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38, HOLLY WALK,

LEAMINGTON SPA.

6th, August, 1958.

To the Council of the Borough of Royal Leamington Spa

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report for the year 1957, which witnessed the building of 202 new houses, a population increase of 720 and, a substantial rise in the product of a penny rate. Statistics, as to births and deaths, differed little from those recorded in 1956, and the experience in regard to infectious diseases was favourable except for abnormal prevalence of Anterior Poliomyelitis.

During the year the new storage reservoir was put into use at the Campion Hill waterworks and the Council began bulk delivery of water to the Southam Rural District. The Council accepted an invitation to join the new Clean Air Council for Warwickshire. The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector summarizes what is being done locally to implement the new Clean Air Act ; in addition the Borough Council is to set up and operate measuring instruments as part of the scheme to investigate and record atmospheric data over the whole county.

Your public health inspectors paid many visits on matters concerned with Food Hygiene and have achieved useful results in securing genuine improvements both at food premises and in methods of preparation, handling or storage. However, it is with regret that one must also record an unprecedented number of prosecutions for the sale of food which either was not of the quality demanded by the purchaser or contained foreign matter. The Council's policy is to take legal proceedings with a view to the exercise of greater care and attention thereafter in processes involving the human factor. Not for the first time it was found that margarine was being served in restaurants as butter and appropriate warnings were issued. It is, however, difficult to see why proprietors continue to risk court proceedings thus when there is little price margin between the two products, and butter may at times even be the cheaper.

The department also prepared evidence in detail for the large Althorpe Street Compulsory Purchase Order comprising

some 200 properties. The order was subsequently obtained without significant modification and this reflects much credit upon those responsible for the detailed work. The enquiry was held during most inclement winter weather so that the properties were inspected at a time when dampness and other defects would be most in evidence. Finding the area thus one could readily see that this was not mere administration but a much-needed act of major social reform, which had certainly not come before its proper time.

It was formerly the practice to include in the annual report of the Medical Officer of Health photographs of matters of interest, and it appeared to me to be a valuable feature of those old reports which was worth reviving. Accordingly the report this year will include pictures of blocks of property in the larger clearance areas which the Council has put early in its programme. These have been chosen to give a true impression of the houses as seen from the street, and to avoid sensational compositions of congested backyards and out-buildings. The latter still abound; but it is felt that the former will be a better guide in future years to those seeking information about the standards now set for unfit housing. Dr. E. Burnet, illustrated his report for 1911 with a backyard view entitled 'Within a stone's throw of Newbold Terrace.' This view, then selected as illustrative of a housing 'black spot,' can still be enjoyed from the rear windows of this office, with little changed nearly half a century later. One may therefore feel some pleasure that, in the last few years, the Corporation has made such headway with the clearance of unfit property.

The enlargement and modernization of the ground floor offices used by the Public Health Inspectors has greatly improved conditions both for the public and the staff. An obstructive outbuilding has been demolished as it excluded natural light from the windows in a rear office. Rooms upstairs not required for the department's use have been rented by the Warwickshire County Council to enlarge the clinic accommodation provided in connection with the school and national health services.

Certain changes have taken place in the staff. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Powell both left during 1957, to take more senior positions. The Council has been fortunate in replacing them with experienced inspectors who have quickly proved themselves to be assets to the staff. The Mid-Warwickshire Joint Sanitary Committee has appointed Dr. Crichton T. Jones as

Deputy Medical Officer of Health for the five combined districts. He also acts as school medical officer to the Warwickshire County Council. It has been a great help to have the services of a well-experienced deputy since September last, and it has been thus possible to deal with complaints and enquiries much sooner.

Once more I have met with kindness and understanding from the Chairman of the Health Committee and the whole Council, and I acknowledge this gratefully. My fellow-officers have also done all in their power to assist me ; for which also thanks are due.

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.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health :

C. T. JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector :

Borough Shops Act Inspector :

A. J. SMITH, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.I.S.A.A.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

F. C. HILLS, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

J. ELLIS, M.A.P.H.I. (to 13/5/57)

J. T. POWELL (to 27/7/57)

P. D. ARROWSMITH, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (from 2/8/57)

K. G. RAPLEY, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (from 19/8/77)

Clerks :

A. H. STALWORTH

Mrs. R. WALTON

Disinfector :

W. JACKSON

Rodent Operative :

P. JACKSON

Public Analyst :

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

Borough of Royal Leamington Spa

A. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1957	... ..	38,940
Area of Borough	... ..	2,875 acres
Public open spaces	... ..	126.42 acres
Product of Id. rate	... ..	£2,483 9s 3d.
Total number of permanent dwellinghouses and flats on 31/3/1957	... ..	11,452
Birth Rate (Crude)	... ..	19.4
Birth Rate (Corrected)	... ..	18.8
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births	... ..	19.6
Death Rate (Crude)	... ..	11.6
Death Rate (corrected)	... ..	10.5
Deaths from Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy and Child-birth	{ From Sepsis ,, other causes	... ..... ..
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births	... ..	23.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ..	22.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ..	19.6
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	... ..	—
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	... ..	—
,, ,, Anterior Poliomyelitis (all ages)	... ..	1

This year births fell slightly while deaths remained about the same level. Births exceeded deaths by 301 and the rise in total population was 720. Thus migration into the district has been resumed and there are obviously many arrivals from overseas.

Four deaths arose from Leukaemia, as against one in 1956.

The chief cause of death was again disease of the heart and blood vessels. Seven deaths were once more recorded as due to suicide and the toll of life in motor accidents rose to eight. Tuberculosis claimed only five victims.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

Laboratory Facilities.—The following examinations were made at the Public Health Laboratory, Coventry during 1957.

	Positive	Negative	Total
SWABS (from throat or nose) examined for Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
DYSENTERY/FOOD POISONING ...	—	2	2
TUBERCULOSIS	—	—	—
BLOOD	—	2	2

Many investigations under the 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.

Community Centre.—Crown Way, Lillington. 1st and 3rd Fridays, 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 are distributed at 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.—Maternity cases are admitted to the Warneford Hospital. Tuberculosis patients go to Hertford Hill Sanatorium and mental illness is treated at the Central Hospital, Hatton.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.—The town's water is taken in part from deep wells or boreholes and in part by abstraction from the River Leam. Filtration and chlorination of river water is practised and the purity of the water is checked by frequent bacteriological and chemical tests. Bulk supplies are also given to the Southam Rural District Council to serve the northern parishes of that district.

1. The quality has been good though the water is hard. No shortage occurred.

2. Bacteriological examinations are made of the raw and filtered river waters weekly, and the results at all times have been excellent for the latter water. Bacteriological examinations of the well waters are not made before treatment (which is only chlorination) but in all cases after treatment the results have been satisfactory. Chemical analysis are made of all the wells at approximately monthly intervals, and of the raw and filtered river water at weekly intervals.

3. The water is not plumbo-solvent and contains no excess of any metallic element.

4. Chlorination plants are installed at all sources of supply. They have operated satisfactorily and no contamination has been reported. After repairs mains are isolated and flushed both before and after heavy chlorination.

5. 11,509 houses in the town now have an internal piped supply serving 38,300 persons. This leaves 640 people resident in 160 houses without a satisfactory internal supply of water. The new service reservoir has been put into use at Campion Hills and has improved the supply pressure over most of the district.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF RIVER WATERS

Water analysis results expressed in parts per 1,000,000
Received on 4th September, 1957.

Description : U.F.C. 685. Unfiltered River Water.

F.C.685. Filtered River Water.

	U.F.C.	F.C.
Free and Saline Amonia ...	0.028	0.014
Albuminoid Amonia ...	0.352	0.160
Chlorine in Chlorides ...	40.0	44.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrites ...	0.3	2.0

	<i>U.F.C.</i>	<i>F.C.</i>	
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80° in 4 hours	2.5	1.2	
Total Solids dried at 100° C. ...	760	720	
Appearance :	U.F.C. Very slightly turbid, few small particles. F.C. Bright, few small particles.		
Hardness	{ Temporary ...	195	185
	{ Permanent ...	305	315
	{ Total ...	500	500
Nitrite ...	0.002	Absent	
Metals ...	—	—	
Free Chlorine ...	—	0.80	
pH Value ...	7.86	7.42	
Lead ...	Absent	Absent	
Dissolved Carbon Dioxide ...	6.0	10.0	
Copper and Zinc ...	Less than 0.05	0.05	
Alkalinity as Carbonate ...	132.0	123.0	

Date 4/9/57 at 10 a.m.

Rate of Filtration 60,000 gallons per hour.

Position at which taken : Filter House.

Albumia Dose : 2.08 grains per gallon.

Copper Sulphate : 0.32 parts per million.

Whether or not dosed with Chlorine : Yes, 4.0lbs. per hour.

Residual Chlorine : 2.0 P.P.M.

After Filtration : Nil.

Immediate : 1.60 P.P.M.

After 20 mins. : 1.50.

Remarks :

Hazen Raw = 20A. Treated = Less than 5A.

River Flow = 6.0 MG/D.

Taste very good.

Activated carbon in use.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. New mains laid in 1957 :—		<i>Yards</i>
Town Water Mains ...	...	5887
River Water Mains ...	...	Nil
2. Amount of Water pumped in 1957 :—		<i>Gallons</i>
<i>Corporation Source</i>		
From Campion Terrace ...	...	20,467,000
,, Lillington ...	...	104,550,000
,, Brewery Well ...	...	41,130,000
,, Leicester Lane ...	...	27,391,000
,, River (filtered) ...	...	480,644,000
,, River (unfiltered) ...	...	55,433,000

	<i>Other Authorities</i>	<i>Gallons</i>
	Taken from Warwick R.D.C. ...	1,263,000
	Water supplied to Warwick R.D.C. } ...	95,705,000
	Water supplied to Southam R.D.C. }	
3.	Daily consumption of Town Water per head	45.47
	River Water supplied to Residents per head ... ..	.72
	River Water supplied annually to Railway Companies	36,730,000

Swimming Baths.—The new baths have proved to be a valuable and popular amenity. The purification plant has operated satisfactorily.

Total number of swimmers (1957)	192,507
Weekly average (summer)	4,328
" (winter)	2,909

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

Sewerage.—No major alterations were made.

Scavenging.—The destructor plant was repaired in 1956. The amount handled this year reached 11,455 tons of refuse as compared with 11,841 in 1956. A regular weekly collection for private householders has been maintained.

F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1950

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1950 ...	2	14	—	12	5	5
1951 ...	1	9	—	27	1	36
1952 ...	—	46	—	11	1	35
1953 ...	—	46	—	49	10	39
1954 ...	—	20	—	41	2	51
1955 ...	—	36	—	36	5	38
1956 ...	—	17	—	39	—	1
1957 ...	—	6	—	47	18	8

Diphtheria.—No case has been notified since 1951. The total of primary immunizations is a satisfactory one and covers a high percentage of infants born in the preceding twelve months.

The details were as follows :—

	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Children under 5 years	506	603	564	538	306
Children 5 to 14 years	29	54	101	97	20
Children given booster doses	342	466	781	931	317

Whooping Cough (Pertussis).—In 1957, 493 children were given prophylactic injections and a combined Diphtheria/Pertussis suspended vaccine was employed except for children who had already been immunized against Diphtheria.

The total of injections was somewhat reduced by the need to suspend operations during an outbreak of Poliomyelitis.

Poliomyelitis.—Further progress was made with the vaccination scheme but was not as good as had been hoped owing to difficulties in the supply of British vaccine.

The incidence of the disease was high this summer as in other neighbouring districts. No clear contact was established from case to case but the incidence showed a pattern localized in certain quarters of the town. The first child took ill on 12th July in the Lillington area and three more living in the same road fell ill within a day of the 24th July. At the same time two isolated cases appeared in roads not far away. After an eleven-day interval a fatal case arose followed within the week by three more ; all were in the Lillington area where a tenth and last patient took ill on 16th August. These ten cases were therefore concentrated within a half-mile radius and a space of just over 5 weeks.

Elsewhere two cases arose on August 3rd in Bertie Terrace and Dale Street and on 12th in Windmill Road. In the next month or so four isolated cases were reported of which three were south of the River Leam.

The outbreak ceased by the end of September ; the last known case on September 24th having followed the previous one after three clear weeks. The pattern of infection seems, therefore to have been somewhat closely confined as postulated by the " narrow stream " theory of infection.

TUBERCULOSIS

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	1	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	5	1	—	1	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	8	2	—	1	6	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
35-45	3	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55-65	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 & upwards	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	23	7	2	3	14	5	2	1	3	1	—	—

	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Cases ...	40	28	23	43	26	40	45
Deaths ...	15	8	5	10	23	22	17
	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cases ...	43	42	38	65	25	46	42
Deaths ...	22	19	11	24	26	18	6
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Cases ...	30	53	68	57	73	98	57
Deaths ...	12	4	4	6	6	5	4

B.C.G. Vaccine was administered to 92 persons of whom 5 were adults and 87 children. The latter were all child contacts.

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

The Miniature Mass Radiography Unit paid no visit to the town.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

Where elderly, sick or infirm persons are found to be living in neglected and insanitary conditions and are not obtaining proper care or attention the Council has authorised the Medical Officer of Health to take action in its behalf by application before a magistrate or a court of summary jurisdiction for the removal of the said person to a hospital or institution.

From time to time the Council is called upon to arrange for the burial of the dead and this action, under the powers of Section 50, has been entrusted to the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Details follow of four persons reported during 1956 as needing proper care and attention.

Case 1. Mrs. C— (80). This elderly widow had lived for some years in a small rented house existing on small pensions. She took in sub-tenants and this led to complaints because of the dirty state of the basement and ground floor rooms. Various medical men were called in consultation and she was taken to a local hospital from which she soon discharged herself. She reverted to dirty habits and caused distress to her nearest relatives by excessive drinking. An order was accordingly obtained, by application of the Council to the magistrates, for her removal to and detention for three months in Part III accommodation.

Case 2. Mr. S— (80). This was reported last year as Case 7. Visits were paid by the Health Visitor and Public Health Inspector after complaints of dirt and smells. It was clear, however, that a nuisance notice would not be appropriate. Extreme deafness made it hard for anyone to be understood.

Case 3. Mrs. H— (74). Widow. Complaint was laid by a neighbour. Investigation showed that this was a case where eccentricity was causing domestic frictions which were more in the province of a landlord than a health department.

Cases 4 and 5. Misses M—, aged 82 were found to be living in a squalid state and refused to go to hospital. They were both senile and one was blind also. After some persuasion one agreed to go to hospital for two weeks and it was hoped to rehabilitate both.

MORTUARY

The attendant here has again been Mr. H. Barnett. 116 bodies were received and 109 post mortem examinations carried out on the premises which is very little less than the work undertaken last year.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Numerous samples of ice-cream were taken and showed a general rise in keeping quality. Milk samples showed that pasteurisation was usually adequate but the methylene blue test, indicative of keeping quality, was not satisfied by pasteurised milk in too many instances.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

SECTION 31

Tuberculous Milk Investigations—Routine Milk Samples for Biological Examination during the Year 1957.

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>
PASTEURISED	2	Nil
" TUBERCULIN TESTED (PASTEURISED) " ...	1	Nil
" TUBERCULIN TESTED " ...	4	Nil

HOUSING, 1957

Number of houses built in the town during 1957 :—

(a) By the Local Authority	...	142
(b) By Private Enterprise	... ..	71

The number of houses owned by the Corporation is 2,784
The number of Prefabricated Bungalows is ... 113

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ending December 31st, 1957

Administration.—Further staff changes took place during the year under review. Mr. J. Ellis went to Bury St. Edmunds and Mr. J. T. Powell to Evesham, their places being taken by Mr. P. Arrowsmith from Birmingham and Mr. K. G. Rapley from Southwark. Mrs. R. Walton commenced duties as part-time clerk early in the year.

The office accommodation was greatly improved by the taking over of two rooms formerly occupied by the resident caretaker and by alteration to the general office to provide a more convenient enquiry office for the public. These improved working conditions have been greatly appreciated both by the staff concerned and by the visiting public and have resulted in greater efficiency.

Housing.—Despite the changes in staff steady progress was maintained in dealing with unfit houses in clearance areas and by individual action and in the repair of houses generally. The Althorpe Street Clearance Area was the subject of a Public Enquiry in the autumn and resulted in its subsequent confirmation by the Minister with but two minor modifications out of a total of 203 properties involved.

Rent Act, 1957.—Less than one hundred applications for certificates of disrepair were received by the end of the year ; a good deal less than anticipated. This may have been due, in part, to the close liaison between local house agents and the department which materially reduced the number of notices of increases of rent in cases where the houses were proposed to be included in clearance areas in the near future but which at that time had not formally been disclosed.

In a circular dated 6th June, 1957, the Minister of Housing and Local Government asked local authorities to make the fullest use of the powers in the Housing and Public Health Acts to secure that essential works of repair were carried out. In an increasing number of instances owners are being requested to undertake this work where it is considered to be reasonable having regard to the increased rents which can be charged. In this way many houses can usefully be preserved for many years to come instead of continuing to deteriorate to the point where demolition becomes necessary.

Clean Air Act, 1956.—The Council confirmed their progressive outlook in this sphere by being the first authority

in the West Midlands to adopt the new Model Bye-law issued by the Minister of Housing and Local Government relating to smoke prevention. Further progress has been made by the submission to the Minister of the provisional plan for two smoke control areas covering over 500 acres in the borough.

Early in the year the Warwickshire Clean Air Council was formed with this authority a constituent member. It is hoped that, in conjunction with the other members, a scheme for the measurement of air pollution in the county will be commenced in 1958.

Prosecutions.—There is ample evidence of the value of instituting proceedings for various offences connected with food. Improved methods of production and greater care in the handling of such items as pies, bread and confectionery are known to have followed such prosecutions. The substantial fines inflicted on such offenders in the local courts have greatly contributed to this.

It is a pleasure to record the valuable work done by my Deputy, Mr. F. C. Hills, especially in connection with Clearance Areas and Smoke Control Areas, which have occupied so much time during the past year, and the way in which he has co-operated with and co-ordinated the work of the two district inspectors so that uniformity in practice and procedure has been successfully achieved. The enforcement of the many and various Public Health laws and regulations is largely a matter of interpretation and those affected by them have every right to expect that the officers responsible shall, as far as is possible, speak with the same voice, at least within the area of the local authority in whose name they act. I am happy to be able to state that the local inspectorate continue to do this very successfully.

My thanks are also due to Mr. L. G. D. Chalmers, the Public Analyst, for his ever ready advice on matters connected with the sampling of food and drugs with the result that the sum available for their purchase has once again been expended with the greatest effect.

Complaints.—The number of complaints continued to fall, a total of 440 being received. Again the largest number concerned bad housing conditions (132) followed by infestation by rats or mice (66) and defective drainage (64).

Notices—Public Health Act, 1936.—119 informal notices and 64 abatement notices were served, the majority of which were to secure the remedy of housing defects. During the

same period 146 informal and 57 abatement notices were complied with. The defects were remedied at one house by the Local Authority in default by the owner, after a court order had been obtained.

Leamington Corporation Act, 1952.—Section 81 of the above Act enables the public health inspectors to require owners, by notice, to remove obstructions from stopped up drains, etc., within 48 hours. When the work is not done within the time stipulated the Local Authority is authorised to do the work in default and recover the cost. 37 such notices were served. In 17 cases the work was carried out by the owner in the specified time and in 20 cases it was done by the Borough Engineer's Department.

Visits and Inspections.—There was a considerable increase in the number of housing inspections and inspections of food shops, mainly due to the clearance programme and enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. The number of smoke observations was almost double the number made in the previous year and the emphasis on these three aspects of the work accounts to some extent for the low number of visits paid to other types of premises, e.g. factories.

Summary of visits and inspections and work done during the year

Inspections of food shops and premises	...	...	1,055
Inspections of factories	...	...	37
Inspections of dairies	...	...	101
Housing Inspections, re-inspections and inspections of work in progress	...	...	2,313
Visits re Rent Act, 1957	...	...	87
Housing allocation enquiries	...	...	88
Drainage inspections	...	...	193
Drains tested	...	...	56
Visits re dustbins	...	...	22
Visits re offensive accumulations	...	...	47
Visits re nuisances from animals	...	...	16
Smoke observations made	...	...	153
Visits re rodent control	...	...	88
Visits re Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	46
Visits re Pet Animals Act	...	...	3
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	776
Samples of food and drugs taken for analysis	...	...	156
Other samples taken for bacteriological examination :—			
Ice Cream	...	...	52



CHARLES STREET.



GARDEN PLACE, RUGBY ROAD.



HAMPTON STREET (NORTH SIDE).



TRINITY STREET.

Milk (Special Designations)	171
Water—Swimming Bath	15
Therapeutic Pool	15
Paddling Pool	Not in use
Others	3
Visits in relation to notifiable infectious diseases ...	40
Rooms disinfected	72
Steam disinfections	19
Books disinfected	830
Bundles of clothing disinfected	37
Rooms disinfested	219
Persons cleansed	2

HOUSING

Confirmation was received of the Rugby Road and Hampton Street clearance orders submitted in 1956. A Public Enquiry was held in December regarding the Althorpe Street area. 71 demolition and closing orders were made in respect of individual unfit houses and 40 houses were demolished.

Action under S.25 H.A., 1936

1. Number of houses in respect of which official representations were made	193
2. Number of unfit houses in respect of which Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders were confirmed	67
3. Number of houses demolished	Nil

Action under S.11 H.A., 1936, S.10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, and Ss. 16 17 and 28, H.A., 1957.

1. Number of houses in respect of which official representations were made	65
2. Number of demolition orders made	64
3. Number of closing orders made	7
4. Number of closing orders replaced by demolition orders	5
5. Number of houses demolished	40

Action under S.12 H.A. 1936 and S.18 H.A., 1957

1. Number of parts of buildings in respect of which official representations were made	6
2. Number of closing orders made	9
3. Number of closing orders becoming effective by vacation of parts of buildings closed	5

Action under S.9 H.A., 1957

1. Number of informal notices served	31
---	----

Action under S.3 Housing Subsidies Act, 1956

1. Number of houses in respect of which certificates of unfitness have been given	9
---	---

Action taken under the Housing Acts since 1925

Houses demolished	293
Houses and parts of buildings closed	66
Undertakings given in lieu of demolition orders and closing orders on dwelling houses ...	14
Demolition orders made but houses not yet demolished	92
Basement dwellings closed	114
Undertakings given in lieu of closing orders on parts of buildings	14
Houses reconditioned	29

RENT ACT, 1957**Applications for Certificates of Disrepair**

(1) Number of applications for certificates	69
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates ...	3
(3) Number of decisions to issue certificates :—	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	25
(b) in respect of all defects	33
(4) Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	31
(5) Number of undertakings refused by Local Auth- ority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
(6) Number of Certificates issued	25

CARAVANS

There are no licensed caravan sites within the borough boundary.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

156 samples of food and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst during the year who certified 148 to be genuine and 8 not genuine.

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

<i>Article</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatis- factory</i>
Apples (Italian) ...		1	1	
Buttered Bread, Scones and Rolls ...	9		5	4
Cake Mix, etc. ...		5	5	
Canned Fish and Fish Paste ...		15	15	
Canned Fruit ...		2	2	
Canned Meat and Meat Paste ...		35	33	2
Canned Vegetables ...		3	3	
Cheese Spread ...		2	2	
Chocolate Liqueurs ...		1	1	
Cream (Fresh) ...		3	3	
„ (Tinned) ...		1	1	
Dried Fruit ...		6	6	
Flour ...		1	1	
Ground Almonds ...		3	3	
Ice Cream ...		6	6	
Ice Lollies ...		6	6	
Jellies, etc. ...		4	4	
Lemonade Powder ...		1	1	
Margarine and Lard ...		2	2	
Marzipan ...		1	1	
Medicated Pastilles ...		4	4	
Milk ...	7	3	10	
Milk, Dried ...		1	1	
Milk Pudding ...		1	1	
Parsley & Thyme Stuffing ...		1	1	
Pep Tablets ...		1	1	
Preserves ...		13	12	1
Sauces, Pickles, etc....		4	4	
Soft Drinks ...		4	4	
Soups ...		3	3	
Suet ...		2	2	
Sugar Confectionery ...		2	2	
Yeast Extract ...		3	2	1
	16	140	148	8

The vendors of the buttered bread, etc., were officially cautioned by the Health Committee. A tin of braised kidneys from Jugoslavia and a tin of sandwich truffle from Switzerland were found to be wrongly labelled. The matter was taken up with the importers. A jar of yeast extract was found to contain excessive copper and a letter was sent to the manufacturers. A jar of home made apricot jam was found to be deficient of soluble solids but the remainder of the small batch which was made, had been sold before a formal sample could be taken.

Unsound Food.—Quantities and descriptions of food found to be unsound and surrendered for destruction as being unfit for human consumption :—

Beef :	93 lbs.
Pork :	30 lbs.
Bacon :	183 lbs.
Lamb :	40 lbs.
Fowl :	75½ lbs.
Sausages :	28 lbs.
Biscuits :	70lbs.
Sweets :	83 lbs.
Fish :	127 lbs.
Clotted Cream :	6 lbs.
Frozen Eggs :	168 lbs.
Split Peas :	12 lbs.
Dried Fruit :	74 lbs.
Jam :	10 lbs.
Cheese :	166 lbs.
Miscellaneous tinned foodstuffs :	2,422 tins.

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.

FOOD PREMISES

Licensed Premises (excluding Hotels)	...	96
Hotels	... ..	26
Hostels and Homes	... ..	11
Restaurants, Cafes, etc.	... ..	44
Church Halls	... ..	9
Grocers	... ..	74
Bakers and Flour Confectioners	... ..	38
Sugar Confectioners	... ..	58
Fishmongers and Fish Friers	... ..	21

FOOD PREMISES—*continued.*

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	46
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	39
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	16
General Shops	...	...	...	...	...	47
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	5
						530

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.—1,055 visits were made to food premises and this figure included 160 primary visits to ascertain compliance with the regulations. Out of a total of 530 food premises in the town this now leaves only the licensed premises unvisited. A programme has been drawn up already for the survey of these premises during 1958.

128 letters were sent calling attention to breaches of the regulations and the re-visits made have confirmed that the traders have been co-operative in securing the objects of the regulations. They have been appreciative of suggestions by the staff, particularly with regard to the re-arrangement of displays so that pre-packed foods afford protection for open foods. In general they agree that our requirements are reasonable and an endeavour has been made to make them so.

Prosecutions.—One unsuccessful prosecution was taken during the year. A manufacturer was prosecuted for selling a dirty loaf of bread, not of the quality demanded by the customer. The case was dismissed as the bench decided that the extraneous matter was an unavoidable consequence of the process of preparation. The following prosecutions were successfully undertaken :—

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 2

1. For selling a loaf of bread containing a cigarette end, not of the substance demanded by the customer, fined £25 and costs.
2. For selling a mouldy meat pie not of the quality demanded by the customer, fined £25.
3. For selling a dirty loaf of bread, not of the quality demanded by the customer, fined £25 and costs.
4. For selling a loaf of bread containing string, not of the substance demanded by the customer, fined £10 and costs.
5. For selling a custard pastry containing a nail, not of the substance demanded by the customer, fined £10 and costs.

ICE CREAM

There are five premises registered for the manufacture, sale and storage of ice cream, and 137 for sale and storage only. The majority of the samples taken were from the manufacturers and unregistered premises, such as cafes, restaurants and hotels where ice cream is served from bulk.

Results of the bacteriological examination of samples of ice cream :

Grade 1	...	...	43	} Satisfactory
Grade 2	...	...	5	
Grade 3	...	...	4	} Unsatisfactory
Grade 4	...	...	—

CANAL BOATS

There are no boats on the Register and none were inspected during the year.

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 Public Health 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 table details the work done by the Public Health Inspectors during the year :

		<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspections</i>
Factories, Class (a)	...	236	29
Factories, Class (b)	...	78	Nil
Other premises	... ..	16	8
Totals	... ..	330	37

Number of cases in which defects were found : 8.

	<i>Found</i>	<i>Rendered</i>
Sanitary conveniences :		
(a) Insufficient	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	4
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—
	—	—
Totals	8	5
	—	—

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This act 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 3 licences issued during the year and 3 inspections were made of the premises.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1951

2,125 inspections of properties were made during the year. The number of infestations treated were as under :—

Private dwellings	274
Corporation properties	51

The sewers were treated twice during the year and the river banks once.

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 MATERIALS 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.

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. Visits continued to be made to shops, and shopkeepers reminded of the requirements.

A trader was prosecuted for failing to mark imported tomatoes in accordance with an order made under the above Act and was fined £5.

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 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. Two persons were buried in such circumstances during the year.

BURIAL ACT, 1851

During the year a licence was granted by the Home Secretary for the removal of human remains from a number of graves in the Roman Catholic Burial Ground in George Street and this work was closely watched by the department to ensure compliance with the conditions laid down.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Report of the Shops Act Inspector

The provisions of the Shops Act relating to ventilation, temperature, sanitary accommodation and washing facilities are dealt with by the Public Health Inspectors as part of their public health duties but the provisions of the Act dealing with Closing Hours, Sunday Trading, etc., are the concern of the Shops Act Inspector only.

For its size and population Leamington Spa has a very

large number of shops, all of which are subject to the provisions of the Shops Act with regard to Closing Hours, Sunday Trading and the exhibition of statutory notices. This entails a good deal of out-of-office hours and Sunday visiting.

The present Shops Act is admittedly difficult to understand and to enforce and it is to be hoped that a new Shops Bill will not be too long delayed. As forecast in my last report the old Shops Bill failed to become law. As it contained some very ambiguous and almost unintelligible clauses this was not entirely a matter for regret, either by the shopkeepers or by the Inspectors concerned.

During the year tours of observation were made in the various shopping areas and a number of contraventions dealt with either verbally or by letter. These chiefly related to failure to exhibit the required notices or to the sale of prohibited articles. An Inspector who recommends prosecutions in regard to the latter type of offence is hardly likely to be popular with either shopkeepers or consumers but the time may soon come when there is no other course of action left to him.

The visits made during 1957 were in connection with the following :—

Sunday Trading	...	...	...	...	24
Half-day Closing	...	...	...	...	33
Evening Hours ...	...	...	...	...	15

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT, 1957

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, 1957.

Latitude 52° 18' N. Longitude 1° 30' W.

Month	Means of Barom. 9 a.m.	AIR TEMPERATURES						EARTH TEMPS.		Direc. of the prevailing Wind	Rainfall	
		Means		Absolute Temperatures		At 1 foot	At 4 feet	Inches	Days			
		9 a.m.	Max.	Min.	Max.						Min.	Date
January ...	30.14	42.4	47.5	36.9	56 on 4th	27 on 25th	41.5	48.6	S.W.	1.23	17	
February ...	29.70	41.5	47.8	35.3	54 ,, 11th	25 ,, 20th	41.9	48.2	S.W.	2.42	19	
March ...	29.89	49.6	56.3	40.9	67 ,, 12th	28 ,, 4th	46.5	48.2	S.W.	2.12	16	
April ...	30.19	49.6	57.3	40.0	65 ,, 4th	28 ,, 12th	50.2	50.1	N.E.	0.18	5	
May ...	30.07	53.5	60.6	41.8	71 ,, 31st	32 ,, 7th	55.9	52.0	S.W.	1.07	10	
June ...	30.07	62.6	72.1	48.0	88 ,, 28th	38 ,, 12th	65.4	55.4	N.E.	1.30	9	
July ...	29.91	62.3	66.6	55.9	84 ,, 6th	48 ,, 17th	66.9	58.5	S.W.	3.25	19	
August ...	29.90	61.2	64.8	52.5	78 ,, 1st & 4th	45 ,, 22nd	64.0	59.3	N.W.	1.92	16	
September	29.95	55.8	62.0	47.9	69 ,, 22nd	34 ,, 30th	57.8	58.3	S.W.	3.75	17	
October ...	30.03	52.6	55.4	44.9	66 ,, 10th	35 ,, 20th	52.0	56.7	S.W.	1.24	12	
November...	30.15	43.1	47.8	38.7	55 ,, 3rd	26 ,, 8th	45.0	53.7	S.W.	1.54	7	
December ...	29.64	39.5	41.8	34.9	56 ,, 20th	22 ,, 16th	39.9	50.4	S.W.	2.16	16	
Totals ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22.18	163
Means ...	29.97	51.1	56.7	43.1	...	...	52.3	53.3	...	...	...

METEOROLOGICAL AVERAGES OF
LEAMINGTON SPA.

For the 77 Years, 1881-1957						For the 39 years, 1912 to 1950.
Month.	Means of Barom. 9 a.m.	Air Temperature.		Rainfall.		Sunshine
		Max.	Min.	Inches.	Days.	Hours.
January ...	29.94	44.4	34.2	2.12	16	41.4
February	29.96	44.8	34.2	1.71	13	59.8
March ...	29.96	50.1	36.1	1.58	13	101.4
April ...	29.94	54.7	39.0	1.70	13	134.5
May ...	29.96	62.6	44.6	2.01	13	179.5
June ...	30.03	67.7	49.7	1.82	12	189.7
July ...	29.95	70.3	53.6	2.43	13	168.7
August ...	29.86	69.5	52.9	2.46	14	163.2
September	29.98	64.8	48.9	2.19	12	122.7
October ...	29.96	57.5	42.7	2.42	15	92.8
November	29.90	49.0	37.7	2.31	15	51.5
December	29.92	45.8	36.1	2.12	16	35.9
Means and Totals ...	29.95	56.8	42.5	24.87	165	1341.1

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1957 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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
1955	37,950	697	18.4	19	27.2	459	12.1
1956	38,220	793	20.7	18	22.6	456	12.0
1957	38,940	767	19.4	17	23.6	451	11.6

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1957.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1957.

(Provisional Figures).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

	Live Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Births.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	16.1	22.4	11.5 23.0

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR
1957.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox									
Plague									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)									
Erysipelas									
Scarlet Fever	6	3	3						
Paratyphoid Fever									
Enteric Fever									
Pneumonia	47	1	6	4	3	14	17	2	
Malaria									
Dysentery	5	1	3				1		2
Puerperal Pyrexia	8				7	1			8
Meningococcal Infection									
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	18		5	7	2	4			12
Whooping Cough	75	6	26	42		1			
Encephalitis Lethargica	1					1			1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3							
Measles	1192	29	982	171	5	5			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	30			1	10	13	5	1	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	5			1	1	2		1	
Food Poisoning	8					6	1	1	
Totals	1398	40	1025	229	28	47	24	5	23

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1957.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES
1 Tuberculosis respiratory	3	1
2 Tuberculosis other	1	—
3 Syphilitic disease	2	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	1	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	4
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	10	1
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	9
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	16	20
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	1
16 Diabetes	—	—
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	26	44
18 Coronary disease, angina	37	28
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	8	4
20 Other heart disease	34	47
21 Other circulatory disease	6	17
22 Influenza	2	1
23 Pneumonia	11	6
24 Bronchitis	12	3
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	1	2
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	3	2
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	2	1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	—	4
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	13	22
33 Motor vehicle accidents	6	2
34 All other accidents	2	9
35 Suicide	3	4
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All Causes	217	234



