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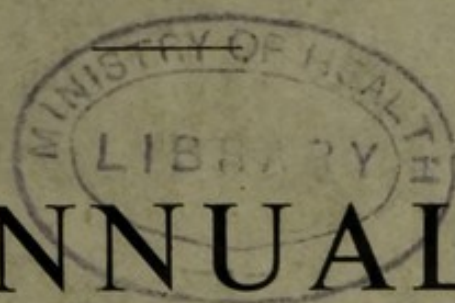
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Urban District of Bedworth



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer
of Health

INCLUDING THE

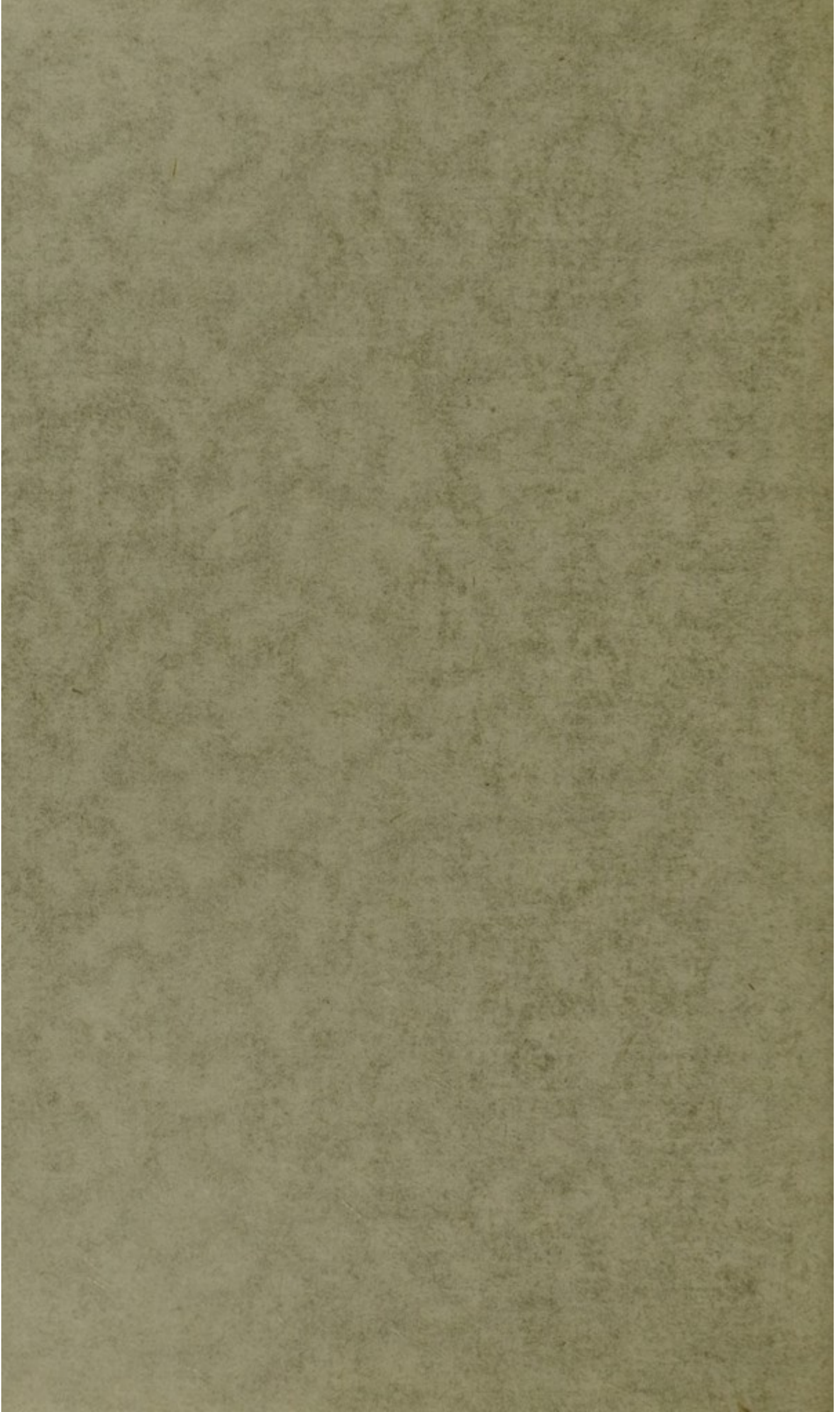
Chief Sanitary Inspector's
Report for the Year 1953

BY

J. H. BRISCOE-SMITH

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

Medical Officer of Health



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BEDWORTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BEDWORTH,
NR. NUNEATON.
August, 1954.

*To the Chairman and Members,
Public Health Committee,
Bedworth Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, including the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report for 1953. As I did not take up my duties until 16th November, 1953, much of the information contained in the Report has been compiled from data supplied to me by my predecessor, Dr. G. R. Kershaw, to whom my thanks are due for the kind assistance he gave me during the early stages of my appointment.

VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Vital Statistics for the year are set out on pages 8—10. There were a total of 449 live births during the year, the Birth Rate of 17·02 remaining somewhat higher than that for England and Wales (15·5) and towns of comparable size (15·7). There were 9 still births, 8 deaths during the first month of life, and a further 5 deaths between one month and one year. This resulted in Still Birth and Infant Mortality Rates which compared very favourably with other areas. The Tables showing the causes of Neo-natal and Infant Deaths indicate that the avoidable accidents such as deaths due to birth injury and complications during labour have mainly been eliminated, and those deaths occurring are due to factors (such as Prematurity and Congenital malformation) which are more difficult or impossible to control. This is encouraging as no Maternity Bed Accommodation is available within the District, and nearly 50% of deliveries are dealt with by Domicillary Midwives. Even more cases would be confined at home except that conditions are not always suitable, particularly in some of the poorer property in the town. In such cases, where the mid-wife considers it to be necessary, application is made for a Hospital Bed on social grounds. There is excellent co-operation between the midwives and the Obstetrician at the George Eliot Hospital, Nuneaton, and it is rare for such a request to be refused. The beds at this Hospital are also available for any woman having her first baby, and for abnormal cases.

The most striking statistical variation is in the Death Rate which is more than double that for last year. This can readily be explained on the basis of instructions issued by the Registrar General to all Medical Officers of Health in October, 1952. A ruling was made at that time on the types of institutions which were to

be considered as the usual places of residence of their inmates. Generally speaking, Boarding Schools, Almshouses and Hospitals for the Chronic sick were to be regarded as such, and from such places Births and Deaths were not to be transferred to another District. High View Hospital, Exhall, falls within this class and during 1952, 196 deaths occurred there, all of which were transferred to Coventry. During 1953 there were 203 deaths which had to be included in the total of 399 Bedworth deaths recorded for that year. There has, therefore, been no radical change in the number of deaths occurring within the district. This Hospital, being primarily an institution for aged persons, the deaths occurring there are mainly due to diseases which affect the elderly. This is reflected in Table I on page 9, where it will be seen that there has been a marked increase in the proportion of deaths due to vascular lesions of the nervous system, heart conditions and cancer.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There were 4 deaths from Tuberculosis during 1953 giving a Death Rate of 0.16 per 1,000 population compared with 0.20 for England and Wales. More new notifications were received than the previous year, and this may be attributed to the visit of the Miniature Mass Radiography Unit, the results of which are summarised in Table 8 on page 12. Unfortunately, the decline in the number of cases of Whooping Cough over the previous four years did not continue as there was a small outbreak early in the year. An epidemic of Poliomyelitis in Coventry caused some alarm during the summer months, but Bedworth was most fortunate as only three cases were notified. One case, an adult, died from fulminating Polio-encephalitis. The other two cases were school children, and both have now made a complete recovery.

HOUSING.

As will be seen from the information set out on page 18, 417 houses were built in the Urban District during 1953, compared with 166 during 1952, and an average of 130 per year since the War. Of these 169 were built by the Local Authority and private enterprise, the remainder being built by the National Coal Board for miners working locally. Although many of these latter houses have been allocated to miners transferred from coal fields outside the district, the Coal Industry Housing Association has also given consideration to the requirements of miners who are Bedworth residents, and this has effected some reduction in the number on the Local Authority's housing list.

It is hoped that the Council will soon be in a position to consider allocating a proportion of the houses in their building programme for slum clearance, especially as a large number of the applicants on the Housing List are living in unfit property.

The question of slum clearance was considered by the Council on a number of occasions during the year. Although the development plan for the centre of Bedworth had been approved in outline only, it was possible to designate four areas which, if cleared, could be redeveloped by the erection of new blocks of flats and

business premises. Negotiations are in progress for the acquisition of these four sites. If these are successful it is hoped that the accommodation provided by the flats to be built will re-house those persons displaced by the clearance of the sites, and also provide a surplus for tenants from slum property elsewhere in the central area of the town. These are preliminary steps only, but it could be said that a sound basis has been laid upon which to formulate the proposals for a complete scheme of slum clearance and redevelopment.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

During 1953 it was possible to close a large unlicensed caravan site at Exhall which had been giving rise to concern for some considerable time. This site had been used for some years to accommodate approximately 40 caravans, and the standard of hygiene had been consistently low. The owner had been before the court on a number of occasions, and on the last in March, 1953, a heavy fine was imposed. Shortly before this appearance in court the owner had submitted tentative proposals for the development of the site to the County Planning Authority, and applied for planning permission to carry out the improvements. This application was refused and the owner then appealed to the Minister of Housing and Local Government. A public enquiry was held at which evidence was produced that the site was being conducted in a manner prejudicial to public health. A solicitor representing local residents submitted evidence regarding the disposal of offensive matter which had been deposited in nearby ditches and the gardens of adjoining houses. As a result of this enquiry the owner's appeal was disallowed and the site is now being used for private building.

The large commercial site at Marston Jabbett has been extended considerably. There is now room for an additional sixty-two dwellings on land at the rear of the main site. Although rather a long way from the main road it is satisfactorily situated and planned, the only disadvantage being that the sewer is not directly available.

There has been little change at Elwy Circle Caravan Site, Exhall, which is well established. With the laying of the main Keresley sewer the opportunity was taken to include a branch sewer to Newlands Lane and the Caravan Site, and this is a decided improvement.

There are still a large number of scattered dwellings within the Urban District, and it is hoped that it will be possible to persuade some of the occupants to move to more satisfactory surroundings. With more accommodation becoming available on licensed sites this could be possible, but one cannot expect site owners to accept sub-standard dwellings and maintain a reasonable standard of hygiene. The problem of the isolated sub-standard caravan, therefore, remains and it is difficult to see how this could be solved unless the occupants could be offered permanent housing accommodation.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The outstanding achievement of the year was undoubtedly the completion of the Bulkington Sewerage Scheme. The new Sewage Disposal Works situated off Bedworth Road, Bulkington, is of the most modern design. The laying of new sewers throughout the centre of the village is complete, and Ryton is drained to the works by means of a pumping station in Nuneaton Road. Water closets have already been substituted for pail closets in many of the properties, and others with cesspools or septic tanks have also been connected to the sewers. There are, however, a number of properties which are likely to be considered for demolition as unfit for human habitation in the near future, and it would be undesirable to connect these properties to the sewer. It will be necessary, therefore, to continue night soil collection for the present, although the Council are most anxious that this form of sewage disposal should be discontinued.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Routine inspections of all registered food premises were carried out during the year. A number of other premises were also inspected as shown on page 28.

There were 104 premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream, and samples were taken for bacteriological examination at regular intervals by the Health Department. The Warwickshire County Council are responsible for the routine testing of milk supplies and, as will be seen from Table 19, no unsatisfactory results were obtained. As usual a small quantity of unsound food was condemned. This consisted mainly of perishable goods such as cereals, bacon, cheese and sausages, but tinned foods with blown or damaged containers comprised approximately half the total weight.

In October, 1953, Bedworth celebrated their Silver Jubilee as an Urban District. An Exhibition was held to commemorate the occasion, and the Public Health Department arranged a section on Food Hygiene. Clean and dirty food displays were set up to show the important role the food handler plays in safeguarding the customer against food poisoning; hygienic methods of washing glasses on licensed premises were demonstrated, and culture media, showing the isolation of food poisoning organisms were displayed with the assistance of the Public Health Laboratory, Coventry. Other items included methods of Rodent Control, and posters demonstrating the danger of flies on food premises.

CONCLUSION.

My thanks are due to the Officers of other Departments for their close co-operation, and particularly to the staff of the Health Department for their help during the year. I have also to thank you, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, for the consideration you have shown to me during my period of office, and remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. BRISCOE-SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

BEDWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman :

Mr. Councillor F. L. PERKINS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Mr. Councillor J. FLETCHER

Chairman of the Council :

(Mr. Councillor T. F. DEWIS, J.P.)

..	..	J. T. BATES
..	..	G. F. BAILEY
..	..	T. BUCKNALL
..	..	W. DAY, J.P.
..	..	A. C. FARNDON
..	..	J. McMAHON
..	..	W. T. TIPPLE

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

G. R. KERSHAW, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(until 30th September, 1953)

J. H. BRISCOE-SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
(commenced duties 14th November, 1953)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

L. S. STEPHENS, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.,
(commenced duties 1st February, 1953)

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Other Foods Inspector,
Petroleum Officer :

CHARLES E. DEAKIN, C.R.S.I.,
Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

HENRY BURRISS, C.R.S.I.
Cert. Meat and Other Foods.

Second Additional Sanitary Inspector :

THOMAS JOHN PASSMORE, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk :

Miss F. LEACH

Pupil :

ANTHONY W. MOORE

A. VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the District 7,913 acres

Population :—

(Registrar-General's Estimate of Resident Population

—mid-year 1953) 25,580

(At 1951 census).. .. . 24,866

Number of Inhabited Houses, including Houses and Shops

and Licensed Premises as at 31-3-54 7,605

(According to Rate Books)

Rateable Value £120,069

General Rate 26s. 11d.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate £470
(Estimated 1953-1954)

		Total	Male	Female	BIRTH RATE	
LIVE	Legitimate	430	217	213	Crude	17.553
BIRTHS	Illegitimate	19	9	10	Corrected	17.026

STILL-	Legitimate	9	2	7	STILL-BIRTH	
BIRTHS	Illegitimate	—	—	—	RATE	.391

				Total	Male	Female	DEATH RATE	
DEATHS	..	..	399	201	198	Crude	15.598	
						Corrected	18.717	

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR	{	Legitimate	..	..	11
		Illegitimate	..	..	2
		Total	..	..	13

Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) 28.951

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth 1

Deaths from Measles (all ages) —

„ „ Whooping Cough —

TABLE 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1953.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females	Total 1953	Total 1952
All Causes	201	198	399	196
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	2	2	4	6
Tuberculosis—Other	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach ..	9	3	12	7
Malignant Neoplasm—Lung-Bronchus	9	2	11	5
Malignant Neoplasm—Breast ..	—	6	6	1
Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus ..	—	5	5	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	12	11	23	16
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	5	5	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	43	46	89	29
Coronary Disease, Angina	14	13	27	16
Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	1	9	10	2
Other Heart Disease	51	40	91	30
Other Circulatory Disease	5	4	9	11
Influenza	2	2	4	—
Pneumonia	12	4	16	9
Bronchitis	9	12	21	18
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	—	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	3	2	5	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	3	1	4	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—	3	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ..	—	1	1	1
Congenital Malformations	—	2	2	3
Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	16	20	36	17
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	—	1	3
All other Accidents	2	6	8	4
Suicide	1	1	2	2
Homicide and Operations of War ..	—	—	—	—

INFANT MORTALITY

TABLE 2.

CAUSES OF NEO-NATAL DEATHS, 1953

CAUSES OF DEATH	With Prematurity	Without Prematurity	Total
Prematurity	5	—	5
Congenital malformation :—			
Alone	—	2	2
With asphyxia	—	—	—
With meningitis	—	—	—
Birth Injuries	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage	—	1	1
	5	3	8

TABLE 3.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS ONE MONTH TO ONE YEAR, 1953.

CAUSES OF DEATH	With bronchitis or pneumonia	Without bronchitis or pneumonia	Total
Bronchitis or Pneumonia ..	4	—	4
Acute Bacterial Endocarditis	1	—	1
Gastro enteritis	—	—	—
	5	—	5

TABLE 4.

INFANT DEATHS — WARD

Ward	Males	Females	Total
Bedworth East	2	1	3
" West	1	—	1
" North	1	—	1
Exhall East	1	—	1
" West	3	2	5
Bulkington	1	1	2
	9	4	13

B. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE 5.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1953.

AGE PERIOD			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary M. F.		Non- Pulmonary M. F.		Pulmonary M. F.		Non- Pulmonary M. F.	
0-1	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	..	..	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
5-10	..	..	2	4	4	1	—	—	—	—
10-15	..	..	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	..	..	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	..	..	1	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35	..	..	1	9	—	—	1	1	—	—
35-45	..	..	5	5	—	—	1	1	—	—
45-55	..	..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	..	..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 over	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown	..	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	..	..	19	31	5	3	2	2	—	—

TABLE 6.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Cases on Register at 1-1-53 ..	108	99	15	131	253
„ removed during 1953 ..	5	11	4	4	24
„ added „ 1953 ..	21	31	5	5	62
„ on Register at 31-12-53	124	119	16	32	291

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS, 1953.

TABLE 7.
Stage of Disease at Notification.

R.A.			R.B.			Not Known
1	2	3	1	2	3	
29	4	—	1	9	5	2

No. diagnosed by Mass Radiography Unit	..	..	17
No. of cases of Tuberculosis re-housed	..	..	6
No. of contacts with Tuberculosis re-housed	..	..	—

TABLE 8.

VISIT OF THE MINIATURE MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT—MAY, 1953

	GENERAL PUBLIC			SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Miniature X-Ray Examinations ..	541	1,105	1,646	571	500	1,071
Recalled for Large Films	50	88	138	13	13	26
Recalled for Clinical Examinations ..	19	31	50	10	11	21
Referred to Chest Clinic	9	15	24	5	5	10
Confirmed as Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	11	13	2	2	4

A total of 2,717 persons were examined by the Unit during their three weeks' stay in Bedworth.

It will be seen that of the 1,646 members of the general public who presented themselves for examination, 138 (8·3%) were recalled for large films, out of which 50 were submitted to a clinical examination, no further action being considered necessary in the remainder. Of the 50 cases examined, 24 were referred to the Chest Clinic with suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 13 were referred to their own doctor with other chest conditions, and in the remaining 13 no further action was considered necessary. Of the 24 cases referred to the Chest Clinic, 2 males and 11 females were finally found to have Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis, the other cases being Inactive Post-Primary cases, or inflammatory lesions of the lungs.

National figures on Mass Radiography Surveys show a normal case incidence of 3·7 per 1,000. In Bedworth a normal incidence was found in males, but nearly three times the normal incidence in females. This is reflected in the higher number of new notifications received in respect of Pulmonary Tuberculosis among females as shown in Table 5 on page 11.

Out of the 1,071 Secondary School Children examined, 4 cases of Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered. The Medical Director of the Unit commenting on the Statistical analysis of his survey said :—"The Incidence in school children is relatively low. This is usually the case except where an unknown case exists among the teaching staff. I think it would be a good idea to come to some central point in Bedworth once a year in order to X-ray all school leavers, teachers or staffs connected with the schools, in view of the high incidence in the adult female population."

TABLE 9.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases Notified										Total
	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	+	65	
Scarlet Fever	—	11	15	6	3	1	—	—	—	36
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1	3	—	—	11	3	2	—	23
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	4
Measles	13	106	74	4	1	1	—	—	—	199
Whooping Cough ..	25	38	41	57	4	1	—	—	—	166
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis :—										
Paralytic	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3

There was one death from Paralytic Poliomyelitis in the age group 25—45.

TABLE 10.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES—WARDS

DISEASE	W A R D						Total
	Bedworth E.	Bedworth W.	Bedworth N.	Exhall E.	Exhall W.	Bulkington	
Scarlet Fever ..	4	7	12	4	7	2	36
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	5	5	4	3	4	2	23
Erysipelas ..	1	1	—	—	1	1	4
Measles ..	56	45	36	23	32	7	199
Whooping Cough ..	44	41	34	16	14	17	166
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Poliomyelitis Paralytic ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Malaria ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pueperal Pyrexia ..	—	1	1	—	—	1	3

TABLE 11.

FOOD POISONING

Total number of outbreaks	Number of cases	Number of deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
—	5	—	Unknown	Unknown

TABLE 12.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS

CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL, 1953.

DISEASE	COVENTRY		LITTLE BROMWICH		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Scarlet Fever	8	6	—	—	14
Whooping Cough	1	3	—	—	4
„ „ with Pneumonia	2	2	—	—	4
„ „ with Bronchitis	1	—	—	—	1
„ „ with Convulsions	—	1	—	—	1
„ „ with Mastoidectomy	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1
Bronchitis.. .. .	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	7	5	—	—	12
„ with Glandular Fever	1	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	2
Pyrexia of Unknown Origin	1	—	—	—	1
Tonsillitis	2	—	1	—	3
Gastro-Enteritis	1	5	—	—	6
Poliomyelitis (2 confirmed)	—	1	2	1	4
Vomitting (? cause)	—	1	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	2	—	—	2
TOTAL	26	29	3	1	59

C. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

The General Practitioner Service is administered by the Warwickshire Executive Council; there are seven Medical Practitioners together with Assistants resident in the district, and two or three others living outside practice on the periphery.

There are no general hospital services directly available within the district, but adequate out-patient and in-patient facilities are provided at the Nuneaton and Coventry Hospitals, which are administered by Group No. 20 Hospital Management Committee of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. Cases of Infectious Disease are usually admitted to Whitley Isolation Hospital, Coventry. The bed accommodation for Tuberculous patients is provided mainly at Hertford Hill Sanatorium, Nr. Warwick, but other Sanatoria within the Birmingham Region are used. Out-patient clinics for Tuberculosis are held at 35, Coton Road, Nuneaton, and The Quadrant, Coventry, and facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease are available at Riversley Park Clinic, Nuneaton.

The Warwickshire County Council are responsible for the arrangements made for Domiciliary Nursing, Domestic Helps, Vaccination and Immunisation, the care of Mothers and Young Children, the Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care, and the Ambulance Service under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946. With the exception of the Ambulance Service the administration of these services is under the control of the Area Medical Officer, Council House, Nuneaton. The Ambulance Depot is adjacent to the Clinic, Newtown Road, Bedworth, but is only a sub-station to the main depot at Riversley Park, Nuneaton.

As Local Education Authority, the Warwickshire County Council are also responsible for the School Health Service. A new General Purposes Clinic was opened early in 1953 in Newtown Road, Bedworth, and the Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinic formerly held at Saunders Avenue were transferred there. A School Dental Officer has recently been appointed to cover Bedworth and Atherstone, and is at present devoting two full days a week to treatment in addition to routine inspections of school children in this Area. A modern well-equipped Dental Surgery was included in the design of the new Nicholas Chamberlaine Secondary School for this purpose and is now in use.

TABLE 13.

Existing arrangements for all the Clinic Services provided by the Warwickshire County Council within the District are shown below :—

SERVICE	SITUATION OF PREMISES	DAYS OPEN
Infant Welfare Centres (under 5 years)	Newtown Road, Bedworth.	Mondays and Thursdays, 2 to 4 p.m.
	Sports & Social Club Pavilion, Bulkington.	Wednesdays, 2 to 4 p.m.
Antenatal Clinics.	Newtown Road, Bedworth.	Tuedays, 9-30 a.m. to 12 noon.
School Health Service (5—15 years)		
Minor Ailments Clinic	Newtown Road, Bedworth	Mondays, 9-0 a.m. to 12 noon
	Keresley Newlands School	Alternate Fridays 9-0 a.m. to 10-0 a.m.
	Nicholas Chamberlaine School	Thursdays 9-30 to 10-30 a.m.
Eye Clinic	Newtown Road, Bedworth	Alternate Fridays by appointment
Dental Clinic	Nicholas Chamberlaine School	Mondays and Wednesdays by appointment

D**HOUSING****Building Programme**

No. of new houses erected during 1953 :—

(a) By the Local Authority	122
(b) By Private Enterprise	45
(c) By the Coal Industry Housing Association ..	260
TOTAL	417

No. of applicants for Council Houses at :—

31st December, 1952	885
31st December, 1953	838

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

No. of 1st Inspections	136
No. of Re-Inspections	173

Action taken under Section 9, Housing Act, 1936 Nil**Action taken under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 :—**

Individual Unfit Houses represented	19
Clearance Areas represented	Nil
Demolition Orders made	11
Undertakings accepted	2
Houses to be purchased by Authority	6

Action taken under Section 92, Public Health Act, 1936 :—

No. of Statutory Notices served	99
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NUISANCES ABATED**Dwelling Houses**

Defective walls and ceilings repaired	54
Roofs repaired	40
Stairs repaired	3
Spouting repaired or new provided	37
Defective floors repaired or renewed	21
Fireplaces repaired or rebuilt	16
Coppers repaired or rebuilt	3
Yard paving repaired	3
Windows renewed or repaired	33
New sinks provided	6
Defective pointing repaired	7
Doors repaired or rehung	10
Chimney flues and brickwork repaired	5
New chimney pots provided	4
Defective brickwork repaired or renewed	13
Handrails provided	1
Damp-proof course provided	2

Drainage, etc.

Drainage cleared from obstruction	53
Drainage Inspection chambers provided or repaired ..	12
Ventilating shafts improved	2
Defective drains re-laid	6
Sink waste pipes and gullies repaired	25

Closet Accommodation

Water closet cisterns repaired or renewed	18
Insufficient, repaired or renewed	15

Water Supply

Internal water supply provided	3
Burst water supply pipes repaired	3

Domestic Refuse

Dustbins provided	35
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DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Rooms disinfected after Infectious Disease	63
Rooms of verminous premises disinfected	24
Bed and bedding disinfected by steam	2

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

No. of Licenced sites	5
No. of Dwellings on Licenced sites	165
No. of Individual Licences	23
No. of Unlicenced sites	7
No. of Dwellings on Unlicenced sites	49
No. of Individual Unlicenced Dwellings	92
No. of Dwellings exempt from Licence (Members of Showmen's Guilds, Agricultural Workers, etc.)	21
TOTAL	12 350

E. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The Water Supply of Bedworth is constant, and is obtained as follows :—

- (a) *Three sources at the Newdigate Colliery, in the West Ward of the District.*

(i) From an adit in the Frank Shaft, 270 ft. below ground surface.

(ii) From a 10-in. borehole, 218 ft. deep.

(iii) From a 12-in. borehole, 220 ft. deep. (Not in use).

The total quantity of water from these sources for 1953 was 98,957,864 gallons.

- (b) *20-in. Borehole, Bedworth Waterworks.*

The borehole is 20-in. in diameter, and 275-ft. deep.

The yield for 1953 was 65,787,282 gallons.

- (c) *Exhall Deep Well.*

The well is 9-ft. in diameter, and approximately 260—300-ft. deep. The yield from this well during the year was

23,307,909 gallons.

- (d) *Coventry Corporation.*

This is used as a Supplementary Supply, and is only drawn upon when necessary. The quantity obtained from this source during 1953 was 15,298,701 gallons.

All this water is pumped into a storage reservoir at the Waterworks. The reservoir has a storage capacity of 750,000 galls., which is normally a 1.35 days' supply for the town. The water is pumped from a reservoir to the Water Tower, from which it is distributed throughout the town after chlorination.

- (e) *Bulkington.*

This supply was formerly obtained from an 8-in. borehole, 270-ft. deep. It was not used during the year owing to diminishing yield.

Total from all sources 203,351,756 gallons.

The Exhall East and West Wards are in the Water Supply district of the City of Coventry, and are supplied by that Corporation.

The rural portions of the District obtain their supply from shallow wells.

As a result of the above, it is considered that the Water Supply of the area has been satisfactory. The Water Supply is considered to be satisfactory in quality, 76 samples having been taken during the year and submitted for analysis; and chemical analyses and classification of the results of bacteriological examinations are shown elsewhere in this Report.

No. of samples of Town's water submitted for analysis .. 76

			<i>Raw Water</i>	<i>Treated Water</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a)	Chemical	.. ..	7	2	9
(b)	Bacteriological	.. ..	57	10	67

No. of samples from all other sources submitted for analysis 32

					<i>Raw Water</i>
					<i>Chemical Bacteriological</i>
Wells	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	— 32

RAINFALL

The total rainfall for the year was 21.08 inches
 Number of days when rainfall was recorded 144
 The wettest month was July when a total of 3.36 inches was recorded.

The average daily consumption of water in the District during 1953 was :—

Domestic	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	460,575	gallons
Trade	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	30,000	"
Bramcote..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	63,548	"
Barnacle and Shilton, for Rugby R.D.C.	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	3,005	"
Total	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	557,128	"

The maximum consumption of water in any one day for all sources was	.. ..	799,000	gallons
Consumption per day per head of population	.. ..	22.21	"
Population of Statutory Area	.. ..	.. ..	20,735
Population supplied into Houses	.. ..	.. ..	19,262
Population supplied by standpipes	.. ..	.. ..	1,366
Total population directly supplied	.. ..	.. ..	20,628
Population without piped supply	.. ..	.. ..	107
Total hereditaments supplied	.. ..	.. ..	6,909
Houses with standpipes	.. ..	.. ..	350
Standpipes	.. ..	.. ..	120
Wells used for domestic supply	.. ..	.. ..	40

CARAVANS

Caravans directly supplied	.. ..	.. ..	131
„ supplied by standpipes	.. ..	.. ..	128
„ with supply inside	.. ..	.. ..	3
Population directly supplied (included in Total Population directly supplied)	.. ..	.. ..	295

TABLE 14.

The latest Chemical analyses are as follows :—

Results expressed in parts per 100,000.

Source	Free Saline Ammonia	Albu- minoid Ammonia	Chlorine in Chlorides	Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate at 80°F. in 4 hours	Total Solids dried at 100-C.	Nitrite	Free Chlorine	pH	Appearance	Plumbo- Solvency Iron
Newdigate Colliery No. 1	0	0	7.9	0.125	0	50	Absent	Absent	7.00	Bright few small particles.	—
Newdigate Colliery No. 2	0	0	7.9	0.075	0	70	Absent	—	6.64	Bright, few small particles.	—
Newdigate Colliery Mixed	0	0	8.4	0.2	0.035	60	Absent	—	7.68	Bright, few small particles.	—
20" Borehole Bedworth Waterworks	0.0104	0.00024	9.25	0.031	0	82	0.0001	—	6.4	Bright, few small particles.	—
Exhall Well	0.0212	0.0024	9.65	Absent	0.408	130	0.0007	—	7.34	Slightly turbid, many small particles.	Nil
Bulk Supply	0.0024	0	7.9	0.075	0.041	56	0.0009	Absent	7.6	Bright, few small particles.	—

TABLE 15.

The following table is based on the Ministry of Health's Report — "The Bacteriological Examination of Water Supplies," which classifies Piped Supplies as follows:—

*Presumptive Coliform
Count per 100 ml.*

Class 1 Highly Satisfactory less than 1
Class 2 Satisfactory 1—2
Class 3 Suspicious 3—10
Class 4 Unsatisfactory Greater than 10

Throughout the year 50 per cent. of Samples should fall into Class 1, 80 per cent. should not fall below Class 2, and the remainder should not fall below Class 3. In chlorinated piped supplies the water ought to come into Class 1.

SOURCE	Class 1		Class 2		Class 3		Class 4		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Newdigate Colliery No. 1	10	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	100
" " No. 2	9	90	—	—	1	10	—	—	10	100
" " Mixed	7	87.5	—	—	1	12.5	—	—	8	100
Exhall Well	9	90	1	10	—	—	—	—	10	100
20in. Borehole, Bedworth Waterworks ..	19	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	100
Town Main	10	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	100
All Sources	64	95.53	1	1.49	2	2.98	—	—	67	100

SEWERAGE

The new Sewage Disposal Works at Bulkington came into operation in September, 1953. This followed the completed task of laying new sewers throughout the village, and constructing a small pumping station in Nuneaton Road to deal with the properties in that area, and the village of Ryton. The rising main crosses the Bedworth Road close to the corner of Weston Lane, and is joined by a main serving the rest of Bulkington from the Coventry Road. A special steel outfall sewer has been constructed for a distance of some 200 yards to overcome the difficulty encountered by the railway embankment, and runs above ground alongside the main access road under the bridge. The works are designed to deal with sewage from 2,850 persons, but there is room for extension for an ultimate population of 7,000. Twin detritus channels lead into two main sedimentation tanks, and provision is made for dealing with from three to six times dry weather flow over a weir to a large storm water tank. There are two percolating filter beds, a humus tank and a cold sludge digestion tank. The pumping station is capable of dealing with sludge as well as sewage, and the use of the sludge digestion tank has cut down the space required for sludge beds, and reduced the difficulties encountered in its removal.

In October, 1953, an outline scheme was prepared by the Engineer and Surveyor to bring the Marston Lane Sewage works up to the required capacity for dealing with a dry weather flow estimated over long periods at approximately 375,000 gals. per day. As the estimated cost of the work was approximately £50,000 it was decided to put the problem in the hands of a firm of Consulting Engineers before submitting details to the Minister.

A new 12-in. main sewer has been laid to connect the National Coal Board's and Local Authority's own Housing Sites at Keresley to the main Sowe Valley Sewer south of Royal Oak Lane. The opportunity was taken to include properties in Newlands Lane, and the caravan site on New Road, in the project by means of a branch sewer. When the small schemes at Burbages Lane, Exhall, and Parrotts Grove, Hawkesbury, which have already received Ministry approval, are completed, then it will be possible to limit nightsoil collection to Bulkington, and eventually to eliminate it altogether by connecting all properties to the new disposal works.

TABLE 16.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the number of pailclosets and cesspools in the district :—

			<i>Bedworth</i>	<i>Exhall</i>	<i>Bulkington</i>
Pailclosets	..	..	45	22	365
Cesspools	..	..	21	56	234

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

TABLE 17.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.

PREMISES	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories... .. (including Factory Laundries)	42	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	—	—	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
TOTAL	42	—	—

TABLE 18.

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were installed
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	—	—	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :—				
Insufficient	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	10	10	—	—
Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	10	10	—	—

* Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

RODENT CONTROL

During the first few months of the year two rodent operatives were employed in routine work of rodent control, and during the latter part of the year one rodent operative was similarly employed. The methods of control as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are used, and the following conditions were found and action taken :—

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority other than dwellings	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	
1. Total number of properties in District ..	7	7,605	40	700	8,352
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of (a) notification, or ..	(a) —	52	—	12	64
(b) otherwise	(b) 6	2,120	40	—	2,166
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats	(a) —	—	—	—	—
(a) Major	(b) 1	502	24	12	538
(b) Minor					
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice	—	3	—	1	4
5. Number of infested properties treated ..	1	502	24	12	538
6. Number of notices served under section 4, Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 :—					
(i) Treatment ..	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Structural Works (i.e. proofing) ..	—	7	—	—	7
8. Legal Proceedings ..	—	—	—	—	—

9. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out 4

F. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY, 1953.

Number of milk retailers, other than producers resident in district	54
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TABLE 19.

TUBERCULOUS MILK INVESTIGATIONS

Routine Milk Samples taken by the Warwickshire County Council for Biological Examination.

				<i>No. of Samples</i>	
				<i>Total</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>
Pasteurised				4	Nil
Tuberculin Tested (Past)	..	..		—	—
Tuberculin Tested				3	Nil
Accredited and non-graded				17	Nil

ICE CREAM SAMPLES

During the year 104 samples of ice cream were taken and submitted for bacteriological analysis, the results of which are as follows :—

<i>Grade</i>	<i>Pre-packed</i>	<i>Loose</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	47	12	59
2	15	6	21
3	3	7	10
4	5	9	14
	—	—	—
TOTALS	70	34	104
	—	—	—

FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1953

DETAILS	WEIGHT		
	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
1 saddle of Mutton			17
1 leg and loin of Mutton			13
1 leg, shoulder and breast of Mutton			15
1 shoulder, leg, loin and breast of Mutton			14
Carcase of Mutton		1	25
Neck of Lamb			8
Kidney Knob			7½
Portions of Beef			6½
82 tins of Meat, Ham, Rabbit, Tongue, etc. ..	3	1	26
506 tins and jars of Jam, Fruit, Milk, Vegetables, Fish, etc.	5	0	14½
Bacon		1	12
Cheese		1	8
Sausages		2	19
Cooked Meat			19
Flour			24
Cakes, Biscuits and Cereals		3	4½
5 boxes of Dates			3¾
20 bags of Cauliflowers	4	1	4
11 caskets of Mushrooms			22
3 bottles of Sauce			1½
Cooking Fat			½
1 bottle of Coffee			½
Figs			7½
2 tins of Bournvita			1
TOTAL WEIGHT	16	3	21¾

Inspection of Food Premises

Fried Fish Shops	34
Bakehouses	20
Butchers' Shops, Stalls, Vans	109
Ice Cream Premises	104
Dairies, Milkshops	108
Catering Establishments	7

**PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS, 1928 & 1936
EXTRACT FROM REGISTER**

Premises licensed for storage of Petroleum	35
Premises licensed for storage of Petroleum Mixtures	6
Total storage capacity of Petroleum Tanks	40,600 gallons
Total storage capacity of Petroleum Mixtures Containers	6,170 ..



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