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Borough of New Windsor



Annual Reports

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH,

HEALTH VISITOR and
SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year, 1937

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THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH,

HEALTH VISITOR and
SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year, 1937

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor G. E. SHORT.

Vice-Chairman : Councillor J. C. POWELL, J.P.

The Mayor : Councillor Mrs. F. M. CARTERET-CAREY, O.B.E.

Alderman	A. W. GREEN.	Councillor	Capt. E. COPLAND-GRIFFITHS
"	P. HAMILTON.	"	E. C. CUSHING
"	A. HARRIS, J.P.	"	R. H. DUNN.
"	A. WELLS.	"	F. I. FUZZENS.
Councillor	H. ATKINS.	"	Rev. G. G. PAYNE COOK.
"	N. C. BUTLER.	"	J. PROCTER.
"	Lieut.-Col.	"	J. G. H. VIDLER.
Sir ARTHUR CHURCHER.			

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Whole or Parttime</i>	<i>Other Appointments</i>
Dr. A. Douglas Crofts	Medical Officer of Health	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Lond.)	Part	Medical Officer Maternity & Child Welfare, School Med. Officer.
Dr. S. V. Strong ...	Deputy Medical Officer of Health	M.B., B.S. (Lond.)	Part	—
Alan W. Stewart ...	Public Analyst	D.Sc., A.I.C. ...	Part	—
Mr. H. Treleaven ...	School Dental Surgeon	L.D.S., R.C.S. ...	Part	—
Miss A. I. McAllister	Health Visitor	Health Visitors Cert. National Health Society. Certificate Sanitary Inspector's Exam. Board. Diploma C.M.B.	Whole	Infant Protection Visitor.
Miss C. Hart ...	School Nurse	Qualified Nurse. Diploma C.M.B.	Whole	—
Mr. F. Arnold ...	Chief Sanitary Inspector	Cert. R.S.I., Cert. S.I.E.B., Special Cert. of R.S.I. as Meat and Food Inspector.	Whole	Sampling Officer under Food & Drugs Act. Canal Boats Inspector. Designated Officer for Housing Regulations, Meat Regulations, Merchandise Marks Act.
Mr. R. W. Bashford	Additional Sanitary Inspector	Cert. R.S.I. ...	Whole	

Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1937

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my ANNUAL
REPORT as Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1937.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	4,616
Census Population, 1931	20,284
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, 1937	19,400
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	4,410
Rateable Value	£165,160
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£633½

The Registrar General's Estimate of the Resident Population is 19,400, as compared with 19,630 for the previous year. The rateable value has increased by £4328, the Penny Rate producing £633, as against £619 for the previous year.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS.

				<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>	
Live Births	...	...	...	157	...	129	...	286	
Live Births	{	Legitimate	...	...	147	...	121	...	268
		Illegitimate	...	...	10	...	8	...	18
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident Population				...	...			14.74	
Still Births	10	...	3	...	13
Still Births	{	Legitimate	...	...	8	...	2	...	10
		Illegitimate	...	...	2	...	1	...	3
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) Births				...	...	...		43.77	

DEATHS.

				<i>Males.</i>		<i>Females.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
Deaths	...	...	...	133	...	120	...	253
Death Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population								10.3
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Childbirth :								
From Sepsis								<i>Nil</i>
From other Causes								<i>Nil</i>
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :								
All Infants per 1,000 live births								41.9
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births								37.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births								111.1
Deaths from :								
Measles (all ages)								<i>Nil</i>
Whooping Cough (all ages)								1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)								<i>Nil</i>
Cancer (all ages)								33

The total number of Births was 286, as compared with 283 for the previous year. The Birth Rate being 14.74 per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population, against 14.4 for 1936.

The total number of Deaths was 253 ; the Death Rate being 10.3. In 1936 the rate was 11.6.

The deaths of Infants under one year per 1,000 Live Births was 41.9, compared with 38.7 for 1936. This figure compares favourably with the rate for the whole of England and Wales.

	<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births.</i>	
For whole of England and Wales	...	58
For 125 County Boroughs and great Towns	...	62
For 148 smaller Towns	...	55
For London Administrative County	...	60

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S MORTALITY RETURN FOR THE BOROUGH.

(Civilians only.)

<i>Causes of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
All Causes	133	120	253
Diphtheria	1	—	1
Whooping Cough	1	—	1
Influenza	1	2	3
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5	2	7
Other Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Syphilis	1	—	1
Cancer, malignant disease	14	19	33
Diabetes	2	1	3
Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	6	9	15
Heart disease	37	37	74
Aneurysm	5	1	6
Other circulatory diseases	5	5	10
Bronchitis	10	2	12
Pneumonia (all forms)	7	3	10
Other respiratory diseases	1	2	3
Peptic Ulcer	2	2	4
Other diseases of Liver, etc.	1	—	1
Other digestive diseases	3	3	6
Nephritis	2	4	6
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	1	1
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	6	3	9
Senility	2	11	13
Suicide	3	—	3
Other violence	6	3	9
Other defined causes	12	9	21

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Sputum, swabs, blood, etc., are examined at the Pathological Department of King Edward VII Hospital, Windsor.

Water, milk and foods are analysed by the Public Analyst at the Royal Institute of Public Health, 23, Queen Square, London.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

All the adoptive acts are in force in the Borough. Byelaws are in force respecting :—

Slaughter Houses.	Keeping of Animals.
Common Lodging Houses.	Nuisances by Dogs on
Nuisances.	Footways.
New Streets and Buildings.	

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

HOSPITALS.

FEVER.—All our infectious cases, except Puerperal Fever, are now admitted to the Maidenhead Isolation Hospital.

SMALL POX.—Under a Scheme prepared by the Berks County Council, any cases of this disease will be isolated at the Small Pox Hospital, Manor Farm, Reading.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PYREXIA.—Admitted to Special Hospital under the L.C.C.

TUBERCULOSIS.—These cases are received into the Tuberculosis Hospital at Abingdon, and to Peppard Sanatorium, Oxon.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—Such cases are admitted to L.C.C. Special Hospitals.

MATERNITY.—During the year, 119 cases were admitted to Princess Christian's Maternity Home, which is now subsidized by the Council. There are four Wards, with two beds in each ; a Private Ward for paying patients ; and an isolation room.

Cases of difficult labour and abnormalities connected with Pregnancy are admitted to King Edward VII Hospital, where special beds are available. The number of such cases admitted during the year was 123. The Hospital serves not only the Windsor area, but all the surrounding districts, and this number includes both Residents and Non-Residents.

CHILDREN.—King Edward VII Hospital has a Children's Ward. An Orthopædic Surgeon attends regularly at the Hospital and certain cases have been admitted to Wingfield Orthopædic Hospital, Oxford.

The Princess Christian Creche is now a residential Home for children.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

INFECTIOUS CASES.—The Fever Hospitals have their own motor ambulances.

NON-INFECTIOUS CASES.—A motor ambulance, kept at a local livery stable, is obtainable for accidents or non-infectious cases, at a small charge.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE, VICTORIA STREET.—This Centre is open every Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 p.m. It is run by a Committee of voluntary lady helpers. The Medical Officer and Health Visitor are in regular attendance.

THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE, CLEWER.—In 1936, an additional Centre was opened at the Parish Hall, Parsonage Lane. This is held every Tuesday afternoon for the convenience of mothers who may need advice and for the sale

of foods, etc. Cases which require medical supervision are referred to the Friday Clinic, and all cases report occasionally at the main Centre.

The work during the year has been highly satisfactory and I cannot do better than refer to the excellent report of Miss McAllister, the Health Visitor.

SCHOOL CLINIC, VICTORIA STREET.—For the treatment of minor ailments. Attendances Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and emergency cases on the other days. The Dental Clinic is also held here Tuesdays and Thursdays for dental treatment and gas extraction.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.—Held: (1) At the Clinic, the second Monday in the month; (2) At the Maternity Home, the first Monday in the month. An increasing use is being made of these Clinics, and during the year the total number of attendances of expectant mothers was 403. Several cases who were unable to attend were examined in their homes.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.—This is held at the Parish Church Rooms the first Thursday in each month, and is attended by the Tuberculosis Officer for Berkshire.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—There is no local clinic but cases can attend at either the Royal Berks Hospital, Reading, or Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF AREA.

WATER.—The Waterworks are situated in Tangier Lane off Eton High Street. The water is obtained from the percolation of River water by sinking iron cylinders into the chalk bed. It is then purified by passage through Candy "De Chlor" pressure filters. The supply is constant and the regular samples examined have shewn it to be bacteriologically free and of the highest purity.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.—Pollution of the Thames came to the notice of the Local Authority in June.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.—The public swimming baths are situate in a backwater of the River Thames.

There are no private swimming baths or pools open to the public in the district.

In June, owing to the polluted condition of the River, I found it necessary to advise the Local Authority to close the Public Swimming Bath.

In this connection 13 samples of water from various parts of the river were submitted for bacteriological examination, each sample being reported upon adversely by the Bacteriologist.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The sewerage of the town is efficient and the sewage is disposed of by open irrigation on land at Old Windsor.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—Only water closets exist in the Borough.

SCAVENGING.—This work is carried out under the supervision of the Borough Engineer. House refuse is collected weekly. Arrangements are also made for the collection of trade refuse. All refuse is removed to the destructor at Dedworth and burnt.

SCHOOLS.—The sanitary conditions of the schools are satisfactory, their water supply is obtained from the town supply

SHOPS ACT, 1934 AND ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Details of work under these headings will be found in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

<i>Age Periods</i>		<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Resp.</i>	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 years	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 years	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 "	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 "	...	3	5	—	—	1	—	—	—
35 "	...	—	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
45 "	...	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 "	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i>	...	7	9	—	—	5	2	—	1

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.—No action was taken under these Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925 (Sec. 62).—No action was necessary under this enactment.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.)

				<i>Inspections</i>		<i>Written Occupiers Notices prosecuted</i>		
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	...	...	...	18	...	—	...	—
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries)	...	...	...	24	...	4	...	—
Total	...	...	...	42	...	4	...	0

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

					<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Want of cleanliness	...	...	...	...	4	4
Other Nuisances	...	...	...	...	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	...	—	—
Total	...	...	...	...	4	4

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES.

Section 108.

There were no instances of outwork being done upon unwholesome premises.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, and Gentlemen.

Your obedient servant,

A. DOUGLAS CROFTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Health Visitor

For the Year 1937

Notification has been received of 428 births during the past year, including 31 still-births.

One hundred and sixty-four of the notifications, including 18 of the still-births, were of births to families who were not residents of the town; these were transferred, in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, to the Public Health Authorities of the areas to which they belong.

Reports of any births not notified were obtained from the Registrar and also notices of deaths of infants under one year of age to which together with cases of still-births, special visits have been made in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health. There are 783 families recorded in the current visiting register with approximately 1,174 infants and children to be visited.

Notified births are generally visited after a fortnight and re-visited as regularly as possible, until the children enter school. As each child enters school, a special report is made to the School Medical Department of any abnormality or serious illness which has occurred during the pre-school life of the child.

The visits frequently reveal some case requiring medical advice and treatment. Many such cases of malnutrition, often due to a faulty diet, incipient rickets, eye and ear trouble, etc., have been taken to the Infant Welfare Centre for medical supervision, or, where necessary, to the Hospital, where early treatment in many cases has prevented more serious results.

Cases of overcrowding, insanitary housing or drainage conditions, etc., which have come to notice have been reported to and dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector.

Following the usual procedure, at the time when the Regiments quartered at the Barracks changed during the Autumn, the Commanding Officer of each Regiment furnished a list of families in married quarters at the respective Barracks, showing the infants and children under school age, actually numbering 54.

The families were invited to attend the Infant Welfare Centre, of which privilege a number of mothers took advantage.

Visits have also been made to infants and children in the Barracks and others moving with the Regiments into the Town.

During the year, the following visits have been made :—

To infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	1357
To children 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	2307
Special visits	...	...	...	...	89
First visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	301
In connection with deaths of infants under 1 year	...	...	...	...	6
In connection with still-births	...	...	...	...	13
In connection with the registration of boarded-out children	...	...	...	...	61
Visits to families	...	...	...	...	3108
Total number of visits	...	...	...	...	4134

Compared with the figure for last year, the number of visits made has increased from 3,059 to 4,134, and this is chiefly accounted for by the fact that the Council has kindly agreed to contribute towards the upkeep of a motor car. The extra visits necessitated extra clerical work and the Council agreed to extend the time of Miss Hills, the assistant, and who is now engaged every weekday morning in entering the records of visits, etc., sale of foods at the Clinic, etc.

THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The Windsor Infant Welfare Centre is held The Clinic, Victoria Street, Windsor, on Friday afternoons from 2 to 4, whilst the Clewer Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Clewer Parish Hall on Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4.

The following were the attendances at both Centres during the year :

	<i>Windsor.</i>	<i>Clewer.</i>
Infants under 1 year 	3333 ...	1059
Children 1 to 5 years 	1638 ...	816
Total attendance of infants and toddlers	4971 ...	1875
Average attendance each weekly session	105 ...	43

Children attending for the first time during the year—

(a) Infants under 1 year 	198 ...	31
(b) Children 1 to 5 years 	24 ...	7

The percentage attendance of total notified living births, as adjusted by transferred notifications, was 91.2, as compared with 83.1 last year.

The work of the Infant Welfare Centres is steadily increasing. Larger numbers are attending at the Victoria Street Centre as well as at the new Centre at Clewer. It was hoped that by opening an auxiliary Centre at Clewer on another day, the large attendances at Windsor might be relieved, but actually this has not been the case as the attendances at Windsor have risen from 4557 in 1936 to 4971 last year.

The average attendances at each session have increased at Clewer as well as Windsor as shown on the following comparative statement :

	<i>1936</i>	<i>1937</i>
Windsor 	97 ...	105
Clewer	24 ...	43

The fact that in 1926 the average attendance was only 73 shows the extent to which the work of the Centre has increased of late years.

During 1937, no less than 6,846 attendances were made by infants and children, and obviously it would be impossible to deal with even a small proportion of these numbers if it were not for the splendid assistance given by the Voluntary Committee of ladies.

THE TODDLERS' CLINIC.

The special Clinic for Toddlers between two years of age and school age is held at the Welfare Centre on the first Friday of each month. Each child is examined by the Medical Officer, whose notes on the child are subsequently passed on to the School Medical Department when the child enters school. By this arrangement, it is possible for a child to remain under medical supervision from birth to school-leaving age.

One hundred and fifty-seven attendances were made at the Toddlers' Clinic during the year. It is hoped that the attendances will increase until a more satisfactory figure is shown.

FOODS AND DRIED MILKS.

The sale of foods and certain medicines at practically wholesale prices is a great benefit to mothers with babies and cannot be over-estimated. Grants of free milk (fresh and dried) and other nourishments have been made in certain necessitous cases after careful investigation of the circumstances so as to avoid the possibility of over-lapping with other sources of assistance.

The additional nourishment given to the mothers in this way has made it possible in several instances for them to continue breast feeding their infants.

Milk supplied during 1937 to expectant and nursing mothers and young children is as follows :

- (a) Liquid milk. 171½ gallons (given free of cost).
- (b) Dried milk. 3,792lbs. (A certain quantity was given free or at half-price).

THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held on the second Monday of each month at The Clinic, Victoria Street, Windsor, at 3 p.m.

The attendances number 137, and are combined with those of the Maternity Home and are given in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

BOARDED-OUT CHILDREN.

There are 7 children registered under the Children Act, 1908 (Part I) and the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932 (Part V) and 6 persons are registered as foster-parents under the Acts. At the commencement of the year, there were 8 children registered and during the year, 4 additional children have been registered and the names of 5 removed from the Register. Fifty-nine visits have been made in this connection and on every occasion conditions were found to be satisfactory.

A. I. McALLISTER,

Health Visitor.

Borough of New Windsor

Annual Report of the Sanitary Inspector For the Year, 1937

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF
THE BOROUGH OF NEW WINDSOR.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I respectfully submit for your consideration my REPORT upon the work done by my Department during the year 1937.

HOUSING.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 267 |
| Number of inspections made | 1180 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded | 181 |
| Number of inspections made | 861 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 45 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 59 |

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	66
--	----

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

A. *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | ... | 1 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices : | | | |
| (a) By Owners | ... | ... | 0 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | ... | | 0 |

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—*

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | 7 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices : | | | |
| (a) By Owners | ... | ... | 17 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners | ... | | 1 |

C. *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Order were made | ... | ... | 2 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | ... | ... | 2 |

D. *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—*

- | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| (1) Number of separate tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... | ... | 4 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | 1 |

Demolition Orders were made in respect of four houses because the owner failed to comply with undertakings to repair.

Four undertakings to repair given by owners in 1936 were complied with.

Three undertakings not to let for human habitation, and six to execute repairs, were accepted by the Council, of the latter four of the undertakings have been complied with.

OVERCROWDING.

The position with regard to overcrowding is :

Number of dwellings overcrowded, Dec. 31st, 1937	...	...	...	39
Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	42
Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	176½
Number of new cases reported during the year	...	...	...	4
Number of cases relieved during the year	...	...	...	35
Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	182

There was no case in which overcrowding recurred after action to abate overcrowding.

SANITARY DEFECTS AND NUISANCES.

The following is a list of sanitary defects and nuisances discovered during the year:—

Defects in house drains	...	...	...	...	50
Obstructed drains	...	...	...	...	23
Dilapidated water closets	...	...	...	...	11
Defective W.C. roofs, floors, walls, basins, doors, seats	...	...	...	...	72
Defective W.C. flushing cisterns and water pipes	...	...	...	...	22
Insufficient water closet accommodation	...	...	...	...	2
Absence of, and insanitary sinks	...	...	...	...	45
Insufficient water supplies	...	...	...	...	15
Dirty walls and ceilings of rooms	...	...	...	...	203
Insanitary Yard Surfaces	...	...	...	...	40
Sculleries and washhouses, defective roofs, floors, walls, doors	...	...	...	...	41
Insufficient refuse receptacles	...	...	...	...	32
Defective house roofs, walls, floors, stairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	155
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	154
Decayed plastering	...	...	...	...	70
Defective ceilings	...	...	...	...	40
Damp walls	...	...	...	...	120
Absence of sufficient light or ventilation	...	...	...	...	37
Absence of proper food storage	...	...	...	...	27
Absence of sufficient facilities for washing	...	...	...	...	1
Accumulations of offensive matter	...	...	...	...	8
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	4

Verminous houses	...	...	...	...	...	62
Defective chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	9
Defective firegrates and stoves	...	...	...	...	...	17
Defective spouting	...	...	...	...	...	41
Defective coppers	...	...	...	...	...	7
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	...	<hr/>1308 <hr/>

NOTICES.

The following statement shows the number of notices served for the abatement of the defects and nuisances discovered during 1937 :—

Notices not complied with 31/12/36	...	Informal	...	21
Notices not complied with 31/12/36	...	Formal	...	2
Notices and intimations given since 31/12/36	...	Informal	...	105
Notices served since 31/12/36	...	Formal	...	12
Notices not complied with 31/12/37	...	Informal	...	4
Notices not complied with 31/12/37	...	Formal	...	0

COMPLAINTS.

One hundred and eighty-one complaints were received, relating to the various matters set out below :—

Housing defects	...	...	...	...	...	12
Nuisances from rats	...	...	...	...	...	62
Defective and stopped drains	...	...	...	...	...	9
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective water closets	...	...	...	...	...	4
No proper refuse receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	25
Dirty premises	...	...	...	...	...	3
Nuisances caused by the burning of rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	1
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	17
Nuisances from bad smells	...	...	...	...	...	6
Nuisances from smoke	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowded premises	...	...	...	...	...	4
Waste of water	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisances from wasps, bees, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	14
						<hr/> 181 <hr/>

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Slaughter Houses.—There are four registered Slaughter Houses in your district. Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1934, two slaughtermen were licensed.

The number of carcasses inspected are set out below.

NUMBER OF CARCASSES INSPECTED DURING 1937.

Cattle	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Sheep	...	...	...	...	...	...	1045
Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1086
Calves	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
<i>Total</i>							2447

The following is a statement of the various diseases, etc., met with in the course of 659 visits to slaughter houses during the year :

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CARCASSES FOUND TO BE IN A DISEASED OR UNSOUND CONDITION IN THE COURSE OF INSPECTIONS OF CARCASSES SLAUGHTERED IN THE BOROUGH.

<i>Kind of Carcase</i>	<i>Diseases or unsound conditions</i>	<i>Number Carcasses affected</i>	<i>Number Carcasses wholly condemned</i>	<i>Number Carcasses partially condemned</i>	<i>Orgnas only condemned</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Bullocks	Tuberculosis ...	3	—	1	2	88
"	Actinomycosis ...	1	—	1	—	35
"	Liver Fluke ...	1	—	—	1	16
Cow ...	Tuberculosis ...	1	—	—	1	10
Pigs ...	Tuberculosis ...	3	1	—	2	70
" ...	Pleurisy ...	1	—	—	1	3
Sheep ...	Emaciated ...	1	1	—	—	42
" ...	Abscess ...	1	—	—	1	2
		12	2	2	8	266

OTHER FOODS.

Visits to premises where other foods are sold, or prepared for sale, numbered 266, and the various foods set out below were found to be unfit for human consumption.

TABLE SHOWING ARTICLES OF FOOD FOUND TO BE DISEASED OR UNSOUND AND UNFIT FOR THE FOOD OF MAN.

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Number of Condemn- ations</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>	<i>Reason for Condemn- ation.</i>
Imported Beef	33	703	Decomposed
Imported Beef	3	250	Bone Tainted
Imported Beef	7	167	Bruised
Imported Beef	2	26	Fat Infiltration
Imported Mutton	1	29	Decomposed
Imported Ox Kidney	1	6	Decomposed
Imported Pigs Plucks	2	20	Decomposed
Imported Lambs Livers	3	20	Decomposed
English Pigs' Bellies	1	32	Decomposed
English Rabbits	3	24	Decomposed
Corned Beef	1	24	Decomposed
Brisket Beef	1	6	Decomposed
Beef Sausages	1	4	Decomposed
Tinned Veal	1	138	Decomposed
English Ham	1	5	Decomposed
Imported Eggs	2	51	Decomposed
Scotch Salmon	1	20	Decomposed
Apples (Tinned)	1	70	Decomposed
<i>Totals</i>	65	1595	

No unsound food was found exposed for sale, the Public Health Meat Regulations provide that notice of any unsound condition must be reported to the department, these Regulations have been well observed by the traders, as also have the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act.

With regard to food premises other than slaughter houses, my attention is often called by shopkeepers to various articles of food which are unfit when they are received. In such cases a certificate is given to enable the retailer to claim from the wholesaler.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following table shows the number of samples of Food taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, the results of such analysis and action taken :—

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number Examined</i>				<i>Number Adulterated, etc.</i>			
	<i>Formal</i>	<i>In-formal</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>In-formal</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
Milk	32	—	—	32	4	—	—	4
Sausages	3	—	—	3	2	—	—	2
Meat Pie	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Black Pudding ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Butter	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Cheese	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cream	8	—	—	8	—	—	—	—
Orange Wine ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Tea	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Vinegar	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Lard	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Margarine	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Tinned Cream ...	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Mincemeat	4	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Honey	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Jam	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cocoa	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Fish Paste	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
<i>Totals ...</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>—</i>	<i>6</i>

ADULTERATED SAMPLES, ETC.

<i>Serial Number</i>	<i>Article</i>	<i>Formal Informal Private</i>	<i>Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity</i>	<i>Observations.</i>
33	Sausages ...	Informal	Sulphur dioxide, 163 parts per million	No declaration was made as to presence of preservative.
38	Sausages ...	Formal ...	Sulphur dioxide, 292 parts per million	No declaration was made as to presence of preservative. Letter of warning sent to Vendor.
47	Milk ...	Formal	13.66% deficient in fat	Council decided to take no further action in view of the "Appeal to Cow" samples.
48	Milk ...	Formal ...	11.66% deficient in fat	Letter of Warning.
49	Milk ...	Formal ...	3.33% deficient in fat	"Appeal to Cow" <i>re</i> Sample 47.
50	Milk ...	Formal ...	3.33% deficient in fat	"Appeal to Cow" <i>re</i> Sample 47.

Action taken by Local Authority in regard to each sample not reported as genuine by the Public Analyst :

Serial No. 33.—As No. 38.

Serial No. 38.—Letter of Warning.

Serial No. 47.—No action taken.

Serial No. 48.—Letter of Warning.

Serial No. 49.—“ Appeal to cow ” *re* sample No. 47.

No action taken.

Serial No. 50.—As No. 49.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Eight samples of milk were sent to the Laboratories at the Royal Institute of Health for bacteriological examination. All samples were reported to comply with the prescribed conditions.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

The following are registered under the various Orders and Regulations :—

Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	30
Dairymen	...	...	...	...	14
Wholesale Producers of Milk	...	...	...	...	3
Cowkeepers	...	...	...	...	3

The number of cows kept in the district is about 50 ; the various premises have been regularly inspected.

Eight Dairymen are licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk, four to sell Accredited Milk, and three to sell Pasteurised Milk.

CANAL BOATS.

Several visits were made to the riverside ; on no occasion was any canal boat discovered.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The Sanitary conveniences at the two Common Lodging Houses have been regularly inspected, they have been kept in good order.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

During the year, 1,679 visits were made to various premises for the purpose of destroying rats and mice.

The number of rats found dead was 521, the number caught in traps was 218.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

Twenty-nine inspections were made for the purposes of this Act; the requirements of the Act as to Marking, etc., have been well observed.

SHOPS ACT.

Forty-three inspections were made under the provisions of this Act relating to the health and comfort of shop workers.

One shop was found to be without suitable and sufficient means of maintaining a reasonable temperature. This was remedied after service of informal notice.

DISINFECTION.

In infectious cases, bedding and clothing are removed to the Steam Disinfector at Dedworth. The rooms are sprayed and fumigated. During the year disinfections were as follows:—

Articles of clothing and bedding disinfected	...	2789
Articles of clothing and bedding destroyed	...	703
Rooms disinfected	... ..	90

BED BUGS.

The eradication of bed bugs during the warm months takes a great amount of time. During the year the following work was carried out:—

Council Houses found to be infested...	...	12
Council Houses disinfested	... ..	12
Other Houses found to be infested	... ..	50
Other Houses disinfested	... ..	50

In the 12 Council houses 43 rooms were affected, and in the 50 other houses, 112 rooms.

The method adopted for freeing houses from bed bugs is to spray with an insecticide ; two sprayings with an interval of eight days between being the usual process. In bad infestations, sulphur dioxide, or one of the proprietary fumigating blocks, used in conjunction with an insecticide have given good results. The work is carried out by the department. The fumigating blocks used are Cimex, the principal insecticide used is Zadlecide.

Where tenants of infested houses are known to be removing to a Council house, the house they are vacating is disinfested ; bedding disinfested by steam, and furniture sprayed, before removal.

OTHER PESTS.

The department was called upon to help in the destruction of other pests, as under :—

Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings were instituted against one property owner for failing to abate a nuisance arising from a blocked drain. An order for abatement was obtained, and a fine of £2 10s. and 11s. costs was made.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, ETC.

Visits <i>re</i> Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	125
Slaughter House Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	659
Food Shops, Stalls, etc., inspected	...	...	...	...	...	266
Housing Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	181
Housing Act Re-Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	680
Houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	86
Re-Inspections under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	253
Dairy, Cowshed and Milkshop Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	46
Visits <i>re</i> Infectious Disease and Disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	208
Inspections <i>re</i> Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	181

Drain Tests and Inspections	...	...	...	...	132
Inspections <i>re</i> Nuisances	...	...	...	...	233
Inspections under Merchandize Marks Act	...	...	...	...	29
Visits <i>re</i> Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	1679
Factories and Workshops inspected	...	...	...	...	42
Common Lodging House Inspections	...	...	...	...	24
Ice Cream, Visits <i>re</i> Manufacture and Sale	...	...	...	...	18
Inspections under Shops Act	...	...	...	...	43
Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	...	...	27
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	115
<i>Total</i>	...	...	...	...	<u>5030</u>

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. ARNOLD,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.



