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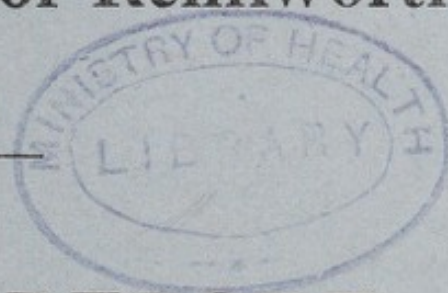
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# Urban District of Kenilworth



## ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1952,

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

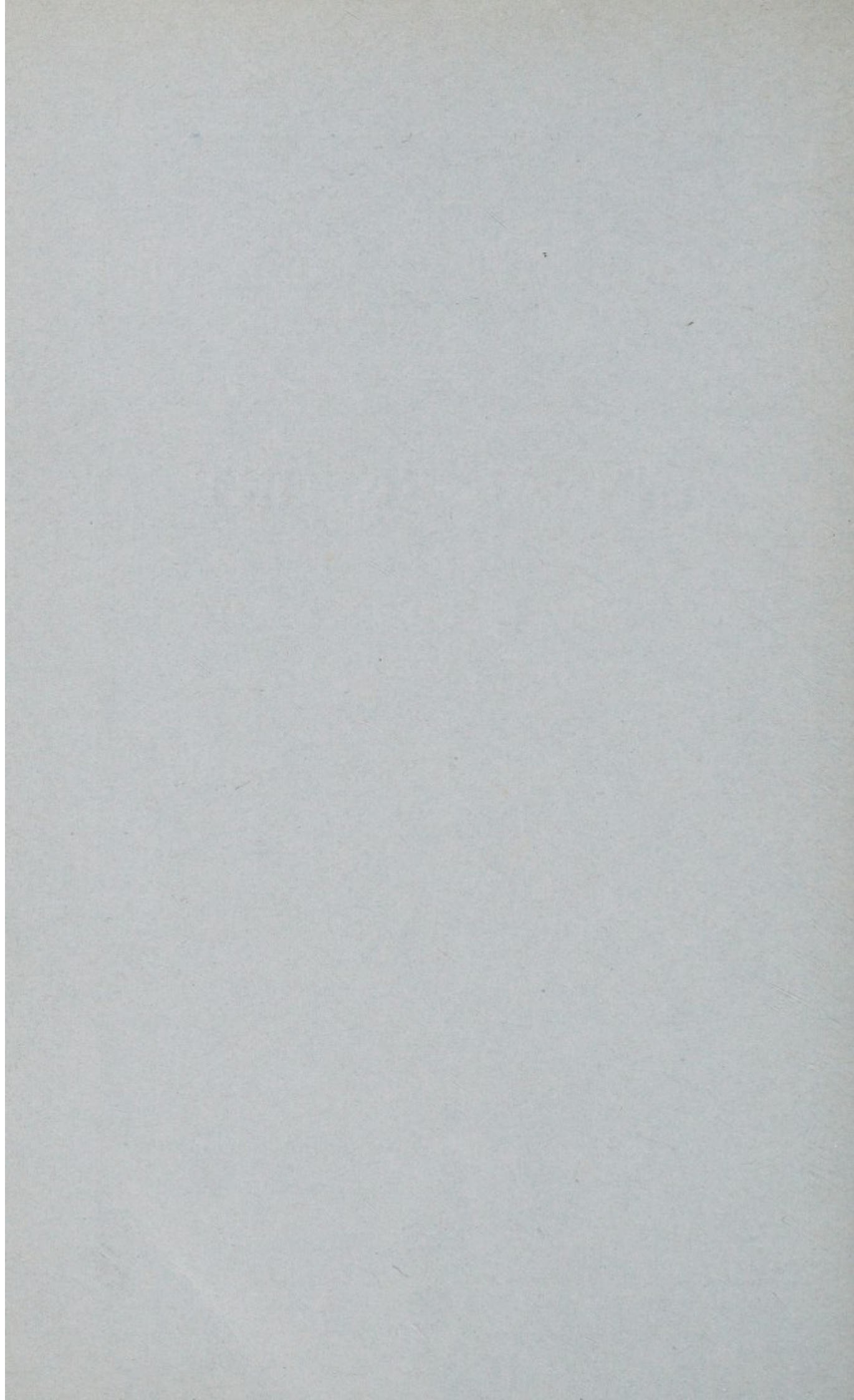
### Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1953





38, HOLLY WALK,  
LEAMINGTON SPA.

September, 1953.

**To the Kenilworth Urban District Council.**

Mr. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report on the health of your district for 1952, which is my third annual report to you.

The vital statistics show a satisfactory picture and there is little else in the report which calls for elaboration in a foreword.

The drainage problem, noted last year, will clearly require the performance of major sewerage works and the Surveyor has prepared plans of the scheme which will be necessary to relieve present shortcomings. The problem of caravan and shack dwellers, also a serious one, has, unhappily, no end in sight.

I have received much kindness and help from members of the Council and wish to express my thanks for this and the willing help which I have had during the year from your Clerk, Surveyor, additional Sanitary Inspector and other officers of the Council.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,  
Medical Officer of Health.



## *Kenilworth Urban District*

### A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Populations (estimated) Mid-year, 1952	...	...	10,710
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	16.5
" " " (corrected)	...	...	16.0
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	22.6
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	13.4
" " " (corrected)	...	...	13.4
Deaths from Diseases and	{ From Sepsis	...	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and	{ From Other Causes	...	—
Child-birth			
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	17.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	17.5
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	—
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

The population has risen by only 100 during the past year. The birth-rate is again high this year and above the level for England and Wales (15.3). Deaths are, however, higher at 13.4 than the rate for England and Wales (11.3).

The infantile mortality rate for the whole country was 27.6 per 1,000 related live births and this year the local rate at 17 compares favourably.

Of the three infants dying at age under one year, none died within the four weeks immediately following birth.

Three out of a total of 144 deaths (i.e. 4% approx.) were caused by motor vehicle accidents, and three more deaths resulted from other accidents and two more by suicide. Malignant disease (cancer) in various forms accounted for 15% of all deaths and 33% were due to diseases of the heart and circulation. Considered together, Influenza, Pneumonia, Bronchitis and Respiratory diseases caused only 6% of the total deaths and 14% were due to diseases of blood vessels of the nervous system. The remainder of

the total of 144 deaths was formed by small groups. Diabetes accounted for two deaths and none arose through complications of pregnancy or childbirth.

Statistics for England and Wales are shown at the foot of Table II.

## B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—The Staff is as follows :—  
One combined post.—Surveyor, Water Engineer and Sanitary Inspector.

One additional Sanitary Inspector.

2. *Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by Public Health Laboratory Service, Coventry :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	...	9	9
Dysentery ...	...	4	4
Tuberculosis ...	2	17	19
			—
			32
			—

## C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. (i) *Water Supply.*—The water supply for the area continues satisfactorily with the three electrical borehole pumps at the Mill End Pumping Station giving continuous service and pumping sufficient water for the town's needs. The water is not chlorinated.

The whole of the pumping plant is well maintained, including the booster pump at Red Lane, which deals with the Red Lane area and provides water to an ever increasing number without the boundary in this district.

Water main extensions have continued on the Bulkington Housing Estate, and have also been provided off Malt-house Lane, the Common Lane estate, de Montfort Road, and Common Lane. These are in 3in. and 4in. pipes, and a further extension of 6in. main has been made in Dalehouse Lane.

Eight new metered services have been installed, and 57 house services. Twenty-nine services were repaired, and there was one burst water main in Fieldgate Lane. The service reservoirs have been satisfactorily maintained during the period.



The water recorded as pumped totalled 128,560,000 gallons, giving an average of 352,219 gallons per day, as compared with 295,890 g.p.d. for the previous year. This shows an increase of 19%. This rise in consumption is in part due to the erection of new houses with all facilities which such dwellings now have. On the total population the average consumption is now 32 gallons per head per day.

Thirteen specimens of raw water were taken for bacteriological analysis; the results were satisfactory and showing a high standard of purity. A chemical analysis was taken in July, as follows:—

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE WATER.

					Parts per 100,000
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	0		„
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0		„
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	2.4		„
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites	...	...	Trace.		„
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate					
at 80°F. in 4 hours	...	...	0.007		„
Total solids dried at 100°C.	...	...	45		„
Nitrite	...	...	Absent.		„
pH	...	...	7.3		„

Appearance: Bright, few small particles.

Practically the whole of the population has a piped water supply, and where such does not exist, samples of well water are taken as required for analysis.

2. *Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Works.*—During the year 23 sewer stoppages were removed and minor repairs were necessary to sewers. The length of main sewer from St. John's to Station Road was cleaned, considerable amounts of grit deposit being removed. The third contract for new sewers to your Bulkington Estate was commenced and the scheme partly completed during the year. This contract will terminate the development of this area.

At the Sewage Disposal Works the remaining large flat bottomed settling tank was converted into three smaller hopper type tanks to facilitate the removal of sludge.

The works are becoming more difficult to maintain owing to the lack of filtering capacity and humus tanks, and a number of complaints have been received from the River Board expressing concern at the poor standard of effluent.

The emptying of the road and street gullies is done quarterly by public contractor, and is being carried out satisfactorily. Where cesspools are in need of emptying, this work is also done by contract and is a matter of private negotiation as occasion demands.

3. *Rivers and Streams*.—All the water courses in the area have been attended to and cleaned out on a number of occasions during the year. Some trouble occurred through flooding caused by rainfalls, and this was much reduced by the sewer cleaning previously mentioned.

4. *Public Cleansing*.—Generally a weekly collection has been maintained throughout the year, varying on occasion through holidays and labour difficulties. Covered metal bins are the rule in the district, and your main vehicle has given good service. The supplementary vehicle will soon be in need of repairs, and a more modern type is required to handle this class of work.

The disposal of house refuse and road sweepings is by tipping. The Knowle Hill site was in use until September, when the new site at the Brickworks in Whitemoor Road was brought into operation. Some trouble was experienced here through the depth of the site preventing blinding up sufficiently to suppress nuisance and fire. The trouble was overcome towards the end of the year.

#### D. HOUSING.

	1952	1951
Number of houses built by—		
(a) Local Authority ... ..	41	60
(b) Private Enterprise ... ..	24	9
Total number of completed houses owned by the Council ... ..	601	561
Total number of prefabricated houses owned by the Council ... ..	50	50
Houses converted into flats, maisonnettes, etc. ... ..	—	2
Number of demolition orders made during 1952 ... ..	—	—
No. of unfit houses made fit :—		
(a) by Official Notices ... ..	6	—
(b) Informally ... ..	38	40



## **E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

(a) *Milk Supply*.—The number of Registrations under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, is 11, of which 2 are Dairies and 9 Distributors of milk.

Four Supplementary and five Dealers' Licences have been issued to sell Tuberculin tested milk in the Urban District.

Four Supplementary and four Dealers' Licences have been issued to sell Pasteurised milk in the Urban District.

All milk retailed and consumed in the District is designated milk sold in closed bottles. Considerable advances have taken place in the last 20 or 30 years in regard to milk production and distribution, and it is noteworthy that all milk now consumed has reached a particular standard according to its designation. Milk consumed to-day is much safer than it was in the days of production under undesirable cowshed conditions and sale by retail in a "loose" condition, with no reliable guarantee or designation of quality. There is, however, still room for further improvements in production and distribution, in particular with regard to cowshed conditions. Many are still below good standards and need improving so that milk may be produced in the cowshed in a clean and safe condition.

(b) *Ice Cream*.—2 premises were registered during the year under Sec. 14 (a) Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice cream. This brings the total of registered premises up to 35, of which 4 are for manufacture and sale, and 31 for the sale only of ice cream.

Occupiers of the 4 premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream make their product by the "cold mix" method, but local manufacture appears to be dying out slowly and giving place to the importation for local sale of ice cream made by large distributing firms outside the Urban District.

16 samples were submitted for Methylene Blue Test, the results of which showed 10 samples coming within Grade 1, 4 into Grade 2, and 2 into Grade 4. The grade 4 samples were from the same retailer, who had only just come into this type of business. Investigations showed an error in the sterilizing of serving equipment, and after



advice had been given a Grade 1 result was obtained very shortly afterwards. This seems to emphasize the need for registration of premises, inspection and sampling as it shows that ignorance or careless handling may easily convert high-grade ice cream into an inferior or even dangerous product.

(c) *Meat*.—1 place was registered during the year under Sec. 14 (b) Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the cooking of shellfish. This brings to 9 the total number of registered premises.

The majority of the registrations are for the manufacture of sausages, and the work is carried out in rooms attached to butchers' shops, which are suitable and satisfactory for this work.

No slaughtering for sale for human consumption is carried out in the district. Post-mortem inspection is confined to those animals slaughtered for the owner's own consumption. As there is no legal compulsion to notify such slaughtering it is in the owner's interest to request your officers to carry out an inspection so that advice may be given as to the carcase's fitness or otherwise for food.

All meat coming into the district comes from the Coventry slaughterhouse. The meat is transported in road vehicles and all home killed meat is carried in the hanging position. This is now accepted as being the most satisfactory method of transportation, although there are some disadvantages. No complaints have been received during the year of carcases being soiled during transit, and vehicles which have been inspected have been found to be clean.

(d) *Other Trades*.—The preparation of food for sale is carried out in many small individual establishments, each employing only a few employees. No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred, which shows that care is being exercised in preparing food dishes of a type able to convey infection to a large number of the population.

The premises themselves are mainly old, but the facilities generally exist which make possible the production of a clean commodity. Those establishments which still do not possess the essentials for efficient working are frequently visited and encouraged to improve their methods and/or equipment.



## F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

*Incidence of Commoner Infectious Diseases since 1945.*

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1945	...	—	30	1	1	—	—
1946	...	5	20	—	9	—	1
1947	...	2	10	—	3	—	1
1948	...	—	19	—	2	—	—
1949	...	6	6	—	4	—	—
1950	...	2	9	1	5	—	1
1951	...	1	17	—	68	—	—
1952	...	—	10	—	10	—	—

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1952.

*Scarlet Fever.*—The disease was not this year prevalent.

*Diphtheria Immunisation.*—The figures were :—

	1952	1951
Schoolchildren ... ..	8	(6)
Infants and children under 5 years ... ..	130	(136)
Total ... ..	138	(142)
Booster doses (all ages) ... ..	176	(211)

The above figures include all notifications, whether the immunization was performed by the family doctor or at a clinic, infant welfare centre, etc.

The percentage protected during the first year of life was estimated at 52%, which is still much below the desired minimum of 75%, which the Ministry of Health has set as the target figure. Although the disease is less common and thus less known to parents, it retains its full virulence and therefore it is difficult to exaggerate the importance of rousing greater public interest in this matter.

*Poliomyelitis.*—Again no cases were notified and so the Urban District has maintained its fortunate freedom from this distressing complaint.

*School Closures.*—Nil.

*Other Diseases.*

*Pneumonia.*—The figure of 68 notifications for 1951 was the highest annual total ever recorded in the urban district since this disease became subject to compulsory notification in 1919. A welcome fall in these notifications occurred this year, but the total of 10 was still more than the usual figure for most recent years.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ...	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 ...	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
35-45 ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
45-55 ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	4	8	—	1	1	1	—	—

13 new cases of ~~pulmonary~~ tuberculosis were notified during the year and 2 deaths occurred.

Thorough contact tracing is carried out after each notification has been made. Apart from the usual official agencies which are active against this disease, one must



give special mention to the voluntary enterprise which raises annually substantial sums of money to send children and young persons to Switzerland for sanatorium treatment.

*Tuberculosis.*—The following table shews the cases notified, and deaths for the past 20 years:—

		1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Cases		7	6	10	10	10	9
Deaths		3	8	5	5	4	4
	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
Cases	10	19	14	11	9	10	9
Deaths	4	4	8	5	2	3	1
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Cases	9	4	11	14	3	4	13
Deaths	3	6	2	3	—	3	2

*Treatment.*—7 patients were admitted to the Sanatorium for treatment during the year, and 7 were discharged.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

This Act provides inter alia for assistance to be given by the National Assistance Board to persons in need, for the provision of accommodation and welfare services by County Councils and for the registration of homes for disabled persons and the aged. Section 47 of this Act was designed to secure necessary care and attention for persons who—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

If the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises. The order, if granted, may authorize a person's detention for a period not exceeding three months. A later amendment provides that upon the written report of the medical officer



of health and another medical practitioner, the case may in emergency be heard before the court or a single magistrate without the giving of seven days clear notice. An order granted in this way will have effect only for a short period. The council has authorized me to act in accordance with the aforesaid procedure but to date no removal order has been requested from the Court. No case requiring investigation was reported during 1952. Two enquiries were however made during the previous year. One related to a man from whose house the Council had previously had to remove accumulations of rags and filth. No action was necessary however on this occasion as he decided to re-enter Hatton Hospital as a voluntary patient.

The other case was that of an elderly recluse who had lived for years a hermit-like existence in a primitive hutment approached across several fields. He fell ill with congestion of the lungs and after a week a doctor was called by his companion. The man's condition was grave but he refused to go to hospital. The police and the Council's Officers visited the hut the same afternoon and found his dead body there. An inquest was held by the Coroner and it was found that death had been accelerated by exposure and neglect. Owing to the dirty and verminous condition of the hut, it was destroyed and the R.S.P.C.A. had to be called in to deal with a dozen or more cats running wild about the place.

### **REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.**

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Kenilworth Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my 16th Annual Report as your Sanitary Inspector for the year ending 31st December, 1952.

During the 20 years 1931-1951 the population of Kenilworth has increased from 7,596 to 10,738, and the number of houses in the town from 1,966 to 3,139. Such increases have had an impact on the sanitary services available in the district, and it is important to record the far reaching effects on the services which has accompanied this gradual yet substantial increase.

Houses built, particularly in the post war years, are provided with sanitary facilities up to a modern standard, and it follows that the consumption of water, and the amount of sewage to be disposed of, has increased very considerably.

The present sewers throughout the town are old and were not designed to take the present load imposed upon them. They are now overloaded and any surcharge during periods of rain quickly makes itself apparent by overflowing. It is equally true that your present



sewage works is seriously overloaded, and whilst certain alterations and improvements have been carried out it is necessary to extend your present disposal plant in order to make it efficient.

The amount of house refuse collected and disposed of is greater today than it ever was, and if a frequent collection is to be continued it will be necessary to further improve the facilities for collection in order to collect and transport such refuse in a sanitary condition in suitable vehicles.

With the growth of the town it makes it more than ever necessary for more frequent visits to be paid to food preparing premises in order to ensure that the population is being served with safe food prepared and handled under satisfactory and clean conditions.

The picture over the year in every aspect of the work of the Department has been one of continued activity.

In conclusion I would express my thanks to the Committee for their co-operation, help and support.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,  
Sanitary Inspector.

### **Nuisances.**

Notices were served in respect of 168 defects and nuisances, details of which are set out in Table 1.

House defects are dealt with under the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act, 1936. Quite the majority of repairs are carried out as a result of informal action, and only in the more difficult cases has resort to be made to the serving of Statutory Notices. Year by year it is more apparent that owners of property are very reluctant to carry out repairs to their property in view of the present small income derived from their investments in property. The cost of repairs and works of maintenance is high, and in consequence privately owned property is deteriorating rapidly and their life is being shortened. This is an unfortunate situation in view of the still acute shortage of houses.

### **Infectious Disease.**

Details of the cases of infectious disease notified during 1952 are dealt with in the Medical Officer of Health's report.

Enquiries were made into 8 cases of scarlet fever with a view to obtaining satisfactory isolation in the home, and the prevention of further spread of the disease generally. 3 of the cases were admitted to isolation hospital, which is now provided at Whitley in Coventry.

The scarlet fever met with today is not of a very virulent type, and cases are only removed to hospital when there are a large number of occupants in the patient's home, and isolation there is rendered unsatisfactory.

It is found that there is an increasing use being made of library books, and this necessitates their thorough disinfection before being returned direct to the library.



### **Tuberculosis.**

The visiting of cases of tuberculosis is carried out by the County Council's Tuberculosis Health Visitors.

You have continued to supply disinfectant free of charge to necessitous persons suffering from this disease. This appears to be only a small service, but it is one which is appreciated by those suffering. It enables current disinfection to be carried out satisfactorily during the period when the patient is at home. Such patients are often in difficult financial circumstances, especially if the bread winner is the one suffering. Under normal circumstances they may not feel able to purchase disinfectant and thus an essential part of disinfection is not carried out.

### **Disinfection of Premises.**

During the year disinfection was carried out in 10 instances. The majority of these disinfections were carried out after death or removal to Sanatorium of tuberculous patients. Scarlet fever is so very mild in character today that disinfection is becoming less and less necessary. Parents are advised on the efficiency of fresh air, sunshine, and the use of soap, hot water and scrubbing brush as very efficient means of disinfection.

Bedding was steam disinfected on 3 occasions, and 5 lots of bedding destroyed at the request of the owners. Steam disinfections are now carried out by arrangement with the Leamington Spa Corporation.

### **Drainage and Sewerage.**

Notices were served in respect of 14 defects in house drainage during the year.

### **Public Cleansing and Salvage.**

House refuse throughout the district is stored in covered galvanised dustbins. Some improvement seems to be necessary in the temporary storage of trade refuse in order that collection time may be reduced to a minimum, and in order that any possible nuisance may be eliminated.

Increasing thought had to be given on the subject of the actual person who was to be required to provide a dustbin on premises, and in November you resolved to undertake in accordance with Sec. 75 (3) Public Health Act, 1936, to provide and maintain dustbins throughout the district at an annual charge of 5/-. The scheme is to commence on 1st April, 1953. Such a scheme will obviate the difficult position of having to determine whether an owner or an occupier shall provide the receptacle and the service of notices, but quite a large amount of time has still to be spent on the inspection of unfit dustbins.

### **Shops.**

You accepted delegation of the powers of the County Council under Sec. 38, Shops Act, 1950, with respect of the arrangements to be made in shops for lighting, washing facilities and facilities for the taking of meals. The enactment makes you directly responsible to enforce the provisions relating to ventilation, temperature, and sanitary conveniences.



The responsibility now conferred upon you makes it necessary for a full survey of the shops in the area to be made which will entail some considerable work. It has not been found possible to commence such a survey during the year owing to activity in other spheres.

#### **Smoke Abatement.**

The town is particularly fortunate in that there are only a very few factory premises from which any quantity of smoke may be emitted. Any pollution of the atmosphere which is evident can be mainly attributed to smoke from domestic house chimneys, which at times has appeared very noticeably in the parts of the district which are low lying, and is particularly evident when the wind velocity is at its minimum.

One factory in the district has recently installed plant to use liquid fuel. Whilst liquid fuel can be consumed almost smokelessly the effluent gases from the combustion have caused a nuisance, and representations with the Company were continuing at the end of the year.

#### **Open Air Bathing Pool.**

The open-air swimming pool was opened on Saturday, 24th May, and closed on the 20th September.

During this period the recorded attendances were:—

Adults	...	...	6,543
Children	...	...	9,373
Spectators	...	...	2,759

Two specimens of water were analysed and found satisfactory. The baths were properly maintained during the period.

#### **Verminous Premises.**

Very few premises have been found to be infested with vermin. Where premises have been found to be infested every co-operation is given to the occupier to disinfect the affected parts.

Two interesting cases of infestation by *Dermestes laudarius* were investigated in the early part of the year. Whilst these beetles are innocuous to human beings their habits are undesirable in that they forage for food and thereby contaminate it.

#### **Food and Food Preparing Premises.**

(a) *Milk*.—The distribution of milk has continued satisfactorily throughout the year. All milk which is retailed is contained in closed bottles which eliminate the possibility of contamination during serving from an open receptacle. Mechanical bottle washing machines subject bottles to a rigorous cleansing process, but misuse in the home by using them for storing paints, disinfectants, paraffin, etc., makes the efficient cleansing and sterilizing of the bottles well nigh impossible.

No Distributors of Milk or Dairies were registered during the year under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949. The total of 9 Distributors and 2 Dairies registered under the Regulations at the end of 1951 remains the same.

The following Licences have been issued:—

<i>Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.</i>			
Supplementary Licences (T.T.)	...	...	4
Dealers' Licences (T.T.)	...	...	5



*Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949.*

Supplementary Licences (Pasteurised)	...	4
Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised)	... ..	4

The whole of the milk being consumed in the District is now Designated milk, which marks a creditable step forward.

(b) *Ice Cream*.—2 applications were received during the year for the Registration of their premises to sell prepacked ice cream, which were granted. 4 premises are now registered for manufacture and sale, and 31 for the sale only of ice cream under Sec. 14 (a) Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Sampling has continued periodically and an effort was made to sample ice cream from every manufacturer, including that retailed from vehicles on the streets. The results of the 16 samples submitted for the Methylene Blue Test showed 10 samples coming within Grade 1, 4 into Grade 2, and 2 into Grade 4. The results are good apart from the two samples coming within Grade 4. This ice cream was from the same manufacturer and the same retailer. Investigations with the retailer disclosed an error in the technique of ice cream serving and the sterilization of serving equipment. This matter was rectified and a Grade 1 ice cream was produced very shortly afterwards.

Much has been heard about the suitability of the Methylene Blue Test in relation to ice cream, but it can be said that it does afford a valuable indication whether the ice cream is being properly handled or not. Faults can be traced by the test and in that respect it is invaluable.

(c) *Meat and Meat Products*.—The inspection of the meat in the district is confined to that in course of transit, that found in butchers' shops, and that which is locally produced for the owner's own consumption. Still far too few owners of pigs take the opportunity of having their pigs inspected when slaughtered for their own use. It is most desirable that all food should be subject to inspection, and it is unfortunate that animals slaughtered which are not exposed for sale do not become subject to an inspection. Thus we have a position whereby food which is unfit may be consumed, and only by the co-operation of owners can the position be relieved.

The meat which is delivered into the district is transported in road vehicles in the hanging position. Conditions of delivery have been found to be satisfactory, but there is a tendency for the hauliers to expose the meat to contamination during transit by leaving the back of the vehicle open whilst travelling from one shop to another.

4 premises are licensed as Private Slaughterhouses but such premises are only used for the killing of cottagers' pigs. 1 Licence and 9 Renewals of Licence to slaughter or stun animals were granted during the year under Sec. 3 Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

1 application was received during the year for the Registration of premises under Sec. 14 (b) Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the cooking of shellfish, which was granted. The total number of registered premises is now 9, of which the majority are for the manufacture of sausages. All the work is carried out in suitable premises.

(d) *Other Food Preparing Premises*.—It has been found necessary to devote more time to the inspection of premises where food is prepared. The town is well provided with small cafes, hotels, bakehouses



and similar premises, and in the majority the premises are well equipped and carrying out their work of food preparation under good conditions. A proportion of the premises are old in age and if admirable conditions are to exist the owners are compelled to make good the depreciations in the fabric of the building. A good standard of premises encourages a good standard in clean handling of food. Sanitary facilities such as hot and cold water, washing accommodation, W.C. accommodation, and cloak room accommodation should be abundantly available, and food handlers must be trained in the importance of their use.

#### Food and Drugs Acts, 1938-50.

The County Council, as Food & Drugs Authority, is responsible for the sampling of food and submitting the samples taken to the Public Analyst for examination for quality. The following are the sampling figures for the last 5 years:—

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Informal Milk Samples ...	—	—	12	—	—
Formal Milk Samples ...	56	47	52	39	17
Informal other foods samples	1	28	1	1	12
Formal other foods samples	5	10	8	7	11

#### Unfit Food.

The following foodstuffs were voluntarily surrendered as being unfit for human consumption:—

Various tinned goods	... 235 tins.
Cooked Ham	... 78 lbs. 5 oz.
Pressed Meat	... 12 lbs. 8 ozs.
Bacon	... 3 lbs. 8 ozs.
Sausage	... 32 lbs.
Flour	... 24 lbs.
Jam	... 19 lbs.
Sugar	... 2 lbs.
Margarine	... 8 ozs.
Tea	... 4 ozs.
Cheese	... 6 ozs.
Sweets	... 42 packets.
Custard Powder	... 24 packets.
Cheese	... 12 packets.
Corn Flakes	... 6 packets.
Porage Oats	... 3 packets.
Cake Mixture	... 2 packets.
Chocolates	... 6 packets.
Salt	... 1 packet.
Pickles...	... 4 jars.
Marmalade	... 2 jars.
Mincemeat	... 2 jars.
Sterilized Cream	... 1 jar.
Fruit Salad	... 1 jar.
Sandwich Spread	... 1 jar.
Pineapple	... 1 jar.
Ginger	... 1 jar.
Syrup	... 1 jar.
Port Flavour Wine	... 1 bottle.
Mustard	... 43 tins.
Faggots	... 10 dozen.
Chickens	... 17
Turkey	... 1

The goods were all suitably destroyed.

### Factories.

There are 60 factories on the register which can be sub-divided into 54 power factories and 6 non-power factories. These establishments are in the main small in character, each employing a corresponding small number of employees. The employers have some difficulty in maintaining a static labour force and consequently the number of employees in the factories is continually changing. Some factories are taking female labour for the first time, and this, of course, necessitates the provision of additional sanitary accommodation.

It is found that generally speaking the smaller the number of employees the poorer is the accommodation provided. The position, however, is fairly satisfactory, but in some instances it has been necessary to require improvements, repairs or additions.

One outworker was notified during the year under Sec. 110, Factories Act, 1937. The work is carried out under satisfactory conditions, and no case of infectious disease occurred in the house during the year.

### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

One of your men has continued to work part-time on Rodent Control work, and he has conformed to the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in respect of methods of treatment.

Whilst the town appears to be reasonably free from any serious infestation, the obligations under the Act require that a substantial amount of time has to be spent on this work. The extent of the work can be appreciated in that 312 premises were visited during the year, and a total of 79 premises received treatment. It is further necessary to supervise any treatments carried out privately, and work carried out to proof premises.

Your refuse tips and sewage works have received treatments on 3 occasions.

The sewerage system was treated on 2 occasions, and a very limited amount of infestation was found. This is probably due to the smallness of the sewers, which are apt to run at full bore on occasions.

### New Buildings.

- 70 Houses and Bungalows.
- 2 Estate Layouts.
- 20 Extensions and Additions.
- 34 Garages.
- 7 Lavatory Extensions.
- 7 Field Temporary Caravans.
- 2 Retention of Caravan Sites.
- 6 Workshops.
- 6 Outbuildings.
- 1 Clinic.
- 1 School.
- 87 Houses by Local Authority.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,  
Sanitary Inspector.



TABLE I  
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT  
SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S  
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1952.

	Inspections and observations made	Notices served and complied with			
		In-formal	In-formal abated	Formal	Formal abated
GENERAL SANITATION.	Water Supply ... ..	15	13	6	—
	Drainage ... ..	47	14	13	—
	Stables and Piggeries ... ..	11	3	2	1
	Fried Fish Shops ... ..	5	—	—	—
	Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	27	—	—	—
	Factories ... ..	23	4	3	—
	Outworkers ... ..	1	—	—	—
	Bakehouses ... ..	4	—	—	—
	Theatres and Places of Entertainment ... ..	1	—	—	—
	Refuse Collection ... ..	108	48	38	7
	Refuse Disposal ... ..	4	—	—	—
	Rats and Mice ... ..	130	1	1	—
	Smoke Observations ... ..	2	—	—	—
	Shops Acts ... ..	2	1	—	—
HOUSING.	Miscellaneous ... ..	12	—	—	—
	UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :				
	No. of houses inspected ... ..	49	54	38	10
	Visits paid to above houses ... ..	144			6
	UNDER HOUSING ACTS :				
	No. of houses inspected ... ..	2	—	—	—
	Visits paid to above houses ... ..	3			
	OVERCROWDING :				
	No. of houses inspected ... ..	1	—	—	—
	Visits paid to above houses ... ..	1			
	VERMINOUS PREMISES :				
	No. of houses inspected ... ..	10	7	5	—
	Visits paid to above houses ... ..	12			
	Council Houses inspected ... ..	29	4	3	
MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.	Applicants for Housing Accommodation ... ..	86	—	—	—
	Miscellaneous ... ..	2			
	INSPECTION OF MEAT :				
	Visits to Shops and Stalls ... ..	9			
	Visits to other Premises ... ..	3			
	VISITS TO :				
	Butchers ... ..	9	—	—	—
	Fishmongers and Poulterers ... ..	6	—	—	—
	Grocers ... ..	23	4	4	—
	Greengrocers and Fruiters ... ..	7	3	2	—
	Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	2	—	—	—
	Ice-Cream Premises ... ..	17	1	1	—
	Food Preparing Premises ... ..	43	9	6	—
	Restaurants ... ..	11	1	1	—
	Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts ... ..	2	—	—	—
	Licensed Premises ... ..	1	1	1	—
	Miscellaneous ... ..	2	—	—	—
		866	168	124	18
					14

Voluntary Surrender of Unsound Food ... ..	No. 25
Seizure of Unsound Food ... ..	—
Samples of Ice-Cream taken for Examination ... ..	16
Samples of Well Water taken for Examination ... ..	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Inquiries into cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	8
Visits re disinfection ... ..	3
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits ... ..	2
Houses disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	10
Schools disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease ... ..	—
Lots of Bedding steam disinfected or destroyed ... ..	8
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things ... ..	—
Convictions for Exposure of Infected Persons or things ... ..	—
Prosecutions for failure to notify existence of Infectious Disease ... ..	—
Convictions for failure to notify existence of Infectious Disease ... ..	—

G. A. J. EDMUNDSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

NOTE.—This Table takes into no account a number of Notices served during 1951, but which were complied with during 1952. The Table, however, does include Notices served during 1952, but which were not complied with at the end of the year.

TABLE 11KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.

Vital Statistics of Whole District During 1952 and  
Previous Years.

Year	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT			
		NETT		Under 1 year of age			
		Number.	Rate.	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1946	9,690	184	19.1	9	49	99	10.2
1947	9,780	211	21.6	11	52	101	10.3
1948	10,160	213	21.0	4	19	85	8.4
1949	10,230	195	19.0	9	46	107	10.5
1950	10,550	148	14.0	2	13	94	8.9
1951	10,610	170	16.0	7	41	127	12.0
1952	10,710	177	16.5	3	17	144	13.4





TABLE III.  
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR  
1952.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox ... ..										
Plague ... ..										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup) ... ..										
Erysipelas ... ..	2					1	1			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	10		2	8					3	
Typhus Fever ... ..										
Enteric Fever ... ..										
Pneumonia ... ..	10	1	3	1			2	3		4
Malaria ... ..										
Dysentery ... ..										
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..										
Meningococcal Infection ... ..										
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) ... ..										
Whooping Cough ... ..	10	1	5	4						
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..										
Measles ... ..	15		10	4	1					
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	12	1			6	4		1		2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	1					1				
Food Poisoning ... ..										
Totals ... ..	60	3	20	17	7	6	3	4	3	6

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1952.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1952  
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

	Live Births	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales ... ..	15.3	0.35	11.3	27.6
160 Great Towns, including London ... ..	16.9	0.43	12.1	31.2
160 Smaller Towns ... ..	15.5	0.36	11.2	25.8
London ... ..	17.6	0.34	12.6	23.8



TABLE IV.  
KENILWORTH URBAN DISTRICT.  
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1952.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES
1 Tuberculosis respiratory ... ..	1	1
2 Tuberculosis other ... ..	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease ... ..	1	—
4 Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5 Whooping cough ... ..	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections ... ..	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8 Measles ... ..	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	1	1
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	5	1
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	1
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms ... ..	5	7
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	1	—
16 Diabetes ... ..	1	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	13
18 Coronary disease, angina ... ..	8	12
19 Hypertension w.th heart disease ... ..	5	3
20 Other heart disease ... ..	7	12
21 Other circulatory disease ... ..	7	6
22 Influenza ... ..	—	—
23 Pneumonia ... ..	2	2
24 Bronchitis ... ..	3	1
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	1	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	—	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	2
29 Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	3	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	—
31 Congenital malformations ... ..	2	—
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	4
33 Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	—
34 All other accidents ... ..	1	2
35 Suicide ... ..	2	—
36 Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
All Causes ... ..	73	71

