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BELFORD RURAL DISTRICT

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



BELFORD RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

JOHN McCORMACK, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Area Health Office,

Wagonway Road,

ALNWICK.

Tel: Alnwick 2263

WILLIAM R. KIRK, M.A.P.H.I., Surveyor & Public Health Inspector, Belford Rural District Council, Council Offices, BELFORD.

Tel: Belford 341

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1964

To the Chairman and Members of the Belford Rural District Council
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district during the year, 1964.

The vital statistics do not show any significant change. There are of course, the yearly fluctuations and the rates expressed per 1,000 of the population naturally vary considerably when the total numbers are small.

The birth rate was however, less than last year and the overall death rate was about the same as the national average. The majority of deaths were due to heart disease and vascular lesions of the nervous system. The other major cause of death was malignant disease.

There was a small epidemic of measles, when 39 cases were notified.

Of more importance were the cases of para-typhoid, which occurred in the Rural District during the Summer of 1964. This small but potentially serious outbreak was limited to five cases. It was indeed fortunate that the source of the infection was found in a very short time and further spread of the illness was stopped.

There was one case of pulmonary tuberculosis in a young person. This disease, although of much less concern now than was the case a few years ago, still exists in the community and it will obviously be some time before it is finally eradicated.

The immunisation and vaccination rate in the District is reasonably satisfactory. This is particularly so of poliomyelitis vaccination.

The Public Health Inspector's report draws attention to the comparatively satisfactory state of the water supply. This has long been a problem in the Summer in the coastal area and it is most pleasing to see that the quantity and quality are generally good. However, the contaminated samples from Belford are unsatisfactory. It is inevitable that the land springs will coccasionally be contaminated and if chlorination is not practicable, then the only way of ensuring a completely safe supply would be to extend the water main from Warenford to Belford, and thus bring in water from the Coquet supply.

In general, the caravan sites in Belford Rural District are satisfactorily run. The increasing popularity of caravanning, and the very large numbers involved, make the maintenance of the highest standards very important.

The 1963 Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, although primarily designed to safeguard the welfare of workers in the large commercial centres of the country, is nevertheless applicable to all areas. In this Rural District, there are 73 premises employing over 200 persons that come under the terms of this Act. It is therefore a matter for concern that it has not been possible for the Public Health Inspector to attend to these premises. It is appreciated that the amount of work expected of the Public Health Inspector has considerably increased. Belford Rural District, although of small resident population, is a very popular holiday area and its summer population increases many times. This naturally brings many problems of hygiene, more pressing than those of a comparably sized static population.

When a joint appointment of Surveyor and Public Health Inspector is made, it is inevitable that the greater proportion of his time will be spent on surveying duties, and I consider that the remaining time available to him is just not adequate to carry out even the essential work expected of him.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Clerk, and the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector for their continued interest and help during the year.

I am.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Your obedient servant,

Joan McConnal

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 39,797 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 2,058 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 20.

The rateable value was £157,591 and the sum represented by a penny rate was £610.

The estimated mid-year population was 4,780 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate		23	30	53
Illegitimate	D-4-3	23	31	1
	Total	25	21	54
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Illegitimate live births per	y Comparability Fact			11.29 13.66 1.85
Still Births:				
Legitimate		arred ben	1	1
Illegitimate	Total	and E		=
	Total	Break	1	±
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total Total live and still births	al live and still bi	rths		18.18 55
Infant Deaths (deaths under one	year)			
Legitimate		1	gossil y	1
Illegitimate	ententi	l drank da	hy mahan	77002
	Total	1	·	1
Infant Mortality Rates				
Total infant deaths per 1,000 Legitimate infant deaths per Illegitimate infant deaths per	1,000 legitimate liv	e births	ths	18.51 18.86
Neo-natal Mortality Rate				
Legitimate		1	ILIO, you	1
Illegitimate	Total		n be let	=
	Total	atmet = 00	A s.E.irle	TOU TH
Deaths under four weeks per 1	,000 total live birt	hs		18.51
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate				
Legitimate		1	-	1
Illegitimate	ION, TRATET	- 1	=	-
	Total	1	=	1
Deaths under one week per 1,00	00 total live births			18.51
Perinatal Mortality Rate				
Stillbirths and deaths under of total live and still births	one week combined pe	r 1,000		36.36

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of deaths Rate per 1,000 total live and still births

<u>Deaths</u>	Males 28	Females 31	Total 59
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Fac	tor		12.34
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis			-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes			-
Deaths from Cancer			12

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	1.00		
	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	200	1
Tuberculosis (Other)	_		_
Syphilitic Disease	_	_	_
Diphtheria	_	110 201	d offers
Whooping Cough	_		S HEAT
Meningococcal Infections	_		ripedil
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	_
Measles	-	_	
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	_	_
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	_ 111	2
" Lung, Bronchus	_	100	
" Breast	-	2	2
" " Uterus	_	ī	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	5	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	_	_	Linger
Diabetes	1	_	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	4	9	13
Coronary Disease, Angina	7	5	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	_	_	and the said
Other Heart Disease	3	2	5
Other Circulatory Disease	í	_	í
Influenza	_	_	_
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	_	_	_
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	_	_	_
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	_	_	and the same
Gastritis, enteritis and Diarrhoea	_	-	Lingstill
Nephritis and Nephrosis	_	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	_	_	E280-0
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	_	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	100
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	_	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	_	_	_
All Other Accidents	_	2	2
Suicide	1	-	2
Homicide and Operations of War	_	_	-
Totals	28	31	59
170.5700	-		

INFANT MORTALITY

Cause of Death	Age	Place of Death
Atelectasis	30 minutes	West Fleetham, Chathill.

POPULATION, BIRTH RATE AND INFANT MORTALITY

1918 - 1964

Year	Population	Birth Rate	Number of Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate
1918	4,091	16.3	2	26.6
1919	4,318	15.11	4	58.8
1920	4,490	22.27	3	30.0
1921	4,940	16.15	6	75.0
			6	
1922	4,959	16.73		72.0
1923	4,950	15.55	4	51.0
1924	4,943	14.76	7	96.0
1925	4,909	14.87	5 4	68.0
1926	4,870	12.52		65.0
1927	4,755	14.3	5 4	73.0
1928	4,742	11.4		74.0
1929	4,809	12.7	5	82,0
1930	4,809	11.0	3	56.6
1931	4,433	14.4	3 5	78.0
1932	4,521	13.5	5	82.0
1933	4,438	12.6	2	35.7
1934	4,493	18.0	2	24.7
			4	
1935	4,555	13.8		63.5
1936	4,647	16.5	5	64.9
1937	Report Missing		1 -	-
1938	4,764	17.4	6	72.3
1939	Report Missing	-		-
1940	5,265	12.7	3	44.7
1941	5,379	14.7	6 -	76.0
1942	5,279	19.3	- 4 -	39.2
1943	Report Missing	-		ning-
1944	" "	-	-	-
1945	4,703	16.4	-	-
1946	4,884	20.6	6	59.4
1947	4,906	21.8	4	37.3
1948	4,904	15.2	1	13.3
1949	4,940	15.4		39.5
1950	5,099	16.2	3 3	36.0
1951			1 3	
	5,155	14.7	1	13.0
1952	5,022	15.7	1	12.6
1953	5,065	12.5	1	15.6
1954	5,030	14.0	- 110	1
1955	5,030	13.5	3	44.0
1956	5,030	11.1	2	35.0
1957	5,030	13.1	3	45.0
1958	5,010	13.57	1	14.70
1959	5,040	16.47	2	24.09
1960	5,050	17.44	THE CHARLE WITH THE	103 2106
1961	4,800	17.40	1	13.88
1962	4,790	14.03	2	34.48
1963	4,780	17.20	1	14.70
1964	4,780	13.66	to the party here on	18.51

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough	1
Diphtheria	-
Heasles	39
Pneumonia	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	5
Food Poisoning	-
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

	!	Ne	ew Cases	Ø	Deaths						
Age	Pulm	onary	Non-Pu	lmonary	Pulm	onary	Non-Pu	lmonary			
Groups	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
0-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
15-25	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
25-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
65+	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			
Totals	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

North No. 1 & 2 Areas

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

	Number of Persons
Three Doses - Oral Vaccine	1,040
Booster dose oral after two Salk injections	34
Booster dose oral after three Salk injections	1,179
Booster dose oral after three Oral doses	125

IMMUNISATION

Primary Immunisation										nda	ary	(Re	ein:	forc:	ing In	jections
	Under		2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5/9	10/14	Total
Diphtheria	- 4	12	1	-	-	200		80_88	DOZ	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	26	8	18	40	OR I W	94
Diphtheria and Whoop- ing Cough	-	-	-	-	_		50210	qa Ltū	Capture One as			. W . S . S . S . S . S . S . S . S . S	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and	22	QI.	1			1	samo.	49	opa w		30	6	1	-		2/
Tetanus Totals	22	24	2	_	-	1		49	20070	2	36	Ĺ		7	-	24

SMAILPOX VACCINATION

North No. 1 Area

Number	Vaccina	ate	i Dui	ring	period	.00	Numb	er	Re-v	accina	ated	
	Under	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total	Under	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Total
Berwick M.B.	8	41	16	4	o Tas	69	LEST, DE	-	1	1	-	2
Belford R.D.	1	28	8	-	-124	37	HOSTEDBIC	-	1	1	-	2
Glendale R.D.	37	13	6	4	o.fhor	60	tw boat	-	2	1	-	3
Norham R.D.	3	11	8	Lage	Tardeau	22	Der Emples	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	49	93	38	8	-	188	-	-	4	3	-	7

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR & PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1964

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS & VISITS

	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS & VISITS	
PUBLIC H	BALTH ACT.	
	Drainage. W.C.'s.	26 4
	Septic Tanks.	11
	Dangerous and Dilapidated Buildings.	2
	Trade Refuse.	
	Dustbins.	4 2 3 49 24
	Offensive accumulations.	3
	Public Conveniences.	49
	Water Supply and Water Samples.	24
	Tents.	1
	Camping Sites.	31
HOUSING .	ACTS.	
	Repairs.	17
	Demolition and Closing Sec.16.	2
	Improvement Grants.	39
	Improvement Granto.	22
FOOD & D	RUGS.	
	Slaughterhouse - meat inspections.	155
	Butchers Shops - " "	21
	Food Premises - inspections.	14
	- condemned food.	6
	Ice-cream retailers.	
	Ice-cream Manufacturers.	1,
	Fish Merchants.	5
	Dairies, Milk Dealers etc.	7 4 5 2
FACTORIE	S AND WORKSHOPS.	
	Factories with mechanical power.	19
	Factories without mechanical power.	8
PREVENTI	ON OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.	
	Inspection of dwelling houses.	11
	Other premises.	6
	Local Authority Premises.	12
MISCELLA	NEOUS.	
	Refuse Tips.	43
	Sewage Works.	29
	Sea Outfalls.	29

WATER SUPPLIES.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company have maintained the supplies to the area with complete satisfaction, excepting the Harbour area at Beadnell where some shortage of pressure occurred during the periods of summer peak demand. The Companies plan to lay a 4" main down to the Harbour should eleviate this and next year should see this old problem satisfactorily resolved.

The complete answer to Beadnell's problem demands a new and larger main from the reservoir and this I understand will be provided in the near future.

The bringing to Seahouses of the Coquet water has brought the assurance of adequate water as expected. The Bamburgh supply, despite the huge demands put upon it by the caravan sites has also coped most satisfactorily.

The Company took 60 samples of the several supplies during the year with somewhat disconcerting results. 52 were excellent and 8 were unsatisfactory. Of these 8, 7 were from Belford. Again 7 of the 8 had faecal coli also present. With the old sources of supply being from land springs it must be a constant hazard that polluted surface water should on occasion penetrate the defences of land filtration. The Company have taken steps to counter all these failures and this has given rise to some complaints about the taste. The real answer to Belford's problem would be to extend the main from Warenford to a reservoir at High Mousen bringing in the Coquet Water.

Twenty two samples from private supplies were taken with results as shown in the table below:-

Highly satisfactory. Satisfactory. Suspicious. Unsatisfactory.

6 8 1 7

Of the seven unsatisfactory supplies, in only ine case was it found possible to effect remedial work. I would again point out that these supplies are only potentially dangerous having been in use for a very long time without apparent injurious affect.

SEWERAGE.

The sea outfalls at Seahouses and Beadnell, with the exception of that at St. Aidans have funtioned satisfactorily, there have been no stoppages at all.

The St. Aidan's outfall has given trouble, during the season particularly. This was due to breaking in of the old pipes by sea action and stoppages by accumulations of grease in the restricted parts.

The works started at Belford to improve the treatment were very necessary and the proposed laying of a sea outfall pipe to Bamburgh is very long overdue but it will be quite some time before this scheme is put into effect.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The service has operated reasonably satisfactorily during the year. Satisfactory, in that the customers have been well looked after but unsatisfactory in that it has meant the men have had to work as much as 8 hours (on average) overtime in a woek. This is the maximum required to cope but the demand for overtime starts in May and goes on to the end of September.

The replacement of the old waggon by one of much larger capacity is only part of the answer. To maintain an additional vehicle for the peak period only would be too expensive, at least at the present, and the problem of manning this vehicle only for this period would seem to be insoluble.

The tips have been reasonably well maintained during the year. This is entirely due to having a tractor available.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

These were again maintained in reasonable condition despite the continued difficulties of dealing with an unco-operative public and the effects of vandals. It was again a problem to find female attendants for the Bamburgh and Seahouses conveniences.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The required 100% inspection was only maintained with the help of the Inspectors from Alnwick Rural District. I would like to express my appreciation for this to Mr. Staig and Mr. Lyall who so willingly gave of their time.

FOOD & DRUGS.	
Ice-cream manufacturers	2
Ice-cream Premises (Sale of pre-packed ice-cream)	22
Defective food surrendered.	
Canned ham.	6 tins.
Other canned foods.	1 tin.
Bacon.	l roll.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

This act came into force during the year. It requires that all such properties should be registered; that they should be surveyed and inspected to ensure full compliance with the provisions of the Act.

A total of 73 premises, where 316 persons are employed have been registered under the Act. Details are as under:-

Classification.	No.		Employees Male Female		
Offices.	11	17	16		
Shops.	37	39	83		
Catering Establishments open to the public.	25	29	132		
Canteens.	Nil.	127 127			
	73	85	231		

No inspections of these premises have been made. With the present additional committeents to an already overburdened Department it is not possible to say when they will be made.

WATER SUPPLIES

Parishes.	Adder- stone with Lucker.		Bead- nell.	Belf- ord.	Easin- gton.	Ellin- gham.	Middl- eton.	North Sund- erld.	Totals
Pop. 1961	303	558	586	1070	199	430	233	1625	5004
No. inhab- ited houses. (According to Census)	136	255 (216)	307	391 (360)	78 (71)	135	87 (83)	664	2053 (1804)
No. houses with piped supply in houses.	102	220	275	348	_	51 & 1 Bdg. School	-	649	1645
No. houses gwith stand- pipe supply.	4	2	8	-	_	3	-	7	24
Wo. houses Twith piped asupply in houses.	26	31	24	43	77	78	87	8	374
No. houses with stand-	6	2	-	_	1	3	-	_	12
No. houses with W.C.	114	252	304	384	72	129	86	663	2004
No. houses with bath.	113	248	296	362	72	116	86	622	1915

HOUSING.

GENERAL.					
	Total number of inhabi New houses Local Autho		ses in Distric	t.	2033
	New houses Private Per				20
	Total number of houses	owned	by Local Author	rity.	325
CLOSING	AND DEMOLITION.				
1.	Houses demolished in C	learand	e Areas.		of order
2.	Houses demolished not				-100-100
3.	Houses closed not demo				2
4.	Houses permanently dis	continu	ed as dwelling	8.	SLAW 10 BA
REPAIRS.					
Houses m	ade Fit.				
(a)	By informal action.				11
(p)	By owners as a result				20 2000
(c)	By Local Authority in	default	of owners.		12
TMPROVENT	ENT GRANTS.		18178		
	ACT 1949 - HOUSE PURCHASI	OH & S	STMC ACT. 1959		
	2/4/ 20002 10101110	3 00 1100	210 1019 2777	- 12	
1.	Discretionary Grants.				
(a)	Applications submitted	to Loc	al Authority d	uring yea	r. 13
(b)	Applications rejected.				1
(c)	Applications approved.				12
(d)	Approximate average gra				£338
(e)	Total number of houses		ed for grant s	ince	235
	111000	01011 01	Schone.		-))
2.	Standard Grants.			During	Total to
				year.	date.
(1)	Number of separate house				1
(-)	were made			9	30
(2)	Number of houses so pro		with	,	01
	(a) Bath or showe:			6	24 28
	(b) Wash hand bas:			8	22
	(c) Hot water supp (d) Water closet.			7	26
	(e) Food store.			6	24
(3)	Houses not included in	above	approved for		-4
(5)	grant under the Hill				
	Livestock Rearing Ac			- 400	minda A
CLOSET C	ONVERSIONS.				
	Number of conversions	to moto	m closets		
	Number of privy closets				
	end of				50
	VIII. V.	300			
		a committee and a start			

POSITION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

Number of unfit houses in programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year.

MEAT INSPECTION.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclud- ing cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses
Number killed (if known) Number inspected.	164 164	-	1	462 462	69 69	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	2	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	48	-	-	56	2	_
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber-culosis and cysticerci.	23.2	_	-	12.6	4.3	-
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcases condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	_	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	.6	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticerconsis. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	1	-	-	-	-	(2)
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	_	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

Cysticercosis.

A single degenerated cyst was found in the outer masseter muscle, and the head only was condemned.

The carcase was carefully examined after jointing and the heart and thick skirt finely sliced.

				Theme of	Duanautu			
		Type of Property Non-Agricultural						
. After	d ser s	(1) Local Authority	(2) Houses (incl. Council	(3) All other (incl. Bus. Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	(5) Agric- ultural		
1. No. of proper Local Authoris		10	2053	415	2478	104		
2. Total no. of perties inspect a result of notification.	ted as		40	2	42	and of 4		
No. of such pries found to be infested by:-	20		1 27	1	2 27	shartest .3		
]	lajor			1	1	2		
3. Total no. of]	inor		3		3			
ties inspected the course of survey under	l in	14	213	5	227	Less of Lbutace)		
Number of such properties for to be infested	nd by:-		2 / 2	29	Pote2			
	lajor linor lajor	10	18	1 // 1	10 23 4	1		
			9		9			
4. Total no. of ratios otherwise ected (e.g. what visited primar for some other purpose)	insp- en ily	B.E. Cound. B.E. Ser cound. B.E. Ser cound. B.E. Ser cound.	balle 7	nii badii	, SEC.	1025 cg T		
No. of propert found to be in by:- Common rat.			2		(8.8)	niónagorgyű		
House mouse.	Major Minor		1 3		1 3			
5. Total inspecti carried out - re-inspections (to be complet	incl.				nokratičnov (4.8) In openkost	singulenl		
only if figure are readily available.)						(S) month		
6. No. of infeste properties (in Secs.2,3 & 4) treated by the		14	49	3	66	6		
 Total treatmer carried out - re-treatments. 	incl.	17	69	2	88	4		
8. No. of notices served under S of the Act. (a) Treatment.	Sec. 4				Pattern sens			
(b) Structural (i.e.Roofi 1. No. of "Block"	work.					(nome		
control scheme								

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPERTIONS for the purposes of provisions as the health.

Premises.			Number of				
		Number on Register	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.		
1.	Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	4	5	-	A LINES		
2.	Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	22	19	- 3000	nd Lower to at the late of Lower to the late of the la		
3.	Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	3	3	-	anuse equal is an interest to a secure to		
-	Total	29	27	-	2 59-12900		

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Doubleston	N	umber of defects	Number of cases in which pros-	
Particulars.	Found	Remedied		.M. instituted.
Want of cleanliness (S.I.) Overcrowding (S.2)	2	2		(Anonyle
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1		An maco
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective.				The state of the s
(c) Not separate for sexes.				- Andrews
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)				



