local revenue, and also greatly increase the recreational facilities available in a popular holiday resort.

There are three important factors concerning the salt marsh mosquitoes. Firstly, they are capable of flying considerable distances, often up to five miles. Thus they can be a nuisance over a wide area around a large breeding area. Secondly, they lay their eggs in the vegetation in the marshes, not in the water, and the eggs can withstand dessication for over one year. Consequently as tidal water or flood water rises and falls eggs of the salt marsh mosquitoes are constantly being floated into the water and development takes place immediately. This means that fresh batches of mosquitoes will appear 14-21 days after any flooding or particularly high tides. Thirdly, salt marsh mosquitoes, although capable of migrating considerable distances to houses, etc., in search of a blood meal, frequently rest for long periods in the vegetation of the salt marsh; they are therefore vulnerable to smoke, etc., applied to the marsh with the dual object of killing larvae and adults."

**Extracts from Report dated 27th January, 1949, from  
Mr. J. Staley, of The British Mosquito Control Institute,  
Hayling Island, Hants.**

"In presenting this report it may well be introduced by condensed abstracts from those submitted by Mr. Marshall, in April, 1928, and August, 1937.

The species found on 17th April, 1928, were *Anopheles claviger*, *Aedes caspius* and *Aedes detritus*, *Theobaldia annulata* and *Theobaldia morsitans*. *Anopheles claviger* and *Theobaldia annulata* were common at the upper and the *Aedes* species, *detritus* being extremely numerous over the lower end of the Lodmoor area.



" The Flooding of the areas west and east of the (then) municipal boundary being entirely due to the defective condition of the tidal flaps at the Greenhill terrace and Tollhouse cottages outlets, the obvious (indeed the only) remedy is to put these flaps into proper working order and to clean and repair the various channels with which they communicate. If this can be effected the mosquito control of these two areas will present little difficulty ; under existing conditions, however, the flooded area is so extensive that any treatment with paraffin or larvicides is quite out of the question."

On the 17th, 18th and 19th August, 1937, *Anopheles maculipennis* and *Culex pipiens* in addition to the first four above named species were found, *Aedes caspius* and *Aedes detritus* still the commonest species and now recorded from a stagnant ditch near the centre of the marsh, and a flooded meadow further to the east. Adults of *Aedes detritus* were also collected by sweeping, the majority of which were in a gravid condition.

On 24th January, 1949, with the exception of *Aedes caspius*, the same species were collected as in 1928. (*Aedes caspius* overwinters in the egg stage, and these do not hatch until the end of March or early April, *Anopheles maculipennis* and *Culex pipiens* hibernate during the winter and emerge therefrom in March or early April and following meals of blood, commence egg-laying.)

It is to be noted that *Aedes detritus* larvae were collected in association with *Anopheles claviger* and *Theobaldia annulata* in the upper part of the Lodmoor area.

From these records of collections of larvae made in 1928, 1937 and again in 1949, it appears that the breeding area of *Aedes detritus*, and possibly *Aedes caspius*, has been gradually extended and now covers the whole Lodmoor area, due no doubt to the gradual choking up of the drainage channels and the progressive accumulation and spreading of stagnant water. Present larvae will be changing to adults during late March to April and May. Although during the winter *Aedes detritus* with the Anopheline and *Theobaldia annulata* may spend some months between the hatching of eggs and emergence of adults, this period will be reduced to two weeks in the case of the former, and 3-4 weeks in that of the latter two during the warmer weather. If any early start could be made in clearing these main ditches and connecting up with isolated ditches, much of the water could be removed, carrying many larvae away or leaving them high and



dry to die amongst the grass. The larger pools could be connected up to drain into the cleared channels and so limiting the number on the wing during the summer.

The Chafey's areas have been drained since the 1937 visit, a good ditch was carrying the water away and no stagnant water was found.

The west side of Radipole Lake margins was mainly dry, only a very few small depressions of shallow water were seen, mainly clean, but a few had a few larvae in them. These may dry out before the larvae develop into adults.

The cleaning of the stream at the upper end of Radipole Lake has removed stagnating water from adjoining land.

In the clearing by dredger it would be as well if the material removed was scattered, or so disposed of, as not to form continuous banks that may impound water and so create mosquito breeding places behind them.

To summarise, from information received and personal observations :—

The Marsh has been so levelled up that it is no longer a mosquito breeding place. The Chafey's area has been drained and no stagnating water or larvae was seen and little, if any, trouble is likely to arise from the margins of Radipole Lake. As before, Lodmoor is the chief, perhaps the only breeding ground of the most troublesome mosquitoes. In fact the most wide ranging species *Aedes detritus* and possibly *Aedes caspius* have apparently been so extending their breeding as to now cover the whole area.

The *Theobaldia* and *Anopheline* adults may fly half to one mile, and both species of *Aedes* for four or five miles from their breeding places in search of a blood meal.

Any treatment with paraffin or other larvicides being quite out of the question in 1928, and is still more so now.

The re-opening and connection up of all ditches with the outlets to the sea and drainage or filling up of remaining stagnating pools is the only satisfactory remedy.

This would obviously be followed by maintenance of ditches and the occasional search for and destruction of any isolated batches of larvae. The clearing of the ditches should be commenced as early as possible in order to get rid of most of the



larvae before they mature and get on the wing from March onwards.

Possibly the ditches could be sufficiently cleared as to get most of the water confined to them. This limited amount of water could be oiled if containing larvae. They could then be improved by further deepening."

### **Synopsis of Ministry of Health Memo 238/Med 1949.**

1. Emphasis is laid on the fact that it is essential to determine the species of mosquito responsible for the nuisance. (It is because of this that technical names have to be used when reports on the Weymouth problem are prepared, the aim being to present a proper appreciation of the problem.) If this is not done, money, labour and material could be wasted in planning a campaign by wrong application of the principles involved.

2. The remarks relating to *Aedes caspius* and *Aedes detritus* (on pages 17, 18, 19 and 23) are so thoroughly applicable to Weymouth that one almost feels that the writer of the Memo. is describing the Lodmoor area. Thus it is emphasized that where very extensive breeding grounds occur major drainage works are required and such work invariably constitutes an expert engineering problem.

3. Wherever possible anti-mosquito measures should aim at destruction of the breeding places by abolishing them permanently either by preventing their formation or by draining or filling them up.

4. The action of larvicides or oils is only temporary and palliative and their application must be repeated ad infinitum until the breeding grounds are abolished.

5. Oiling is not suitable for pools in coastal areas where the wind tends to displace the oil film before it has time to act.

6. Cresol larvicides can be double edged swords in that many natural enemies of mosquito larvae are destroyed at the same time.

7. Larvicides and oils should never be used on any collection of water unless mosquito larvae are actually present in it. It is because of this fact that efficient treatment of Lodmoor by such methods is so very difficult. Innumerable fresh puddles are created daily—even hourly—by the tramping of grazing cattle on the marshy, waterlogged parts of the area and it is virtually impossible to keep a check on such pools.



## CAMPING SITES—Public Health Act 1936, Section 269.

It is not to be wondered at that those parts of the South Dorset coastline which fringe the "Naples of England" should attract large numbers of holiday makers anxious to enjoy to the utmost the wealth of sunshine and the soft yet mildly invigorating atmosphere for which Weymouth is so deservedly famous. An open air holiday, caravanning or living under canvas amid such delightful scenery must make a wide appeal to those who have perforce to spend most of the year in less salubrious surroundings.

During the camping season, which usually reaches its peak over the August Bank-Holiday week-end, it is estimated that the holiday camps in the Preston area of the Borough contain as many as 5-6 thousand holiday makers.

Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936, states that a local authority may grant licences authorising persons to allow land occupied by them to be used as sites for moveable dwellings and conditions may be attached to such licenses with respect to:—

- (1) The number of moveable dwellings on the land.
- (2) The classes of moveable dwellings on the land.
- (3) The space to be kept between any two such dwellings.
- (4) The water supply.
- (5) The requirements necessary for securing sanitary conditions.

Continuous effort and supervision maintained by the Sanitary Inspectors have succeeded in improving the standards of most of the holiday camps. One will feel happier, however, when a main drainage scheme in the Preston area will make it possible for these camps to have water borne sanitation.

During the year proceedings were instituted against one camping site licensee concerning infringements of five of the conditions attached to his licence.

A conviction was obtained in respect of each offence and this licensee was fined a total of £25 with a continuing penalty of £2 per day in respect of each of the five offences.

## HUMANE KILLER FOR DOGS

Early in the year the R.S.P.C.A. offered to supply, free of cost, a modern electrically operated humane killer for dogs. This offer was accepted and the apparatus was fitted up in the Disinfecter Station in the Corporation Yard.

It is always a matter of great grief when a dog-lover has to decide to have a canine friend "put to sleep" and it may be a source of comfort to know that this can be effected painlessly and instantaneously. No charge is made for the service, arrangements for which should be made beforehand by a preliminary call at the Health Centre.



**Number of Animals dealt with during 1949**

Dogs	...	...	...	138
Cats and Kittens	...	...	...	368

**FOOD HYGIENE**

Towards the end of the year, Ministry of Food Circular 18/49 was received with Copy of Model Byelaws—Series 1—the latter designed to improve :—

- (1) The handling, wrapping and delivery of food.
- (2) Conditions relating to the sale of food in the open air.

These byelaws—when approved for local use—will provide new and much needed supervision of matters which have a considerable bearing on the health of the community. Control over the hygiene of open air stalls should be of particular value during the summer season.

During 1949, discussions took place as to how sullage water from the beach refreshment stalls could best be disposed of. Large tanks have now been sunk in the sands and these will be emptied daily by the Corporation's gully-emptier. It is thought that this should be a considerable improvement over the somewhat haphazard methods used in the past.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938**

In September, 1949, proceedings were taken by the Corporation against a firm in respect of a bottle of orangeade which was found to contain a dead cockroach. The Chairman of the Bench said the Magistrates were of the opinion that the cockroach got into the bottle in the factory, but the case was dismissed, the defendants having proved that they did not know and could not, with reasonable diligence, have ascertained that the orangeade was unfit for human consumption.

**HOUSING ACT 1936**

With the acute shortage of houses continuing, it was not possible to take action to secure better accommodation for families who are at present living in what are admittedly sub-standard houses.

Only one property, No. 1 Devenish Square, was represented as an individual unfit house under Section 11 of the Act. This house was demolished as soon as the statutory period had expired,

to prevent it becoming occupied by squatters—as has happened in other instances where actual demolition had not been insisted upon after the Order had become operative.

During the year proceedings were taken by the Corporation on two occasions in respect of No. 4 Malin's Lea, Wyke Regis, on which a demolition order became operative in December 1946.

In March, 1949, the owner was fined for permitting the house to be occupied and in September both landlord and tenant were fined, the latter having returned to live there about one month after the first prosecution.







## STATISTICAL REVIEW

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

#### (a) SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT

Reason for Inspection	No. of premises visited	No. of visits including re-visits	Nuisances or defects found	Nuisances or defects remedied
Houses under P.H.A.	456	1360	259	231
Drainage Work Only				
(a) New Buildings	139	283	—	—
(b) Existing Buildings	78	258	259	231
Camp Sites, Vans, Tents	17	157	44	44
Food Premises	224	906	59	68
Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	59	209	17	20
Factories Act	74	167	4	2
Shops Act, 1934	125	170	4	9
Public Conveniences	41	312	—	—

#### OTHER VISITS

Visits for the purpose of overcrowding and re-housing applications	...	...	...	...	312
Visits to houses re T.B.	...	...	...	...	55
Visits to houses re new tenancies for council houses	...	...	...	...	100
Visits to houses for purposes of Sec. 11/12, Housing Act (unfit properties)	...	...	...	...	343
Visits to Hutted Camp	..	...	...	...	2
Visits to offensive trade premises		...	...	...	5
Visits re smoke abatement	...	...	...	...	15
Visits to mosquito breeding grounds		...	...	...	42
Visits to places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	8
Visit to School	...	...	...	...	1
Visits to Outworkers premises	...	...	...	...	18
Visits to workplaces	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	217

A brief summary of some of the more important defects remedied is given below :—

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

House roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	31
Eaves, gutters and rainwater pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	15
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	35
Floors and staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Plasterwork repaired	...	...	...	...	14



Windows repaired	...	...	...	10
Firegrates and ranges repaired or renewed	...	...	...	7
Drainage systems repaired or renewed	...	...	...	29
Cesspools emptied after notice	...	...	...	23
Choked drains cleared after notice	...	...	...	7
Doors repaired	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	6
W.C.'s repaired or renewed and flushing cisterns	...	...	...	22
Sinks provided and sink wastes repaired	...	...	...	10
Chimney repaired	...	...	...	1
Offensive deposits removed	...	...	...	4
External walls repaired or rendered	...	...	...	2
Choked ditch cleaned	...	...	...	1
Insanitary poultry—conditions remedied	...	...	...	1

## (b) SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED

	NOTICES			
	Served		Complied	
	Informal	Statutory	Informal	Statutory
Public Health Act	121	17	99	16
Food and Drugs Act	45	—	47	—
Shops Act, 1934	4	—	8	—
Factory Act, 1937	4	—	1	—
Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders	5	—	5	—

## (c) SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN BOROUGH

### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Total number of houses in Borough	...	...	10,850
Number of houses served by W.C.'s draining to sewers (approx.)	...	...	9,700
Number of houses served by cesspools (approx.)	...	...	784
Number of cesspools (approx.)	...	...	521
Number of privies in the Borough (approx.)	...	...	36
Number of pail closets in the Borough (approx.)	...	...	229

### PARTICULARS OF CONVERSION FROM CONSERVANCY TO MAIN DRAINAGE SYSTEM

Number of premises converted	...	...	25
Number of cesspools abolished	...	...	8
Number of pail closets abolished	...	...	9

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Seventy visits were made in connection with the investigation of infectious diseases and Food Poisoning Cases.

### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Number of houses treated for disinfection (infectious diseases)	37
Number of rooms involved	65
Number of houses treated for disinfestation	39
Number of rooms involved	142
Number of articles of bedding, etc., disinfected	1693
Number of articles destroyed	49

# RODENT CONTROL

## (a) Surface Infestations.

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	199
Number of premises surveyed	...	...	...	3321
Number of premises given first treatment	...	...	...	432
Number of premises given second treatment	...	...	...	146
Number of premises given third treatment	...	...	...	10
Number of reinfestation treatments	...	...	...	12
Number of routine treatments	...	...	...	19
Number of visits made (survey and treatment)	...	...	...	6270
Number of prebait laid	...	...	...	14034
Number of prebait taken	...	...	...	10465
Number of poison bait laid	...	...	...	3322
Number of poison bait taken	...	...	...	2093
Number of premises gassed	...	...	...	2
Estimated number killed	...	...	...	5681

## Classified Infestations

Rats			Mice		
Minor	...	294	Minor	...	121
Major	...	11	Major	...	4
Reservoir	...	2	Reservoir	...	Nil
<hr/>			<hr/>		
307			125		

## (b) Sewer Rat Control.

(February, 1949)

Section	No. of manholes examined	No. not baited	No. baited	Average		pre-bait taken Total takes	No takes
				C.	P.		
Rodwell	108	1	107	7	22	29	78
Wyke Regis and Chickerell	246	5	241	4	104	108	133
Westham	197	4	193	17	40	57	136
Park	117	8	109	17	55	72	37
Town	58	4	54	9	23	32	22
Totals	726	22	704	54	244	298	406
<hr/>							
Connected (Combined) System	472	387	85	Nil	Nil	Nil	85



(August, 1949)

Section	No. of manholes examined	No. not baited	No. baited	Average pre-bait taken		Total takes	No takes
				C.	P.		
Rodwell	108	1	107	16	14	30	77
Wyke Regis and Chickerell	246	7	239	4	102	106	133
Westham	197	2	195	25	21	46	149
Park	122	7	115	6	42	48	67
Town	56	3	53	13	23	36	17
Totals	729	20	709	64	202	266	443

**HOUSING****Unfit Houses**

Demolition orders made during the year (Sec. 11) one house.

Houses subject to demolition orders and demolished during the year—6.

Parts of buildings subject to undertakings not to use for human habitation—made fit 1.

**Position at 31st December, 1949**

Premises	Still occupied as dwellings		Used as Stores or work-places	Void	Total
Houses subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders not yet demolished ... ..	10	25	14	49	
Houses subject to Closing Orders ... ..	1	6	1	8	
Houses subject to U/D not to relet ... ..	—	3	5	8	
Houses subject to U/D to make fit ... ..	1	—	—	1	

**SHOPS ACT, 1934.**

Number of premises inspected and recorded	...	125
Number of visits made for the purposes of the Act	...	170
Number of contraventions found	...	4
Number of contraventions remedied	...	9

**MILK SUPPLIES****Registered Premises, etc.**

Number of Milk Retailers	...	...	31
Number of Milk Producers	...	...	35
(Wholesale 25, Retail 10)			

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Samples	No. taken	Bacteriological count per c.c.				Methylene Blue Test		Coliform present in ml.		Coli organs, neg. or passed	Phosphatase Test	
		under	under	under	over	Sat.	Unsat.				Sat.	Unsat.
Designation	Bact. count.	30,000	200,000	500,000	500,000	1/10		1/100	1/1000			
Undesignated	69	54	15	—	—	61	8	1	13	55	—	—
Designated T.T.	70	53	17	—	—	68	2	3	17	50	—	—
Accredited	4	7	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	7	—	—
T.T. Pasteurised	11	11	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	11	11	—
Pasteurised	58	58	—	—	—	58	—	—	1	57	58	—
Heat treated samples taken by the Dorset County Council	50	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—	—	50	—

## Summary of Results.

Total number of samples taken	...	265	Number of samples of capped clean empty bottles	11
Samples classified as very good	...	228	Number of samples satisfactory	10
Samples showing room for improvement	...	16	Number of samples unsatisfactory	1
Samples classified as not satisfactory	...	21		



**Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1936—1946.**

	Accredited	T.T.	Pasteurised
Number of types of Dealers Licences	1	13	7
Number of types of Supplementary	—	1	—
Number of Pasteurising Licences	—	—	1

**FOOD SUPPLIES****(a) Inspection of Meat and Other Foods****(i) CARCASSES INSPECTED AT SLAUGHTERHOUSE**

	Cows	Other Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Goats
Weymouth	—	—	—	1271	—	—
Dorchester	476	498	322	25	171	3

**CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED (Weymouth)**

	Pigs
Number killed	1271
Number inspected	1271

**ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS**

Whole carcase condemned	...	...	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	36		
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	...	2.8%

**TUBERCULOSIS ONLY**

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	101		
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	...	...	8.26%

**(ii) MEAT CONDEMNED AT SLAUGHTERHOUSE**

Disease	Weight in lbs.	
	Weymouth	Dorchester
Tuberculosis	4048	16333
Cirrhosis and Distomatosis	34	4332
Abscesses	14	1164
Cavernous-Angioma	—	784
Metritis	—	908
Emaciation	—	865
Dropsy	—	483
Fever	—	344
Red Water Fever	—	425
Peritonitis	—	276
Parasitical Cysts	—	208
Nephritis	4	97
Pleurisy and pericarditis	65	32
Pneumonia	11	189
Mastitis	—	70
Ill-bled	—	72
Fatty Infiltration	—	83
Cysticercus Bovis	—	50
Fracture	—	49
Natural Death	—	34
Bruising	—	24
Ringworm	—	30
Johnes Disease	—	20

Disease	Weight in lbs.	
	Weymouth	Dorchester
Melanosis ... ..	—	28
Actinomycosis ... ..	—	7
Swelling ... ..	—	5
Decomposition ... ..	—	18
Total weight of meat condemned—13 tons, 17 cwts, 2 qrs. 26 lbs.		
Number of visits made to slaughterhouse ... ..	...	111

## (iii) OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

## CANNED GOODS

Meat ... ..	124 tins
Fish ... ..	224 tins
Fruit ... ..	100 tins
Milk ... ..	411 tins
Soup ... ..	31 tins
Vegetables ... ..	172 tins
Jam, Marmalade, etc. ... ..	39 tins
Other canned goods ... ..	117 tins

## MEAT.

Beef ... ..	1810 lbs.
Mutton ... ..	72 lbs.
Bacon ... ..	131 lbs.
Luncheon Meat ... ..	21 lbs.
Brawn ... ..	5 lbs.
Pigs Feet ... ..	20 lbs.
Meat Pies ... ..	12 lbs.
Poultry ... ..	245½ lbs.

## FISH.

Cod Fillets ... ..	4 stone
Plaice ... ..	2 stone
Turbot ... ..	3 stone
Wrapped Kippers ... ..	2 stone
Shellfish ... ..	1 bag
Other Fish ... ..	112 stone, 13½ lbs.

## SWEETMEATS

Locust Beans ... ..	70 lbs.
Chocolate ... ..	55 bars and 4 lbs., 14 oz.
Picadilly Mixture Sweets ... ..	4½ lbs.
Sweets ... ..	55½ lbs.
Toffee ... ..	28 bars

## OTHER FOODS

Sandwich Spread ... ..	78 jars
Marmalade ... ..	1 jar
Jam ... ..	3 jars
Soya Flour ... ..	8 lbs.
Paste ... ..	4 jars
Dates ... ..	60 boxes



Soup	...	...	...	...	16 packets
Tomato Links	...	...	...	...	17 lbs.
Seed Pearl Tapioca	...	...	...	...	71 lbs.
Camembert Cheese	...	...	...	...	1 packet
Self Raising Flour	...	...	...	5 bags,	165 lbs.
Black Pudding	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Plums	...	...	...	...	2 jars
Sausages	...	...	...	1 cwt.,	74½ lbs.
Sausage Meat	...	...	...	...	30 lbs.
Chitterlings	...	...	...	...	24½ lbs.
Margarine	...	...	...	...	107¾ lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	48 packets,	66 lbs., 11 ozs.
Butter	...	...	...	...	29¾ lbs.
Fat (Cooking)	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Sugar	...	...	...	...	12 lbs.
Pickles	...	...	...	...	23 jars
Cereals	...	...	...	...	179 packets
Salt	...	...	...	...	53 lbs.
Cake Mixture	...	...	...	...	17 packets
Semolina	...	...	...	...	1 packet
Herbs	...	...	...	...	3 packets
Junket Powder	...	...	...	...	50 packets
Baking Powder	...	...	...	...	45 packets
Lemon Crystals	...	...	...	...	24 packets
Gravy Mix	...	...	...	...	61 packets
Sauce Powder	...	...	...	...	20 packets
Jellies	...	...	...	...	14 packets
Eggs	...	...	...	...	64
Cake Flour	...	...	...	...	37 lbs.
Ketchup	...	...	...	...	18 bottles
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	25 bottles

### (b) Food Hygiene.

Number of food premises visited and recorded	...	224
Number of visits (or re-visits)	...	906
Number of defects found	...	59
Number of defects remedied	...	68

### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM

Nature of Mix	No. Samples	Coliform Organisms			Methylene Blue Test			Grades		
		Present in 1/10th c.c.	1/100th c.c.	1/1000th c.c.	Neg.	Passed	Failed	1	2	3
Heat treated	135	75	—	—	60	104	30	74	30	14
Not heat treated	8	4	—	—	4	8	—	7	1	—

(Note—One heat treated sample of Coffee Ice-Cream not graded. Methylene Blue test not possible.)

## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

## (a) Heat treated

Number of samples taken	...	135	
Samples classified as Grade 1	...	74	} 77.04% satisfactory
Samples classified as Grade 2	...	30	
Samples classified as Grade 3	...	14	} 22.22% unsatisfactory
Samples classified as Grade 4	...	16	

## (b) Not Heat treated.

Number of samples taken	...	8	
Samples classified as Grade 1	...	7	} 100% satisfactory
Samples classified as Grade 2	...	1	
Samples classified as Grade 3	...	Nil	
Samples classified as Grade 4	...	Nil	
Number of registered manufacturers	...	...	9
Number of registered vendors	...	...	103

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937

## Survey of action during year.

## (1) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	32	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	104	117	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers Premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	124	149	3	—



## (2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	I	I	—	—	—
<b>Sanitary Conveniences</b>					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	I	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	I	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Vent not fixed in W.C. ...	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	4	2	—	—	—

## (3) Outworkers.

(a) Number of lists received from employers ...	1
(b) Number of employees concerned ...	Nil
(c) Number of outworkers involved ...	3
(d) Number of outworkers living outside the Borough ...	Nil
(e) Number of lists received from outside Authorities ...	9
(f) Number of outworkers involved ...	69

## (4) Total inspections for all purposes (including outworkers).

No. of premises visited	No. of visits included re-visits	Defects found	Defects remedied
74	167	4	2

