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KETTERING
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1961



F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H.



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Kettering Rural District Council

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J. V. DYER, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (Resigned 30-6-61).

F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H. (Appointed 1-7-61).

Also holds the appointment of Medical Officer of Health for :—

Burton Latimer, Corby, Desborough and Rothwell Urban Districts.

Assistant County Medical Officer and School Medical Officer.

Secretary :

MISS M. W. LANGLEY

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector :

*CHARLES R. STARMER, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

*FRANKLIN H. VALENTINE, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

*Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
75 LONDON ROAD,
KETTERING.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Kettering Rural District Council.

June, 1962.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. GEORGE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my first Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Kettering Rural District for the year 1961.

I took up duty with you on 1st July and my account of the work carried out in the first six months of the year, therefore, relates to the period for which my predecessor, Dr. J. V. Dyer, was in office.

1961 was a Census Year and on 23rd April the enumeration of the population of the Rural District gave the figure 11,582. The corresponding Census figure for 1951 was 12,078. There has, therefore, been a decrease in the Census population of nearly 500 in the decennial period.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population 1961, upon which my birth rates and death rates etc. are calculated, is given as 11,620. The crude birth rate works out at 14.46 and the adjusted birth rate 16.05 per 1,000 population. The manner in which these figures are arrived at is described in the body of my report.

The crude death rate for the Rural District is 12.05 and the adjusted death rate 12.29 and the present national rate 12.0. The main causes of death are Heart disease and Cancer; these two causes together account for more than half the total number of deaths. There were no deaths classed to pregnancy or childbirth.

The composition of the population tends to be elderly and the average age of death is usually in the region of 70 years of age. Longevity is frequently a marked feature of life in the Rural District. "A physician can sometimes parry the scythe of death but has no power over the sand in the hour-glass", wrote Hester Lynch Piozzi to Fanny Burney nearly 200 years ago, and the same unassailable dictum is as true in 1961.

I desire particularly to draw the attention of the Committee to Section C. of this report because I am sure you will appreciate that the competence of the Sanitary Services in any area is largely assessed by consideration of three criteria:—1. The condition and quality of the water supply. 2. The efficiency of the sewerage system, and 3. The adequacy of arrangements for refuse collection. The first two criteria are in my view well satisfied, but residents of the Rural District must at the present time put up with a fortnightly collection of household refuse. I am certain that this arrangement is not sufficient to meet the requirements and I must repeat that I fully endorse the views of my predecessor and the Council's Surveyor who have previously expressed their minds on this matter. I earnestly hope that the Council will review the position in the year that lies before us for I do believe that a weekly refuse collection has now become an urgent obligation. Much time and money is spent by the Government on propaganda material pointing out the dangers of rat and fly infestation to the Public Health, but a great deal of this effort must go to waste when breeding places for flies and food for rats is abundantly provided. It is axiomatic in Public Health practice that the activities of the scavenger often render the ministrations of the physician unnecessary.

Bacteriological examination of samples of water from the River Welland, as it flows through the Rural District, and the River Ise have shown that these rivers are unsuitable for swimming and I have had notices, indicating this, erected at Rockingham, Newton and Gretton.

Following many complaints of the fouling of food premises by dogs, the public has once again been requested not to bring dogs into shops in which food is sold and notices to this effect have been displayed in all grocers' shops etc. throughout the Rural District.

I would like to thank Dr. C. M. Smith, County Medical Officer of Health, who has kindly provided the figures which I have quoted in relation to Smallpox vaccination and Diphtheria and Poliomyelitis immunisation, and also Dr. J. V. L. Farquhar, Medical Referee of Kettering Crematorium, who has abstracted the figures relating to cremation.

My thanks are also due to the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector for their close co-operation throughout the year, and, in addition, may I express my grateful appreciation for the helpful support shown me at all times by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Finally, I wish to record my acknowledgement of the debt I owe to my secretary, Miss Langley, for her dedicated work in the cause of Public Health all through 1961 and in particular at the time of preparation of this report.

I have the honour to be, Your obedient Servant,

F. R. N. LYNCH, *Medical Officer of Health.*

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics for the Five Year Period 1957 to 1961

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Area of the Rural District (acres) ...	60,626	60,626	60,626	60,626	60,626
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate) ...	12,020	12,020	12,010	12,020	11,620
Number of Live Births ...	170	162	177	146	168
Legitimate ...	163	154	169	143	164
Illegitimate ...	7	8	8	3	4
Birth rate per 1,000 population ...	14.14	13.48	14.74	12.15	14.46
Number of Still Births ...	2	6	1	1	3
Legitimate ...	2	6	1	1	2
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	—	1
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	11.63	35.71	5.62	6.80	17.54
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.17	0.50	0.08	0.08	0.26
Number of Deaths ...	118	133	121	106	140
Death rate per 1,000 population ...	9.82	11.06	10.07	8.82	12.05
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Infant Deaths ...	3	3	2	3	2
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	17.65	18.52	11.30	20.55	11.90
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ...	5.88	12.35	—	20.55	11.90
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	—	1	—	1	2
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	1	—	1	2
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms ...	21	29	21	21	25
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age ...	1	1	—	—	—
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—
Natural increase in population, i.e. Increase of Births over Deaths ...	52	29	56	40	28

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60,626
			<i>Year</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>			
Census Population	...		1951	6,208	5,870			12,078
			1961	5,773	5,809			11,582
			Decrease of 496 = 4.1%					
Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate 1961)	...							11,620
Number of inhabited houses—1951	...	...	...	...	...	...		3,760
			1961	...	...	...	...	3,841
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£172,382
Sum represented by Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£651

The District is largely rural in character with increasingly popular residential areas in several of its thirty parishes. The density of population is 0.19 persons per acre, and the housing factor 3.03 persons per house.

Agriculture and ironstone quarrying are the largest industries, and the steel works at Corby, with its associated processes, provide employment for a considerable number of people from the Rural District.

Extracts from Vital Statistics, 1961

Live Births						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	95	69	164
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Totals						<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
						97	71	168
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population						...	...	14.46
Adjusted Birth Rate (comparability factor 1.11)						...	...	16.05
Still Births						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals						<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
						—	3	3
Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) ...						...	...	17.54
Deaths						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number registered all causes ...						83	57	140
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population						...	...	12.05
Adjusted Death Rate (comparability factor 1.02)						...	...	12.29
Deaths from certain specified causes ...						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cardio-vascular disease (all forms) ...						35	14	49
Malignant Neoplasms (all forms) ...						11	14	25
Accidents and violence ...						9	1	10
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...						1	1	2
Deaths from Maternal Causes ...						—	—	—
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births ...						—	—	—
						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Deaths of Infants (under 1 year)						1	1	2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...						...	...	11.90
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births						...	...	12.20
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						...	...	... —
						<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Deaths of Infants (under 4 weeks)						1	1	2
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ...						...	...	11.90

Classification of Causes of Death during 1961

					<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	1	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	5	2	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	3	—	3
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	3	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	3	8	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	—
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	13	10	23
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	22	2	24
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	3	4
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	12	9	21
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	3	3	6
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	3	4
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	—	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	2	2	4
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	—	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	—	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	—	2	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	—	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	3	6	9
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	5	1	6
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	1	—	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	3	—	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—
Totals					83	57	140

Comments on Vital Statistics

1. **Population.**—The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population 1961, was 11,620. This figure represents a decrease in population of 400 since the mid-year estimate for 1960 was made.
2. **Births.**—There were 168 live births in 1961, which is an increase of 22 in the number of live births registered in the previous year. This gives a crude birth rate of 14.46 per 1,000 population. The corresponding rate for 1960 was 12.15. This rate, standardised on the basis of the age and sex composition of the population, gives an adjusted rate of 16.05. The adjusted, or corrected birth rate is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a figure known as the Comparability Factor. This factor is supplied by the Registrar General and its value for Kettering Rural District is 1.11. The adjusted birth rate of 16.05 compares with the rate of 13.48 for 1960 and the provisional crude rate for England and Wales of 17.4.
3. **Deaths.**—There were 140 deaths from all causes in 1961. The figure for last year was 106 and the corresponding crude death rates are 12.05 and 8.82 per 1,000 population. In the same way as described in the case of 2. Births, above, the death rate is standardised by the use of a further Comparability Factor. Its value in the Rural District is 1.02 and the adjusted death rate, corrected by means of this calculation, is found to be 12.29. The current rate for England and Wales as a whole is reckoned by the Registrar General to be 12.0. The chief causes of death are Heart Disease, Cancer and Cerebral Apoplexy, in that order. Reference to page 9 will show that deaths classed to violence (33, 34 and 35) also constitute an important cause. There are 10 deaths classed to this cause, showing an increase of 6 on the previous year.
4. **Disposal of the Dead.**—Of the 140 deaths during the year, 58 bodies were disposed of by cremation at Kettering Borough Crematorium, giving a percentage of 41.4.
5. **Infant Mortality.**—There were 2 deaths of infants under one year of age, none of these infants survived the first week of life. The infant mortality rate in this case is identical with the neonatal rate, (number of deaths in the first month), and works out at 11.90 per 1,000 live births. The rate in 1960 was 20.55. The corresponding infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 21.4 and the Neonatal rate 15.5 per 1,000 live births. I append details of the causes and other particulars concerning these deaths:—

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of death</i>
10 mins.	M.	Prematurity. Accidental Haemorrhage. (Ante Partum Haemorrhage).
4 days	F.	Hydrocephalus with Spina Bifida.
6. **Still Births.** There were 3 still births registered in the District, this gives a still birth rate of 17.54 per total births. The rate for England and Wales is 18.7.
7. **Maternal Mortality.**—There were no deaths classed to pregnancy and childbirth in 1961. This satisfactory state has remained the same since 1948.

STATISTICS RELATING TO BIRTHS 1940-1961

<i>Year</i>	<i>Estimated Mid-Year Population</i>	<i>Registered Live Births</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Population Kettering R.D.</i>	<i>Rate per 1000 Population England & Wales</i>	<i>Infant Deaths</i>	<i>Infant Mortality Rate</i>	<i>Maternal Deaths</i>
1940	11260	169	15.00	14.6	3	17.75	2
1941	11680	160	13.69	14.2	7	43.75	—
1942	11290	203	17.98	15.8	8	39.30	—
1943	10930	204	18.66	16.5	5	24.50	—
1944	10850	221	20.36	17.6	9	40.72	1
1945	10690	233	21.79	16.1	13	55.79	—
1946	10960	208	18.97	19.1	3	14.42	—
1947	11160	218	19.53	20.5	14	64.22	1
1948	11720	206	17.57	17.9	5	19.41	1
1949	11980	216	18.03	16.7	4	18.51	—
1950	11980	206	17.19	15.8	7	33.98	—
1951	12190	188	15.42	15.5	6	31.91	—
1952	11940	194	16.25	15.3	6	30.93	—
1953	12050	205	17.01	15.5	8	39.02	—
1954	11970	176	14.70	15.2	2	11.36	—
1955	11970	173	14.45	15.0	3	17.34	—
1956	12020	175	14.56	15.7	3	17.14	—
1957	12020	170	14.14	16.1	3	17.65	—
1958	12020	162	13.48	16.4	3	18.52	—
1959	12010	177	14.74	16.5	2	11.30	—
1960	12020	146	12.15	17.1	3	20.55	—
1961	11620	168	14.46	17.4	2	11.90	—

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services

In subsequent sections, full details will be found relating to infectious diseases and environmental health within the Rural District, for which the Council is directly responsible.

The present section is related to those health services which concern more the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than public health and the community. The Health Committee of the Northamptonshire County Council is responsible for administration of some of these services under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

Liason between County Council services and District Council services is facilitated by the fact that your Medical Officer of Health is also a School Medical Officer and Assistant County Medical Officer.

Laboratory Facilities.—The Public Health Laboratory, Northampton and the Department of Pathology at Kettering General Hospital are available for the examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and control of infectious diseases.

During the year, 8 faeces specimens were examined, and I appreciate the help and guidance that Dr. Hoyle and Dr. Voss are always willing to give.

Ambulance Service.—This is one of the services for which the County Council are responsible, and the area is adequately covered. Radio-controlled ambulances are stationed at Corby and Kettering.

Domiciliary Services.—These include District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors, who are all highly trained, qualified nurses on the staff of the County Medical Officer. The Home Help Service, also provided by the County Council, is proving more and more valuable in relieving people of domestic worries during periods of illness or confinement, and in helping old folks to remain in their own homes, so that they can retain their treasured independence.

Child Welfare Centres.—A County Council Welfare Clinic is held monthly in the following parishes. A Medical Officer attends each session :—

Broughton—3rd Monday

Gretton—2nd Friday

Geddington—1st Tuesday.

Weldon—1st Monday.

Immunisation and Vaccination.—Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis and vaccination against Smallpox are free services, available either from the family doctor or at the County Child Welfare Clinics. Certain age groups of children can also be given B.C.G. vaccination to protect against Tuberculosis; this is done through the School Health Service.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.—

(a) *Tuberculosis*—X-ray Department, St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering and Nuffield Diagnostic Centre, Corby.

(b) *Venereal Diseases.*—St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering.

Clinics are held weekly and treatment is provided by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.—This Act gives Local Authorities powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. I have visited several old people during the year because I have received information, generally from members of the Health Committee, that some anxiety was felt regarding their capability of taking proper care of themselves. It was, however, found not necessary to invoke the provisions of the Act and it being possible to resolve these matters without carrying the law to its ultimate letter.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supplies.—The whole of the Rural District, with the exception of one village viz: Great Oakley, is served by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board and all villages are provided with a public mains water supply.

In the case of Great Oakley village, a private mains water supply is provided and maintained by the Great Oakley Estate, the source being from a well in the parish. During the year this water was sampled on 3 occasions for the purpose of bacteriological examination and in each case a satisfactory report was received.

The consumption of water per head of population throughout the District continues to rise at a very fast rate. The installation of new sewerage schemes in the villages is undoubtedly the major cause for the rise coupled with the very high demand made today by the farming industry. Positive action has, however, already been taken by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board, in conjunction with other adjacent Water Boards, to meet the inevitably higher demands for water in the future, by the proposals to establish a vast new reservoir at Diddington, Huntingdonshire.

Throughout the year the water supplies over the whole District were adequate and satisfactory with regard to quality.

Routine bacteriological and chemical sampling of the water supplies, which are mainly from Pitsford reservoir, are carried out by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board.

The following table gives detailed information concerning the water supply position in each parish in the District at the end of 1961.

WATER SUPPLIES

Parish	Estimated Population :	Total No. of Houses in Parish	No. of Houses obtaining water from piped supplies	No. of Houses obtaining water from private and public wells
Ashley ...	196	69	55	14
Brampton Ash ...	139	49	43	6
Braybrooke ...	239	101	92	9
Broughton ...	1571	547	538	9
Cottingham ...	645	233	218	15
Cranford ...	465	184	174	10
Cransley ...	289	119	100	19
Dingley ...	85	37	33	4
East Carlton ...	237	70	66	4
Geddington ...	1370	484	481	3
Grafton Underwood	131	50	50	—
Gretton ...	888	301	299	2
Harrington ...	144	52	52	—
Loddington ...	387	112	106	6
Middleton ...	228	90	86	4
Newton ...	96	33	33	—
Oakley ...	235	85	82	3
Orton ...	62	20	20	—
Pytchley ...	484	178	177	1
Rockingham ...	135	58	58	—
Rushton ...	402	154	148	6
Stanion ...	537	201	195	6
Stoke Albany ...	292	101	98	3
Sutton Bassett ...	59	26	24	2
Thorpe Malsor ...	147	50	50	—
Warkton ...	141	56	56	—
Weekley ...	164	61	61	—
Weldon ...	1300	462	462	—
Weston-by-Welland	91	42	39	3
Wilbarston ...	461	162	158	4
TOTALS ...	11,620	4,187	4,054	133

Drainage and Sewerage.—The Council's policy of providing new sewerage schemes in all the villages continued, and the position at the end of 1961 is shown in the following table:—

SEWERAGE SCHEMES

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Total No. of Houses</i>	<i>Sewerage Scheme Completed</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
Braybrooke ...	239	101	1955	Further extension to the sewers completed in 1959.
Broughton ...	1571	547	1950	New sewage disposal works.
Geddington ...	1370	484	1953	
Grafton Underwood ...	131	50	1956	
Gretton ...	888	301	1950	
Loddington ...	387	112	1957	
Pytchley ...	484	178	1910	Scheme being prepared for modification of disposal works.
Rockingham ...	135	58	1956	
Rushton ...	402	154	1956	Extension of sewers to Rushton Hall completed 1958.
Weldon ...	1300	462	1952	
Cransley ...	289	119	1959	
Newton ...	96	33	1958	This scheme was an extension to the Geddington Scheme.
Cottingham, Middleton and East Carlton ...	1110	393	1960	
Cranford ...	465	184	—	Scheme commenced.
Harrington ...	144	52	—	Scheme awaiting ministry approval.
Stanion ...	537	201	1961	Scheme completed March 1961.
Stoke Albany and Wilbarston	753	263	—	Scheme given. Ministry approval.
Ashley ...	196	69	—	Scheme being prepared and awaiting Ministry approval. } Joint scheme.
Sutton Bassett ...	59	26	—	
Weston-by-Welland ...	91	42	—	
Brampton Ash ...	139	49	—	Scheme deferred.
Dingley ...	85	37	—	No scheme prepared.
Thorpe Malsor	147	50	—	Village served, disposal works required reconstruction.
Gt. & Lt. Oakley	235	85	—	Scheme prepared deferred.
Warkton ...	141	56	—	No scheme prepared.
Weekley ...	164	61	—	No scheme prepared.

The above table shows that excellent progress has been made in the post-war years in providing main drainage schemes throughout the Council's district. The few remaining villages still to be dealt with are all very small villages where the majority of properties have been improved and private septic tank systems have been installed.

The scheme for the village of Stanion, which had been commenced in the previous year, was satisfactorily completed and brought into operation in March, 1961.

An additional small scheme to provide foul drainage for the development on the Cranford Road, in the Parish of Cranford, was also completed during the year. In this scheme the foul drainage is collected at a pumping station from which it is pumped into a nearby sewer in the adjacent area of the Kettering Borough.

Further schemes are in various stages of preparation at:—

- (a) Harrington.
- (b) Stoke Albany and Wilbarston. (Joint Scheme).
- (c) Sutton Bassett, Weston-by-Welland and Ashley. (Joint Scheme).

It is anticipated that all these three schemes will be commenced during the next year.

The problems arising from the reception and treatment of farm wastes at various sewage disposal works has caused some difficulty, and at times the standard of effluents from the works has deteriorated in certain cases. This is, however, quite obviously a national problem and is not peculiar to this District. The coming into force of the Public Health Act, 1961 will no doubt help towards solving this problem in so far that farm wastes will be in future classed as trade wastes, for the treatment of which a local authority may levy a charge. Meetings have already been held between representatives of this Council and the local farming community to discuss the implications of the new Act, and to examine the various methods that have been suggested for levying a charge for the reception of treatment of farm waste.

Apart from the circumstances mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the various sewage disposal works continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year.

The increasing difficulty of obtaining sufficient labour required for the maintenance of sewage disposal works remains a problem, and, as stated in previous reports, mechanical methods, which will replace operations at present done manually, will undoubtedly have to be introduced in the near future, since the very nature of the work involved makes it almost impossible to introduce new labour.

A special vehicle is operated by the Council for the emptying of septic tanks throughout the District. This service is given free of charge once per year, and thereafter, for any additional service within the twelve month period, a nominal charge is made.

Household Refuse.—A house refuse collection service is operated by the Council throughout the whole District, working to a fortnightly schedule, and this service was maintained throughout the year. Two covered refuse collecting vehicles are in use, each operated by a team of three men. All household refuse is disposed of by tipping into disused quarries in various parts of the District. Five such refuse tips are in use, and in addition there are arrangements with the Kettering Borough Council to tip household refuse from certain villages into the Borough Council tip at Cherry Hall. Throughout the year all the refuse tips were kept under surveillance by the Council's Rodent Operator who carries out regular treatments to exterminate any vermin and also controls insect infestations by the use of insecticidal sprays.

The Council further considered the question of increasing the present fortnightly collection, but decided to re-examine the position in the forthcoming year and a fortnightly collection was maintained for the time being. There is no doubt that the demand for a weekly collection is growing throughout the District and, on Public Health grounds, it is inevitable that such a change be made in the very near future, since it has become an accepted standard of living in these days that refuse should be collected more frequently than once a fortnight. It is, however, realised that the proportionate costs involved in this work in a rural district are higher than those appertaining to an urbanised area.

Nightsoil Collection.—In the smaller villages, which have not yet been provided with main sewerage schemes, a number of pail closets are still in use. The regular weekly collection of nightsoil from all such premises has been continued, this work been carried out by a private firm under contract to the Council. Disposal of the nightsoil is achieved by emptying into the main outfall sewer from the Borough of Kettering at a suitable point outside the precincts of the town.

By the end of 1961, the number of pail closets in the District was 172. Again there has been a marked decrease in the number from the previous year, when the figure was 370.

These figures reflect the work that has been done in the provision of main drainage schemes, and the replacement of pails by modern sanitary accommodation. Immediately after the war there existed 1,650 pails throughout the District, and today that figure has been reduced to 172.

Moveable Dwellings.—With the coming into force of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, the caravan sites within the Rural District were reconsidered by the Council in the light of the provisions of the new Act. As a result, 11 sites were licensed to accommodate a total of 30 caravans.

The large expansion of the steel works in the adjacent town of Corby has produced a very real problem in so far as caravan dwellers are concerned. Many workers, engaged on short term contracts in the steel works, move into the District with caravans and are then faced with the problem of finding a site for the caravan. The Council discussed this aspect of the problem with Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd., Corby, and as a result the company are now negotiating for the establishment of a mobile home site in the village of Weldon, and it is hoped that, when this site materialises, the demand will be to a large extent met. There still, however, will be a need for a properly established and controlled caravan site within the District which would cater for the person with his own caravan who, by reason of the nature of his work, is required to move around the country from contract to contract.

Verminous Premises and Insect Infestation.—During the year no case of verminous premises arose. The following infestations of insects occurred and in each case were effectively dealt with by treating with insecticidal sprays:—

Ant Infestation	...	...	...	...	21
Cricket Infestation	...	...	...	...	3
Cluster Fly, or House Fly	...	...	...	...	26
Silver Fish	...	...	...	...	5

Factories Act, 1937.—There are 65 factories in the District and 48 routine inspections were made during the year. The number of outworkers living in the Rural District was 18, all of whom are engaged in the making of wearing apparel or stuffed toys.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 are to be found at the end of the Report.

Disinfections.—Throughout the year 10 visits were made to houses in which cases of infectious diseases of various kinds had occurred, and subsequent disinfections were carried out in 6 cases.

Rodent Control.—A rodent operator is employed by the Council and the duties cover the investigation of any suspected rodent infestations and the carrying out of any subsequent treatments of infested premises. This District was no exception during the year 1961, when it was found that the rat population throughout the country had increased considerably above the level of previous years. It has been suggested that this increase in rat infestations was a result of the previous very mild winter and weather conditions following which were very conducive to the breeding of rats. It was found in this District that many small infestations were occurring particularly in the latter months of the year, but in practically every case initial treatments proved effective.

In addition, routine treatments against rat infestation were continued at all the Council's Sewage Disposal Works, and Refuse Tips throughout the District, and also the sewers in the various villages were systematically treated.

The following table gives a summary of the work carried out during the year:—

Type of Premises	No. of Premises Inspected	Degree of Infestation		Treatments	Estimated No. of Vermin destroyed
		Heavy	Minor		
Dwelling Houses	632	1	531	532	2128
Council's Refuse Tips, & Sewage Works, etc. ...	33	—	30	30	150
Business Premises	92	—	11	—	—
Agricultural Premises	55	—	7	—	—

SECTION D.

Housing

The building programme throughout 1961 was again concentrated on the provision of accommodation for rehousing families from unfit properties and in consequence there was no further building of houses for ordinary needs during the year.

The following table gives a summary of the number of Council Houses in the various villages at the end of 1961, and also shows the dwellings which had been commenced but were still under construction at the end of the year.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Pre-War Houses</i>	<i>Post-War Houses Completed</i>	<i>Completed 1961</i>	<i>Under Construction at 31-12-61</i>
Ashley	4	5	—	6
Brampton Ash	2	—	—	—
Braybrooke	14	14	—	11
Broughton	71	118	4	—
Cottingham and Middleton	26	92	—	10
Cranford	6	31	6	6
Cransley	10	20	—	4
Dingley	—	4	—	—
East Carlton	—	2	—	—
Geddington	35	106	12	—
Grafton Underwood	—	—	—	—
Gretton	32	71	2	—
Harrington	—	8	—	—
Loddington	4	37	4	—
Newton	—	—	—	—
Oakley	—	—	—	—
Orton	—	2	—	—
Pytchley	22	55	—	—
Rockingham	—	6	—	—
Rushton	—	22	4	2
Stanion	—	32	6	—
Stoke Albany	12	18	2	—
Sutton Bassett	6	—	—	—
Thorpe Malsor	—	14	2	—
Warkton	—	—	—	—
Weekley	—	—	—	—
Weldon	7	97	14	2
Weston-by-Welland	6	6	—	—
Wilbarston	26	23	—	—
TOTALS	283	783	56	41

In addition to Council House building, 27 private houses were erected and occupied, with a further 26 in course of erection at the end of the year.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACTS, 1954 and 1957

Slum Clearance.—During the year 56 bungalows were completed and were used in the main to accommodate families rehoused from unfit properties. All the bungalows were of the two bedroomed type designed primarily as an old persons dwelling. The unfit properties, vacated by these people, were all dealt with under the provisions of Sections 17 and 27 of the Housing Act, 1957 and in consequence 22 such dwellings were demolished. Seven dwellings, on which statutory notices had been served as being unfit, were later rendered fit by the owners by carrying out comprehensive improvement schemes. In all 73 unfit houses were dealt with during the year and orders served under the appropriate Act.

Public Health and Housing Acts.—The following table gives details of routine work carried out during the year under these Acts, for the purpose of rectifying defects and dealing with houses found to be unfit for human habitation.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—			
(a)	(1)	Number of houses inspected for defects	152
	(2)	Inspections made for the purpose	237
(b)	(1)	Number of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	73
	(2)	Inspections made for the purpose	184
(c)		Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	73
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—			
(a)		Number of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	93
3. Action under Statutory Powers:—			
(a)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts, 1936 etc.		
	(1)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after serving notices	—
4. (a) Proceedings under the Housing Acts, 1954 and 1957:—			
	(1)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
	(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which defects were remedied after serving notices	—
(b)	Proceedings under Sections 17, 27 and 42 of the Housing Act, 1957:—		
	(1)	Number of individual houses found to be unfit for human habitation upon which orders were served ...	73
	(2)	Number of houses included in Clearance Areas ...	—
	(3)	Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Clear- ance Orders and Demolition Orders	22
	(4)	Number of houses rendered fit following service of statutory notice	7

A summary of housing defects throughout the District remedied during the year is as follows:—

Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	42
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	21
Inspection Chambers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	52
Ventilation and Soil Pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	198
W.C. compartments repaired	...	...	...	...	16
Septic Tanks and Cesspools repaired	...	...	...	...	—
Wells and Pumps repaired	...	...	...	...	—
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	29
Rain-water guttering repaired	...	...	...	...	33
Dampness in walls remedied	...	...	...	...	37
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	20
Doors repaired	...	...	...	...	31
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	37
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	23
Sub-floor ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	5
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	...	...	7
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	11
Ventilation to pantries provided	...	...	...	...	12
Paving repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	19
Washing coppers repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	42
Internal water service provided	...	...	...	...	31
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	43

Improvement Grants.—The Council have made improvement grants freely available within the terms of the Housing Acts 1954-1957, in order to encourage the reconditioning of houses of a sub-standard nature. Many owners of properties in villages where new sewerage systems have been installed, have found the grants to be particularly useful and, as a result, the numbers of houses in such villages that have been provided with bathrooms and other amenities has been most gratifying. In the past it has been found that very few owners have taken advantage of the improvement grants in cases where the property is let, with the exception of large estates in the area who have in fact taken advantage of the grants to improve a large proportion of their properties. It is, however, now hoped that private owners of tenanted property will be encouraged to improve their properties now that the rent return to the owner on the capital cost borne by him has been increased from 8% to 12½%.

During the year 54 applications for “Discretionary Grants” were approved which involved a total of £18,300. In addition, 16 applications for “Standard Grants” were also approved.

Since improvement grants came into being, the Rural Council have approved 579 applications up to the end of 1961, which has involved a total sum in grants of £161,788.

In addition, the Council continued with the work of bringing their pre-war Council Houses up to modern standards by installing hot water supplies and other amenities in houses which had not been provided with these amenities. By the end of 1961, 193 houses had been dealt with in this manner.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supply.—The following table gives a summary of the licences and registrations granted by the Council, during the year, under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1960.

Registered Distributors of Milk	...	...	...	9
Registered Dairies	...	...	...	9
Licensed Pasteurisers	...	...	...	3
Licensed Pasteurised Dealers	...	...	...	9
Licensed Tuberculin Tested Dealers	...	...	...	6
Licensed Sterilized Dealers	...	...	...	6

All supplies of milk sold by registered dairymen are designated supplies. One new premises, at which milk is pasteurised, came into operation during the year.

All the premises, on which pasteurisation takes place, were regularly inspected throughout the year and were found to be satisfactory with one exception, and in this case the producer involved is proceeding with the preparation of plans to build new pasteurisation premises.

During the year 19 samples of milk were obtained and subjected to Aschaffenberg Test and Methylene Blue Test at the Ministry of Health's Public Health Laboratory at Northampton. The results of these tests in all cases were found to be satisfactory.

Meat Inspection.—Four private slaughterhouses were in use throughout the year all of which were required to be brought up to the standards laid down by the Slaughterhouse Act, 1958. In one case the existing slaughterhouse was replaced by a completely new building on a new site; the old slaughterhouse then being closed. Two other slaughterhouses were improved and brought up to the new standards required before the appointed day which was in fact the 31st December, 1961. In the case of the fourth slaughterhouse, the butcher involved decided not to carry out the required improvements and the slaughterhouse has consequently been closed.

It is pleasing to record the fact that the utmost co-operation was experienced with the butchers involved in the modernisation of their slaughterhouses and the premises after improvement have been found to be most satisfactory.

Every effort is made to secure a 100% inspection of all animals killed, and the result is very little short of that figure. The persistently high quality of meat produced in the area is borne out by the figures shown in the following table:—

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep & Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	419	—	9	2458	951	—
Number inspected	407	—	9	2420	940	—
All Diseases except Tu- berculosis & Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condem- ned	50	—	—	42	39	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.25%	—	—	0.17%	4.16%	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcasses condemned.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condem- ned	2	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tu- berculosis	0.49%	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condem- ned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Diseased Meat Condemned

Tuberculosis	50 lbs. = 0.009%
Other Diseases	1,543 lbs. = 0.280%

Registration of Food Preparing Premises.—All premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 as food preparing premises were visited to ensure that conditions continued to satisfy the requirements of the Act. The number of premises registered at the end of the year is as follows:—

Storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream	47
Manufacture of sausage or potted preserved foods	6

Bakehouses.—There are seven bakehouses in use in the various parishes of the District. All these bakehouses were visited regularly and were found to be kept in a satisfactory manner. At one bakehouse work has commenced upon alterations under a new owner.

Fried Fish Shops.—Regular visits were made to the one fried fish shop in the District at Broughton, and this was found to be kept in a satisfactory condition at all times.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases

The incidence of infectious diseases during 1961 is summarised in the following table where the number of cases of each disease, other than Tuberculosis, is given:—

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Number</i>
Scarlet Fever	5
Whooping Cough	1
Pneumonia	5
Meningococcal Meningitis	1
Measles	160
Erysipelas	2
Sonne Dysentery	1
Salmonella Food Poisoning	1
TOTAL	176

The largest number of notifications was received in respect of Measles, and it is usual in this District to record a figure of about this size every alternate year. The pattern in recent years is as follows:—

1961 ... 160	1958 ... —	1955 ... 155
1960 ... 54	1957 ... 200	1954 ... 13
1959 ... 175	1956 ... 83	1953 ... 145

The cyclical periodicity of which I have spoken is well brought out by these figures and it will be remarked that, while in one year the notifications slumber away into hibernation, in the following year they spring forth like giants refreshed in active vigour. The alternating cycles of this epidemiological characteristic are running true to type. No case of Measles required admission to hospital and there were no deaths.

Apart from Measles, there was little infectious disease. That which occurred comprised 5 cases each of Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia, 2 cases of Erysipelas, and 1 each of Whooping Cough, Meningococcal Meningitis, Sonne Dysentery and Salmonella Food Poisoning. The cases of Scarlet Fever, Pneumonia, Erysipelas, Whooping Cough and Sonne Dysentery were all treated domiciliary and all recovered. The case of Meningococcal Meningitis was treated in the Kettering General Hospital. The case of Salmonella Food Poisoning occurred in a patient from this District while undergoing treatment for another condition in a hospital outside this area. It will thus be seen, and it is a pleasure to record, that no fatality occurred from infectious diseases during the year 1961.

Diphtheria.—There have been no cases of Diphtheria in this District for 16 years. 1,948 children under the age of 15 years have completed a full course of Diphtheria immunisation. The following table shows the number immunised during the past five years:—

Year	Age in years at final injection									Boosters
	Under 1	1	2	3	4	Total Under 5	5-9	10-14	Total 5-14	
1961	101	9	11	4	8	133	29	4	33	145
1960	126	17	6	3	3	155	4	1	5	123
1959	97	22	18	1	—	138	5	—	5	65
1958	79	11	6	1	1	98	1	—	1	61
1957	50	8	1	—	—	59	1	—	1	14

Whooping Cough Immunisation.—In 1961, 161 children were immunised against Whooping Cough, (141 with Triple Vaccine and 20 with Combined Vaccine), and a further 93 received re-inforcement doses at about the age of 5 years.

Poliomyelitis.—Once again, no cases were notified. The following table gives the number of vaccinations undertaken during the year.

Age in Years						Third Injections All ages	Fourth Injection
Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 or over	Total		
17	94	33	32	181	357	732	801

Smallpox.—The following table gives the number of vaccinations undertaken during the year.

	Age in Years				
	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over	Total
Primary ...	57	20	18	8	103
Re-vaccination	—	—	2	8	10

Tuberculosis.—There were three names added to my Register during the year, of these two were in respect of people already under treatment, who have come to take up residence in the Rural District. The other case was a posthumous notification and this name was, therefore, entered for record purposes. Five names have been removed from the register being now healed and two because of transfer to another area. Two deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis occurred during the year, and one patient on the Tuberculosis Register died from a cause not related to Tuberculosis. This table shows the number of known cases of Tuberculosis in the District as at 31st December, 1961.

<i>Tuberculosis</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Respiratory	13	11	24
Non-Respiratory	4	8	12
Total	17	19	36

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.—
 Under these regulations, the Council is empowered to prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade; no action was taken during the year.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis), 1961

Diseases	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages to Hospital	Removed Deaths	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	—	5	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Measles	1	10	18	20	13	91	6	—	—	1	—	—	160	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—
Flexner Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
TOTALS	1	10	19	22	13	96	6	2	2	1	3	1	176	2	—

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis), 1961

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	2	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	2	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	3	1	5	13	7	50	66	14	1	—	—	—	160
Erysipelas	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Flexner Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sonne Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
TOTALS	7	4	7	14	9	52	67	14	1	—	1	—	176

**TUBERCULOSIS
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1961**

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 - 4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 - 14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 - 24	—	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 - 34	1*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 - 44	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
45 - 54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 - 64	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	1†	—	—	—	1†	—	—
TOTALS	1	2	—	—	1	1	1	—

* Inward Transfers

† Posthumus Notification

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—**INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	7	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	22	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	6	1	—
TOTAL	65	35	2	—

2.—**CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND**

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.):					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	3	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel } Making, etc. ...	18	—	—	—	—	—
Wearing apparel } Cleaning and washing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel cables and chains ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweetmeats	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	18	—	—	—	—	—



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