[Report 1947] / Medical Officer of Health, Worthing Borough.

Contributors

Worthing (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1947

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Borough of Worthing

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH

of

WORTHING

and

Meteorological Observations

for the Year

1947

G. H. PRINGLE,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

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Health Department,
Town Hall,
Worthing.
June, 1948.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Worthing.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my first Annual Report on the Health of Worthing, together with the Meteorological Observations.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health the Report is an abridged one and is, in the main, a record of statistics and work carried out by the Department.

As far as can be judged from a study of the vital statistics the general standard of health of the town remains satisfactory. An exceptionally low Infantile Mortality Rate of 32 per 1,000 live births is pleasing. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Reference is made under a separate heading to the cases of acute poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) that occurred during the latter half of the year. Earlier in the year measles had been prevalent, but of the 590 cases notified there were no deaths.

National Health Service Act, 1946. Considerable changes in the administration of certain services described in this report will take place on the "appointed day." As this report is concerned with the past year I have avoided any mention of these changes, all of which are now well known. The day-to-day administration of the Local Health Authority's services has been delegated to a Worthing Sub-Committee of the County Health Committee, and the local hospital services will be administered by the South West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through a local Hospital Management Committee.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have assisted the Health Department in a voluntary capacity either at Clinics or in other branches of the work. It is, I am sure, the wish of all of us that the voluntary spirit which has so often added that touch of humanity to our services will continue.

I should also like to express my appreciation of the helpful support and the interest taken in the Health Services of the Borough by the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and by other members of the Council.

I also wish to record my sincere thanks to Dr. Aitken, my Deputy, and to all the members of the Health Department and Isolation Hospital staffs for their loyal assistance and willing co-operation.

I am,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
G. H. PRINGLE,
Medical Officer of Health.

BOROUGH OF WORTHING.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

(As at 31.12.47.)

Councillor T. D. RABY, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.), Chairman.

Councillor R. A. MITCHELL, Vice-Chairman.

Alderman Dr. E. G. ANNIS, C.C.

Councillors T. A. CLIFFORD, Mrs. C. S. CORTEEN, B.A., S. J. CREASY, Mrs. A. ELLIOTT, C.C., E. S. JOHNSON, Mrs. M. B. JONES, D. W. MORECRAFT, Mrs. R. E. SUMMERS.

Maternity and Child Welfare Committee (Co-opted Members).

Mrs. H. W. SHALDERS (Representing Children's Care Society).

Mrs. McQUILLEN, B.A. (Representing National Council of Women).

Dr. H. ROSENBERG (Representing Local Medical Practitioners).

Health Department Staff.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical Officer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital :

G. H. PRINGLE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

JOHN C. AITKEN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

S. S. WHITE, M.S.I.A., A.M.I.S.E.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. F. JOWETT, M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors :

F. K. AZE, M.S.I.A., T. MARSHALL, M.S.I.A., D. E. PARKER, M.S.I.A.

Matron of the Borough Isolation Hospital :

Miss I. MOSCARELLA, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Senior Health Visitor :

Miss F. KEYNES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Health Dept. Staff—cont.

Health Visitors :

Mrs. E. M. ALLEN, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Miss G. CARTER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss P. COOK, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss W. IRWIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss G. A. RICHES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Consultants and Part-Time Medical Staff :

Maternity and Child Welfare, Durrington and Findon Clinics :
B. A. KERR, B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Maternity and Child Welfare, Central and Goring Clinics :
M. HIGGS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Immunisation, Durrington Clinic : B. A. KERR, B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Orthopædic Surgeon : R. BROOKE, M.B., F.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Ophthalmic Surgeon : S. D. WALLIS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon : H. G. DOWNER, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.R.C.P.S.

Dental Officer to the Ante-Natal Clinic (Part-Time):

J. L. HITCHMAN, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.)

Physiotherapist (Part-Time):

Miss K. E. RAINSFORD, M.C.S.P., C.S.M.M.G., B.P.A.

Clerical Staff :

Chief Clerk : T. L. CANTON

Clerks :

S. F. JUPP, Miss M. MARKING, Miss O. PARKER (Maternity and Child Welfare), Mrs. D. A. PHILLIPS (Home Helps Service), Miss B. M. WHITE, R. B. CARROLL.

Meteorological Staff :

T. L. CANTON (Meteorological Observer and Recorder).

S. F. JUPP (Meteorological Observer).

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Municipal Borough, including foreshore...	acres 8,635
Rateable Value (1.4.47)	£988,445
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate, 1946-47	...£4,011 18s. 3d.
Population—(a) Census, 1931	46,230
(b) Registrar-General's estimate, mid-year 1947 (Civilians only) ...	66,750
Number of Inhabited houses (1.4.47) ...	(Estimated) 21,403

Registered Live Births—

	Total	M.	F.
Legitimate ...	926	492	434
Illegitimate ...	56	24	32
	982	516	466

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population ... 15.0

	Total	M.	F.
Still-Births—Legitimate ...	16	10	6
Illegitimate ...	5	1	4
	21	11	10

Still-Birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births ... 20.9

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	1,251	513	738

Death rate per 1,000 population 18.7

Maternity Deaths :—	Deaths	Rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes ...	—	—
	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—

All Infants	... 31	Rate per 1,000 live births ...	32
Legitimate Infants	28	Rate per 1,000 leg. live births..	30
Illegitimate Infants	3	Rate per 1,000 illeg. live births	54

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	200
Deaths from Scarlet Fever (all ages)	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	—
Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages)	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Enteric Fever (all ages)	—
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)...	3
Zymotic Death Rate	0.04
Mean Annual Temperature	50.9°
Total Rainfall, 1947	24.31 inches
Hours of Bright Sunshine	1896.8 hours

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY, AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1947.

(Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.	Worthing.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births :					
Live	20.5	23.3	22.2	22.7	14.7
Still	0.50	0.62	0.54	0.49	0.31
Deaths :					
All causes ...	12.0	13.0	11.9	12.8	18.7
Typhoid and Para-Typhoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Influenza ...	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.06
Notifications :					
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	1.37	1.54	1:37	1.31	0.30
Diphtheria ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Typhoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Erysipelas ...	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22	0.21
Pneumonia ...	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64	0.28
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.01
Whooping Cough	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80	2.25
Measles ...	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29	8.83
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	41	47	36	37	32
Deaths from Diarrhœa and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	5.8	8.0	37	4.8	4.1
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e., Live and Still).				
Maternal Mortality :					
Puerperal Infection ...	0.32	Not available.			0.00
Others ...	0.85				0.00
Total ...	1.17				0.00
Notifications :					
Puerperal Fever ... / Puerperal Pyrexia ...	7.16	8.99	6.27	8.15	11.9

CAUSES OF DEATH, WORTHING, 1947.

	Males	Females
Smallpox	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1
Typhoid Fever	—	—
Measles	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Influenza	1	3
Poliomyelitis	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	13	9
Other Tuberculosis	1	3
Cancer	84	116
Syphilis	3	2
Diabetes	1	6
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	56	110
Heart Disease	174	280
Other Circulatory	21	36
Bronchitis	21	23
Pneumonia	12	26
Other Respiratory	15	5
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	5	6
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) ...	1	2
Appendicitis	—	1
Other Digestive	13	10
Nephritis	13	14
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal causes	—	—
Premature Birth	3	3
Congenital Causes	9	8
Suicide	5	6
Road Traffic Accidents	3	—
Other violent causes	3	16
All other causes	53	51
Total	513	738

BOROUGH OF WORTHING. 35 Years Vital Statistics.

Year.	Births (Live and Still)		Deaths.													Registrar General's Population.
			All causes.		Infants under 1 year		Maternal Mortality.			Zymotic.		Tuberculosis.		Cancer.		
	No.	R*	No.	R*	No.	R**	Sepsis.	Other Causes	Rate **	No.	R*	No.	R*	No.	R*	
1913	504	15.6	400	9.9	34	67	1	1	3.97	12	0.37	27	0.84	39	1.22	32,160
14	483	14.6	428	10.1	29	60	—	1	2 07	18	0.54	34	1.03	42	1.27	33,000
15	457	14 2	507	12.5	28	61	—	3	6.56	14	0 44	56	1.75	49	1.53	32,000
16	468	15.5	418	12.5	31	66	—	—	—	7	0.18	46	1.66	58	2.09	27,766
17	359	11.9	415	12.5	23	64	—	—	—	9	0.32	41	1.48	63	2.28	27,662
18	419	12 9	511	14.7	32	76	—	—	—	13	0.45	38	1.32	73	2.53	28,780
19	376	12.1	478	12 5	21	56	1	—	2 39	4	0.13	35	1 15	49	1 61	30,345
20	583	18 5	434	11 4	23	39	—	—	—	6	0 19	29	0.92	50	1.58	31,555
21	487	15.5	441	11.5	29	59	1	2	5.43	7	0.20	32	1.02	63	1.99	31,520
22	404	12.9	472	11.9	21	52	1	—	1.95	2	0.06	35	1.11	59	1.88	31,460
23	401	12.8	428	10.0	18	45	1	1	3 89	4	0.13	26	0.83	55	1.75	31,440
24	426	13 2	537	12 1	21	49	—	1	2.35	2	0.06	32	0.99	81	2.51	32,260
25	442	13 4	452	9.8	21	48	—	1	2.26	9	0.27	28	0 85	60	1.82	32,950
26	423	12.1	536	11 6	17	40	—	1	2.36	5	0 14	30	0.89	90	2.57	35,060
27	432	11.9	571	11.7	20	46	1	2	6.94	7	0.19	28	0.77	84	2.31	36,350
28	462	12 2	548	14.4	17	37	1	1	4.33	12	0 32	26	0 68	87	2.29	38,030
29	494	11.9	684	16 5	12	24	—	1	2.02	4	0.10	34	0 82	103	2.49	41,410
30	534	12.6	640	15.1	18	34	—	2	3 75	3	0 07	37	0.87	104	2.46	42,340
31	553	12.5	690	15 6	20	36	2	2	7.23	5	0.11	46	1.04	101	2.28	44,320
32	513	11.0	781	16.8	20	39	4	3	13 64	9	0 20	39	0.84	101	2.17	46,470
33	514	10.6	715	14 7	18	35	2	—	3.89	6	0 12	33	0.68	104	2.14	48,530
34	615	11.9	756	14.7	12	20	—	1	1.63	3	0 06	34	0.66	133	2.58	51,580
35	621	11.5	744	13.8	25	40	1	—	1.61	4	0.07	36	0 67	125	2 32	53,930
36	687	12.4	870	15 7	23	33	—	3	4.36	3	0.05	25	0.45	153	2.75	55,540
37	729	12.4	916	15.6	33	45	—	—	—	2	0 03	42	0.72	138	2.35	58,600
38	712	10.8	917	15 5	20	28	—	1	1.4	4	0 07	31	0.52	151	2.56	59,080
39	763	12.4	1035	15.8	18	23	1	1	2.6	4	0.06	26	0 34	163	2.66	61,210
40	657	9.6	1165	17.1	32	48	—	2	3.0	5	0.07	48	0.70	186	2.73	66,350
41	590	10.1	1044	18 9	22	36	—	1	1.8	3	0.05	39	0 70	161	2.88	55,710
42	724	13.3	1116	20.5	25	35	1	1	2.8	3	0.05	23	0.42	189	3.47	54,500
43	775	14 3	1073	20.4	24	32	-	3	3 9	1	0.01	33	0.63	169	3.22	52,500
44	924	17.1	1037	19.2	40	44	—	2	2 1	10	0.18	23	0.42	177	3.27	54 080
45	811	13.8	1173	20.0	31	39	—	1	1.2	2	0 03	32	0.54	204	3.48	58,620
46	1059	16.3	1223	18.8	50	47	—	—	—	11	0.17	22	0.34	196	3.02	64,860
47	**1003**	**15.0**	**1251**	**18.7**	**31**	**31**	—	—	—	**4**	**00.4**	**26**	**0.38**	**200**	**3.00**	**66,750**

* Per 1,000 Population. ** Per 1,000 Births.

POPULATION.

The Civilian Population in June, 1947, as estimated by the Registrar-General was 66,750, an increase of 1,890 on the corresponding figure for 1946. The Registrar-General's figure for June, 1939, was 61,210.

BIRTHS.

From figures supplied by the Registrar-General the total number of live births registered as properly belonging to Worthing was 982 (516 males and 466 females). This corresponds to a rate of 14.7 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 16.0 in 1946 and 13.4 in 1945.

Of the live births 56 (5.7 per cent.) were illegitimate.

Twenty-one still births were registered, 5 of which were illegitimate.

The number of births notified during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936, as occurring in the Borough was 1,182 including 24 stillbirths. The excess of notifications over registrations of births is largely accounted for by births in the Worthing Hospital Maternity Home and Nursing Homes which cater for a wide district around Worthing as well as for the Borough itself.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths registered in Worthing during 1947 was 1,136 including 136 non-residents. In addition 244 deaths of residents occurred outside the Borough. The number of resident deaths was therefore 1,251 (513 males and 738 females) giving a death rate of 18.7 per 1,000 of the population. The corresponding figures for 1946 and 1945 were 18.8 and 20.0 respectively. The crude death rates are given in each case as the Registrar-General is now unable to supply comparability factors.

The uncorrected death rate in the case of Worthing in which so many elderly people reside naturally gives a false impression of the health of the district and the Worthing death rate, therefore, cannot be compared accurately with the death rate in the country generally.

The corrected death rate for England and Wales was 12.0.

The principal causes of death were as follows :—

	No. of deaths	Percentage of total deaths.
Heart Disease	454	36.3
Cancer	200	15.2

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of infantile deaths (under one year of age) was 31 (14 males and 17 females) giving an infant mortality rate of 32 per 1,000 live births compared with 48 in 1946 and 39 in 1945. The corresponding rate for England and Wales for the year under review was 41.

The causes of infant deaths were as follows :—

Premature Births	8
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	10
Pneumonia	4
Gastro Enteritis	1
All other causes	8

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.
NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Worthing District Nursing Association, which is supported by public subscriptions, supplies nurses to suitable non-infectious cases on application.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

These are quite adequate and efficient.

Pathological specimens are sent to the Laboratory at Worthing Hospital which is an Associated Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service. Specimens can be received at any time, so that results are available with the minimum amount of delay.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The Corporation Motor Ambulance is used for the conveyance of patients suffering from infectious diseases.

The St. John Motor Ambulances are available for conveyance of accident cases and non-infectious patients.

The facilities appear quite adequate for the needs of the Borough and function very well.

HOSPITALS.

Borough Isolation Hospital. This hospital now provides 72 beds for infectious diseases and a tuberculosis block of 12 beds. Particulars of the patients admitted during 1947 are given in another section of the Report.

Worthing General Hospital. This is a voluntary institution, situated in Lyndhurst Road. There are 207 beds.

Southlands Hospital (East Sussex County Council). The Borough Council has an agreement with the East Sussex County Council whereby emergency obstetric cases and cases of puerperal pyrexia may be admitted to Southlands Hospital.

HOME HELPS' SERVICE.

This service was commenced at the beginning of the year and was organised by the Local Consultative Committee of Women's Organisations invited by the Health Committee to undertake the inception of the scheme.

Domestic help is supplied for maternity cases, in cases of illness of mothers with young families, and cases of illness and incapacity. The need for such a service in Worthing is enhanced by the high proportion of aged people.

The total number of cases helped during the year was 219, of which 44 were maternity.

There were at the end of the year six full-time and seven part-time Home Helps employed.

It is in a great measure due to the ability and energy of the Honorary Organiser, Mrs. Turnbull, whose enthusiasm and personal qualities have inspired a team of workers, both voluntary and paid, that the scheme has such an excellent and continually growing record of personal service.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

The Clinic, Stoke Abbott Road. In this building is situated the School Clinic, Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and the special Clinics.

Branch Welfare Centres are held fortnightly at the Church Institute, Durrington, John Molson Hall, Goring, and the Free Church Hall, Findon Valley.

The Venereal Diseases Clinic and the Tuberculosis Dispensary, both under the auspices of the West Sussex County Council, are held at the Worthing General Hospital.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.
STATISTICS.

Births :

Registered : Legitimate 942 ; Illegitimate 61 ; Total 1,003.

Reported under Public Health Act, 1936 :

Live Births 995 ; Stillbirths 22 ; Total 1,017.

By Midwives 1,004 ; by Doctors and Parents 13.

Infant Deaths :

Number : Legitimate 28 ; Illegitimate 3 ; Total 31.

Rate per 1,000 total births : Legitimate 28 ; Illegitimate 3 ; Total 31.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

The salaried midwives are under the control of the West Sussex County Council.

An ante-natal clinic is held weekly at the Central Clinic. Post-natal cases may also attend for advice at these Clinics; there has not been a sufficient number of post-natal cases to warrant the establishment of a separate post-natal clinic up to the present.

During the year 418 women made 1,063 attendances at these clinics.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS.

The Borough Council has reserved beds at the following institutions for maternity cases who are recommended for institutional treatment either on medical grounds, or on grounds of the unsuitability of domestic conditions :—

Worthing Hospital ...	2½ beds (*i.e.* 5 cases per month)
Alwyne Nursing Home ...	3 beds
Windlesham House Nursing Home	1 bed (till 8.7.47)
Concord Nursing Home ...	3 beds (from 10.5.47)

The Borough Council has also an agreement with the East Sussex County Council for admission of certain cases into Southlands Hospital, and similarly with the Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton.

The following number of women were admitted to hospital during the year under the Council's Maternity Scheme :—

Hospital	*Number admitted*
Worthing Hospital Maternity Home	64
Southlands Hospital, Shoreham	43
Alwyne Nursing Home, Brougham Road... ...	51
Concord Nursing Home, Downview Road ...	27
Sussex Maternity and Women's Hospital, Brighton	5
Windlesham House Nursing Home	11
Brighton Municipal Hospital	1
Brighton Sanatorium, Bear Road, Brighton ...	1
Zachary Merton Home, West Sussex County Council, Rustington, Sussex	1
Twyford Nursing Home, Bognor Regis, Sussex...	2
Horsham Hospital, Horsham, Sussex	1
St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, Sussex ...	5
	212

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

The Central Clinic is open every Monday and Friday for children under five years of age, and at Durrington, Goring and Findon fortnightly sessions are held.

MILK AND VITAMINS.

Special brands of dried milk, extra nourishments and vitamin extracts are supplied to young children and to nursing mothers at cost price. In necessitous cases, these preparations are issued free or at reduced cost.

HEALTH VISITORS.

The Borough employs six Health Visitors, five of whom are also School Nurses.

The Health Visitors attend the Child Welfare and Antenatal Clinics and also visit the homes in their respective districts.

The following visits were made by the Health Visitors during 1947 :—

Visits to expectant mothers	453
Visits to children under 1 year of age—	
First visits	1,078
Total visits	3,494
Visits to children between the ages of 1 and 5 years	4,135

ATTENDANCES AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

Number of Clinics held	170
Total attendances	15,928
Individual Children who attended at :—	
Worthing Centre	1,273
Durrington Centre	199
Goring Centre	107
Findon Centre	66

Ante-natal and post-natal Clinics :—

At 52 sessions, 418 women made 1,063 attendances.

In addition the Health Visitors made 580 visits in connection with infectious diseases, mostly measles and whooping cough.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

All the Health Visitors and School Nurses are authorised by the Council as Child Protection Visitors. The number of persons in the Borough who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year was 44 and the number of children thus involved was 89. All the homes and the children are well supervised by the Infant Protection Visitors.

The Health Visitors made 517 visits in connection with Infant Life Protection.

ARRANGEMENTS for DENTAL ORTHOPÆDIC, etc., CASES.
DENTAL CLINIC.

Nursing and expectant mothers and children under five years of age may obtain dental treatment at the Dental Clinic, which is situated in the Central Clinic buildings.

One half-day a week is allotted to the dental treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children below school age.

During the year there have been 50 clinics held, at which there were 422 attendances.

New cases numbered 114 mothers and 77 children. There were 186 extractions and 122 fillings. 15 dentures were supplied during the year. Other operations 153.

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

The Orthopædic Surgeon attends the Central Clinic once monthly.

Children under school age with orthopædic defects attend this clinic for consultation and also for massage and radiant heat treatment, etc., at the four weekly sessions.

The Orthopædic Surgeon examined 186 patients during the year, 61 of whom were new cases.

The Physiotherapist treated 254 patients, 63 of whom were new cases.

OPHTHALMIC CLINIC.

Children under five years of age who require ophthalmic treatment for defective vision or squint are referred for such treatment to the Ophthalmic Surgeon at the School Clinic.

During the year 53 cases were so referred.

EAR, NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC.

Children under five years of age who require treatment for ear, nose and throat defects are referred for such treatment to the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist at the School Clinic.

During the year 47 cases were so referred.

MINOR AILMENTS.

Arrangements are in force whereby children under school age attending the Welfare Centres, who require treatment for minor ailments such as impetigo or scabies, can attend the School Minor Ailments Clinic. 79 children made 234 attendances during the year.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

All the Notification of Birth Cards provide space for the weight at birth, and when this is 5½-lbs. or less and the confinement has taken place at home, the Health Visitor gives the case special supervision and advice in co-operation with the District Nurses and Midwives and where indicated the baby is removed to Hospital for care and treatment.

The Council has provided a special cot in the Worthing Hospital Maternity Home for these infants in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

Premature infants born in hospital are notified to the Department on discharge and are kept under supervision by the Health Visitor and invited to attend the Welfare Centres.

Seventy-one babies were notified during 1947 who weighed 5½-lbs. or less at birth. There were 6 deaths from premature birth, 2 of which occurred in Hospital, 3 in Nursing Homes, and 1 at home. The child born at home died within 7 hours.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

In accordance with Circular 2866 of the Ministry of Health, special attention was given by the Health Visitors to the illegitimate children residing in the Borough.

During the year 56 illegitimate live births were registered to Worthing residents.

No special institutional provision has been made for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants or homeless children.

The Public Assistance Committee of the West Sussex County Council makes provision for such cases either in East Preston Institution, or in other institutions in the County, according to the nature of the case.

The Welfare Superintendent of St. Monica's Welfare Centre, Worthing, a local organisation run under the auspices of the Chichester Diocesan Moral Welfare Society, did very useful work in assisting illegitimate children. The Superintendent worked in complete co-operation with the Health Visitors. The Borough Council makes a grant of £100 towards this work.

In a number of cases the mother expressed a wish to retain her illegitimate child; this procedure is encouraged. In cases where adoption is considered desirable arrangements have been made with the assistance of the Moral Welfare Superintendent or through the appropriate Adoption Society.

The care given to these unfortunate children compares very favourably with that given to legitimate children and in no case was any Health Visitor able to discover any evidence of neglect.

There is a wide discrepancy between the number of registered illegitimate births and those notified to the Department after the birth of the child. The number notified was 10 as compared with 61 registered.

One reason for the discrepancy probably arises from the fact that there is no need to divulge the parentage of the child to the doctor or midwife as is required to the Registrar for Births.

BABIES' CRECHES.

A Crèche for children under the age of five was opened at the Central Clinic on the 2nd May, 1946. The Crèche is held once a week, from 2 till 5 p.m., is staffed by voluntary helpers and a Health Visitor is always available.

There were 43 children on the register on the 31st December, 1947, but the average attendance during the year was only 5.3.

A Crèche arranged on similar lines at Durrington was closed in July owing to lack of support.

It is apparent that there is little real need for these facilities in Worthing, but my Department is paying considerable attention to the necessity or otherwise of the provision of a Day Nursery.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply undertaking is owned and managed by the Borough Council.

The following information regarding the water supply has been supplied by Mr. H. A. Leader, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., Assoc. M.Inst.W.E., Borough Water Engineer.

1. The water supply of the statutory area has been very satisfactory in both quality and quantity throughout the past year.
2. Bacteriological examinations are made once a fortnight of both the raw and chlorinated water.
3. The water has no plumbo-solvent action.
4. No contamination of supplies has been reported.
5. The population supplied during the year ended December, 1947, was 72,800, all supplies being direct to the houses and no standpipes being used.
   In addition, water is supplied in bulk to the Rural District Council, and is re-distributed by this Authority to a population of 10,250.

THE CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION LIMITED.

Watergate House, York Buildings,
London, W.C.2.

Laboratory Report No. 21557.

CHEMICAL WATER REPORT.

The sample of water marked 48″ Bore, BROADWATER PUMPING STATION, received here on 2.3.48—2.40 p.m., has been chemically examined, and I have been instructed to forward the following report :—

ANALYSIS (B)	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C)	35.0	24.5
Combined chlorine (Cl)	2.4	1.7
equivalent to Sodium Chloride (Na Cl)	4.0	2.8
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.76	0.53
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.0010	0.0007
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C ...	0.009	0.006
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca CO_3)	20.0	14.0
Permanent hardness (,, ,,)	4.0	2.8
Total hardness (,, ,,)	24.0	16.8

The Hydrogen Ion Concentration is found to be pH 7.25.

The above results show this water to be of good quality and quite safe for drinking purposes.

R. S. RALPH, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Laboratory Director.

THE CLINICAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION LIMITED.
Watergate House, York Buildings,
London, W.C.2.

Laboratory Report No. 21446.

CHEMICAL WATER REPORT.

The sample of water marked 48" Bore, PATCHING PUMPING STATION, received here on 17.2.48, has been chemically examined, and I have been instructed to forward the following report :—

ANALYSIS (B)	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Total solids (dried at 180°C)	31.0	21.7
Combined chlorine (Cl)	2.5	1.8
equivalent to Sodium Chloride (Na Cl)	4.1	2.9
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates)	0.76	0.53
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites)	Nil	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.0006	0.0004
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C ...	0.003	0.002
Lead or Copper	Nil	Nil
Temporary hardness (equivalent to Ca CO_3)	21.0	14.7
Permanent hardness (,, ,,)	4.0	2.8
Total hardness (,, ,,)	25.0	17.5

The Hydrogen Ion Concentration is found to be pH 7.3.

The chemical results are quite satisfactory and the water is safe for drinking purposes.

R. S. RALPH, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,
Laboratory Director.

WORTHING CORPORATION WATER DEPARTMENT.
BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER ANALYSIS.

Report No. W.37.

Sample of water marked BROADWATER PUMPING STATION, 48″ Bore received 2.3.48.

Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates at 20°—22°C. for 3 days	2 per millilitre
At 37°C. for 2 days	1 per millilitre
Fæcal B. coli	Absent in 100 c.c.
Probable number of coliform bacilli present...	Nil
Streptococci	Absent in 100 c.c.
Cl.welchii (Spores) ...	,, ,,
Hydrogen-Ion concentration ...	7.3 pH

Remarks and Conclusion :

Satisfactory.

FRANK STANDISH, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
Pathologist,
Worthing Hospital.

WORTHING CORPORATION WATER DEPARTMENT.
BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER ANALYSIS.

Report No. W.39.

Sample of water marked PATCHING PUMPING STATION, 48″ Bore, received 2.3.48.

Average number of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates at 20°—22°C. for 3 days	4 per millilitre
At 37°C. for 2 days	0 per millilitre
Fæcal B. coli	Absent in 100 c.c.
Probable number of coliform bacilli present...	Nil
Streptococci	Absent in 100 c.c.
Cl.welchii (Spores) ...	,, ,,
Hydrogen-Ion concentration ...	7.3 pH

Remarks and Conclusion :

Satisfactory.

FRANK STANDISH, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
Pathologist,
Worthing Hospital.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The numbers of cases of Infectious Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) originally notified during the year, with the final numbers after corrections subsequently made either by the notifying Medical Practitioner or at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, were as follows :—

	Originally notified	Corrected
Acute Poliomyelitis	20	18
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	1
Diphtheria	3	1
Dysentery	1	1
Erysipelas	14	14
Measles	590	590
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1
Pneumonia	19	19
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	12
Scarlet Fever	25	21
Whooping Cough	152	151

Scarlet Fever.

The number of confirmed cases notified during the year was 21, compared with 35 in the previous year. The number of cases removed to hospital was 13. There were no deaths.

Diphtheria.

Three cases were notified during 1947 and removed to hospital. In two cases the diagnosis was not confirmed. The one confirmed case had not received an immunisation course.

Paratyphoid Fever.

One case was notified during 1947. The patient, who was transferred from Worthing General Hospital to the Borough Isolation Hospital, was a non-resident and had contracted the disease outside the Borough.

Dysentery.

One case was notified during the year. The patient was non-resident, and was transferred to his home address.

Acute Poliomyelitis.

During the latter half of the year there were eighteen cases of acute poliomyelitis, of which number, two were visitors from the London area.

The youngest patient was a baby aged 8 weeks, the oldest a male aged 36 years. Complete recovery occurred in eight cases, and seven patients are still undergoing treatment at an orthopædic hospital, out-patient department or clinic.

There were three fatal cases—a mortality of 16.6%.

Although the number of cases is small for study from the epidemiological standpoint it is interesting to note that no common factor was discovered, and that with one exception the cases did not appear to be connected with each other in any way ; the one exception was the simultaneous occurrence of two cases in children of separate families living in the same house.

Restrictions on children's gatherings were advised during August, including the closing of Sunday schools and children's cinema performances and other entertainments.

In addition, four suspected cases were admitted to Swandean Isolation Hospital for observation, but in each case the diagnosis was either not confirmed or other diagnoses made.

Shortage of nursing staff made it quite impossible to admit a number of other suspected cases, but in each of these, adequate home isolation was possible during the period of observation.

The medical practitioners in the Borough were informed after the second case had been notified and I am grateful for their most helpful co-operation.

Immunisation Against Diphtheria.

As in previous years, the Immunisation Clinic was held in the Clinic, Stoke Abbott Road, each Tuesday afternoon. A branch Clinic was held in Durrington School when necessary.

During the year, a total of 581 children received the full course of inoculation against Diphtheria, namely 535 children under the age of 5 years, and 46 children in the age group 5—14 years.

The position regarding children under 15 years of age resident in the district at 31st December, 1947, who were known to have completed a full course of immunisation at any time, was as follows :—

		Child Population	Percentage
Age group 0—4 (inclusive)	...	4090	43.4
Age group 5—14 (inclusive)	...	6820	77.6
		10910	64.8

Immunisation Against Whooping Cough.

Facilities were provided for Whooping Cough Immunisation, and during the year 288 children were given this protective treatment.

Scabies.

There has been a great improvement in the incidence of this disease.

During the year under review a total of 58 cases were found and dealt with compared with 99 in 1946, 207 in 1945 and 209 in 1944.

Infestation with Head Lice.

The heads of all school children and children attending the Infant Welfare Centres are kept under observation and the mothers given the necessary instructions.

The heads of school children are regularly inspected and where verminous conditions exist the pre-school children and adult members of the same family are also inspected. The Health Visitors continue to work very hard on this problem and have made frequent re-inspections of the old offenders, who are repeatedly the source of the infestation.

Disinfectant head soaps and Lethane Oil have been supplied to the infested persons and steel combs loaned to them.

SWANDEAN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

During the year 148 cases were admitted and 151 discharged; in addition 29 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were taken in under the arrangements which exist between the Borough Council and the West Sussex County Council.

The following table gives details of the infectious cases admitted from the Borough of Worthing and from other Local Authorities with whom we have Agreements :—

Scarlet Fever	54
Measles	26
Diphtheria	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever	3
Whooping Cough	3
Erysipelas	2
Paratyphoid Fever	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	26
Acute Polioencephalitis	3
Pneumonia	2
Chicken Pox	2
Others (includes 11 suspected cases of Poliomyelitis in which the diagnosis was not confirmed)	22
	148

METEOROLOGY.

Abstract of Observations for the Year 1947.

Total amount of bright sunshine ...	1896.8 hours
Number of days with sunshine	294
Total Rainfall	24.31 ins.
Number of days on which rain fell ...	139
Highest Barometric reading	30.741 ins.—10th Apr.
Lowest ,, ,, ...	28.963 ins.—3rd Feb.
Highest Temperature in screen	90°—16th Aug.
Lowest ,, ,, ...	15°—29th Jan.
Mean Temperature for Year	50.9°
Greatest Rainfall in one day	.94 ins.—10th Mar.
Most Sunshine recorded in one day ...	14.9 hours—10th June
Number of days snow or sleet fell ...	17
Number of days hail fell	—
Number of thunderstorms	8
Number of gales	1
Number of days with fog (9 a.m.) ...	5

Bright Sunshine, 1947.

The following table extracted from the Official Sunshine Return of the Meteorological Office, Air Ministry, which gives a list of 270 sunshine stations, shows that Worthing held sixth position in Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the fifth position on the mainland for sunshine during the year 1947. Worthing held the top position on the mainland in 1944, 1945 and 1946.

The table shows the position of the first twenty stations :—

Town	*Hours of Sunshine*
Eastbourne	1933.1
Sandown	1919.6
Rye	1917.4
Margate	1903.1
Wye	1899.9
WORTHING	1896.8
Folkestone	1891.2
Manston	1881.2
Lympne	1870.9
Gorleston	1867.5
Dovercourt	1853.8
Felixstowe	1851.0
Southend	1834.2
Jersey	1831.7
Maldon	1823.0
Clacton-on-Sea	1821.7
Ventnor	1819.9
Tunbridge Wells	1814.8
Hankham	1814.8
Littlehampton	1812.9

CLIMATE OF WORTHING—1887–1947.

Year.	Temperature.							Rainfall.		Sunshine	Year.
	Means.					Extremes.					
	9 a.m.	Min.	Max.	Range	Mean	Min	Max.	Amount at Observatory.	Number of days rain fell.	Number of hours in year.	
	Degrees.							Inches.			
1887 ...	48.4	41.6	54.1	12.5	47.9	17.4	82.0	21.28	137	—	...1887
1888 ...	48.0	42.4	53.3	10.9	47.8	20.2	78.8	25.88	181	—	...1888
1889 ...	49.5	42.7	54.8	12.1	48.8	21.9	81.5	23.92	159	—	...1889
1890 ...	49.4	42.2	54.6	12.4	48.4	14.9	78.0	22.84	149	—	...1890
1891 ...	49.4	42.4	54.8	12.2	48.4	16.5	77.0	29.86	172	—	...1891
1892 ...	49.1	41.8	54.5	12.7	48.2	20.2	76.0	23.73	141	—	...1892
1893 ...	52.3	44.0	57.7	13.7	50.9	18.2	84.7	25.12	142	—	...1893
1894 ...	51.2	44.9	52.8	10.9	50.3	12.9	80.2	35.71	184	—	...1894
1895 ...	50.4	43.0	56.5	12.5	49.3	16.2	77.9	26.09	162	—	...1895
1896 ...	51.0	43.3	56.5	13.2	49.9	22.9	80.7	25.74	152	—	...1896
1897 ...	51.4	44.7	56.9	12.2	50.8	21.9	80.7	26.07	172	—	...1897
1898 ...	52.2	45.7	57.6	11.9	51.6	27.0	80.9	22.51	158	—	...1898
1899 ...	51.9	45.0	57.6	12.6	51.3	23.6	84.4	26.23	144	2141.0	...1899
1900 ...	51.2	44.9	56.2	11.3	50.6	20.9	79.0	26.33	182	1885.6	...1900
1901 ...	50.2	43.6	55.8	12.2	49.7	22.9	80.7	21.45	139	2017.0	...1901
1902 ...	50.2	43.6	55.0	11.1	49.6	21.8	78.0	23.77	157	1661.7	...1902
1903 ...	50.9	45.2	55.4	10.2	50.3	23.7	78.2	32.19	189	1749.2	...1903
1904 ...	50.4	44.3	55.5	11.2	49.9	23.8	77.4	26.85	163	1748.4	...1904
1905 ...	50.1	42.2	55.6	11.4	49.1	23.9	77.1	24.63	162	1715.3	...1905
1906 ...	50.6	44.3	56.1	11.8	50.2	24.9	78.6	30.44	173	2010.6	...1906
1907 ...	50.2	45.1	54.8	9.5	50.0	20.4	76.1	21.78	158	1776.8	...1907
1908 ...	50.9	44.1	56.1	12.1	50.1	16.0	80.2	22.15	146	1991.3	...1908
1909 ...	49.7	43.0	54.6	11.6	48.8	19.9	81.2	32.11	178	1958.6	...1909
1910 ...	50.8	44.5	55.9	11.5	50.1	21.9	73.8	32.57	191	1731.0	...1910
1911 ...	52.8	45.1	58.0	12.9	51.5	25.4	87.9	31.68	149	2115.0	...1911
1912 ...	51.6	45.0	56.6	11.6	50.8	19.0	84.2	35.95	192	1609.9	...1912
1913 ...	52.1	45.9	57.4	11.5	51.6	26.2	79.0	34.98	170	1600.2	...1913
1914 ...	52.7	45.2	57.9	12.7	51.5	23.2	78.2	31.31	164	2000.5	...1914
1915 ...	51.1	43.8	56.3	11.8	50.5	24.7	77.1	36.64	152	1801.3	...1915
1916 ...	51.2	44.7	56.3	11.6	50.5	25.0	77.0	32.89	182	1658.0	...1916
1917 ...	49.2	43.0	54.6	11.6	48.8	20.7	79.0	25.49	147	1804.7	...1917
1918 ...	51.0	44.7	56.5	11.8	50.6	20.0	78.0	24.41	165	1856.5	...1918
1919 ...	49.4	42.9	54.9	12.0	48.9	22.0	78.5	28.54	158	1788.5	...1919
1920 ...	51.7	45.6	56.6	11.0	51.1	23.0	76.0	26.40	139	1692.1	...1920
1921 ...	53.4	46.4	58.8	12.4	52.6	27.6	86.7	13.26	108	2101.5	...1921
1922 ...	50.1	43.9	54.8	10.9	49.3	25.2	78.2	25.71	1[illegible]9	1781.2	...1922
1923 ...	50.8	44.5	55.6	11.1	50.1	24.0	86.0	30.62	170	1805.9	...1923
1924 ...	50.8	45.4	55.3	9.9	50.3	25.0	74.6	32.65	159	1759.6	...1924
1925 ...	49.8	44.7	55.9	11.2	50.3	24.0	80.2	34.70	158	1955.8	...1925
1926 ...	51.6	45.7	56.7	11.0	51.2	21.8	83.3	28.57	160	1677.7	...1926
1927 ...	50.8	45.0	55.8	10.8	50.4	22.4	78.1	34.88	165	1731.4	...1927
1928 ...	51.9	45.1	57.0	11.9	51.0	21.6	82.0	32.84	161	1999.1	...1928
1929 ...	50.9	44.1	56.0	11.9	50.0	13.0	80.0	29.71	134	2062.5	...1929
1930 ...	52.0	46.9	56.4	9.5	51.3	26.0	82.6	28.31	169	1821.4	...1930
1931 ...	51.0	45.0	55.0	10.0	50.0	21.0	77.0	25.80	147	1610.5	...1931
1932 ...	50.5	45.1	55.8	10.7	50.5	23.0	80.0	23.91	148	1616.7	...1932
1933 ...	52.0	45.5	56.4	10.9	51.2	23.6	81.2	20.40	125	2102.6	...1933
1934 ...	52.1	45.6	57.5	11.9	51.8	24.0	82.0	27.49	139	1811.0	...1934
1935 ...	51.8	46.1	56.6	10.5	51.3	25.6	83.8	37.74	173	1805.2	...1935
1936 ...	51.3	45.4	55.9	10.5	50.7	27.1	81.3	27.42	169	1675.0	...1936
1937 ...	51.5	46.3	57.2	10.9	51.8	26.0	76.8	31.59	162	1668.3	...1937
1938 ...	52.7	46.1	57.1	11.0	51.6	19.5	82.5	22.95	156	1796.4	...1938
1939 ...	51.8	45.8	56.5	10.7	51.2	20.0	81.5	34.42	171	1809.7	...1939
1940 ...	50.0	45.0	56.0	11.0	50.5	16.0	80.0	30.13	148	1976.8	...1940
1941 ...	50.3	44.0	56.0	12.0	50.0	22.0	83.0	25.83	139	1791.7	...1941
1942 ...	50.0	44.8	55.3	10.5	50.5	19.0	83.0	24.62	129	1711.6	...1942
1943 ...	52.0	46.0	58.0	12.0	52.0	28.0	80.0	23.68	145	1864.8	...1943
1944 ...	51.3	45.4	56.2	10.8	50.8	26.0	81.0	22.14	136	1765.5	...1944
1945 ...	52.5	46.5	57.2	10.7	51.2	19.0	80.0	22.98	138	1783.9	...1945
1946 ...	51.6	45.5	55.7	10.2	50.6	23.0	76.0	30.96	170	1790.7	...1946
1947 ...	51.3	45.7	56.1	10.4	50.9	15.0	90.0	24.31	139	1896.8	...1947

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Worthing.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Fifteenth Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Borough and the examination of meat and other foods during the year 1947.

Increased attention was devoted to the preparation, manufacture, distribution and sale of foods with the object of raising the general standard of hygiene in connection with the shop, restaurant or café. Much advancement will be necessary in this sphere of public health work, particularly as regards personal and kitchen hygiene, before we shall be assured a clean food supply. Incidentally, legislation dealing with this subject is very inadequate. There are still individuals who would prepare foods for consumption by the general public under appalling conditions if not regularly supervised, but it is only fair to say that the co-operation I have received from the vast majority of local food tradesmen has been excellent.

Restrictions or licence requirements delayed or postponed numerous essential repairs or improvements in homes and factories.

Two vacancies and changes in the Inspectorial staff resulted in a reduction in activity in some branches of my work.

General Inspections.

General inspections included the following :—

Houses	501
Factories	231
Bakehouses	98
Restaurant Kitchens	155
Workplaces	49
Cowsheds	66
Dairies	91
Ice Cream Premises	177
Food Shops	1,246
Schools	52
Drainage	236
Shops' Act	40

620 public health nuisances or contraventions were recorded and 534 were remedied before the end of the year.

Sanitary defects and nuisances recorded included the following :—

Houses :	
Roofs defective	51
Rainwater conductors defective	44
Chimney stacks and external walls defective...	21
Verminous	44
Overcrowded	6
Re-decorating required	146
Plaster work defective	96
Wall dampness	117
Cooking ranges defective	9
Fireplaces defective	37
Window frames or cords defective	74
Floors, staircases defective	48
Drainage defective	130
Insanitary yards or land	27
Animals improperly kept	22
Dilapidated refuse bins	47

COMPLAINTS.

1,117 complaints, the highest number ever recorded, were investigated and appropriate action was taken.

They are classified as follows :—

Housing :	
General defects	128
Dampness	51
Roofs defective	15
Overcrowding	21
Dirty conditions	14
Vermin	24
Flies	11
Beetles	8
Other Insects	9
Rain water conductors defective	10
Cooking stoves, etc., defective	8
Chimneys	11
Floors	5
Drainage	50
Drains choked	90
Cesspools choked	12
W.C.'s defective	59
Insanitary Yards	40
Insanitary Vacant Land	40
Animals improperly kept	23
Offensive smells	34
Smoke Nuisances	16
Flooding	13

Refuse bins defective	25
Rats	332
Mice	35
Miscellaneous	32

The number of complaints received has steadily increased since 1938 when the annual total was 671. In many cases the complaint was not justified or was not a public health nuisance. Advice or assistance was, however, given in the interest of residents wherever possible.

Housing. It has not been practicable to resume the pre-war survey of working class houses owing to labour and material problems and licensing restrictions, consequently, the standard of fitness of most houses has deteriorated considerably during the past ten years.

NOTICES SERVED TO REMEDY DEFECTS OR ABATE NUISANCES OR CONTRAVENTIONS.

Act	*Informal*	*Statutory.*
Public Health Act, 1936.		
Section 92 (defects and nuisances) ...	241	7
,, 39 (drainage and appliances) ...	139	2
,, 44/45/46 (water closets) ...	26	
,, 50 (cesspools)	5	
,, 83/4 (vermin)	7	
,, 259 (ditches)	17	
Worthing Corporation Act (dustbins) ...	47	2
Nuisance Byelaws (Street Litter) ...	10	
Housing Act, 1936	78	22
Food and Drugs Act, 1938.		
Section 13 (food preparing)	59	1
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 ...	18	
Factories Act, 1937	13	
Shops Act, 1934	7	
Milk and Dairies Orders	12	

Drainage: 236 visits were made and 50 tests were applied. 17 drainage systems were entirely reconstructed and cesspool drainage at a further 11 houses was converted to main drainage.

Sewers serving 188 houses found to be choked were cleansed by the Corporation.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911—1928: Five samples of rag flock were taken and analysed for the presence of soluble chlorine in the form of chlorides. One sample failed to conform to the prescribed standard and appropriate action was taken.

Offensive Trades: Number of registered premises 2.

Two applications for consent to establish the trade of a fell-monger were refused.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.
Part I of the Act.

1. Inspections.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s ...	84	159	15
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	195	170	7
TOTAL	279	329	22

2. Cases in which defects were found (excluding Food and Drugs Act contraventions).

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	8	8
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	2	2
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—		
(a) Insufficient	2	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	9	9
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3
TOTAL	24	24

Fire Escape. Twelve applications pursuant to Section 34 for Certificates of Adequate Means of Escape in Case of Fire were received. 9 were granted and 3 refused.

The 3 applications refused were subsequently granted after an additional staircase or emergency exit had been provided.

Shops Act, 1934 — Section 10 (2).

Four applications were received for Certificates of Exemption from the requirements of the Act relating to the provision of suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation on the premises and Certificates were granted in view of the restricted accommodation of the shop premises and suitability of alternative conveniences.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES received special consideration by the Health Committee with the object of improving the condition of existing premises and providing additional accommodation in several parts of the Borough.

BEETLES—A plague of beetles from agricultural land, which caused annoyance to nearby residents was eradicated by the Department acting on instructions of the land owner.

RAT DESTRUCTION.

363 complaints were received and 254 infestations (219 rats and 35 mice) were located and whilst a large number of the complaints were not verified, many led to other infestations being traced.

2,542 visits were made and 267 premises were cleared of rodents during the year. Approximately 45% of the premises infested with rodents were situate in the western part of the Borough.

Methods adopted included poisoning with zinc phosphide, arsenic, barium carbonate, or red squill, gassing and trapping. Sausage rusk was chiefly used for preliminary bait and poison base.

Conditions connected with poultry keeping in back gardens has greatly increased the rat menace, *i.e.* excess food fed to poultry and improperly erected fowl houses.

4 cwt. of bait and poison was laid and it is estimated from the amount of poison taken that 2,118 rats were destroyed.

It is interesting to note that whilst the number of complaints received, premises cleared, and visits made by the rodent operator has not greatly varied during the past three years, the estimated annual kill, excluding sewers, has fallen from 15,133 during 1944 to 2,118. Nearly all infestations today are of a very minor character.

Additional to the above, a maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out. 500 manholes were treated ; 71 were found to be rat infested and were poison baited.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

1,897 articles fumigated by steam disinfection included the following :—

Blankets and Rugs	502
Sheets, Eiderdowns, etc.	167
Mattresses and Feather Beds	333
Pillows, bolsters, cushions	634
Miscellaneous articles	261
Number of rooms disinfected	113
Number of rooms disinfested	54

Revenue received :—

for disinfection	£67 3s. 2d.
for disinfestation	£18 16s. 10d.

MEAT AND FOOD EXAMINATION.

Slaughtering is carried on at one Government Regional Slaughterhouse. Three other private slaughterhouses remained closed.

8 persons were licensed to slaughter animals under the Slaughter of Animals' Act, 1933.

All animals were slaughtered with the aid of mechanically operated humane instruments.

The carcase of every animal slaughtered was examined, which involved late night and Sunday work.

416 attendances were made at the slaughterhouse.

12,618 animals, i.e. 3,218 beasts, 2,467 calves, 6,827 sheep and 106 pigs were slaughtered and examined.

Over 33 tons of meat were found to be diseased and unfit for food. This was salvaged for animal feeding, fat rendering or fertilizers. Meat found to be diseased included :—

Entire Carcases :

Beasts	59
Calves	6
Sheep	11
Pigs	1

Offals :

	Beasts	*Calves*	*Sheep*	*Pigs*
Heads and Tongues ...	259	8	15	4
Livers	1,087	12	959	9

Requests from local food tradesmen to examine foods of a doubtful character are received almost daily.

The undermentioned were found to be diseased or unsound and were condemned as being unfit for human food.

	lbs.
Milk, tinned	1,635
Cheese	93
Meat—butchers	2,034
,, corned	1,072
,, tinned	494
,, bacon	106
Fish —wet	12,819
,, tinned	479
Vegetables—tinned and raw	1,584
Cake and Pudding Mixtures	111
Cereals	1,707
Confectionery	63
Jams	414
Fruit—Oranges	1,082
,, Apples	136
,, Grape Fruit	58
,, Peaches	31
,, Others	70
,, Tinned	469
Poultry and Game	405

Eggs — 684.
Pickles — 64 jars.

MILK.

262 samples were taken and the following is a synopsis of the results.

Examination for Bacterial Cleanliness.

Designations	No. taken	Failures: Meth. Blue	Failures: Coli	Failures: Excess Count	Failures: Phosphatase	Unsatisfactory (Legally)
Tuberculin T. (Certified)	32	7	9	—	—	25%
Tuberculin T. (Pasteurised)	18	—	3	2	—	Nil
Pasteurised ...	72	5	16	12	3	10%
Heat Treated ...	67	9	18	—	13	28%
Ungraded ...	10	6	4	—	—	—

Unsatisfactory under local standards :

Tuberculin Tested	25%
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	17%
Pasteurised	22%
Heat Treated	36%
Ungraded	60%

Many of the sample results were confusing on comparing the methylene blue test standard with count and coli tests or comparing the phosphatase (heat treatment) test with other tests. The following are a few examples :—

Sample No.	Meth. Blue	Count per 1 ml.	Coli 1/100	Phosphatase
376. T.T. Certified	Satisf.	$5\frac{3}{4}$ millions	Failed	—
385. T.T. Pasteurised	,,	759,000	,,	Satisfactory.
368. Pasteurised	,,	51 millions	,,	Failed.
370. Pasteurised	,,	·9 ,,	,,	Satisfactory.
388. Pasteurised	,,	4,400	Absent	Failed.

Examination to detect Adulteration or Abstraction.

59 samples were taken, details of which are given in the Foods and Drugs section on page 34.

Graded Milk. Licences granted by the Council during the year pursuant to the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936/46, were as follows :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk—To retail	13
,, ,, Bottling Licence ...	1
,, ,, To retail (supplementary)	1
,, ,, Pasteurised—To retail ...	1
Pasteurising Plants and retailing	2
Pasteurised Milk—To retail	3
,, ,, To retail (supplementary) ...	1
No. of registered working dairies	8

In twelve cases, action was necessary at farms or dairies to comply with requirements of Milk & Dairies Orders or Regulations.

Heat Treated Milk. Licences or authorisations for this grade of milk are issued direct from the Ministry of Food without consulting the Council, and four such authorisations were in operation during the year.

Of the farms sending milk into the Borough, 30 herds are licensed to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 38 "Accredited."

Milk Consumption. The average amount of milk consumed by the resident population calculating on the 2½ pints per week ration plus priorities, etc., was approximately 6,500 gallons daily, or .7 pint per head of the population of the Borough.

Amount of "Tuberculin Tested" milk consumed daily, approximately 250 gallons.

Percentage of milk "Pasteurised" 86%
,, ,, "Heat Treated" 10%
No milk is retailed as "Accredited."

Milk in Schools. The number of ⅓-pints supplied to schools on each school day was approximately 8,000 (during March).

ICE CREAM.

12 premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream and approximately 120 shops for storage and sale.

On the coming into operation of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947, with certain exceptions, on 1st May

a provisional cleanliness test (methylene blue) was prescribed and samples were graded according to degree of bacterial cleanliness. It was hoped, however, that after one year's experience a statutory cleanliness standard would have been adopted, because until this is done there is little a local authority can do respecting unsatisfactory samples.

Article 5 of the Regulations which relates to the protection of ice cream from contamination was most useful and was enforced as rigidly as possible within the Borough. This activity was the subject of reference and criticism in ice cream trade journals and attracted enquiries for information relating to policy or standard in Worthing from a large number of local authorities.

Proprietors of restaurants, cafés, hotels, etc., were required to comply with the provisions of the Regulations as regards the heat treatment or cold mix methods of manufacture and Article 5 to prevent contamination.

80 samples were submitted to the methylene blue or cleanliness test with the following results :—

Grade I	24%	
Grade II	14%	
Grade III	15%	Unsatisfactory
Grade IV	47%	Unsatisfactory

14% of the bacterial counts were less than 1,000 per 1 ml.

28% of the counts exceeded 250,000 per 1 ml.

16% of the counts exceeded 1,000,000 per 1 ml.

The following table shews a comparison between ice cream made within the Borough and ice cream manufactured outside the Borough, but sold from shops in this Town.

	Made Locally.	*Made Elsewhere.*
Grade I	26%	18%
Grade II	12%	18%
Grade III	17%	9%
Grade IV	45%	59%

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938—SECTION 3.
DEFENCE (SALE OF FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1943.

102 samples of foods or drugs were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst :—

Description.	*No. Analysed.*	*Genuine.*	*Otherwise.*
Milk	59	49	10
Sausages—meat	11	10	1
Flour—Self-raising ...	1	1	
Baking Powder	2	2	
Bicarbonate of Soda ...	1	1	
Pickles, Chutney	3	2	1
Salad Oil	1	1	
Fish Paste	4	4	
Ground Ginger	1	1	
Malt Vinegar	2	2	
Pepper	1	1	
Coffee	2	2	
Coffee and Chicory ...	3	3	
Lemonade Powder ...	1	1	
Ice Creams	6	—	
Fruit Preserving Tablets ...	1	1	
Saccharin Tablets ...	2	2	
Aspirins	1	1	

Unsatisfactory.

Pickles.—Excess preservative and incorrectly labelled.

Sausages.—Meat content deficient 14.7%.

Milks.—Three were deficient in fat and seven in solids not fat. There was no evidence of added water and six of the samples sub-standard were "genuine" milk of poor quality.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Dr. G. H. Pringle for the active interest he has taken in my work and for his valuable support, and to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued encouragement, understanding and confidence.

I also desire to record that I am indebted to every member of the Staff for their loyalty and for the keenness and efficiency they have displayed during the past year, particularly the Sanitary Officers.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,
S. S. WHITE,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Health Dept.,
Town Hall,
Worthing.

Gadd, Printer, Worthing.