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ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH AND SANITARY
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE
BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH
AND MELCOMBE REGIS FOR
THE YEAR 1950



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

Medical Officer of Health





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Medical Officer of Health

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| THE MAYOR (Alderman H. A. MEDLAM, J.P.) | |
| Alderman A. BILES, J.P. (Chairman) | |
| Councillor Mrs. F. G. MEGORAN (Vice-Chairman) | |
| Ald. A. P. BURT, J.P. | Ald. R. S. COMBEN, C.B.E., J.P. |
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| Councillor C. PRICE | Councillor Mrs. C. WOOTTON, M.A. |

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 :


H. HANDSCOMB, M.R.S.I.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

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

Clerical Staff :

Mr. F. H. HOUSE
Miss M. STEELE



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HEALTH CENTRE,
WESTHAM ROAD,
WEYMOUTH

July, 1951

**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 1951 on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

The health of the community was maintained during the year, and there was no outbreak of serious infectious disease. Measles (255 cases) and Whooping Cough (231 cases) were the most prevalent infections to be notified and it is satisfactory to record that there were no deaths attributed to either of these diseases.

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

The incidence of Infantile Paralysis was slightly higher than in previous years, twelve cases being notified. Five of these were visitors to the town. Four of the twelve cases recovered without any residual muscular weakness, but unfortunately three of the eight paralytic cases died from paralysis of the vital centres of the brain.

In my Report for 1949, special reference was made to the problem of mosquito and midge control. It is unfortunate that the Town Council is still not in a position to tackle the drainage of Lodmoor, as, until this is done, mosquitoes will continue to be a source of great annoyance to residents and visitors alike.

So far as the midge nuisance is concerned, it is doubtful if the insecticidal smoke dispersed along Radipole Park Drive caused any appreciable diminution.

A great deal of the Sanitary Inspectors' time was devoted to supervision of Camping Sites and special reference is made to this subject. The numerous other matters dealt with and the summary of inspections carried out give an indication of the assiduity with which the District Sanitary Inspectors carry out their duties under the excellent direction of Mr. H. Handscomb, Chief Sanitary Inspector, to whom I am personally most grateful for his assistance in the preparation of this Report.

I am again happy to place on record my appreciation of the 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 officials 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 |
| Mid-year Home Population (estimated by the Registrar General) | 36,160 |
| Estimated Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1950) | 10,982 |
| Rateable Value (31st March, 1950) | £328,608 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1950-51) | £1,300 |

CHIEF INDUSTRIES & 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 | | | 1950 | | |
|-----------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|
| | Men | Women | Total | Men | Women | Total | Men | Women | Total |
| March | 252 | 108 | 360 | 274 | 190 | 464 | 170 | 211 | 381 |
| June | 215 | 30 | 245 | 109 | 86 | 195 | 121 | 73 | 194 |
| September | 219 | 31 | 250 | 107 | 67 | 174 | 79 | 46 | 125 |
| December | 347 | 219 | 566 | 217 | 215 | 432 | 152 | 153 | 305 |

The main occupations in this area are :—

- Distributive Trades
- Hotel and Catering
- Building and Civil Engineering
- General Engineering
- Local and National Government Services
- Transport Services
- Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing
- Agriculture
- Scientific Instrument Making
- Food and Drink Manufacture
- Gas, Electricity and Water Undertakings

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF BOROUGH SUPPLIED BY REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR 1950.

Total Births—544.

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population—15.04

Comparability Factor—1.0

Standardised Birth Rate—15.04

Live Births—535

| | | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate | ... | 248 | 246 | 494 |
| Illegitimate | ... | 17 | 24 | 41 |
| Total | ... | 265 | 270 | 535 |

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population—14.79

Stillbirths—9

| | | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate | ... | 3 | 5 | 8 |
| Illegitimate | ... | — | 1 | 1 |
| Total | ... | 3 | 6 | 9 |

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 estimated population—0.25

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—16.54

Deaths—451. Males—232. Females—219.

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population—12.5

Comparability Factor—0.82

Standardised Death Rate—10.25

Deaths of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

| | | Males | Females | Total |
|--------------|-----|-------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate | ... | 11 | 3 | 14 |
| Illegitimate | ... | 1 | — | 1 |
| Total | ... | 12 | 3 | 15 |

Infant Mortality Rates.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| All Infants per 1,000 live births | ... | ... | ... | 28.03 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | ... | ... | ... | 28.34 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | ... | ... | ... | 24.39 |
| Neo-Natal Mortality Rate | ... | ... | ... | 18.69 |
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

TOTAL DEATHS 1950. (Registrar General's Official Returns)

All causes—451. Male—232. Female—219.

| Cause of Death. | | Males | Females |
|-----------------|---|-------|---------|
| 1. | Tuberculosis—Respiratory ... | 8 | 4 |
| 2. | Tuberculosis—Other ... | ... | 1 |
| 3. | Syphilitic Disease ... | 1 | 1 |
| 4. | Diphtheria ... | ... | ... |
| 5. | Whooping Cough ... | ... | ... |
| 6. | Meningococcal Infections ... | ... | ... |
| 7. | Acute Poliomyelitis ... | 2 | ... |
| 8. | Measles ... | ... | ... |
| 9. | Other Infective and parasitic diseases ... | 1 | ... |
| 10. | Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... | 1 | 2 |
| 11. | Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ... | 9 | 4 |
| 12. | Malignant neoplasm, breast ... | 1 | 11 |
| 13. | Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... | ... | 7 |
| 14. | Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... | 18 | 19 |
| 15. | Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... | 2 | 2 |
| 16. | Diabetes ... | 1 | 3 |
| 17. | Vascular lesions of nervous system ... | 25 | 34 |
| 18. | Coronary disease, agina ... | 36 | 25 |
| 19. | Hypertension with heart disease ... | 3 | 8 |
| 20. | Other heart disease ... | 46 | 45 |
| 21. | Other circulatory disease ... | 12 | 8 |
| 22. | Influenza ... | ... | 3 |
| 23. | Pneumonia ... | 7 | 8 |
| 24. | Bronchitis ... | 14 | 7 |
| 25. | Other diseases of respiratory system ... | 6 | ... |
| 26. | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... | 2 | 1 |
| 27. | Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... | 1 | ... |
| 28. | Nephritis and nephrosis ... | 2 | 3 |
| 29. | Hyperplasia of prostate ... | 4 | ... |
| 30. | Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... | ... | ... |
| 31. | Congenital malformations ... | 4 | 1 |
| 32. | Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... | 17 | 18 |
| 33. | Motor vehicle accidents ... | 3 | ... |
| 34. | All other accidents ... | 3 | 2 |
| 35. | Suicide ... | 3 | 2 |
| 36. | Homicide and operations of war ... | ... | ... |
| TOTAL ... | | 232 | 219 |

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Case-rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1950. 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 Home Population :— | | | | |
| Births : | | | | |
| Live Births ... | 15.8 | 17.6 | 16.7 | 17.8 |
| Still Births ... | 0.37 | 0.45 | 0.38 | 0.36 |
| Deaths :— | | | | |
| All Causes ... | 11.6 | 12.3 | 11.6 | 11.8 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid ... | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Diphtheria ... | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Tuberculosis ... | 0.36 | 0.42 | 0.33 | 0.39 |
| Influenza ... | 0.10 | 0.09 | 0.10 | 0.07 |
| Smallpox ... | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (incl. Polioence- phalitis) ... | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Pneumonia ... | 0.46 | 0.49 | 0.45 | 0.48 |
| Notifications :— (Corrected) | | | | |
| Typhoid Fever ... | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.01 |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Meningococcal Infection ... | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| Scarlet Fever ... | 1.50 | 1.56 | 1.61 | 1.23 |
| Whooping Cough ... | 3.60 | 3.97 | 3.15 | 3.21 |
| Diphtheria ... | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| Erysipelas ... | 0.17 | 0.19 | 0.16 | 0.17 |
| Smallpox ... | 0.00 | 0.00 | — | — |
| Measles ... | 8.39 | 8.76 | 8.36 | 6.57 |
| Pneumonia ... | 0.70 | 0.77 | 0.61 | 0.50 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (incl. Polioence- phalitis) Paralytic ... | 0.13 | 0.12 | 0.11 | 0.08 |
| Non-Paralytic ... | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.05 |
| Food Poisoning | 0.17 | 0.16 | 0.14 | 0.25 |
| Rates per 1,000 Live Births :— | | | | |
| Deaths :— | | | | |
| All causes under 1 year of age ... | 29.8(a) | 33.8 | 29.4 | 26.3 |
| Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ... | 1.9 | 2.2 | 1.6 | 1.0 |

| Notifications :— (Corrected) Puerperal fever and pyrexia ... | Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births :— | | | |
|---|--|------|------|------|
| | 5.81 | 7.43 | 4.33 | 6.03 |

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

| International List No. and cause | Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births | Rates per million women aged 15-44 |
|---|--|---|
| 651 Abortion with Sepsis | 0.09 | 7 |
| 650, 652 Other abortion | 0.05 | 4 |
| 640—649 } Complication of preg- 670—678 } nancy and delivery | 0.54 | — |
| 681 Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium | 0.03 | |
| 680, 682—689 Other complications of the puerperium | 0.15 | |

(a) Rates per 1,000 related live births.

COMMENTS ON THE VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The birth rate of 15.04 is once again lower than that of preceding years (16.18 in 1949, 18.5 in 1948).

Live births exceeded the number of deaths by 84.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths was 451—232 males and 219 females—giving a crude death rate of 12.5 per 1,000 population—identical with that of the preceding year. 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, or Meningococcal infections (cerebro-spinal fever).

There were no maternal deaths.

The infant mortality rate of 28.03 per 1,000 live births was higher than the record figure for the year 1948 (18.54) and is approximately the same as that for the country as a whole. (29.8 per 1,000 live births.)

Ten of the 15 infant deaths occurred under four week of age, giving a neo-natal mortality rate of 18.69 per 1,000 live births.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles

A total of 255 cases of measles was notified during the year—126 males and 129 females. The incidence was highest during the second three months of the year—the quarterly notifications being as follows—

| | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|
| March | ... | ... | 55 |
| June | ... | ... | 144 |
| September | ... | ... | 44 |
| December | ... | ... | 42 |

Whooping Cough

The number of cases of Whooping Cough notified during the year was 231, the majority (145) during the third quarter of the year, with 35 in each of the June and December quarters, and 16 in the first three months of the year.

Poliomyelitis

A total of twelve cases of Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) was notified during the year, eight cases being paralytic, and four non-paralytic. Five of the twelve cases were in visitors to the town, and of the eight paralytic cases three died in Hospital.

The cause of this worrying disease is known—it is one of the smallest of the filterable viruses—but the exact mechanism as to how infection spreads is still a matter of conjecture.

When cases of poliomyelitis have occurred it is advisable to avoid all unnecessary gatherings, especially of children. One should also avoid becoming unduly fatigued, as exhausting physical exercise by children and adults alike, is apt to precipitate infection and to cause more extensive paralysis.

Diphtheria

Once more it is gratifying to record that another year has gone by without any cases of Diphtheria being notified.

Chiropody Clinic

By the end of the year, a decision had not yet been arrived at as to which Local Authority was to undertake financial responsibility for this service:

The clinical work, however, was continued in the able hands of Mr. John Williams, M.Ch.S., and 572 attendances were made at 45 sessions.

Local Government (Superannuation) Act, 1937

During the year 14 entrants into the Corporation employ were medically examined as to their fitness for inclusion in the Superannuation Scheme.

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 there has been a slight increase 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 |
| 1950 | 30 | 7 | 23 | 54 |

In addition three patients from Portland, three from Dorchester Borough, nine from Dorchester Rural District, one from Swanage, and one visitor to the town were treated, having 4, 3, 13, 1, and 1, 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 |
| 1950 | 109 | 20 | 71 | 18 | 173 |

Notifiable Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, during 1950

| DISEASE | 1st Qr. | 2nd Qr. | 3rd Qr. | 4th Qr. | Total | Under 1 | 1-2 | 3-4 | 5-9 | 10-14 | 15-24 | 25 plus | Unknown |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| Scarlet Fever | 7 | ... | 5 | 5 | 17 | ... | 1 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... |
| Whooping Cough | 16 | 35 | 145 | 35 | 231 | 19 | 43 | 70 | 82 | 8 | ... | 7 | 2 |
| Ac. Poliomyelitis : Paralytic | 1 | ... | 6 | 1 | 8 | ... | 2 | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | ... |
| Non-Paralytic | ... | ... | 3 | 1 | 4 | ... | ... | 1 | 2 | ... | 1 | ... | ... |
| Measles | 55 | 114 | 44 | 42 | 255 | 6 | 38 | 69 | 121 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 7 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

| DISEASE | 1st Qr. | 2nd Qr. | 3rd Qr. | 4th Qr. | Total | Under 5 | 5-14 | 15-44 | 45-64 | 65 and over | Unknown |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|------|-------|-------|-------------|---------|
| Ac. Pneumonia | 22 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 40 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 4 | 11 |
| Dysentery | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... |
| Smallpox | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Ac. Encephalitis : Infective | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Post-infectious | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Enteric or Typhoid | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Paratyphoid Fevers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Erysipelas | ... | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 | ... | 1 | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Meningococcal Infection | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Food Poisoning | 5 | 2 | 5 | ... | 12 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | ... | 4 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

Verminous Premises

Verminous premises are treated with suitable liquid and powder insecticides and, where necessary, articles of clothing and bedding are treated in the Department's steam disinfectant plant. Facilities are available at the Health Centre for personal cleansing and as far as possible the treatment of persons and premises is co-ordinated. The number of houses disinfested during the year shows an increase of 20 over the previous year but, with the exception of one serious infestation of fleas, and one of bed-bugs, infestations were of a minor character.

Food Poisoning

During the year 12 cases of food poisoning were notified. Three of these were notified from the Rodwell district in two households and although no food poisoning organisms were isolated in the first two cases, salmonella typhi murium was isolated in the third case. It appears likely that the infections were acquired from duck eggs. When the first two cases were reported four duck eggs were sent to the Laboratory for examination but no specific organisms were isolated. Investigation showed that the duck eggs were bought in bulk from a distributor near Salisbury and appropriate information was sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned.

During the first two weeks of August information was received that there may have been outbreaks of food poisoning among guests in a hotel and in a private school used as a boarding house during the summer vacation. Full investigations were carried out but in neither case did the Laboratory reports show any evidence of food poisoning. None of the visitors had sought medical advice and notifications were, therefore, not received in respect of any of these possible cases of food poisoning.

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.

Humane Killer for Cats and Dogs

The apparatus supplied by the R.S.P.C.A. has operated satisfactorily throughout the year and the number of animals dealt with shows an increase of 61 over the previous year. This service, for which no charge is made, is perhaps getting more widely known now, and those who have had their pets "put to sleep" have expressed appreciation for the humane manner in which the work has been carried out.

Number of animals dealt with during 1950—

| | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Dogs | ... | ... | 162 |
| Cats | ... | ... | 405 |

Mortuary

The Town Mortuary in Commercial Road continued to be used both as a Mortuary and Post Mortem Room but it appears that quite a considerable use is also being made of the better facilities for post-mortem examinations at the Weymouth and District Hospital.

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.

Seven cases were under review during the year. Of these cases, one was persuaded to enter a suitable home for elderly persons and the other six cases were not such that action under the provisions of Section 47 was considered necessary.

Welfare of Old People

The Town Council is fully aware of the difficulties which face old people, especially those who are living alone, and thirty "old people's homes" have already been built, and are now occupied, on the Westhaven Estate. Fourteen more have been planned for erection on the Downclose Estate, Wyke Regis.

It is of interest to note that Clubs for old people have been started in the Town by various organisations. The Clubs are proving a great success and it is very gratifying to see the interest shown in the welfare of old people by the Rotary Club, Inner Wheel, Toc H, Red Cross, and other bodies.

WATER SUPPLY

The water in the Borough is provided by the Weymouth Waterworks Company, 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.

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 SAMPLES

Total Samples Taken Satisfactory Suspicious Unsatisfactory

57

56

1

Nil

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

Samples taken 30th October, 1950

Fountain, Empool Sutton Poyntz
Pumping Station Spring
(Before Chlorination)

Physical Examination :

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|--------|--------|
| Colour | ... | ... | None | None |
| Appearance | ... | ... | Bright | Bright |
| Taste | ... | ... | Normal | Normal |
| Smell | ... | ... | None | None |

General Chemical Examination :

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-------------------|----------------|
| Reaction | ... | ... | pH. 7.1 | 7.4 |
| | | | Parts per Million | |
| Free Carbon Dioxide | | | 23 | 11 |
| Ammoniacal Nitrogen | N | | Less than 0.01 | Less than 0.01 |
| Albuminoid Nitrogen | N | | 0.003 | 0.005 |
| Nitrous Nitrogen | N | | absent | absent |
| Nitric Nitrogen | N | | 3.4 | 3.3 |
| Hardness—Calculated from Mineral Analysis | | | | |
| Temporary | ... | | 223 | 183 |
| Permanent | ... | | 33 | 24 |
| Permanganate figure | | | | |
| (4 hours 80° F. as 0) | | | 0.36 | 0.40 |
| Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ | ... | | 223 | 146 |
| Total solids | ... | | 312 | 247 |

MINERAL ANALYSIS

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|--------|--------|
| Calcium Ca | ... | 98.5 | 79.8 |
| Magnesium Mg | ... | 2.3 | 2.0 |
| Sodium Na | ... | 6.2 | 10.0 |
| Carbonate CO ₃ | ... | 133.5 | 109.5 |
| Chloride Cl | ... | 20.5 | 21.5 |
| Sulphate SO ₄ | ... | 13.5 | 8.0 |
| Nitrate NO ₃ | ... | 15.1 | 14.6 |
| Iron | ... | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Lead and Copper | ... | absent | absent |

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The greater part of the Borough is served by sewers but there is a large area in Preston, Sutton Poyntz, Overcombe and Bowleaze where main drainage is not available. The Town Council resolved some years ago that the erection of new buildings should not be permitted in these districts until main drainage had been provided.

A drainage scheme for these districts is in course of preparation at the present time by the Consulting Engineers to the Town Council.

Sewage from the remainder of the Borough is disposed of by pumping to a sea outfall. The main pumps are situated at Westham. Quite a large number of cesspools are still in use in areas where main sewers are already available, and, wherever possible, efforts are made to abolish these cesspools and arrange for connection of house drains to the main sewers.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION IN BOROUGH

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Total number of houses in Borough | ... | ... | ... | 10,982 |
| Number of houses served by W.C.'s draining to sewers (approx.) | ... | ... | ... | 9,835 |
| Number of houses served by cesspools (approx.) | ... | ... | ... | 782 |
| Number of cesspools (approx.) | ... | ... | ... | 519 |
| Number of privies in the Borough (approx.) | ... | ... | ... | 36 |
| Number of pail closets in the Borough (approx.) | ... | ... | ... | 228 |

PARTICULARS OF CONVERSION FROM CONSERVANCY TO MAIN DRAINAGE SYSTEM, DURING 1950

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Number of premises converted | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Number of cesspools abolished | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Number of pail closets abolished | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

HOUSING

(a) Unfit Houses

It remains a matter for great concern that many families in the Borough have still to reside in very sub-standard houses. Whilst the acute housing shortage continues, statutory action to secure better accommodation for these families must of necessity be restricted to cases where the buildings are so defective that statutory action becomes imperative.

During the year one property, No. 14 East Street, was represented as an individual unfit house under Section 11 of the Act, and was demolished as soon as the statutory period expired.

A Closing Order, under Section 12 of the Act, was made in respect of the basement rooms, No. 1 Royal Terrace. Tenants of both of the above properties were re-housed by the Corporation.

Parts of three buildings subject to undertakings given under Section 12 of the Act were repaired by the owners and made fit for habitation.

Action was taken to secure the demolition of seven houses subject to Demolition Orders made before 1950 and all seven were demolished during the year.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Position at 31st December, 1950

| Premises | Still occupied as dwellings | Used as Stores or work-places | Void | Total |
|--|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------|-------|
| Houses subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders not yet demolished | 8 | 23 | 11 | 42 |
| Houses subject to Closing Orders | — | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Houses subject to U/D not to relet | — | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| Houses subject to U/D to make fit | 1 | — | — | 1 |

(b) Applications for Re-housing

A considerable amount of time has been spent in investigating claims by housing applicants for priority recommendations on the grounds of overcrowding, ill health, etc. Each application is carefully assessed before a final decision is reached and 224 visits were made in connection with this work in addition to a considerable number of interviews at the Health Centre.

MOSQUITO AND MIDGE CONTROL

Mosquitoes

The mosquito nuisance during the spring and summer gave rise to a considerable number of complaints and the problem received wide publicity from the press. No doubt the heavy rainfall during the summer was responsible for the abnormal prevalence of mosquitoes and, as was to be expected, the problem was most acute in the areas bordering on Lodmoor.

The nuisance reached such proportions during July and August that residents of houses immediately adjacent to Lodmoor were quite unable to use their gardens during the evenings without suffering continuous irritation from the insects.

The large sale of mosquito repellants by chemists in the borough gives an indication of the nuisance which residents and visitors alike have to endure, and measures to eradicate this

serious menace to the popularity of the Borough as a health resort are becoming more urgent each year.

Controlled tipping at the southern extremity of Lodmoor was commenced early in the year but other than this no practical steps were taken to deal with the major problem of elimination of breeding grounds.

The area of Lodmoor is so large that filling by controlled tipping will not in itself provide the solution for very many years to come and the essential works of drainage, filling in of ditches, raising soil level and other measures should not be any longer delayed.

It is to be hoped that, when negotiations for the compulsory purchase of Lodmoor are completed, the Town Council will take energetic steps to eradicate mosquito breeding in this area.

Though Lodmoor remains the paramount problem for mosquito control in Weymouth there was evidence during the summer that mosquito breeding was taking place in the Radipole Lake area though on a relatively small scale.

Midges

The prevalence of midges in Radipole Lake once again spoiled the pleasure of persons visiting the gardens and tennis courts in Radipole Park Drive. If anything, breeding was on a larger scale than during the previous year.

A Pattison tractor was adapted to disperse an insecticidal smoke cloud so that the adult chironomidae might be attacked "on the wing." This method had been carried out experimentally during the previous year and it was hoped that, with favourable weather conditions, a systematic treatment might reduce the midge nuisance considerably.

Operations were carried out on thirteen occasions with the new apparatus when midge clouds were at their worst.

Midges harbouring in and above the hedge along Radipole Park Drive were treated with great success and, after the second application, the D.D.T. deposit remaining in the hedge appeared to be entirely effective and was also acting as a deterrent. Midge clouds, the largest of which were generally twelve to fifteen feet above the ground, escaped the full force of the smoke and very soon it was evident that midge clouds were rising above the effective height range of the apparatus. Treatment was, however, continued but no appreciable diminution appeared to be resulting.

The efficacy of the D.D.T. residue left on vegetation was established beyond doubt but the Parks Superintendent was disturbed by the possible effect of D.D.T. deposit on the gardens

and the fact that bushes, plants and flowers were beginning to show disfiguration due to the white crystalline deposit of D.D.T.

It would have been necessary for this reason alone to discontinue operations for some weeks in order to prevent damage to the gardens, but the apparatus finally needed such extensive repairs that it was decided to discontinue operations altogether.

The question of maintaining a higher water level in Radipole Lake, in an attempt to prevent midge breeding in the mud-banks there, will be investigated in 1951.

CARAVANS AND CAMPING SITES—Public Health Act, 1936 Sections 268-269.

Present Legislation

I mentioned in my Annual Report for 1949 that it was not to be wondered at that this delightful part of the Dorset coastline should attract such large numbers of holiday makers and, in the Preston area alone, it is now estimated that up to 8,000 holiday makers may be living in tents or caravans during the height of the summer season. The problem which camping and caravaning brings in its train is of great national importance and Local Authorities throughout the country have been experiencing much difficulty in controlling the growth of "shack colonies" owing to the limited power given to them under the existing law. Present legislation covering moveable dwellings is complex and very ambiguous, but one step towards a possible solution to the problem was made during the year when the Report of the Moveable Dwelling Conference was completed and published.

Arising from this report, which covers all aspects of camping and a review of the entire legislation dealing with the subject, some new means of control may be forthcoming and, though in Weymouth no effort is spared to maintain camping and caravaning standards as high as the present law permits, it is very obvious that wider measures of control are necessary.

The principal powers for control of moveable dwellings from the public health view-point are contained in the Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 268 and 269. Section 268 deals with nuisances and bye-laws, and 269 with control by licence. Although "holiday camping" as such is not mentioned in Section 269, Circular 1600 of the Ministry of Health made it clear that Section 269 was directed to the control of holiday camping.

There are two forms of licence which may be granted for regulating the use of moveable dwellings:—

- (1) Authorising persons to allow land to be used as sites for moveable dwellings.

- (2) Authorising persons to erect or station and use moveable dwellings.

For persons wishing to start a "camping site," a licence under (1) would be necessary, but for the individual wishing to station and use one caravan on a particular plot, perhaps for use as a permanent home, a licence under (2) would be required.

As regards licences under (1) the Local Authority is able to attach conditions with respect to the number and classes of moveable dwellings allowed, the spacing, water supply and sanitary conditions. Licences under (2) may have conditions with respect to the use of the moveable dwelling, including spacing, removal at the end of a period, and sanitary conditions.

A licence is unnecessary if land is not to be used for more than 42 consecutive days, or more than 60 days in all, in any twelve months. It is important in this respect to note that under Town Planning legislation the maximum period is fixed at "28 days in total in any calendar year." Local Authorities and the public alike find the application of these aspects of caravan law very confusing.

An applicant aggrieved by refusal of the Local Authority to grant a licence under the Public Health Act, or by any condition attached to a licence, may appeal within 21 days to a court of summary jurisdiction.

There are certain exclusions from licence control as follow :

- (a) A moveable dwelling in the grounds of the owner's house and used only by his household.
- (b) A moveable dwelling on agricultural land and used only for seasonal farming purposes.
- (c) A moveable dwelling belonging to a person who is the proprietor of a travelling circus, roundabout, amusement fair, stall or store (not being a pedlar, hawker or costermonger) and which is regularly used by him in the course of travelling for the purpose of his business.
- (d) A moveable dwelling on land used only for the storage of moveable dwellings and at no time for camping purposes.

The Minister of Health is empowered to grant certificates exempting an organisation from the provisions of the whole of Section 269, if it satisfies him that it takes reasonable steps to secure :

- (a) that camping sites belonging to or provided by it, or used by its members, are properly managed and kept in good sanitary condition.

- (b) that moveable dwellings used by its members are so used as not to give rise to any nuisance.

It is of interest to note that the Boy Scouts' Association regards its exemption as applying only to camping under its own control and organisations of private campers have accepted a drastic curtailment of their exemption. Each member of the well known Camping Club and Caravan Club binds himself not to make use of the exemption

- (a) when camping on any site conducted on commercial lines.
- (b) when camping for more than 42 consecutive days on any site unless it has been specially approved for this purpose by the Council of the Club.
- (c) when occupying any shed or structure other than a bona fide mobile caravan or tent.

This in effect means that members are exempt from the 60 days limit but not from the 42 consecutive days limit and have no exemption whatsoever on commercial sites.

The most important benefit to approved organisations is that touring campers who are members need not be turned away by farmers whose land has been used casually for camping purposes for the reason that the land has already been used by other casual campers for a total of 60 days.

The Camping Site Problem in Weymouth

Weymouth's caravan and camping problem is centred in the Preston area where five large licensed sites have been established. These five sites cover a total area of nearly 95 acres and, under the conditions of licence relating to spacing of caravans on these sites, a total of 2,361 moveable dwellings may be accommodated on this area.

In addition to camping on the licensed sites, Preston is extremely popular as a camping area with organised bodies of campers who occupy land for periods within the statutory time limits mentioned in Section 269. For example, the Bristol Boys' Brigade occupy land at Preston each year, within the legal time limits, for a boys camp and up to 500 of their members are under canvas at one time. The area is also very popular with the Boy Scout movement and, in the summer months, the normal resident population of Preston is probably outnumbered by the influx populations of campers.

The village of Preston is not connected to the Town system of sewers and therein lies the main public health problem in the management and control of sites in Preston. The chemical closet or bucket systems of closet accommodation are adopted in the licensed sites and constant vigilance by the Health Department

is called for to ensure that this system of sanitation is maintained by the camp authorities at as high a standard as possible. The method of final disposal of excreta has for a long time caused great difficulty, but during the year two camps provided concrete underground storage tanks into which excreta from the closets could be emptied. The Corporation undertakes the emptying of the concrete tanks as necessary. Underground tanks have now been provided in four of the five camps and the remaining camp, where underground tanks cannot be installed, is to provide two large mobile steel tanks in the coming year.

Other major problems arising from camping in this area were :

- (i) Refuse disposal.
- (ii) Disposal of sullage water.
- (iii) Unauthorised sheds, 'bus bodies, etc., on sites.

(i) Methods of refuse disposal adopted by the camp proprietors were not entirely satisfactory in some instances. Incineration was carried out in some camps but it was often noted, particularly during long periods of rain, that the incinerators provided could not cope with the large quantities of wet refuse which had accumulated.

It is not desirable that all refuse from the camps should be incinerated on the sites as this would tend to cause a nuisance to the campers and seriously detract from the amenity of the camping area. It is to be hoped that next year the licensees will arrange for removal of all refuse to the Council's controlled tip, and it is interesting to note that this method has been found by one camp to be more economical than employing a man almost full-time to attend to refuse incineration.

(ii) Disposal of sullage water has not hitherto caused much difficulty but the heavy rainfall during the summer resulted in some sites remaining waterlogged for considerable periods and soakage pits became useless. In the one large camp where this difficulty reached serious proportions the licensees readily co-operated when it was suggested that a system of land drainage was necessary, and before the end of the season a large scheme for land drainage on this site was well on the way towards completion.

(iii) The drive to rid camp sites of sheds, shacks, old 'bus and van bodies, etc., which are not permitted under the conditions attached to the licences, was continued during the year and some progress was made. The Health Committee had this problem before them on very many occasions and it is hoped that all unauthorised structures and vehicles will be removed from the sites before the next summer season begins.

Before leaving the subject of licensed sites I must add that there is one large licensed site in Wyke Regis. This site is provided with drains, water-closets and ablution facilities connected to the main sewers. The problem of camp sanitation as described for Preston does not therefore arise in Wyke Regis and the hygiene and sanitation at this camp was maintained at a satisfactory standard throughout the year.

The Permanent Camper

The necessity for dealing with camping sites does not end at the close of the season, and throughout the winter months also, visits must be made as three of the five camps are used by some campers in permanent residence.

There are also families living in single caravans in various district of the Borough and these individual caravans are as much subject to Public Health and Town Planning law as the large camping sites.

Applicants for individual caravan licences are, as a rule, genuinely in need of housing accommodation and many consider it far more satisfactory to meet the difficulties of living in the confined limits of a caravan in preference to living under what are often trying conditions in lodgings or with "the in-laws."

The great majority of persons using caravans as permanent homes are accommodated on the licensed sites in Preston. Owing to the restricted living space in caravans, many have resorted to the practice of providing shed attachments in which to store necessary household goods which cannot be contained conveniently within the caravans. The erection of additional sheds, often very crude improvisations, not only results in an untidy appearance of the site but leads to difficulty between the Licensees and the Town Council, as licence conditions in respect of the Preston sites prohibit the provision of anything but trailer caravans or tents.

This condition, at first glance, appears a trifle harsh, but it must be remembered that the sites in Preston are primarily holiday centres for visitors and, were it not for the present day serious shortage of houses, it is unlikely that the problem created by the permanent camper would have arisen.

The very unfavourable weather at the end of the year created extremely unpleasant conditions for permanent caravan residents, particularly those in Preston. Sites were ankle-deep in mud for long periods and the essential task of collecting water from stand-pipes or visiting the conveniences was not possible without the aid of rubber boots.

The owners of two sites laid down hard roads during the winter and it is to be hoped that for next winter the caravans occupied by permanent residents will be re-sited along these roads.

The few licences granted to persons occupying single caravans elsewhere in the Borough are, in the majority of cases, limited to a period of six months. When this period expires further application is necessary and each application is considered very carefully by the Town Council.

Applications for Licences—1950

The licensee of one site made a request to the Council early in the year for his licence to be transferred to members of his family. This required termination of the original licence and the issue of a completely new licence to the new applicants. The Council agreed to this course but attached a revised set of conditions which have resulted in lessening the number of caravans permitted on the site and more effective conditions were also imposed relating to the sanitation of the camp.

Two applications were received during the year for licences to use further land in Preston as camping sites. I advised the Town Council in each case that camping in the Preston area, where no sewer was available, had already reached a maximum compatible with safety from the public health point of view. The Town Council refused to grant licences and one applicant subsequently appealed to the Court. The appeal was heard early in 1951 and the Court upheld the Council's decision.

Two applications to establish new sites were received in respect of land in other areas of the Borough. In both cases it was possible to provide water closets, drains, etc., connected to the main sewers. Licences were issued but conditions were attached requiring, among other things, the provision of drains and water closets. By the end of the year no steps had been taken to meet these conditions but the sites had not been used for camping purposes in the meantime.

Thirteen applications to station and use single caravans on individual sites were received during the year. Of these, six were for renewal of licences, and these applications were granted. Of the other seven, four were approved and in three instances the issue of a licence was refused on public health grounds.

Supervision by the Health Department.

It will be readily understood that supervision of camping in the Borough occupies a considerable amount of the Sanitary Inspectors' time, particularly during the period from June to September. During these months, the greater part of one Sanitary Inspector's duties must be devoted to this work and, in 1950,

more than 200 inspections of camping sites were carried out. The sites are all extensive and when it is borne in mind that the established sites alone cover 95 acres, the work and time involved in making 200 inspections can be appreciated.

There is always, in every holiday resort, a considerable increase in the volume of work which the Public Health Department must carry out during the summer season. The tremendous amount of time devoted to camping site inspection in Weymouth often curtails to an extent the detailed attention to routine duties of the Department which must be continued throughout the whole year.

Licensees have generally been most co-operative when asked to deal with matters brought to their attention by the Health Department. There is, however, another side to the picture which I feel it my duty to record. Some licensees appear to feel that there is little need for them to maintain the standards required since the demand for camping sites continues to increase whether conditions on the sites are good or not. They have shown a reluctance to comply with the conditions of their licences, which are minimum requirements from the public health point of view, and this attitude accounts, in a large measure, for the amount of time which must be spent by the Health Department in maintaining the required standard.

It is fully understood that owners of camping sites are in business to make a profit but they should remember also that they have a tremendous responsibility in maintaining the highest standard of sanitation in their camps in order to safeguard the health of the visitors.

It should not be necessary for the Health Department to spend such a disproportionate amount of time on camping site inspection, but although conditions show signs of gradual improvement, they can never be entirely satisfactory until main drainage is provided in Preston.

The Health Department will continue its effort towards reaching the highest possible standard of sanitation on the camping sites and I am very pleased to add that the keenness and enthusiasm of the Sanitary Inspectors in this direction has achieved some excellent results during the year.

In conclusion, it is of interest to note the recommendations made by the Moveable Dwelling Conference. The difficulties discussed by the Conference were similar to those which have already caused this Council concern from time to time and I believe that, if the carrying out of these recommendations becomes possible, they will go a long way towards solving Weymouth's camping site difficulties.

Summary of Recommendations by the Moveable Dwelling Conference

1. The classification "moveable dwellings" should be confined to tents and bona fide caravans, i.e. structures of which movement is part of the use. Huts, sheds, and adaptations of old road and rail vehicles not in efficient and legal running order should be grouped with temporary buildings. (This would require legislation. Pending such legislation, more use should be made by licensing authorities of the power to control the types of moveable dwelling admitted to licensed sites.)
2. The aim of local authorities and the Ministries concerned should be the ultimate disappearance of all structures used for human habitation which are not (a) bye-law buildings, (b) tents or bona fide caravans, or (c) cabins or similar dwellings used on authorised sites and under controlled conditions for holiday accommodation only.
3. Where persons unable to obtain houses have made their homes in moveable dwellings without reference to the local authority, they should be moved to suitable sites where the essential minimum services can be provided.
4. To reduce the present overcrowding, which is increasing, there should be more camping sites for holiday use. The new ones should, in general, be so situated and publicized as to draw off some of the campers from coastal areas at present overcrowded to other areas with sufficiently attractive holiday facilities, but not ranking high for scenic beauty.
5. There should be more storage sites for caravans located conveniently in areas of low amenity so that the caravans are not left for long periods in areas of high amenity in between periods of use.
6. Local planning authorities should assume planning control of all commercial sites established before July 1st, 1948, which required and did not obtain planning permission under planning Acts earlier than the 1947 Act. There is room for great improvement in sites from the amenity aspect.
7. A local planning authority should have power to serve an enforcement notice under the 1947 Act without waiting for the expiry of the permitted 28 days, provided that the notice does not take effect until after 28 days from the start of the activity objected to.
8. The unit of "land" for the purpose of development permitted under the General Development Order, 1948, should be defined.

9. There is need for clarification of the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269, in respect of the conditions that may be attached to licences, the right to limit the licence to a stated period, and the right to revoke a licence.
10. The period within which a licensing authority under Section 269 must give its decision, should be increased from four weeks to six.
11. The monetary penalties under Section 269 are useless as deterrents in the case of profitable breaches of the Section at commercial camping sites. They should be made the maximum for each moveable dwelling concerned, instead of the maximum for one offence irrespective of the number of moveable dwellings for which the offender is responsible.
12. An extensive and drastic campaign, based upon the recommendations of this Report, should be carried out by local authorities with a view to securing a substantial improvement in camping site conditions. It should be effected by improved licence conditions properly enforced, improved rules for campers, and education of site operators and campers.
13. Camping site operators prepared to carry out capital improvements should be given assurances of reasonable security of tenure for some years, so long as good conditions are maintained.
14. A housing authority should have power to make a clearance order for an area occupied by moveable dwellings which are unfit for habitation even if there are no houses in the area justifying a clearance order.
15. In view of the impossibility of re-housing all the occupants within four years of July 1st, 1948, local planning authorities should be allowed a longer period within which to deal with old-established shack colonies under Section 26 of the Town and County Planning Act, 1947.

FOOD HYGIENE

A considerable amount of time was devoted to the inspection of food premises, especially during the summer months. Owners and occupiers of food premises were generally very ready to co-operate in an effort to improve the standard of food hygiene and to carry out works in order to comply with the requirements laid down in Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The Health Committee gave consideration early in the year to the possibility of carrying out a Clean Food Campaign in the Borough. The inspection of all food premises had not then been completed and it was decided to postpone action in the matter for twelve months to enable the survey of food premises to be completed.

The Model Bye-laws relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air were adopted by the Borough and came into operation on the 17th July, 1950. These Bye-laws are of particular value in controlling the hygiene of food stalls in the open air and action was taken to improve the structure of certain stalls in order to ensure full compliance with the Bye-laws.

The need for improvement in food hygiene generally within the Borough is a matter of great importance. The large influx of visitors to the town during the summer places a great strain on the staffs engaged in the catering industry. It was noted at the height of the season that many proprietors of food premises had engaged additional seasonal workers who had little or no training in food hygiene.

If a Clean Food Campaign is carried out in the Borough I feel that some training of food industry personnel in subjects relating to food hygiene would be essential and this training might form a sound basis for a successful campaign.

During the summer months the Chief Sanitary Inspector addressed two organisations connected with food handling on the subject of Food Hygiene.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of visits, or re-visits, made to food premises | 811 |
| Number of defects found | 63 |
| Number of defects remedied | 59 |

ICE CREAM

Three hundred and four inspections were made of premises where ice cream was manufactured, stored or on sale to the public.

The number of samples taken shows a decrease on the previous year but the number of inspections of ice cream premises has increased.

When adverse reports on samples were received action was quickly taken by the Department and subsequent samples taken from the same vendors were found to be satisfactory.

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 | 4 |
| Heat treated | 95 | 43 | — | — | 52 | 83 | 12 | 68 | 15 | 3 | 9 |
| Cold Mix. | 3 | 1 | — | — | 2 | 3 | — | 3 | — | — | — |

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

(a) Heat treated

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|----|-------------------------|
| Number of samples taken | ... | 95 | |
| Samples classified as Grade 1 | ... | 68 | } 87.36% satisfactory |
| Samples classified as Grade 2 | ... | 15 | |
| Samples classified as Grade 3 | ... | 3 | } 12.63% unsatisfactory |
| Samples classified as Grade 4 | ... | 9 | |

(b) Not Heat treated.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|
| Number of samples taken | ... | 3 | |
| Samples classified as Grade 1 | ... | 3 | 100% satisfactory |
| Number of registered manufacturers | ... | ... | 10 |
| Number of registered vendors | ... | ... | 122 |

MILK SUPPLIES

(1) The new legislation affecting milk, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1949, brought about major changes in the control of milk supplies.

The responsibility for registration of dairy farms and farmers and supervision of milk production at farms was transferred from local authorities to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries except in so far as the new Regulations relate to diseases communicable to man.

A complete revision of the records of milk distributors was carried out and at the end of the year there were 29 entries on the register as follows :—

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| Distributors of milk residing within the Borough | ... | 19 |
| Distributors of milk residing outside the Borough but retailing within the Borough | ... | Nil |
| Premises registered (used as Dairies) | ... | 10 |

(2) **Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949**
Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

Dealers' licences to sell designated milk were granted as follows :

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Pasteurised Milk | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Accredited Milk | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Tuberculin Tested Milk | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Tuberculin Tested Milk (Supplementary) | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

(3) **Milk Sampling**

During the year, 163 samples of milk were taken by the Department for bacteriological examination and 110 samples of heat treated milk were taken in the Borough by sampling officers of the Dorset County Council. The Dorset County Council is the Licensing Authority for dealers who pasteurise or sterilise milk. There is one pasteurising plant within the Borough and another just outside the Borough boundary.

Of the total of 273 samples taken, only four raw milk samples were unsatisfactory. When adverse reports were received the appropriate authorities were notified and subsequent samples from the same retailers were afterwards satisfactory. It is noteworthy that all heat treated samples taken during the year passed the prescribed tests.

Details of samples taken are as follows :

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

| Sample Designation | No. taken | Menthylene Satisfactory | Blue Test Unsatisfactory | Phosphatase Test Satisfactory | Phosphatase Test Unsatisfactory |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Undesignated | 49 | 48 | 1 | — | — |
| T.T. | 53 | 50 | 3 | — | — |
| Accredited | 6 | 6 | — | — | — |
| T.T. Pasteurised | 10 | 10 | — | 10 | — |
| Pasteurised | 45 | 45 | — | 45 | — |
| Heat treated samples by Dorset C.C. | 110 | 110 | — | 110 | — |

Summary of Results

| | | |
|---|-------|-----|
| Total number of samples taken | | 273 |
| Total number classified as satisfactory | ... | 269 |
| Total number classified as unsatisfactory | ... | 4 |

FOOD SUPPLIES

(1) MEAT INSPECTION

The control of slaughtering remains under the Ministry of Food and only one private slaughterhouse is in use within the Borough. This slaughterhouse is used exclusively for pigs and all carcasses are inspected in accordance with Memo 62/Foods.

One Sanitary Inspector from the Department carries out meat inspection at the Ministry of Food Abattoir, Dorchester, on at least one day each week. This arrangement was made during the war, when the Borough of Dorchester made approaches to neighbouring local authorities for assistance in this work. Five local authorities have since co-operated with the Borough of Dorchester in carrying out meat inspection at the Dorchester abattoir.

The Borough of Dorchester informed the Weymouth Town Council, in October, 1950, that this arrangement had a number of disadvantages and made the suggestion that they would appoint an additional Sanitary Inspector primarily for meat inspection duties, if local authorities whose areas were supplied with meat from the Dorchester abattoir would contribute towards the salary of the proposed additional Inspector.

Negotiations between local authorities concerned were still proceeding at the end of the year and agreement to proceed with the scheme was reached early in 1951.

(a) CARCASSES INSPECTED AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES

| | Cows | Other Cattle | Sheep | Pigs | Calves |
|------------|------|--------------|-------|------|--------|
| Weymouth | — | — | — | 1385 | — |
| Dorchester | 449 | 716 | 648 | 32 | 274 |

(b) CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED (WEYMOUTH)

| | | | | | Pigs |
|------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Number killed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1385 |
| Number inspected | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1385 |

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Whole carcase condemned | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | ... | ... | ... | 34 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | 2.45% |

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Whole carcasses condemned | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | ... | ... | ... | 116 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | 9.38% |

(c) MEAT CONDEMNED AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES

(i) DORCHESTER

| Disease | Weight |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Tuberculosis | 20528 lbs. |
| Cirrhosis and Distomatosis | 3617 lbs. |
| Abscesses | 1117 lbs. |
| Actinomycosis | 94 lbs. |
| Cavernous-Angioma | 847 lbs. |
| Inflammation | 323 lbs. |
| Pericarditis | 8 lbs. |
| Cysticercus Bovis | 265 lbs. |
| Bruising | 284 lbs. |
| Swelling | 11 lbs. |
| Cysts | 85 lbs. |
| Arthritis | 25 lbs. |
| Necrosis | 105 lbs. |
| Haemotoma | 2 lbs. |
| Natural Death | 202 lbs. |
| Discolouration | 90 lbs. |
| Immaturity | 60 lbs. |
| Johnes Disease | 361 lbs. |
| Peritonitis | 22 lbs. |
| Mastitis | 30 lbs. |
| Septicaemia | 542 lbs. |
| Dropsy | 402 lbs. |
| Fracture | 28 lbs. |
| Fatty Infiltration | 94 lbs. |
| Parasites | 57 lbs. |
| Ill-bled | 85 lbs. |
| Emaciation | 181 lbs. |
| Nephritis | 40 lbs. |
| Mutilated Carcase | 48 lbs. |

(ii) WEYMOUTH

| Disease | Weight |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Tuberculosis | 5213 lbs. |
| Abscesses | 22 lbs. |
| Pleurisy | 129 lbs. |
| Pericarditis | 7 lbs. |
| Nephritis | 1 lb. |
| Cirrhosis and Distomatosis | 23 lbs. |
| Parasites | 6 lbs. |

MEAT CONDEMNED—SUMMARY

| | Weight in lbs. | |
|-----------------------|----------------|------------|
| | Weymouth | Dorchester |
| Tuberculosis | 5213 | 20528 |
| Other Diseases | 188 | 9025 |

Total weight condemned—15 tons, 12 cwts., 10 lbs.

Number of visits made to slaughterhouses—106

(2) OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED

CANNED GOODS

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Meat | ... | ... | ... | ... | 53 tins |
| Fish | ... | ... | ... | ... | 312 tins |
| Fruit | ... | ... | ... | ... | 447 tins |
| Milk | ... | ... | ... | ... | 180 tins |
| Ham | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 tins |
| Soup | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 tins |
| Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | ... | 157 tins |
| Jam and Marmalade | ... | ... | ... | ... | 107 tins |
| Jelly | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 tins |
| Chopped Pork | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 tins |
| Sausage | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 tin |
| Apricot Pulp | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 tins |
| Milk Powder | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 tins |
| Syrup | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 tin |
| Pickles | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 tins |
| Pudding | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 tin |
| Coffee | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 tin |

MEAT.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------|
| Meat (Beef and Mutton) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3077 lbs. |
| Ham | ... | ... | ... | ... | 81 lbs. |
| Bacon | ... | ... | ... | ... | 479½ lbs. |
| Sausages | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 lbs. |
| Poultry | ... | ... | ... | ... | 114 lbs. |

FISH.

| | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Mixed Fish | ... | ... | ... | ... | 322 lbs. |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|

OTHER FOODS

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------------|
| Cheese | ... | ... | ... | 10½ lbs. plus 39 pkts. |
| Butter and Margarine | ... | ... | ... | 16 lbs. |
| Eggs | ... | ... | ... | 634 |
| Vinegar | ... | ... | ... | ½ pint |
| Flour | ... | ... | ... | 3 lbs. |
| Flour mixture | ... | ... | ... | 90 pkts. |
| Cakes and Crumpets | ... | ... | ... | 186 plus 34 lbs. |
| Biscuits | ... | ... | ... | 10 lbs. |
| Xmas Pudding | ... | ... | ... | 10 lbs. |
| Sago | ... | ... | ... | 1 lb. |
| Chocolate | ... | ... | ... | 18½ lbs. |
| Jam | ... | ... | ... | 3 jars |
| Fruit | ... | ... | ... | 12 jars |
| Soysem | ... | ... | ... | 18 jars |
| Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 8 jars |
| Figs | ... | ... | ... | 7 lbs. |
| Paste | ... | ... | ... | 28 jars |
| Pickles and Sauces | ... | ... | ... | 40 bottles |
| Salad Cream | ... | ... | ... | 13 bottles |
| Syrup | ... | ... | ... | 2 jars |
| Table Jelly | ... | ... | ... | 9 pkts. |

RODENT CONTROL

The Council decided, in March, 1950, to dispense with the appointment of Rodent Officer and bring the two Rodent Operatives under the direct supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. As a result of this reduction in staff the office record system for rodent control had to be modified and the senior rodent operative undertook the work of survey and keeping of some of the necessary records. The reduced organisation has, however, functioned efficiently and I am quite satisfied that the service provided is essential and of great benefit to the Town.

The following statistics give details of the large amount of routine work carried out during the year.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|
| Number of complaints received ... | ... | ... | 312 |
| Number of premises surveyed ... | ... | ... | 1071 |
| Number of premises given first treatment | ... | ... | 339 |
| Number of premises given second treatment | ... | ... | 194 |
| Number of premises given third treatment | ... | ... | 2 |
| Number of visits made (survey and treatment) | ... | ... | 3626 |
| Number of pre-baits laid | ... | ... | 14735 |
| Number of pre-baits taken | ... | ... | 8685 |
| Number of poison baits laid | ... | ... | 2936 |
| Number of poison baits taken | ... | ... | 2186 |
| Estimated number killed | ... | ... | 4339 |

Sewer Rat Control

Two treatments of the sewers were carried out during the year. The methods employed were as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and a summary of the results is recorded below. Figures for the corresponding treatment carried out in August of the previous year are included for comparison.

August, 1950—Sewer Treatment

| Section | No. of manholes examined | No. not baited | No. baited | | | Pre-bait taken | |
|------------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------|----|-----|----------------|----------|
| | | | | C. | P. | Total takes | No takes |
| Rodwell | 108 | 6 | 102 | 10 | 15 | 25 | 77 |
| Wyke Regis | 246 | 10 | 236 | 4 | 95 | 99 | 137 |
| Westham | 197 | 3 | 194 | 13 | 25 | 38 | 156 |
| Park | 122 | 12 | 110 | 8 | 46 | 54 | 56 |
| Town | 56 | 7 | 49 | 7 | 24 | 31 | 18 |
| Totals | 729 | 38 | 691 | 42 | 205 | 247 | 444 |
| Total Aug., 1949 | 729 | 20 | 709 | 64 | 202 | 266 | 443 |

Rats in Cavity Walls of Houses

Two infestations were reported in which rats were gaining access to cavity walls, beneath floors and in roof spaces of houses. In the first case the properties affected were a pair of Council houses and the infestation was said to have been in existence for a number of years. The cause was finally traced to the drains, and it was found that a branch drain to the ground floor W.C. of one house was broken at the point where it crossed the wall cavity. The drain was repaired and no trace of rats has since been found.

In the second case, six houses forming part of a long terrace were affected. Considerable difficulty was experienced in tracing the origin of the trouble and as a last resort the Council used its powers under Section 48 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to open up and examine the drains of all six houses. The connections between drains and sewer in all six houses were found to be defective and, when these were repaired, the infestations ceased. Particular attention was subsequently given to treatment of the drains and sewers in the neighbourhood of these properties.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

This Act, which came into force on the 31st March, 1950, makes it the duty of the Local Authority to ensure that its district is kept free from rats and mice. No statutory action under the provisions of the new Act was necessary during the year, and when infestations were found, owners or occupiers were only too willing to seek advice and assistance from the Health Department.

SHOPS ACTS, 1934 and 1950

The inspection of shops under the provisions of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934, was continued. This Section of the Act deals with the ventilation, heating and lighting of shops and with the provision of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities.

Considerable progress was also made with the revision of office records relating to shops.

The Shops Act, 1950, came into operation on the 1st October, 1950, but this Act merely consolidated existing legislation affecting Shops.

| | | |
|---|-----|----|
| Number of premises inspected and recorded | ... | 41 |
| Number of visits made for the purposes of the Act | ... | 82 |
| Number of contraventions found | ... | 3 |
| Number of contraventions remedied | ... | 7 |

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TAKEN UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 93.

A Statutory Notice, under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was served on the occupier of No. 132, Abbotsbury Road, Weymouth, in respect of a nuisance which arose on the forecourt of the premises. The forecourt was used as a store and display ground for second-hand articles of furniture, etc., and became in such a state as to be prejudicial to health. Accumulations of sodden and decayed articles were producing offensive smells, and fly and mosquito breeding was taking place.

The person responsible failed to comply with the Statutory Notice and legal proceedings were then taken by the Town Council. The Court made an order for the defendant to abate the nuisance within fourteen days and costs were awarded to the Town Council.

SUPERVISION OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

For many years past the supervision of public conveniences has been the responsibility of the Health Department.

There are 44 public conveniences under the control of the Town Council. Ten of these conveniences have full-time attendants during the summer season and the remaining conveniences are serviced daily by travelling attendants.

Two new conveniences in the Coach Park, Westham Road, were opened in June, 1950, and these serve the large numbers of visitors arriving daily by coach during the season.

The Town Council has for many years given consideration to the provision of additional conveniences to serve the shopping area of the town. Much difficulty had been experienced in finding a suitable site and it was decided, early in the year, to convert the ground floor of the Old Fire Station, St. Edmund Street, into conveniences for both sexes.

Following public advertisement of this proposal one objection was received and the Ministry of Health conducted a Public Inquiry into the matter in July, 1950.

The Minister subsequently approved the scheme and it is hoped that the new conveniences will be ready for use during 1951.

A large amount of time is devoted, by the Department to the control of public conveniences and 657 inspections were carried out for this purpose by the Sanitary Inspectors.

(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. | 416 | 1324 | 215 | 189 |
| Drainage Work Only | | | | |
| (a) New Buildings | 211 | 383 | — | — |
| (b) Existing Buildings | 70 | 311 | 61 | 56 |
| Camping Sites, Vans, Tents | 16 | 204 | 43 | 50 |
| Food Premises | 229 | 811 | 63 | 59 |
| Dairies, Cowsheds, etc. | 23 | 61 | — | — |
| Factories Act | 46 | 58 | 5 | 5 |
| Shops Act | 64 | 71 | 3 | 7 |
| Public Conveniences | 44 | 692 | — | — |

OTHER VISITS

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Visits for the purpose of overcrowding and re-housing applications | ... | ... | ... | ... | 233 |
| Visits to houses re T.B. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 63 |
| Visits to houses re new tenancies for council houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | 180 |
| Visits to houses for purposes of Housing Acts, 1936, and 1949 (unfit houses and grant applications) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 464 |
| Visits to offensive trade premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Visits re smoke abatement | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Visits to mosquito and midge breeding grounds | ... | ... | ... | ... | 31 |
| Visits to places of entertainment | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Visits to licensed premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Visits to piggeries and stables | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Miscellaneous visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | 227 |

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

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| House roofs repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44 |
| Eaves gutters and rainwater pipes repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Dampness remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48 |
| Floors and staircases repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| Plasterwork repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Windows repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 |
| Firegrates and ranges repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Drainage systems repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Cesspools emptied after notice | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Doors repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| W.C. pans renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Repairs and renewals to sinks and sink waste pipes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Chimney stacks repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Chimney flues repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Offensive deposits removed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| External walls repaired or rendered | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Choked ditches cleansed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Ceilings repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Skirting boards renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Yard surface paving renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Soil and vent shafts renewed or extended | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Dilapidated W.C. compartment rebuilt | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Provision of sub-floor ventilation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Coppers repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Nuisance from Waste Water | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |

(b) SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED

| | NOTICES | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| | Served | | Complied | |
| | Informal | Statutory | Informal | Statutory |
| Public Health Act | 133 | 5 | 92 | 4 |
| Food and Drugs Act | 41 | — | 40 | — |
| Shops Act, 1934 | 3 | — | 6 | — |
| Factories Act, 1937 | 4 | — | 4 | — |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Eighty-nine visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors in connection with the investigation of infectious diseases and Food Poisoning Cases.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of houses treated for disinfection (infectious diseases) | 29 |
| Number of rooms involved | 78 |
| Number of houses treated for disinfestation | 59 |
| Number of rooms involved | 167 |
| Number of articles of bedding, etc., disinfected | 500 |
| Number of articles destroyed | 1 |

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 | 23 | 3 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 122 | 47 | 4 | — |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers Premises) | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 145 | 50 | 4 | — |

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

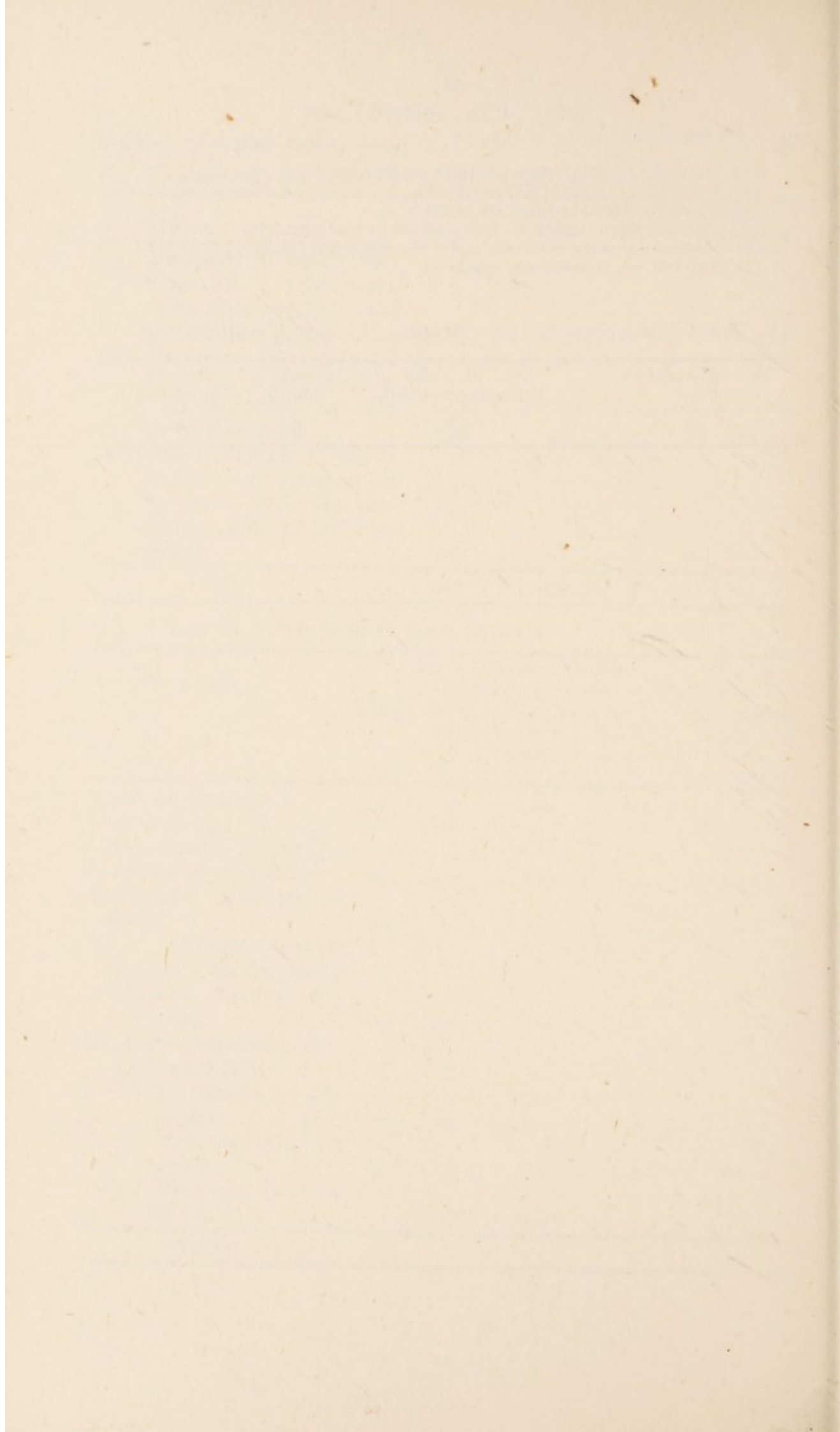
| Particulars | No. of Cases in which Defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|--|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness | I | I | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork). ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient ... | I | I | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective ... | 2 | 2 | — | 2 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes ... | I | I | — | I | — |
| (d) Vent not fixed in W.C. ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... | 5 | 5 | — | 3 | — |

(3) Outworkers.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| (a) Number of lists received from employers | ... | ... | 2 |
| (b) Number of employees concerned | ... | ... | 1 |
| (c) Number of outworkers involved | ... | ... | 2 |
| (d) Number of outworkers living outside the Borough | ... | ... | Nil |
| (e) Number of lists received from outside Authorities | ... | ... | 10 |
| (f) Number of outworkers involved | ... | ... | 25 |

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

| No. of premises visited | No. of visits including re-visits | Defects found | Defects remedied |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 46 | 58 | 5 | 5 |



**BOROUGH OF WEYMOUTH AND MELCOMBE
REGIS.**



**METEOROLOGICAL
DEPARTMENT**

*Summary for the Year
1950*

Lat.—50° 36' 20" N. Long.—2° 26' 50" W

21 feet above Sea Level.

J. N. HAMBLY, M.B.E.,
Lt.Cdr. R.N. (Ret.)
Borough Meteorologist

Meteorological Station,
Weymouth

Remarks.

GENERAL

The year 1950 can be divided into two parts—the wet and the dry.

RAINFALL

Except for the month of February when 5.51 inches of rain fell, the first half of the year was rather dry, the total rainfall for the six months being 11.84 inches.

June was the driest month of the year with 0.63 inches.

The second half of the year yielded 23.78 inches, November being the wettest month with 6.14 inches. The total rainfall for the year was 35.62 inches, which was 6.45 inches above the average.

On the 3rd July, 2.76 inches of rain fell between 5 a.m. and 2-30 p.m. but, as the meteorological day commences at 9 a.m., 1.81 inches of this heavy fall was recorded for the 2nd and 0.95 inches for the 3rd July.

On the 15th December a heavy fall of snow measured 12 inches.

Among the dry periods of recent years were the following :—

| | |
|------|--------------------------------------|
| 1939 | May 19th—June 10th, 22 days. |
| | September 15th—October 4th, 19 days. |
| 1941 | May 3rd—May 21st, 18 days. |
| 1942 | April 14th—May 9th, 26 days. |
| | June 13th—July 3rd, 20 days. |
| 1945 | February 20th—March 15th, 24 days. |
| 1948 | May 4th—May 23rd, 19 days. |
| 1949 | June 8th—July 14th, 36 days. |

Heavy daily rainfalls included the following :—

| | | | | |
|------|----------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| 1939 | June 15th | ... | ... | 28.4 m.m. |
| | October 14th | ... | ... | 40.0 m.m. |
| | November 23rd | ... | ... | 30.5 m.m. |
| 1940 | January 26th | ... | ... | 34.6 m.m. |
| | November 13th | ... | ... | 42.6 m.m. |
| 1941 | March 7th | ... | ... | 32.4 m.m. |
| | May 25th | ... | ... | 37.6 m.m. |
| 1942 | August 29th | ... | ... | 32.0 m.m. |
| 1943 | October 22nd | ... | ... | 28.0 m.m. |
| 1945 | October 23rd | ... | ... | 31.6 m.m. |
| 1946 | August 9th | ... | ... | 32.5 m.m. |
| 1949 | September 21st | ... | ... | 49.2 m.m. |
| 1950 | July 3rd | ... | ... | 70.1 m.m. |

(One inch is the equivalent of 25.4 m.m.)

TEMPERATURE

For the year as a whole the mean temperature was about normal, the lowest being 20° on the 30th December and the highest 83° on the 5th and 6th June.

BRIGHT SUNSHINE

Bright sunshine was 39 hours above the average, the total for the year being 1820 hours.

The sunniest month was May, 235.3 hours, the best day being 13th May with 14.9 hours.

Of the 300 stations keeping sunshine records, Weymouth was the third highest with 1820 hours for the year. Sandown having 1871.3 hours and Eastbourne 1841 hours.

The amounts shown in the following table gives the brightest day of any month from 1931-1950.

| | | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----|-----|--|
| January | 8.4 hours | ... | ... | 30th January, 1931 |
| February | 10.0 hours | ... | ... | 28th February, 1946 |
| March | 11.7 hours | ... | ... | 26th March, 1937 |
| April | 13.9 hours | ... | ... | 9th April, 1941 |
| May | 15.2 hours | ... | ... | 31st May, 1939 and 17th May, 1941 |
| June | 15.6 hours | ... | ... | 5th June, 1940 |
| July | 15.4 hours | ... | ... | 7th July, 1935 |
| August | 14.8 hours | ... | ... | 14th August, 1949 |
| September | 12.6 hours | ... | ... | 7th September, 1931 |
| October | 10.8 hours | ... | ... | 3rd October, 1943 |
| November | 8.5 hours | ... | ... | 1st November, 1931 and 4th November, 1946 |
| December | 7.3 hours | ... | ... | 4th December, 1946 |

METEOROLOGICAL ABSTRACT.

| | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 |
|---|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Highest Shade Temperature (°Fah) | ... | 80 | 76 | 78 | 90 | 86 | 83 |
| Lowest Shade Temperature (°Fah) | ... | 26 | 17 | 23 | 16 | 29 | 22 |
| Mean Maximum Temperature (°Fah) | ... | 57.2 | 57.7 | 57.1 | 57.7 | 60.6 | — |
| Mean Minimum Temperature (°Fah) | ... | 45.3 | 46.6 | 46.2 | 45.7 | 46.8 | 46.2 |
| Mean Temperature (°Fah) | ... | 51.3 | 52.1 | 51.6 | 51.7 | 53.7 | — |
| Total Rainfall (Inches) | ... | 24.92 | 27.17 | 38.29 | 30.5 | 27.5 | 35.46 |
| Hours of Bright Sunshine | ... | 1741.1 | 1564.9 | 1648.2 | 1626.1 | 1877.5 | 1824.0 |
| Number of Days with Sunshine... | ... | 303 | 295 | 297 | 280 | 301 | 286 |
| Greatest Daily Amount of Sunshine (Hours) | ... | 15.5 | 15.2 | 14.7 | 15.5 | 15.5 | 14.9 |
| Highest Barometer Reading (Inches) | ... | 30.685 | 30.838 | 30.752 | 30.688 | 30.787 | 30.633 |
| Lowest Barometer Reading (Inches) | ... | 29.079 | 28.750 | 29.000 | 28.812 | 28.615 | 29.10 |

PRESSURE (Millibars) 9.0 a.m.

Barometer Readings at 0900 hours G.M.T. corrected for Temperature and Altitude.

| 1950 | | Mean | | Highest | Lowest | | Relative |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|--------|-----------|------------|
| Month | m/b | Inches | m/b | Date | m/b | Date | Humidity % |
| January | 1023.4 | 30.22 | 1037.3 | 12th | 1008 | 31st | 86.2 |
| February | 1011.4 | 29.87 | 1026.5 | 16th & 17th | 989.5 | 13th | 79 |
| March | 1013.3 | 29.93 | 1035.5 | 4th | 1003.8 | 17th | 78 |
| April | 1011.3 | 29.86 | 1024.6 | 22nd | 995.3 | 2nd | 72 |
| May | 1017.4 | 30.04 | 1028.3 | 4th | 1001.4 | 20th | 71 |
| June | 1017.5 | 30.05 | 1025.3 | 5th | 999.6 | 21st | 73 |
| July | 1014.9 | 29.98 | 1025.9 | 19th | 1002.6 | 16th | 79 |
| August | 1012.3 | 29.89 | 1023.2 | 11th | 999.6 | 17th | 76 |
| September | 1012.8 | 29.91 | 1024.7 | 23rd | 999.2 | 25th | 78 |
| October | 1018.3 | 30.07 | 1031.1 | 30th | 1006.8 | 2nd | 78 |
| November | 1008.5 | 29.78 | 1022.6 | 26th | 986.0 | 21st | 81 |
| December | 1020.7 | 30.14 | 1024.1 | 9th | 994.5 | 14th | 81 |
| Year | 1015.2 | 29.98 | 1037.3 | 12th Jan. | 986.0 | 21st Nov. | 77.6 |

RAINFALL.

| 1950 | TOTAL FALL Inches | m/m | Percentage of Average | Days of 0.2 m/m or more | Wet Days of 1.0 m/m or more | Greatest fall in 24 hours inches | Date |
|-----------|----------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|---------------|
| January | ... | 0.63 | 15 | 26 | 6 | 3 | .23 30th |
| February | ... | 5.51 | 140 | 256 | 17 | 16 | .88 2nd |
| March | ... | 1.40 | 36 | 68 | 10 | 7 | .31 23rd |
| April | ... | 1.78 | 45 | 107 | 13 | 9 | .72 17th |
| May | ... | 1.25 | 32 | 77 | 11 | 8 | .31 19th |
| June | ... | 1.27 | 32 | 71 | 7 | 6 | .50 14th |
| July | ... | 5.37 | 136 | 299 | 17 | 13 | 1.81 2nd |
| August | ... | 3.38 | 86 | 158 | 16 | 15 | .63 17th |
| September | ... | 4.21 | 107 | 201 | 20 | 16 | .73 8th |
| October | ... | 1.06 | 27 | 29 | 11 | 6 | .42 30th |
| November | ... | 6.14 | 156 | 196 | 17 | 17 | 1.19 20th |
| December | ... | 3.62 | 92 | 104 | 13 | 10 | 1.16 14th |
| Year | ... | 35.62 | 1044 | 132.66 | 158 | 126 | 1.81 2nd July |

TEMPERATURE OF THE AIR (Fah.)

| 1950 Month | 9 a.m. Mean | Max. Mean | Min. Mean | Max. & Min. | | Highest | Date | Lowest | Date |
|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|---------|----------------|--------|------------|
| | | | | Mean | Difference from Average | | | | |
| January | 43.6 | — | 38.3 | — | — | — | — | 24 | 25th |
| February | 46.0 | — | 41.1 | — | — | — | — | 30 | 26th |
| March | 50.3 | — | 41.6 | — | — | — | — | 30 | 1st |
| April | 52.0 | 58.0 | 42.0 | 50 | +1.2 | 67 | 20th | 33 | 26th |
| May | 58.5 | 63.7 | 47.6 | 55.6 | +0.6 | 74 | 10, 11, 13 | 40 | 6th |
| June | 64.2 | 68.4 | 54.8 | 61.6 | +2.1 | 83 | 5th & 6th | 43 | 16th |
| July | 64.4 | 68.9 | 56.9 | 62.9 | +0.6 | 71 | 8th & 9th | 50 | 1st & 2nd |
| August | 65.0 | 68.5 | 57.2 | 62.8 | +0.1 | 75 | 6th | 52 | 14th |
| September | 60.5 | — | 52.7 | — | — | — | — | 41 | 27th |
| October | 54.5 | — | 48.5 | — | — | — | — | 33 | 29th |
| November | 47.6 | — | 41.5 | — | — | — | — | 33 | 8th & 26th |
| December | 37.1 | — | 32.8 | — | — | — | — | 22 | 30th |
| Year | 53.6 | — | 46.2 | — | — | 83 | 5th & 6th June | 20 | 30th Dec. |

Record is not complete owing to the Maximum thermometer being broken and replacement not obtainable

THE WINDS

Observed daily at 0900 G.M.T. to 8 points of the Compass.

| MONTH. | N. | N.E. | E. | DIRECTION. | | | S.W. | W. | N.W. | Calm |
|-----------|-----|------|----|------------|----|----|------|----|------|------|
| | | | | S.E. | S. | S. | | | | |
| January | ... | 1 | 1 | 10 | — | 4 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 2 |
| February | ... | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 3 | 12 | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| March | ... | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 5 | — | 6 |
| April | ... | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 1 |
| May | ... | — | 3 | 11 | 4 | — | 4 | 1 | 1 | 7 |
| June | ... | — | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 11 | 3 | — | 8 |
| July | ... | — | — | 6 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 8 | — | 3 |
| August | ... | — | — | 3 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 2 |
| September | ... | 2 | 2 | — | 1 | 1 | 11 | 8 | 3 | 2 |
| October | ... | 1 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 5 | — | 4 |
| November | ... | — | 5 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| December | ... | 4 | 8 | 6 | — | 1 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Year | ... | 12 | 30 | 55 | 18 | 27 | 102 | 62 | 19 | 40 |

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

| 1950 | | | | Greatest | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|----------|------------|----------|----------|-----------|---------|----------|--|
| Month | | Actual | Percentage | Daily | Date | Number of | Sunless | Cloud | |
| | | Sunshine | of Average | Amount | | Days with | Days | Amount | |
| | | (Hours) | | (Hours) | | Sunshine | | 1-8 | |
| | | | | | | Recorded | | (9 a.m.) | |
| January | ... | 47.8 | 74 | 7.2 | 17th | 14 | 17 | 6 | |
| February | ... | 69.4 | 83 | 9.1 | 27th | 17 | 11 | 6 | |
| March | ... | 160 | 115 | 11.1 | 26th | 26 | 5 | 4 | |
| April | ... | 214.3 | 119 | 12.1 | 12th | 26 | 4 | 5 | |
| May | ... | 235.3 | 109 | 14.9 | 13th | 28 | 3 | 4 | |
| June | ... | 233.5 | 101 | 14.5 | 9th | 27 | 3 | 5 | |
| July | ... | 232.4 | 103 | 14.6 | 2nd | 27 | 4 | 6 | |
| August | ... | 219.4 | 105 | 13.1 | 4th | 30 | 1 | 5 | |
| September | ... | 136.2 | 83 | 10.8 | 2nd | 26 | 4 | 5 | |
| October | ... | 110.2 | 96 | 9.5 | 5th | 20 | 11 | 6 | |
| November | ... | 84.5 | 108 | 8.2 | 7th | 23 | 7 | 6 | |
| December | ... | 77.6 | 143 | 7.0 | 6th | 21 | 10 | 6 | |
| Year | ... | 1820.6 | | 14.9 | 13th May | 285 | 80 | 53 | |

WEYMOUTH SUNSHINE HOURS RECORD SINCE 1895.

| Year | Hours | Year | Hours | Year | Hours | Year | Hours |
|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| 1895 ... | 1953.7 | 1910 ... | 1693.7 | 1925 ... | 1710.1 | 1940 ... | 1883.3 |
| 1896 ... | 1904.0 | 1911 ... | 2090.9 | 1926 ... | 1554.4 | 1941 ... | 1669.0 |
| 1897 ... | 1827.5 | 1912 ... | 1582.4 | 1927 ... | 1692.7 | 1942 ... | 1663.0 |
| 1898 ... | 1828.4 | 1913 ... | 1583.7 | 1928 ... | 1898.9 | 1943 ... | 1769.0 |
| 1899 ... | 2030.2 | 1914 ... | 1826.8 | 1929 ... | 2024.1 | 1944 ... | 1741.1 |
| 1900 ... | 1642.7 | 1915 ... | 1729.8 | 1930 ... | 1803.7 | 1945 ... | 1564.9 |
| 1901 ... | 1675.9 | 1916 ... | 1677.5 | 1931 ... | 1572.8 | 1946 ... | 1648.2 |
| 1902 ... | 1421.4 | 1917 ... | 1653.5 | 1932 ... | 1554.4 | 1947 ... | 1626.2 |
| 1903 ... | 1554.0 | 1918 ... | 1804.9 | 1933 ... | 1987.3 | 1948 ... | 1877.5 |
| 1904 ... | 1675.6 | 1919 ... | 1803.5 | 1934 ... | 1807.0 | 1949 ... | 2055.3 |
| 1905 ... | 1706.9 | 1920 ... | 1523.4 | 1935 ... | 1706.2 | 1950 ... | 1820.6 |
| 1906 ... | 1908.3 | 1921 ... | 1934.6 | 1936 ... | 1549.3 | | |
| 1907 ... | 1784.1 | 1922 ... | 1748.0 | 1937 ... | 1628.5 | | |
| 1908 ... | 1857.9 | 1923 ... | 1695.6 | 1938 ... | 1646.6 | | |
| 1909 ... | 1938.5 | 1924 ... | 1687.6 | 1939 ... | 1786.4 | | |

Average—1785.0

Greatest amount of Sunshine in one year—2090.9 in 1911.

Least Sunshine in one year—1421.4 hours in 1902.

WEYMOUTH RAINFALL RECORD FROM THE YEAR 1881.

| Year. | Amount in inches | Year. | Amount in inches | Year. | Amount in inches | Year. | Amount in inches |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|----------|---------------------|
| 1881 ... | 30.40 | 1899 ... | 24.90 | 1917 ... | 23.96 | 1935 ... | 35.60 |
| 1882 ... | 33.46 | 1900 ... | 27.10 | 1918 ... | 26.51 | 1936 ... | 27.56 |
| 1883 ... | 23.31 | 1901 ... | 24.07 | 1919 ... | 32.41 | 1937 ... | 39.57 |
| 1884 ... | 24.93 | 1902 ... | 24.28 | 1920 ... | 29.65 | 1938 ... | 24.22 |
| 1885 ... | 28.47 | 1903 ... | 32.87 | 1921 ... | 15.88 | 1939 ... | 35.04 |
| 1886 ... | 32.54 | 1904 ... | 28.30 | 1922 ... | 31.11 | 1940 ... | 35.00 |
| 1887 ... | 20.57 | 1905 ... | 21.61 | 1923 ... | 28.80 | 1941 ... | 30.37 |
| 1888 ... | 28.97 | 1906 ... | 28.31 | 1924 ... | 38.65 | 1942 ... | 27.62 |
| 1889 ... | 23.98 | 1907 ... | 27.44 | 1925 ... | 34.56 | 1943 ... | 26.93 |
| 1890 ... | 22.51 | 1908 ... | 24.57 | 1926 ... | 29.83 | 1944 ... | 24.92 |
| 1891 ... | 35.68 | 1909 ... | 27.68 | 1927 ... | 33.34 | 1945 ... | 27.17 |
| 1892 ... | 24.40 | 1910 ... | 30.65 | 1928 ... | 34.60 | 1946 ... | 38.29 |
| 1893 ... | 22.73 | 1911 ... | 24.80 | 1929 ... | 29.73 | 1947 ... | 30.51 |
| 1894 ... | 36.51 | 1912 ... | 37.93 | 1930 ... | 30.72 | 1948 ... | 30.84 |
| 1895 ... | 27.38 | 1913 ... | 26.00 | 1931 ... | 27.13 | 1949 ... | 27.50 |
| 1896 ... | 21.81 | 1914 ... | 36.07 | 1932 ... | 25.84 | 1950 ... | 35.62 |
| 1897 ... | 29.21 | 1915 ... | 35.29 | 1933 ... | 20.69 | | |
| 1898 ... | 21.70 | 1916 ... | 33.96 | 1934 ... | 26.51 | | |

Average—29.25

Wettest Year, 1937—39.57 inches.

Driest Year, 1921—15.88 inches



