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BRIXWORTH RURAL
DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR 1953

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H. A. HAMILTON SUMMERS
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

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BRITISH NORTH BORN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL
REPORT
1910-11

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE RURAL DISTRICT OF BRIXWORTH.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health of the Brixworth Rural District for the year 1953. Incorporated in the report is that of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Employed as a yardstick for the purposes of comparison the Vital Statistics of the district would appear to suggest that the general standard of health of the population has been maintained at a satisfactory level. The Standardised Birth Rate of 15.62 per thousand compares favourably with the figure of 15.5 for England and Wales, and again shows evidence of becoming established around a value rather better than the average ascertained for the years immediately pre-war. The Crude Death Rate of 13.06 per thousand has borne out the prediction made in the previous report, in that it shows a steep rise from the very low figure of 8.74 for 1952. This very marked increase, however, can be shown to be due to the new system of allocating deaths of old people occurring whilst residing in establishments situated within the Rural District, whether they are true residents of the district or not. Further supporting evidence for this contention can be found on studying the Mortality Table in Section A of this report. There it will be seen that the principal causes of death were once again various forms of Heart Disease, Cancer, Cerebral Vascular conditions, and Respiratory Diseases. These amount to about 50% of all the deaths recorded and, being most common amongst elderly people,

tend to infer that a substantial proportion of those who died during 1953 were of advanced years.

The Infectious Disease figures for the year show that the considerable total of 701 cases was reported to the Council, this being 337 more than the corresponding figure for 1952. Of this number no fewer than 556 were Measles, representing 79.32% of the total. All of these were concentrated within the first few months of the year, no new cases of Measles being reported after July. Three cases of Poliomyelitis were reported towards the end of the year compared with one case only in 1952.

Progress continued to be well maintained with regard to major Sanitary improvements, full details in regard to which can be studied in Section C of this report. Concerning Scavenging it is now hoped that the Council will shortly give consideration to increasing the frequency of Refuse Collection from fortnightly to weekly in order to bring this very essential Public Health service into line with modern practice.

Housing developments made great strides during the year, both on behalf of the Council and by private enterprise. It is interesting to note that, although a total of 62 Council houses were completed (24 more than the previous year) bringing the number of Post-war houses erected to 464, with a further 48 still under construction, these efforts were completely overshadowed by private enterprise building. No fewer than 111 houses were completed for private individuals, bringing the Post-war total of such dwellings up to 263, while a further 65 remained in course of erection by the end of the year. The Council is to be congratulated on encouraging work of

this nature with so outstanding a degree of success, since it helps materially to ensure that the general housing standard throughout the district is maintained at a satisfactory level with the minimum of expense to the ratepayer.

Section D of the report presents details of the Slum Clearance campaign inaugurated in 1951, and which is still being vigorously pursued as opportunity permits. The preliminary surveying work was completed during the year and examination of the findings carried out, with a view to making practical decisions as to disposal of Category V houses and the erection of new dwellings where required to replace them.

Thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for their interest and encouragement during the year under review, also to the Staff for their assistance in the preparation of this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

H.A. HAMILTON SUMMERS.

August, 1954.

Medical Officer of Health.

B R I X W O R T H R U R A L D I S T R I C T
C O U N C I L

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. W. Wood (Chairman)	Mr. E.A. Turney
Mr. C.M. Newton (Vice-Chairman of the Council)	Mr. O.E.P. Wyatt (Chairman of the Council)
Mrs. V.G. Borwick	Mr. N. Heeps (Deputy Chairman)
Mrs. V.C. Harris	Mr. A.S. Tarrant
Mr. H. Kimbell	Mr. W.A. Holland
Mr. C.H. Gravely	Mr. E.T. Gardner
Hon. Mrs. Macdonald- Buchanan	Mr. J.E. Gardner
Mr. A.E. Curtis	Mr. G.G. Carruthers
Mr. J.R. Hart	Mr. M.U. Dimblebee

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

H.A. HAMILTON SUMMERS, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Daventry Rural District
Council, Daventry Borough Council, Assistant
County Medical Officer of Health, and School
Medical Officer.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

F.A. RUSSELL, F.F.S., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

R.S. LINLEY.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	82,944
Population	17,990
Number of Separate Dwellings occupied	5,484
Rateable Value 1953 (April)	£ 97,906
Product of a Penny Rate	£381. 2. 11.

<u>LIVE</u> <u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u> <u>estimated</u> <u>population</u>
Legitimate	261	133	128)	14.88
Illegitimate	6	4	2)	
	<u>267</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>130</u>	

<u>STILL</u> <u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Rate per 1000</u> <u>estimated</u> <u>population</u>
	9	3	6	0.50

<u>DEATHS</u> (all causes)	235	97	138	13.06
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DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

Puerperal and post abortive sepsis Nil

Other Puerperal causes Nil

INFANT MORTALITY

Rate

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births-41

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
DEATHS from Cancer (all ages)	15	18	33
" " Measles (all ages)	-	-	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)-	-	-	Nil

SUMMARY FOR PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	<u>Births</u>		<u>Deaths</u>			
		No.	Crude Rate	<u>Under 1 year</u>		<u>All Ages</u>	
				No.	Rate	No.	Crude Rate
1942	16510	290	17.56	-	31.03	195	11.8
1943	-	282	17.47	-	49.64	241	14.93
1944	-	325	20.23	-	39.91	242	15.06
1945	15530	279	17.9	-	53.0	187	12.04
1946	15600	321	20.58	10	31.15	203	13.01
1947	15740	338	21.47	10	29.58	211	13.46
1948	18020	262	14.54	6	22.90	212	11.76
1949	17170	259	15.08	8	31.00	203	11.82
1950	17240	265	15.37	5	19.00	201	11.66
1951	17730	291	16.41	9	30.93	191	10.72
1952	17840	263	14.78	6	22.81	156	8.74
1953	17990	267	14.88	11	41.19	235	13.06

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

AREA - (82,944 acres). The district continues to be almost entirely rural in character, agricultural and dairy farming being the principal industries carried on. Open-cast workings for ironstone are still active in the vicinity of Brixworth and Pitsford. The natural configuration of the district and the nature of the terrain has led to the construction of several large reservoirs, the property of the Mid-Northants Water Board.

POPULATION. The Registrar General estimated the population for the mid-year 1953 to be 17,990, an increase of 150 over the previous year. The natural increase in population, the excess of births over deaths, was 30.

DEATHS. The total number of deaths assigned to the district for the year was 235 compared with 156 in 1952. The crude death rate based on the mid-year population was 13.06 compared with 8.74 in the previous year. The following table has been compiled for comparison with previous years :-

<u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Recorded Rate</u>
1947	211	110	101	13.46
1948	212	108	104	11.76
1949	203	99	104	11.82
1950	201	100	101	11.66
1951	191	93	98	10.72
1952	156	78	82	8.74
1953	235	97	138	13.06

In order to compare the mortality in the District with the mortality for England and Wales it is necessary to make a correction, to allow for the difference in age and sex distribution of the two populations. This is done by applying to the crude death rate of the District an "Area Comparability Factor" which has been estimated by the Registrar

General as 0.81 for this District.

The Standardised Death Rate, therefore, is 10.57, which compares favourably with that of 11.4 for England and Wales.

M O R T A L I T Y T A B L E

Based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classifications of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
3. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	4	1	5
4. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5	5
5. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
6. Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	10	11	21
7. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
8. Diabetes	1	1	2
9. Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	18	31
10. Coronary disease, angina	17	12	29
11. Hypertension with heart disease	2	2	4
12. Other heart disease ...	11	46	57
13. Other circulatory disease	5	5	10
14. Influenza	-	1	1
15. Pneumonia	3	3	6
16. Bronchitis	7	4	11
17. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	3	3
18. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1	4
19. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
20. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
21. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
22. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	14	27
23. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
24. All other accidents ...	-	5	5
25. Suicide	2	1	3
Totals	<u>97</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>235</u>
- 8 -			

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Still births	3	6	9
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age ...	5	6	11
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age ...	5	1	6

BIRTHS. The number of live births assigned to this district was 267, compared with 263 in 1952. The rate per thousand of the population was 14.88. Applying the Registrar General's Area Comparability Factor for births (1.05) to this figure the Standardised Birth Rate obtained for this district - 15.62 - compares favourably with 15.5 for England and Wales.

STILL BIRTHS. The number of still births during 1953 was 9 (3 males and 6 females). The rates for the past five years are given in the following table (per 1,000 live and still births).

STILL BIRTH RATE.

<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
41.9	11.45	15.09	27.49	11.27	32.61

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS. There were 6 illegitimate births assigned to the district during the year (4 males and 2 females), compared with 7 in 1952. Shown as a proportion of the total number of live births this represents 2.62 per cent.

MATERNAL MORTALITY. No deaths associated with pregnancy or childbirth were recorded during 1953.

INFANT MORTALITY. The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 11 (5 males and 6 female).

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.

<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
44	31	19	31	22.81	41.19

NEONATAL DEATH RATE. The number of infants who failed to survive for 4 weeks after birth was 6, (5 males and 1 female). This gives a rate per 1,000 live births of 33.71 or 2.25 per cent.

These deaths are included in the Infant Mortality Rate.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

LABORATORY SERVICE. Laboratory work in connection with the diagnosis and control of Infectious Diseases is carried out at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory in Northampton under Dr. Hoyle.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES. The following Centres are held at the places and dates indicated. Your Medical Officer of Health is in attendance in his capacity as Assistant County Medical Officer.

BRIXWORTH INFANT WELFARE -

3rd Friday each month at Village Hall.

WELFORD INFANT WELFARE -

4th Thursday each month at Village Hall.

BOUGHTON INFANT WELFARE -

2nd Wednesday each month at Boughton Institute.

MOULTON INFANT WELFARE -

1st Tuesday each month at Manfield Hall.

SPRATTON INFANT WELFARE -

4th Tuesday each month at Women's Institute.

AMBULANCE SERVICES. General medical and surgical cases are removed by the St. John Ambulance Brigade from Northampton, the Brigade acting as agents of the County Council under the arrangements made under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Infectious disease cases are also removed by the St. John Ambulance Brigade under the same arrangements.

NURSING IN THE HOME. The County Council became responsible for these duties as from 5th July, 1948.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL. Cases of Infectious Disease which require Isolation are treated at the Harborough Road Isolation Hospital, Northampton, which comes under the administration of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLIES.

All responsibility for water undertaking throughout the rural district is now vested in the Mid-Northants Water Board.

Once again it has proved necessary to report that at the end of the year the question of liability for the maintenance of public wells had not been settled. Until agreement has been reached adequate control of certain supplies likely to be a danger to health cannot be guaranteed.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Throughout the year satisfactory progress continued to be maintained in the construction of new sewers and sewage disposal works in the following Parishes :- Hannington, Holcot, Old, and Scaldwell.

The reasonably good rate of progress being made in the provision of post-war sewage disposal works throughout the district can be better appreciated by observing that, in addition to the four schemes just referred to, a further seven have already been completed, although not all were in full operation by the end of 1953. These latter schemes are situated in the Parishes of Cold Ashby, East Haddon, Moulton, Naseby, Overstone, Walgrave and Welford. Approval of schemes for Boughton, Chapel Brampton, Church Brampton, Clipston, Great Oxendon, Harlestone, and Sibbertoft, has been received by the Council, whilst new schemes for Hanging Houghton, Lamport, Pitsford, Ravensthorpe and Spratton, have been prepared and submitted for Ministry approval.

DISINFECTION. Concurrent and terminal disinfection by means of gaseous and liquid disinfectants is carried out in homes where certain infectious diseases are notified. In the course of the year, a number of requests for disinfection of premises were received and dealt with.

DISINFESTATION. This service is carried out on behalf of the Council at the request of owners or tenants of houses complaining of the presence of vermin. No such action was necessary during 1953. (This includes the eradication of bed bugs).

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During the year the existing staff proved adequate to discharge the Council's responsibilities under the Act; no major rat infestations occurred on the Council's properties throughout the period under review.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS. One licence was granted by the Council under the Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 269.

SCAVENGING. Household refuse continued to be collected on a fortnightly basis during the year. While the work was carried out efficiently and expeditiously by the solitary refuse wagon and its crew it could not be described as wholly adequate judged in the light of modern knowledge and practice. Among many reasons why the need for a weekly service is becoming a matter of increasing urgency can be listed the following :-

- (1) a subtle but definite change in the character of the district by the adoption of semi-urban standards and habits, more especially where it lies in close proximity to Northampton Borough;
- (2) changes in the nature of food eaten and the means by which it is packed for retail distribution, leading to more rapid filling of receptacles with refuse more suited to fly breeding; and

- (3) fortnightly intervals allowing fly breeding to complete a cycle of development. Anything which promotes the growth of flies is, in effect, an obstacle to the maintenance of public health and, on that count alone, should be vigorously dealt with.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. One certificate under Section 47 of this Act was submitted to the Council by the Medical Officer of Health in respect of an elderly lady living alone in Welford, the action taken being confirmed.

SECTION D.

H O U S I N G .

Throughout the first half of 1953 the re-survey of all then existing Category V houses in the Rural District (those houses unfit for human habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost) was pursued as expeditiously as possible, in accordance with instructions issued by the Council in 1951, and was finally completed. In all, a total of 875 properties was dealt with, the Parishes furnishing the largest numbers being Moulton (105), and Welford (78), whilst the Parishes of Althorp, Haselbech, and Sulby, contributed none at all to the survey.

Having inspected all these houses and sub-divided them into the six alternative groups previously devised, the task of assessing the findings in order to integrate them with the general housing and slum clearance programme was embarked upon. It was found that, of the grand total of 875 houses 334 had already been dealt with

statutorily or otherwise and could, therefore, be discounted. Of the 541 remaining 133 fell into Category 'D' (no alternative to demolition), but of these only 113 were actually inhabited. Accordingly, in relating the results of this preliminary analysis to the current housing programmes, these 113 houses were listed Parish by Parish to discover where additional houses might be required in due course, to provide for both general needs and slum clearance rehousing. In order to assist in future housing developments arrangements were made for the investigation of certain sites owned by the Council, with a view to utilising them to the best possible advantage.

Hand-in-hand with this long-term policy the more routine slum clearance programme was proceeded with, statistics of which can be studied below. It is gratifying to be able to record that in all cases in which a Clearance Area was recommended the Minister of Health gave his approval (excluding only one which the Minister and the Council agreed should be withdrawn and be replaced by the acceptance of an undertaking not to relet for human habitation). In all, 5 Clearance Orders, involving 19 houses, were made, following a Public Inquiry. In addition to these, Demolition Orders were made by the Council in respect of 10 individual houses, and 24 Undertakings not to relet after vacation until made in all respects fit were accepted.

Taking into account the details contained in this section of the report, together with those relating to the extent of new housing construction completed or in progress during the year, it would appear that the Council has every reason for satisfaction with its achievements in regard to this important aspect of its duty to the community. The standards it is seeking to attain are very high but with vision and perseverance there is no reason why they should not be reached in the not-too-distant future.

H O U S I N G S T A T I S T I C S

1. INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

1. (a)	Number of dwelling houses inspected for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	... ..	673
(b)	Inspections made for the purpose		1120
2.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	524
3.	Dwelling houses (exclusive of those under preceding sub-heading) not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	... ..	149

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE :-

Number of houses rendered fit in consequence of action by Local Authority or Officers :-

Housing Act	... ..	Nil
Public Health Act	... ..	47

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 Housing Act, 1936 :-

1.	Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
2.	Dwelling houses rendered fit after service of Formal Notice :-	
(a)	By Owners	... .. Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	... .. Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

1. Dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 4
2. Dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-
 - (a) By Owners 4
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

C. Proceedings under Sec. 11 and 13 of the Housing Actm 1936 :-

1. Dwelling Houses represented under Section 11 34
2. Dwelling Houses, the subject of demolition orders 10
3. Dwelling Houses demolished ... 10
4. Dwelling Houses rendered fit by owner 4
5. Dwelling Houses where undertakings not to relet at end of present tenancy were accepted from the owner 24

D. Proceedings under Sections 25 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936 :-

1. Number of houses dealt with under Section 25 19
2. Number of Clearance Orders made under Section 26 5

3. Number of families living in Clearance Areas	19
4. Number of houses demolished	10

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK. As a result of the transfer in 1949 of the control of milk production on the farm to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the placing of the licensing and supervision of pasteurising plants in the hands of the County Council, the District Council retains only the duty of controlling the distribution and sale of milk.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938. - CLEAN FOOD.

Premises on which food was prepared or stored for sale to the public were inspected at frequent intervals throughout the year. No serious defects were found but more general evidence of greater awareness of the importance of hygienic storage and handling of food would have been welcomed.

Whilst only one case of Food Poisoning was reported in the district the need for constant vigilance, by proprietor and purchaser alike, towards seeking out and speedily remedying sources of possible food contamination, by whatever cause, remains as great now as it has ever been.

MEAT INSPECTION.

Owing to the fact that the slaughterhouses were situated in Northampton and Market Harborough and meat sent out to the various butchers within the District, very little meat was inspected. From time

to time unsound meat was examined when reported to the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION F.

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

Notification of the following cases of infectious disease was received during the year. Period distribution tables are to be found at the end of the report.

Disease	M.	F.	Total	Rate per 1,000 population	
				Brixworth	England and Wales
Acute Primary					
Pneumonia	5	3	8	0.44	0.84
Measles	270	286	556	30.91	12.36
Scarlet Fever	26	22	48	2.67	1.39
Erysipelas	2	1	3	0.17	0.14
Whooping Cough	39	43	82	4.56	3.58
Acute Polio- myelitis (including polio- encephalitis) paralytic	3	-	3	0.17	0.07
non-paralytic	-	-	-	0.00	0.04
Food Poisoning	-	1	1	0.06	0.24
Total	345	356	701		

SMALLPOX.

Once again no cases were notified during the year.

In my report for the year 1952 the hope was expressed that a County Council Vaccination service would be put into operation, to supplement the work already being carried out by General Practitioners. It is gratifying to be able to record that such a service was indeed approved, and vaccination against Smallpox made available at Infant Welfare Centres from the month of May onwards. By the end of the year your Medical Officer had administered 14 vaccinations to infants living in the district.

While it is a little disappointing to have to report that the total number vaccinated or re-vaccinated in the district fell slightly compared with the previous year, it is pleasing to note that the number of infants under one year who were protected showed a slight rise. This is important since it is recommended that vaccination be performed as near to four months as possible in order to reduce the very remote risk of complications to the absolute minimum.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN VACCINATED IN 1953.

	<u>Under 1</u> <u>year</u>	<u>1-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>15 or</u> <u>over</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary	110	24	8	12	154
Re-vaccination	-	-	5	23	28

SCARLET FEVER. Forty eight cases were reported during the year, compared with 22 in 1952, infection being of a mild type generally. Terminal disinfection was carried out where required.

DIPHTHERIA. Once again no case was notified during the year, and none has been reported in the district since 1947, when only one occurred.

The situation with regard to protection by Immunisation is not altogether a happy one. The total number of children immunised during the year, including Booster doses, was 87 less than for 1952, although more under the age of one year were so protected.

The vital importance of the simple operation can best be judged by studying national statistics concerning Diphtheria over the 20 years from 1934 to 1953. Between 1934 and 1943 a total of 26,609 persons, mainly children, succumbed to the disease, an average of 2660 per annum. Between 1944 and 1953 a total of 2750 persons died from it, an annual average of 275. In the County of Northampton since 1944 there have been 6 deaths only from the disease, and none at all since 1945. The last case to be notified in the County was in 1949.

In view of the fact that immunisation against Diphtheria was instituted on a large scale from about 1940 it is surely stretching coincidence rather far to contend that the almost unbelievable change in the morbidity and mortality rates for the disease has had little or nothing to do with the immunisation of the general public. It is to be hoped that those who express disbelief or disinterest in the efficacy of immunisation will follow their more enlightened and unselfish fellow-citizens in having their children protected without delay. May they consider the approximately 24,000 young people now alive and well who would otherwise have died a particularly unpleasant death but

for the foresight of their parents over the past ten or so years. It might happen again - it is their responsibility to see that it does not.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED
DURING THE YEAR 1953.

Under 1 year	1-4	5-9	10-14	Total	Booster
104	97	9	4	214	106

WHOOPIING COUGH VACCINATIONS 1953.

	<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>1-4</u>	<u>5-14</u>	<u>Total</u>
Whooping Cough only	7	13	10	30
Combined whooping cough/diphtheria	55	99	9	161

N.B. The figures for combined immunisations are included in those given in the Table for Diphtheria Immunisations above.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN HAVING COMPLETED A
FULL COURSE OF IMMUNISATIONS AT ANY
TIME UP to 31st December, 1953.

Age at 31.12.53.	under 1 (born 1953)	1 & under	2 & under	3 & under	4 & under	9 & under	Total under 15
Number	19	185	391	608	818	1923	2839

Immunisation is carried out at all Infant Welfare Centres in the District, and also at sessions of school medical inspection when required.

Application for immunisation can be made to the County Council Health Visitor or arrangements can be made with general medical practitioners under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

MEASLES. 556 cases were reported during the year, compared with 273 in 1952. This abnormally high incidence followed on the rising wave of notifications received during the months of November and December of the previous year, and of the total for the year no fewer than 483 occurred during the first three months. As was observed during 1952 the infection was only of moderate severity and no drastic measures were called for in an attempt to check its progress. There were no deaths from the disease, and by the month of July the epidemic appeared to have subsided completely.

WHOOPING COUGH. 82 cases were notified compared with 31 in 1952. There were no deaths despite the marked increase compared with the previous year. In view of the serious effects which can result from this infectious disease, parents of very young children are strongly urged to have them immunised against it, preferably at the same time as they are immunised against diphtheria.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS. 3 cases were notified during the year, all being of the paralytic type. All these recovered.

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Males		Females	
	Pul.	Non.Pul.	Pul.	Non.Pul.
Cases on Register at 31.12.52.	23	10	20	5
Number of cases notified during the year	3	3	7	-
Number of cases restored during the year	-	-	-	-
Inward Transfers	1	-	1	-
Cases removed	2	-	2	-
Cases on Register at 31.12.53.	25	13	26	5

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS, 1953.

T A B L E I.

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Other		Pulmonary		Other	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-.....	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-.....	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35-.....	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-.....	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-.....	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	5	3	-	1	1	-	-

MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY.

An entirely new venture for this District in the field of Public Health was embarked upon when a chest X-ray survey was carried out by the No.1 (Northants) M.R.U. between March 3rd and 6th, 1953. The Unit was located in Brixworth Village Hall and altogether 797 persons including schoolchildren over 14 years of age, subjected themselves to examination. An intensive propaganda campaign preceded the survey and, although the Unit could easily have dealt with many more, the response was, on the whole, quite reasonable, bearing in mind the relatively scattered nature of the centres of population in the vicinity. While the excellent health record, as indicated by the findings tabulated below, should not be used as a dependable criterion for the entire Rural District, nevertheless, it does go far towards suggesting that there is no very great degree of Tuberculosis endemic in the District.

Sincere thanks are due to all those who assisted in any way to make this first survey so successful, in particular, to those who kindly provided transport between Brixworth and neighbouring villages.

I. Survey material:- General public, schools, and National Servicemen.

	Males	Females	Total
Films taken	358	439	797
Number referred to Dispensary after clinical examination ...	1	2	3
Cases of ACTIVE Pulmonary Tuberculosis-	-	-	-
Cases of INACTIVE "	1	1	2
Cases of INACTIVE " <u>not</u> requiring reference to Dispensary	4	7	11
Final totals	5	8	13

II. Summary of Newly Discovered Cases of Significant Tuberculosis.

Group	Number examined	Newly Discovered Inactive Cases		
		Number	Rate per 1000	Percentage
General Public	562	2	2.5	0.25
Schools	204	-	-	-
National Servicemen	31	-	-	-
Totals	797	2	2.5	0.25

SECTION G.

F A C T O R I E S A C T, 1937.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937, FOR THE YEAR 1953.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF REGISTERED FACTORIES AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1953.

	Power	Non-Power
1. Food manufacture	10	3
2. Wearing Apparel :-		
(a) Boots and Shoes	2	-
(b) Outfitting	-	1
3. Carpentry, Joinery & Sawmills	14	5
4. Garages, Repair Shops and Engineers	11	5
5. Laundries	3	-
6. Monumental Masons	-	1
7. Gas Works	-	3
8. Plumbers	-	2
Total	40	20

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS
AS TO HEALTH.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspection	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	20	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	40	4	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	60	16	-	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Rem- edied	to H.M. Inspec.	by H.M. Inspec.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) :-					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total ..	2	1	-	-	-

PART VIII. OF THE ACT - OUTWORK.

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110(i) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making Wearing Apparel	23	-	-	-	-	-
Total	23	-	-	-	-	-

SUMMARY OF
SANITARY INSPECTOR'S INSPECTIONS

Housing	...	...	...	...	...	...	1120
Butcher's Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	166
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	185
Defective Premises	265
Pests Destruction	49
Tents, Vans and Sheds	7
Dairies	8

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NOTICES SERVED :-

Informal - Section 92, Public Health Act, 1936	21
Statutory " "	Nil

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis)

TABLE II.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	3	-	2	-	2	2	-	6	3	4	15	7	44
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	4	-	5	7	18	3	21	12	13	86
Pneumonia	2	1	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	8
Measles	315	131	37	35	7	27	3	1	-	-	-	-	556
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	3
Erysipelas	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3
Totals	322	133	40	43	9	34	12	25	6	28	28	21	701



