[Report 1954] / Medical Officer of Health, Royal Learnington Spa Borough.

Contributors

Leamington (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1954

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38, HOLLY WALK, LEAMINGTON SPA.

July, 1955.

To the Council of the Borough of Royal Leamington Spa.

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my fifth annual report on the health of the borough. The population has increased by over 400 and there were no epidemics and the rates of births and deaths bear comparison well with those in previous years. Among the infectious diseases it will be noted that Tuberculosis again holds a place of importance with 57 new notifications for the year. There were, however, only four deaths within the same period whereas reference to the table on page 30 will show the striking reduction in mortality despite the larger totals being notified. In my opinion this is a sign of improved methods both of treatment of the sick persons and in the discovery of new cases in an early stage. Additional tuberculosis beds have been made available by the closure of the Heathcote Hospital as a fever hospital and the local health authority has strengthened its arrangements for the domiciliary treatment and visiting of tuberculosis patients. The problem is discussed in more detail in the text of the report.

Housing

Marked progress has been made in the field of housing. The Brook Street site was cleared by this Council which acquired the land; the smaller area cleared in Kenilworth Street was not acquired and was privately redeveloped for business purposes. Preparations were begun on the maps and documents for a clearance area in John Street. In addition three demolition orders were made on individual houses and three closing orders in respect of basement rooms. Six houses in all were demolished during the year and one closing order was determined.

The Housing (Rents and Repairs) Act, 1954, required local authorities to survey their areas and submit within twelve months an estimate of the number of unfit houses and of their proposals for dealing with these (a) in the first five years and (b) subsequently. For the purposes of Clearance Areas the definitions of Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, still apply but the new Act lays down (except for

improvement grants) a statutory standard of unfitness which supersedes the rather higher local standard previously used. The return as approved by the Council and sent to the Ministry is reproduced on page 17.

There are also new provisions whereby landlords may claim rent increases and tenants, if aggrieved, may ask the local authority to issue a Certificate of Disrepair. The issue of these certificates has occupied less time than was expected. In every case where a tenant requested a certificate, its issue was found to be justified and it was also possible later to revoke previous certificates. There were no appeals to Court. Not a little of this happy state of affairs can be ascribed to a good working relationship with local estate agents who manage much of this class of property.

Apart from questions of clearance and demolition, much attention has been paid to repair work which may prevent decay of many houses. A closer follow up of preliminary notices has, in spite of local labour shortages, brought encouraging results and in 1954 of 379 notices issued compliance was secured in 351 instances. Thus not only was the total of repair notices much above normal but a very high percentage of these notices secured the performance of the works needed.

FOOD AND DRUGS

A clean food handbook was prepared and distributed and arrangements were put in hand for a Home Safety Handbook for distribution in 1955. It is pleasing also to report that there was no outbreak of food poisoning and that the sampling records of milk and ice-cream were more satisfactory than average.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

At the end of July the Ministry of Food ceased to have control of the slaughtering and marketing of meat. Private slaughterhouse licences could again be granted in accordance with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, as subsequently amended by the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954.

Finally five applications to use premises in the borough as slaughterhouses were received. Each application was dealt with on its merits and refused. In one case an appeal was entered but subsequently withdrawn.

Consequently there are no slaughterhouses operating within the borough. New regulations concerning slaughter and the prevention of cruelty came into force on 1st October, 1954.

Before the decontrol date the Council held several meetings attended by representatives of neighbouring councils (including the City of Coventry) and of local butchers and farmers. At one such meeting a tour of inspection of the Coventry City Abattoir was made. At the final meeting the Council decided not to support a plan to set up a joint abattoir for the area as the needs could be reasonably served by Coventry and other existing abattiors.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Complaints have been received at various times in regard to alleged smoke nuisances. Complaints were investigated by the Sanitary Inspector and reports were made to the Public Health Committee. Action was taken in regard to two chimneys where there was persistent emission of smoke with failure to employ the best practical means of prevention. In the other cases there was no nuisance on which statutory action could be taken but it must be recognized that certain metallurgical and alkali processes can hardly be made free from offence even after every known remedy has been used.

SANITARY STAFFS

Some change again took place in your Sanitary Staff and the engagement of a pupil sanitary inspector was authorized both as a contribution towards the national shortage of junior sanitary inspectors and as a glance forward to the time, not very far distant, when the growth of your housing and population will make advisable the appointment of a fourth Sanitary Inspector.

In conclusion I have to thank the members and officers of the Council for much kindness and consideration in the past year.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA

Medical Officer of Health:
D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:
A. J. SMITH, M.S.I.A., M.I.S.A.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:
A. P. L. Wallis, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
M. H. Young, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I. (from 11/1/54).

Pupil Sanitary Inspector:
B. LAPWORTH (from 1/11/54)

Clerk and Meteorological Observer:
A. H. STALWORTH

Disinfector: W. Jackson

Rodent Operative:
P. JACKSON

Public Analyst:
F. G. D. CHALMERS, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C.

Borough of Royal Learnington Spa

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-yea	ar, 195	4		5	37,800
Area of Borough				2,875	acres
Public open spaces]	26.42	acres
Product of 1d. rate				5	1,476
Total number of permanent	dwel	lingho	ises a	nd	
flats on 31/3/1954.					12,183
Birth Rate (Crude)					16.9
Birth Rate (Corrected)					16.2
Still Birth Rate-Rate per 1,0	00 tota	al birtl	ns		22.9
Death Rate (Crude)					12.0
Death Rate (corrected) .					10.5
Deaths from Diseases and					_
Accidents of Pregnancy and	(,,	other	cause	s	. 1
Child-birth					
Death Rate of Infants under 1					
All Infants per 1,000 live					25.0
Legitimate Infants per				ive	2= 0
births					27.0
Illegitimate Infants per				ive	
births		•••			_
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					70-
,, ,, Whooping Cough	(all ag	ges)			1

Deaths.—The death recorded above as due to Whooping Cough was due to heart failure in the course of this disease and was that of a female mental defective in the second year of life.

The death ascribed to Accidents of pregnancy and childbirth was that of a thirty-five years old woman. The matter was investigated by H.M. Coroner at an inquest held on 23rd March, 1954, when the post-mortem findings showed that death arose from Air Embolism due to local interference with a normal sixteen-week pregnancy and a verdict of manslaughter was returned. At a further inquest held the same day upon the death of a sixty-years-old woman

Infant Mortality.—Out of 640 live births there were 16 deaths under the age of one year of which 13 took place in the first four weeks of life. The resultant rate of infant mortality is almost the same as in 1953. There were no deaths out of 47 illegitimate births for 1954 but 3 illegitimate infants were stillborn as against 12 legitimate infants compared with a total of 593 legitimate live births.

from a fractured skull, a verdict of murder was returned.

Population.—An increase of 410 over the estimated figure for 1953.

Birth Rate.—This is lower than last year and is accompanied by a small rise in the Stillbirth rate.

Death Rate.—This, after correction, is similar to that for 1953. The deaths of persons over 65 years are analysed as follows:—

Age at death: 65-75 yrs. 75-85 yrs. 85 and over

110 134 47

One female death occurred at the age of 102 years.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

Laboratory Facilities.—The following examinations were made at the Public Health Laboratory, Coventry during 1954.

Swabs (from throat or nose),	Positive	Negative	Total
examined for Diphtheria	_	4	4
Dysentery/Food Poisoning	16	20	36
TUBERCULOSIS	_	_	_

Many investigations under heading of Tuberculosis are carried out annually through the organisation of the local chest clinic and numerous throat swabs and stool cultures for dysentery, etc. are examined in hospital laboratories.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

Infant Welfare Centres.—The following Centres are held within the Borough:—

4, Hamilton Terrace ... Thursdays and Fridays, 2 p.m.

No. 1 Community Centre,

Tachbrook Road ... Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

Bowling Club, Lime Avenue,

Lillington Mondays, 2 p.m.

Local enquiries regarding Home Help, After-care, Health Visiting, Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery Services to Area Health Office, 38, Holly Walk, Leamington Spa ('Phone 2998 and 2999). National Welfare Foods have been distributed since July 1954 by the County Council and there are numerous official and voluntary distribution points in the Borough, details of which have been publicly advertised.

Ambulance facilities.—The County Council's Ambulance Depot at Lakin Road, Warwick (Telephone No. Warwick 86) serves the Borough of Royal Leamington Spa. Hospital services.—General or maternity cases are admitted to the Warneford or Warwick hospitals; Tuberlosis patients go to Hertford Hill Sanatorium and mental illness is treated at the Central Hospital, Hatton. There is also a Maternity Home at 3, The Butts, Warwick, which receives for confinement some women resident in the Borough of Leamington Spa. Additional beds are available for Tuberculosis patients at Heathcote Hospital, Warwick, and St. Wulstan's Hospital, Malvern.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.—The sources of the Town's water were as described for previous years, and can be supplemented to a small extent by supplies from outside the Borough.

- 1. Quality has been good and the quantity has sufficed for the town's needs owing to care taken to prevent waste. There has in fact been an increase in consumption of about one-third of a gallon per head per day. Substantial quantities of river water are taken from the river Leam and in addition there are a number of wells.
- 2. Bacteriological and chemical analyses are made monthly of the well waters and weekly of the raw and filtered river water. A typical analysis report is reproduced on the next page.
- 3. The water is not excessively plumbo-solvent and no special precautions are taken against this.
- 4. Chlorination plants are installed at all sources of supply. They have operated satisfactorily and no contamination has been reported.
- 5. The bulk of the population has piped water available within their houses though it will be realized that many persons who live in rooms have a shared supply. Standpipes are known to supply 187 houses and serve an estimated population of 748 persons. Piped supplies now serve approximately 9,501 houses in the borough having an estimated occupancy of 37,256 persons. These figures, which do not include shops and places of business with parts let off as dwelling houses, show that an additional 232 houses have a mains water supply.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF RIVER WATERS

Results expressed in parts per million.

(4th August, 1954)

	(4)	in Augu	St, J	1954)		
				Infiltered		Filtered
				ver Water	Ri	ver Water
Free and Sal	ine Ammor	nia		0.032		0.01
Albuminoid .	Ammonia			0.352		0.256
Chlorine in C	hlorides			33		36
Nitrogen in 1	Vitrates					
Nitrogen in 1				1.0		1.5
Oxygen abs		m				
	anate at 80					
				2.07		1.75
Total Solids		00° C.		760		700
Appearance-			htly	turbid man	v sma	llparticles
11	F.C			ew small pa		
	Tempora			200		190
Hardness	Permane			260		280
	Total			460		470
Nitrite				0.016		Absent
Metals				Absent		Absent
Free Chlorine						0.02
pH value				8.02		7.49
Dissolved CC				12		45
Alkalinity as				142.8		127.8
	- 3					

Conditions of Filtration Plant—

Time and date of sample: 10 a.m., 4th Aug., 1954.

Rate of Filtration: 38,000 g.p.h.

Position at which taken: Filter House.

Albumia Dose: 3.29 g.p.h.

Copper Sulphate: 0.52 parts per million.

Whether or not dosed with Chlorine: Yes. 1.35lbs. per hour.

Residual Chlorine: 0.45 P.P.M.

After Filtration: Nil. Immediate: 0.30 P.P.M. After 20 mins.: 0.20 P.P.M.

Remarks:

River Flow = 8.75 MG/D. Water good. Hazen Raw = 20 A Units. Hazen Treated = Less than 5A Units. Taste Good. SO_{\circ} Dose = .19 lbs./hr. Sample taken after Declorination

Residual = .05 P.P.M.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

1.	New mains laid in 1954—		Yards
	Town Water Mains	 	 6009
	River Water Mains	 	 _

Amount of Water pumped in 1954:—

Corpo	ration Source.			Gallons.
From	Campion Terrace			101,270,000
,,	Lillington			100,940,000
,,	Brewery Well			42,112,000
, ,,	Leicester Lane			38,041,000
,,	River (filtered)			264,493,000
,,	River (unfiltered)			78,305,000
Outsid	le Sources.			Gallons.
Taken	Nil.			
Water	supplied to Warwig	ck R.I	D.C.	11,276,000

3. Daily consumption of Town Water per head 39.83 galls
River Water supplied to Residents per head 2.42 ,,
River Water supplied annually to Rail-

way Companies ... 44,921,000 ,,

Swimming Baths.—On May 23rd, 1949, the small swimming bath was taken over for medical purposes, so that the figures here given are for the large bath. The total number of those using the baths during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1954, was 143,079. The average attendance per week during the Summer season (May to September) was 4,880 and during the Winter season 1,190. These figures represent a marked increase in bathers during the summer season.

Examinations of the medical and swimming bath water were made during the year and proved satisfactory. Alterations made to the purification plant of the medical baths have thus been shown to have been a success.

Rivers.—Sources of pollution both inside and outside the Borough were kept under observation.

Closet accommodation.—With the exception of a few cottages at Lillington and Milverton the houses throughout the town are equipped with water closets.

Scavenging.—Approximately 12,099 tons of refuse were collected and received at the Destructor, as compared with 10,064 the previous year. This steady increase in total refuse tonnage with decline of thermal value due to much fine ash poses a problem for solution as the number of houses goes on growing.

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

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1947.

	Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1947	 	24	25	1	25	_	16
1948	 	2	28		14	_	3
1949	 _	2	19		16	_	5
1950	 _	2	14	_	12	5	5
1951	 _	1	9	_	27	1	36
1952	 	_	46	-	11	1	36 35
1953	 _	_	46	_	49	10	39
1954	 _	_	20	_	41	2	51

Diphtheria.—Once more no case of Diphtheria was notified during the year, and there was a satisfactory rise in the total of children protected against this disease.

The details were as fol	lows :-			
	1954	1953	1952	1951
Children under 5 years	538	306	384	490
Children 5 to 14 years	97	20	71	65
Children given booster doses	931	317	506	609

Scarlet Fever.—This was about half as common as in the past two years. Not one of the 20 cases this year was removed to an Isolation Hospital.

Whooping Cough (Pertussis).—In 1954, 494 children were given prophylactic injections and a combined Diphtheria/Pertussis suspended vaccine was employed except for children who had already been immunized against Diphtheria and were given plain Pertussis vaccine. Reports are being collected of all children, immunized under this scheme, who subsequently contract Whooping Cough in order to check on the potency of the vaccines employed.

Poliomyelitis.—1954 was a year of low prevalence in this district and neighbouring areas, following the 1953 epidemic. There were two notifications, one relating to an infant under one year and the other to a young adult. Both cases were nursed in hospital.

TUBERCULOSIS.

		New (Cases.		Deaths.					
Age-Periods.		Pulm	onary	No	on- onary	Pulm	onary	Non- Pulmonary		
		M.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	
0				_			_		_	
1-5		1	2			_			_	
5-10		1	2	2	1	_			_	
10-15		-	-	1	-	-				
15-20		-	4			-	-			
20-25		5	3	1		_	-	-	1	
25-35		11	7	_	2	1				
35-45		5	1	-	-				-	
45-55		6	-	-	-	1	-		-	
55-65		1	1	-	-	2	-			
65 & upv	wards	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	
Tota	als	30	20	4	3	5	_	-	1	

TUBERCULOSIS

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Cases	 26	32	40	40	28	23	43
Deaths	 17	9	9	15	8	5	10
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases	 26	40	45	43	42	38	65
Deaths	 23	22	17	22	19	11	24
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Cases	 25	46	42	30	53	68	57
Deaths	 26	18	6	12	4	4	6

B.C.G. Vaccine was administered to 51 persons of whom 3 were adults and 48 children. This reflects the higher number of child contacts being examined as a result of the bigger total notified.

50 cases of Tuberculosis were admitted for treatment at a Sanatorium and 48 were discharged.

Tuberculosis.—The total of cases notified in 1954 was again high and arose partly through the more intensive search for infected persons by means of contact tracing. Once again there was a visit to the Borough during June by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit, but this time there were fewer organized sessions so as to give the general public better access. The response was not as good as had been expected.

11

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

MASS RADIOGRAP	пі		
Coventry Mass Radiography Unit of	Birmin	gham R	egional
Hospital Board.			
Medical Director	Dr. A.	Gordon	Evans
Date of visiting Borough: June 14th-	June 2	23rd, 19	54.
Place: Denby Room			
		Female	
Miniature X-ray examination	372	629	
Recalled for large film examination	26	36	62
Recalled for clinical examination	11		
	11	12	20
Analysis of clinical examinations.			
1. Referred to Chest Clinic.			
(a) Tuberculosis.			
(i) Suspected active post			
primary	2	_	2
(ii) Inactive post-primary	1	4	5
(iii) Inactive post primary			
accompanied by			
pneumokoniosis	1	-	1
(b) Bronchiectasis	2	_	2
(c) Benign tumour		1	1
	6	5	11
2. Referred to own doctor.			
(a) Tuberculosis—inactive post			
primary	1	_	1
(b) Chronic bronchitis and			
emphysema	-	1	1
(c) Broncho-pneumonia	_	1	1
(d) Bronchiectasis	1	_	1
(e) Cardio-vascular lesion	1	3	4
	3	5	8
all and the second second second			
3. No further action considered necessar	ry.		
(a) Tuberculosis—inactive post			
primary	1	-	1
(b) Pleural thickening	1	_	1
(c) Cardio-vascular lesion	-	2	2
	2	2	4
			26
Total clinicals	11	12	23
Note.—The above includes patients			
Practitioners—23 female and	6 mal	le, total	29.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

In accordance with Par. 47 of the above Act it was necessary to recommend action in the following case:—

1. Miss L. A. B— (aged 83 years). Living alone in a ground floor flat and causing nuisance to sub-tenants in rooms over. Home helps were refused admission and offers of help from relatives were declined. The old lady, aged over 80 years, was much crippled by progressive Arthritis. When seen in October, 1954, she was in a dirty condition and her flat in a state of nuisance. She was not having proper meals or attention. An application was made to the Magistrates' Court but the hearing was deferred until a bed could be found in late November, 1954. The Magistrates then made an order for her removal to Lakin House, Warwick and detention there for three months. The County Welfare Officer was asked to take custody of her property and a large sum in cash was found among her effects.

Two other cases referred by doctors were assisted as follows:-

- 2. Mrs. L— (60). Living in cheerless slum cottage in a potential clearance area. Onset of senile decay had numbed all desire to do things for herself and she was in privation through lack of fires and cooked meals. A home help was supplied and made things much more comfortable for several months but the old lady failed suddenly in health and died.
- 3. Mr. S— (aged over 80 years). Lived with his daughter in a small unfit house. He was permanently ill with Bronchitis and Heart trouble. The daughter took ill with Pneumonia and could no longer care for him. District Nursing attention was arranged until a bed in hospital was found for him.

Other reports were investigated and action taken.

- 4. Mr. C— (aged 83) was found to be in bad conditions resulting from incontinence of urine. It was arranged through the good offices of the local W.V.S. Office to supply the old man with a change of outer and under clothes.
- 5. Mrs. F—. Elderly lady semi-paralysed following a stroke and dependent upon care from a male cousin. Arrangements were made with her doctor to send her into hospital.
- $6.\ Miss\ G$ —. Elderly lady who had lost one leg by surgical amputation and cared for by a niece. Arrangements made through Health Visitor for approval by National Assistance Board to supply necessary blankets.
- 7. Mr. and Mrs. S—. Elderly couple (ailing wife) were rehoused from Clearance Area to new bungalow with special assistance arranged with Housing Manager, owing to bad state of their furniture. Extra bedding supply arranged and wheel chair ordered through County Health Department to enable the wife to be taken out.
- 8. Mrs. S— (80). Cared for as bedfast case in upstairs room by two sisters aged 84 and 78 years. She had had strokes which caused mental confusion and incontinence. The whole burden of the house was too much for the younger of the sisters and priority of admission to hospital was arranged.
- 9. Mrs. S— (70) was reported to be in financial difficulties. This proved to be incorrect as she had a small pension which made her ineligible for National Assistance.

Mr. and Mrs. T— were discovered through a local welfare organisation. The couple were both in their eighties and the husband had only one leg and was also ill at the time. Home help was arranged and other assistance given by the W.V.S. The Welfare Authority was asked for assistance by their Officer.

CANCER

The deaths due to malignant disease and classified in

age groups were as follows:-

Age Group.	Male.	Female	Total.
Under 50	 2	 7	 9
50-60	 8	 8	 16
60-70	 15	 7	 22
70-80	 10	 9	 19
80 and over	 5	 10	 15
	-	_	-
	40	41	81

For the past ten years cancer deaths have been as follows:

Total	1944 60	$\begin{array}{c} 1945 \\ 66 \end{array}$	$\frac{1946}{75}$	1947 83	1948 88	$\frac{1949}{82}$	$\frac{1950}{75}$
Death Rate) per 1,000	1.69	1.87	2.15	2.36	2.42	2.26	2.06
	1951	1952	1953	1954			
Total	60	91	72	81			
Death Rate per 1,000	1.64	2.5	1.9	2.14			

This year's total compares with the rate of 2.03 for the whole country.

MORTUARY

Considerable use was made of the Borough Mortuary, as 108 bodies were received and there were 100 post-mortem examinations. This is an increase of nearly 20 per cent on the total received in 1953.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Only 27 samples of ice-cream were taken and the results of six tests were invalidated by excessive shade temperature. Of the remainder only one was in Grade 4 so that the results are better than last year. Milk samples showed that pasteurization had been adequate but it is a little disturbing that, as regards keeping quality, ordinary pasteurized milk satisfied the methylene blue test more often than Tuberculin Tested (pasteurized) milk which should be produced under more stringent conditions and sells at a premium. This finding will receive further study.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950.

SECTION B.

Tuberculosis Milk Investigation—Routine Milk Samples for Biological Examination during the year 1954.

Designation of Milk	Total No. of Samples	No Positive
PASTEURISED "TUBERCULIN TESTED		
(PASTEURISED) " "TUBERCULIN TESTED"	1	_
"ACCREDITED" AND NON-GRADE	enidos IT o	

HOUSING, 1954

The usual Table has been completed and is given on page 17.

1.0	
	Number of houses built in the town during 1954 :-
	(a) By the Local Authority 305
	(b) By Private Enterprise 179
	The number of houses owned by the Corporation is 2196
	The number of Prefabricated Bungalows is 113
	Houses converted into two or more houses, or flats:-
	Originally 3 houses, now 16 flats.

Action taken under the Housing Acts has in the aggregate had the following results since 1925 despite the curb on activity during the late war and through the national housing shortage ensuing.

Houses demolished	187
Houses and parts of buildings closed	
Undertakings given in lieu of demolition orders	
and closing orders on dwellinghouses	- 11
Demolition orders made but houses not yet	
demolished	18
Basement dwellings closed	103
Undertakings given in lieu of closing orders on	
parts of buildings	14
Houses reconditioned	22

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SHOPS ACT INSPECTOR

for the year ending December 31st, 1954.

ADMINISTRATION.

Complaints.—617 complaints were received by the department during the year compared with 514 received last year. The matters complained about were as follows:—

Housing complaints				 248
Nuisances from smoke, e	etc.			 5
Nuisances from animals				 10
Offensive accumulations				 50
Rats and Mice			.,.	 73
Other vermin				 52
State of Food Premises a		und fo	od	 75
Obstructed or defective	drains			 81
Defective Dustbins				 7
Miscellaneous				 16

Notices.—The total number of notices sent out during the year was 379, of which 32 were formal and 347 informal. By the end of the year 351 notices had been complied with. This is easily a record and is largely due to the practice of closely following up the preliminary notices.

Health Education.—Three talks on the work of the department and allied public health subjects were given by the Chief Sanitary Inspector during the year. Large numbers of leaflets also were distributed.

Summary of visits and inspections and work done during the

	ye	ar.				
Visits in relation to noti	fiable	infectio	ous dis	eases		130
Rooms disinfected						40
Steam disinfections						23
Books disinfected						29
Bundles of clothing	disinf	ected				15
Rooms disinfested						132
Premises cleansed						Nil.
Persons cleansed						2
Inspections of food sho	ps an	d prem	ises			537
factories	-					59
dairies						37
common	lodgi	ng hou	se			21
Housing Inspections, re-				spection	ns of	
work in progress						2284

Housing allocation enquiries				392
Drains tested by smoke				99
chemically				1.4
New dustbins provided				0
Offensive accumulations remove				50
Smoke nuisances abated				e
Nuisances from animals abated				10
Smoke observations made				70
Rodent Control visits				137
Merchandise Marks Act visits				149
National Assistance Act visits				70
Data Ast wisits				26
Samples of food and drugs take	n for a	nalveie		38
Other samples taken for bacteri				
Ice Cream		CAain	mation	99
Milk (Special Designations)				112
Water—Swimming Bath				7
Therapeutic Pool		•••		0
Other				0
Other				1
HO	USING			
no.	OBING			
HOUSING ST	ATIST	ICS,	1954	
I. Inspection of Dwelling House	s Duri	ng the	Year	
1 (a) Total number of dwelling				for
housing defects (under Pu				
Antal				549
(b) Number of inspections made		he puri	oose	712
2 (a) Number of dwelling house				
head I above) which were				
under the Housing Cons				
1925				
(b) Number of inspections ma				
3 Number of dwelling houses for				
dangerous or injurious to he				
human habitation				77
4 Number of dwelling houses	(exclus	ive of	those	
ferred to under the precedin				
to be in all respects reasonab				
tation	7			218
II. Remedy of Defects during the	rear w	itnout	service	01
Formal Notices	. l	1	mad fit	:
Number of defective dwelling				
consequence of informal actio				
ity or their Officers				223

III. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year	
A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the	
Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit	1411.
after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners	Nil.
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which	
notices were served requiring defects to be	27.0
remedied	218
(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied	
after service of formal notices:—	11
(a) by owners (b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.
C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing	1111.
Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which	
Demolition Orders were made	3
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance	
of Demolition Orders	6
D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act,	
1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground	
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were	3
made	0
rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were de-	
termined, the tenement or room having been ren-	
dered fit	1
IV. A.	
(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the	1
year	1 .
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	ble
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	ila
В.	va
Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during	а
the year	100
(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the	
year	tio
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	nat
D.	Information not available
(1) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses	nfu
have again become overcrowded after the Local	1-
Authority have taken steps for the abatement of	1
overcrowding	

The inspection of dwelling houses and the inspection of repair work in progress continues to take up the greater part of the Sanitary Inspectors' time and the total of such inspections is nearly double that for the previous year.

As the table shows 549 houses were inspected for housing defects and of these 234 were rendered fit as a result of either formal or informal action. Three Demolition Orders were made, six houses were demolished and three Closing Orders made. One Closing Order was removed after the premises had been made fit.

The above work does not include surveys made for the purpose of estimating the total number of unfit houses in the borough or for other information required to form the basis of the Housing proposals which had to be made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government by August 30th, 1955.

In addition, the 47 houses in the Brook Street Clearance Area were also demolished during the year.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

This Act came into force on August 30th and enables landlords whose property is in good condition to claim a repairs increase on the rent. Where the condition of the house is disputed by the tenant, on receiving the notice of repairs increase from his landlord, he can apply to the local authority for a so-called "certificate of disrepair."

Contrary to expectations the number of such applications was small, being only 15, and in each case a certificate was granted. Subsequently applications were received for the revocation of certificates in three cases and of these, two were granted.

There were no appeals to the court against the local authority's refusal either to grant a certificate, to revoke one already granted, or against its issue.

CARAVANS

There are now no licensed caravan sites within the borough boundary but one application for a licence to station one caravan on a building site was granted during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

38 samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst during the year who certified 34 to be genuine and 4 not genuine. The figure of 38 refers to the calendar

year but for the financial year ended on March 31st, 1955, the number of samples taken was 126, and these will be dealt with in the 1955 Report. Details of the food and drug samples, all of which were informal samples, are given in the table below.

Sampling of the raw milk coming into the town is done by the County Sampling Officer before delivery to the pasteurising plant.

8 P				Genuine	Not Genuine
Sweetened Ca	ke Mixt	ure		1	10 ml 11
Ground Nutn	neg			1) () <u></u> () () (
Table jelly				1	prop — ods
Dripping				2	_
Butter				3	release on
Margarine				4	_
Chutney				1	
White Pepper		•••		1	
Fish Paste				1	/mm
Coffee				1	_
Pork Sausage	• • • •			1	1
Milk	•••		• • • •	3	of the base
Salad Cream		• • • •	• • • •	1	-
Malt Vinegar				1	-
Pickles			• • • •	1	_
Sauce				1	- 10
Coconut				1	
Iced lollies				1	
Tincture of Co				2	2
Tablets of Ca				1	noral
Milk of Magn		biets			The Market
Cold Cure Ca		Dogtillos		1	400
Glycerine of Zinc and Cas				2	1
				34	4
To	TALS	101		3	8

In the case of the unsatisfactory Tincture of Quinine samples and the Zinc and Castor Oil Ointment sample the remaining stocks were withdrawn from sale. The informal Pork Sausage sample contained 57 per cent. total meat and the vendor was informed that this was not regarded as being satisfactory.

UNSOUND FOOD.

Quantities and description of food found to be unsound and surrendered for destruction as being unfit for human consumption.

Beef: 146\frac{3}{4}lbs.
Pork: 12ozs.
Lamb: 31lbs.
Ox liver: 18lbs.

Pork sausage: $10\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Beef sausage: 12lbs. Bath chaps: 5lbs.

Sausage rusks: 12 sacks.

Ox tongue: 32½lbs. Jellied veal: 19lbs.

Cooked ham: 208lbs. 11ozs.

Haddock: 14lbs. Prawns: 9lbs. Fish cakes: 4.

Cheese: 182lbs. 10ozs.

Eggs: 13. Suet: 68lbs. Butter: ½lb.

Margarine: $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Sugar : 11lbs. Tea : 13lbs. Prunes : 715lbs.

Ice cream powder: 82lbs. Lemonade powder: 82lbs. Seedless Raisins: 15lbs.

Cake: 19lbs, 3ozs,

Miscellaneous tinned foodstuffs: 1834.

Miscellaneous jars and packets of foodstuffs: 128.

Reasons for condemnation were in the case of canned foods, blown, holed or rusted cans; in the case of bottled foods, broken glass or defective caps; in other cases the causes were contamination or decomposition.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS

The Ministry of Food's control of slaughtering of animals and marketing of meat ended in July and the licensing of private slaughterhouses again became possible.

Five applications for licences were received but none were granted. One subsequent appeal was later withdrawn so that there are now no slaughterhouses, private or otherwise, within the borough.

Unsound or diseased meat, however, exposed for sale in butchers' shops or elsewhere, continues to be subject to inspection and seizure by the sanitary inspectors.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949

Licences issued during the year under the above Regulation	ns:
Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licence	1
Supplementary Licences for Pasteurised Milk	7
Supplementary Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk	6
Dealers Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk	26
Dealers Licences for Pasteurised Milk	26
Dealers Licences for Accredited Milk	1*
Dealers Licence for Sterilised Milk	1
(*Expired on 31/3/54)	

Samples of milk were taken regularly for bacteriological examination and the results are set our below:

Des gnation	No.	Nature of Tests	? Passed	Failed
Destaurised	60	Phosphatase	60	
Pasteurised	60	Methylene Blue	49	1 (10*)
Tuberculin Tested	52	Phosphatase	52	
(Pasteurised)	02	Methylene Blue	40	4 (8*)

^{*} Tests void on account of high temperature.

Twelve empty cleaned milk bottles were also sent for bacteriological examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

Results of the bacteriological examination of samples of ICE CREAM:

^{*} These samples were taken on a day when the maximum shade temperature reached 80°F.

CANAL BOATS

There are no boats on the Register and none were inspected during the year. Very few boats now stop in the town, but of those seen passing along the canal within the borough boundaries, all were observed to be in good repair and correctly marked as required by the Regulations.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Enforcement of the provisions of these Acts rests with two bodies, the Ministry of Labour and National Service and the Local Authority, there being well-defined duties shared by H.M. Inspectors of Factories and by Sanitary Inspectors.

For the purposes of the Acts factories are classified as:

- (a) where mechanical power is used, and
- (b) where mechanical power is not used.

Local Authorities are responsible for enforcing the provisions relating to sanitary accommodation in both (a) and (b) but other matters relating to health are only enforced by them in (b), such as cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and drainage in addition to sanitary accommodation.

The following tables detail the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors during the year:

		Number of Inspections
Factories, Class (a)	216	17
Factories, Class (b)	120	31
Other premises	13	11
Totals	349	59

Number of cases in which defects were found: 5.

Want of Cleanliness ... Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation

TOTAL

Details as under:-

Found	Remedied
2	2
3	3
5	5

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This act came into force in 1952, and is designed to regulate the sale of pet animals.

Local authorities have power to grant licences to persons to keep pet shops which they approve and these licences specify the conditions which must be observed.

There were three licences issued during the year and 26 inspections were made of the premises which were found to comply with the conditions of the licences.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1951

1064 inspections of properties were made during the year. The number of infestations treated were as under:

Private dwellings	122
Business premises	6
Corporation properties	30
In addition the sewers were treated twice.	

It is not generally realised that the responsibility for destroying rats and mice rests on owners and occupiers of land. The occupier is required to give notice in writing to the local authority when it comes to his notice that rats or mice are living on or resorting to his land in substantial numbers. The local authority may call upon owners or occupiers to take reasonable steps to destroy rats or mice and to keep their premises free from them.

The department undertakes to destroy rats and mice on private property as a free service, and on business premises at a reasonable charge, but this service does not relieve owners or occupiers of their primary responsibility in the matter.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIAL ACT, 1951

This Act is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in the upholstery and allied trades, and regulations have been made prescribing the standards of cleanliness to which these materials must conform.

Premises are required to be registered where specified filling materials are used in the manufacture of bedding, toys baby carriages and other articles of upholstery, but re-conditioning of upholstery can be done on unregistered premises.

Premises are required to be licensed where rag-flock is manufactured or stored for distribution to registered premises. No premises were registered or licensed in the borough during the year.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Regulations made under this Act require shopkeepers to mark certain imported goods or produce with an indication of origin. The manner in which this is to be done is laid down in the regulations.

During the year 142 visits were made to shops, and once again several shopkeepers were cautioned for failing to mark imported tomatoes with a proper indication of origin. Shopkeepers have regularly to be reminded that for the purpose of these regulations the Channel Islands are not regarded as being part of Great Britain, and consequently tomatoes from these islands must be marked with an indication of origin.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The department is concerned with two sections of this Act, one whereby persons in need of care and attention can be removed to suitable accommodation (see report of the Medical Officer of Health on page 13) and the other, which lays on the local authority the duty of causing to be buried or cremated the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, in any case where no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been made otherwise than by the authority.

One such case was dealt with by the department during the year.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Frequent tours of the town were made during the year in order to ascertain whether the requirements of the Shop Acts and the regulations made thereunder were being observed.

A summary of these observations follow:—

A summary of these observations follows:—

Sunday Trading 16

Half-day Closing 24

Evening Hours 40

The undermentioned contraventions were found and dealt with either verbally or by letter:—

Failing to close at the prescribed times 2
Failing to exhibit the required notices 3

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, 1954

The taking and recording of Meteorological observations have continued throughout the year, the Observer being Mr. A. H. Stalworth who has compiled the following statistics.

TABLE OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, LEAMINGTON SPA, 1954. Longitude 1° 30' W. Latitude 52° 18' N.

3	Means			A	IR T	EME	AIR TEMPERATURES				EARTH	TH	Direc-	Rainfall	fall
Month	of		Means				Absolute Temperatures	mperat	ures		TEN		pre-		
	Barom. 9 a.m.	9 a.m.	Max.	Min.	Max.		Date	Min.		Date	At 1 foot	At 4 feet	Wind	nches	Days
January	30.14	36.2	42.0	32.1	57	on	15th	20 0	on	28th	38.4	48.8	S.W.	0.84	14
February	29.81	37.0	42.8	32.3	54	:	22nd	18	:	2nd	36.6	47.2	S.W.	2.29	17
March	29.76	43.0	49.2	36.8	09	=	11th	24		2nd	42.5	1	Э	2.07	15
April	30.25	47.2	54.4	37.3	09	2	10th & 29th	29	:	7th	47.8	1	N.E. &	0.56	6
May	29.99	53.3	60.4	45.2	77	2	12th	34	:	8th	54.2	1	S.W.	3.15	18
June	29.95	56.8	64.2	50.3	72	2	24th	43	:	14th	8.09	54.1	S.W.	2.72	16
July	29.82	58.7	64.8	51.9	72	2	20th & 24th	43		7th	62.6	56.4	S.W.	2.65	21
August	29.84	59.0	66.4	52.2	92	:	31st	45	:	14th& 27th	62.7	57.6	S.W.	3.84	20
September	29.85	57.0	63.5	47.9	85	2	lst	35	:	23rd	58.9	57.8	S.W.	1.94	20
October	29.88	54.7	59.7	48.6	89	:	Ist	30		26th	54.5	56.3	S.W.	3.22	22
November	29.85	44.1	50.4	38.9	58	2	11th	27	:	17th & 18th	45.8	53.9	S.W.	4.72	21
December	29.91	43.6	48.9	39.3	58	:	2nd	27		11th	42.6	50.7	S.W.	1.71	17
Totals	:		:	:	:	:	:	:			-	:	:	29.71	210
Means	29.92	49.2	55.6	42.7					:		50.6	1	:	:	::

METEOROLOGICAL AVERAGES OF LEAMINGTON SPA.

For the 74 Years, 1881-1954									
Month.	Means of Barom.	Air Temperature. Rainfa			fall.	Sunshine			
Month.	9 a.m.	Max.	Min.	Inches.	Days.	Hours.			
January	29.93	44.4	34.2	2.10	16	41.4			
February	29.96	45.1	34.4	1.72	13	59.8			
March	29.96	50.1	36.1	1.57	13	101.4			
April	29.93	54.6	39.1	1.74	14	134.5			
May	29.96	62.7	44.7	2.01	13	179.5			
June	30.03	67.7	49.7	1.82	12	189.7			
July	29.95	70.2	53.5	2.46	14	168.7			
August	29.86	69.6	52.9	2.47	14	163.2			
September	29.98	64.7	48.9	2.18	12	122.7			
October	29.96	57.5	42.7	2.45	15	92.8			
November	29.90	49.0	37.7	2.35	15	51.5			
December	29.92	45.8	36.1	2.11	16	35.9			
Means and Totals	29.95	56.8	42.5	24.98	167	1341.1			

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

	ddle	BIR	BIRTHS.		DEATHS THE D		
	d to Mi	Ne	tt.	Under 1 Year of age.			Ages.
YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1947	35,170	687	19.5	18	26	484	13.5
1948	36,210	661	13.3	19	29	461	12.7
1949	36,020	648	18.0	24	37	488	13.5
1950	36,370	581	16.0	17	29.3	463	12.7
1951	36,520	571	15.7	14	24.5	507	13.9
1952	36,730	601	16.4	13	21.6	461	12.5
1953	37,390	684	18.3	17	24.9	432	11.6
1954	37,800	640	16.2	16	25	455	12.0

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1954. ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1954.

(Provisional Figures).

Ann	ual Rat	te per	1,000	Populati	on.	Deaths under
			Live Births	Still B	irths to Deaths.	one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales			. 15.2	23.4	11.3	25.5

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1954.

			N	umbe	r of (Cases	notifi	ed.		ases removed Hospital,
		es.		A	t Ag	es—Y	ears.			
NOTIFIABLE DISEAS	E.	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	Total cases removed to Hospital,
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including branous Croup)	Mem-									
Erysipelas		5						3	2	
Scarlet Fever		20	1	4	13	2				1
Typhus Fever							,			
Enteric Fever										
Pneumonia		41		5	10	1	7	7	11	2
Malaria										
Dysentery		36	1	14	16	1	4			1
Puerperal Pyrexia		51				21	30			50
Meningococcal Infectio	n	1							1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (in Polioencephalitis)	cluding	2	1			1				2
Whooping Cough		68	8	26	32		1		1	
Encephalitis Lethargic	a									
Ophthalmia Neonatoru	m	1	1							
Measles		156	. 4	47	104		1			
Pulmonary Tuberculosi	s	50		6		12	24	8		
Other forms of Tubercu	ılosis	7			4	1	2			
Food Poisoning		3				1		1	1	
Totals		441	16	102	179	40	69	19	16	60

TABLE IV.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1954.

CAUSES OF DEATH		MALES	FEMALES
1 Tuberculosis respiratory		5	_
2 Tuberculosis other		-	1
3 Syphilitic disease		_	1
4 Diphtheria		_	-
5 Whooping cough		_	1
6 Meningococcal infections		-	_
7 Acute poliomyelitis		_	_
8 Measles		_	_
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases		2	1
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach		6	4
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus		17	5
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast		-	7
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus		_	4
14 Other malignant and lymphatic ne	ео	17	21
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia		1	2
16 Diabetes		2	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system		20	50
18 Coronary disease, angina		38	17
19 Hypertension with heart disease		4	3
20 Other heart disease		27	54
21 Other circulatory disease		4	9
22 Influenza		3	1
23 Pneumonia		6	9
24 Bronchitis		10	7
25 Other disease of respiratory system		. 3	3
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		3	4
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		_	2
28 Nephritis and nephrosis		2	2
29 Hyperplasia of prostate		5	-
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion			1
31 Congenital malformations		_	3
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases		17	27
33 Motor vehicle accidents		6	3
34 All other accidents		3	7
35 Suicide		2	1
36 Homicide and operations of war		_	1
All Causes		203	252







