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**MELTON MOWBRAY  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1972**





**MELTON MOWBRAY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY**

**G. McHugh, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M & H., D.P.H., D.I.H  
Medical Officer of Health.**

**P.F. Raymond, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector's Diploma.  
Chief Public Health Inspector and Meat & Food Inspector.**

**J.E. Besson, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector's Diploma.  
Additional Public Health Inspector.**

**Mrs G. Wade.  
Clerk.**



To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1972. This may well be my last report to the Council as in April, 1974 all Medical Officers of Health and part of the work they do will be incorporated into the Area Health Boards of the re-organised National Health Service.

During the year 1972 there has been an increase in population of 360 from 19,840 in 1971 to 20,200 in 1972. This shows an increase and compares favourably with last year when the increase was 210 persons. Referring to recent years, there was an increase in population of 410 in 1966 and the intervening years have shown a reduced increase of around 200 until this year.

The birth rate has increased slightly to 16.8 live births per 1,000 population. This compares with the figure for England and Wales which is 14.8 per 1,000 population. For actual births this means that there were 340 live births in 1972 - 168 males and 172 females. This indicates a small increase of 17 female births and a decrease of 7 male births over last year's total births of 330. Relating the two years the figures show that the male births decreased from 175 to 168 and the females increased from 155 to 172.

The illegitimate births numbered 18 babies - 9 boys and 9 girls, a decrease of 4 babies. This number represents 5 per cent of all live births which is a fall from 7 per cent which was the figure for 1971. The illegitimate live births for England and Wales is 9 per cent.

The death rate for 1972 is 11.7 per 1,000 population and compares with the England and Wales figure of 12.1 per 1,000 population. The actual number of deaths for 1972 is 336 being 116 males and 120 females. This is 4 more than in 1971 and 9 more than 1970. There has been a slight fall in male deaths and a slight increase in female deaths.

Three babies under 4 weeks died from causes associated with difficult labour and one baby under 1 year died of a congenital anomaly.

Between 1 year and 14 years there were no deaths.

Between 15 years and 34 years there were 4 deaths, 3 of them due to accidents.

Between 45 years and 54 years there were 15 deaths as a result of circulatory disease or malignancy.

Between 55 years and 64 there were 23 deaths, 12 males and 11 females caused by ischaemic heart disease, malignancy and lung disease.

Between 65 and 74 years there was a total of 67 deaths, 37 males and 30 females with causes much the same as the previous group.

In the group 75 years and over, there were 116 deaths - 48 males and 68 females. Female deaths predominate in this group and do so in this group alone. The cause of death being predominantly cardio-vascular.



The infant mortality rate - that is deaths occurring under one year per 1,000 live births was 12. Last years figure was 15 and that of 1970 was 31. The figure arose from causes arising chiefly from difficult labour.

There were 18 illegitimate births in 1972 with no deaths. This represents a fall of illegitimate births from 22 in 1971 when there was 1 death. In comparing the local figures with that of England and Wales the illegitimate live births as a percentage of all live births we have a local figure of 5 per cent and the England and Wales figure is 9 per cent.

Chief causes of deaths during the year 1972 were cerebro vascular disease (53) ischaemic heart disease (44) malignant neoplasms (31) respiratory causes (24) other forms of heart diseases (23). The deaths due to malignant neoplasms were found predominantly in those over 45 years. Malignant neoplasms of the bronchus was found in 5 females and 3 males whereas the lesions were found in the stomachs of 3 males. There were 5 cases of carcinoma of the breast in females.

The respiratory causes of death reflected the influenza attack during the latter months of 1972. Referring to these deaths, all occurred in the over 45 years old groups. Nine were female deaths as a result of pneumonia, seven in males as a result of bronchitis and emphysema. There were three male deaths due to influenza.

Deaths caused by cerebro vascular lesions were predominantly in the older age groups, the female having a slightly greater number. 27 females as compared with 22 males.

Notifiable infectious diseases again took a dramatic fall. Cases of measles notified fell to nil from 8 notified in 1971. Scarlet fever fell from 33 in 1971 to 1 in 1972. There were 3 cases of food poisoning, all were due to salmonella, 2 being *Salmonella Typhimurium* and one was untyped. There was 1 case of tetanus - a gardener who was seriously ill but recovered. This will remind us that tetanus is still often a fatal disease, but that immunisation prevents it. The tetanus bacteria is wide-spread in the soil, but fortunately is very choosy as to its living conditions and so rarely sets up an illness, but when it does the result may be devastating.

There was 1 male case of pulmonary tuberculosis with no deaths during 1972.

The B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is done in schools - the pupils being inoculated before leaving school.

Child infections, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, whooping cough and tetanus which are prevented or diseases greatly reduced in intensity were again nil. Measles could be added to this group. Measles immunisation is apparently quite popular. German measles (rubella) is not a notifiable disease, and not considered to be a serious illness, but it has gained pride of place in causing damage to the foetus during early pregnancy. The foetal risk is so real that a vaccine has been prepared and is being used for older girls from 11 years of age. In fact certain groups which might be in danger, e.g. midwives, schoolteachers are recommended to have this injection.



There was no case of infective hepatitis notified during 1972. Of the more exotic diseases smallpox or cholera - no case appeared in 1972. There were importations into England of both these diseases but the public health measures of dealing with contacts and surveillance, appears still to be the most practical way of dealing with these diseases. Of course it is recommended that people going abroad to areas where smallpox or cholera is endemic should be vaccinated. And with smallpox, staff of ambulance services who can come into contact with smallpox before a diagnosis is made are required to be immunised. Doctors must keep the diagnosis in mind.

Influenza again proved to be a threat during the early months and the latter months of 1972. This is not a notifiable disease but from observations of the local registrars death rates, influenza and other respiratory diseases creep in especially amongst older age groups.

The family planning clinic still continues and serves a very useful purpose.

The second section of this report on environmental hygiene was prepared by Mr. Raymond, your Chief Public Health Inspector. Mr. Raymond lays out his section clearly and does not require elaboration from me. This is an interesting section and indicates how intense the duties of the Public Health Inspector can be. I am again gratefully indebted to him and to his public health staff for their interest and enthusiasm which they put into the work throughout the year.

Finally, I should like to say how much I appreciate the interest and support by yourself and members of the Council throughout the year, in the work of your Public Health Department.

G. McHUGH

Medical Officer of Health.



# GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) - - - - -	5,699
Registrar General's Estimate of Population (Mid.1972) - -	20,200
Number of inhabited houses - - - - -	6,737
Rateable value - - - - -	£906,406
Product of a penny rate - - - - -	£8,960

## Population

The Registrar General's estimate of the changes in population during the past ten years:-

1963.....	16,310	1968.....	18,250
1964.....	16,850	1969.....	18,440
1965.....	17,340	1970.....	18,630
1966.....	17,750	1971.....	19,840
1967.....	18,040	1972.....	20,200

# VITAL STATISTICS

## DEATHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>1971</u>
All causes and ages - - - - -	116	120	236	232
Rate per 1,000 population			11.7	11.7
For England and Wales			12.1	11.6

## LIVE BIRTHS

Number	168	172	340	330
Rate per 1,000 population			16.8	16.6
For England and Wales			14.8	16.0



**ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS**

(per cent of total live births) - - - - -	5
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**STILL BIRTHS**

Number - - - - -	3
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Rate per 1,000 total live and still births - - - - -	9
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<b>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</b> - - - - -	343
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<b>INFANT DEATHS</b> (deaths under one year) - - - - -	4
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**INFANT MORTALITY RATES**

Total infant deaths per 1,000	
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total live births - - - - -	12
-----------------------------	----

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000	
------------------------------------	--

legitimate live births - - - - -	12
----------------------------------	----

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000	
--------------------------------------	--

illegitimate live births - - - - -	
------------------------------------	--

**NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE**

Deaths under four weeks per	
-----------------------------	--

1,000 total live births - - - - -	9
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**EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE**

Deaths under one week per	
---------------------------	--

1,000 total live births - - - - -	9
-----------------------------------	---

**PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE**

Still births and deaths under one	
-----------------------------------	--

week combined per 1,000 total live	
------------------------------------	--

and stillbirths - - - - -	17
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**MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE (including abortion)**

Number of deaths - - - - -	
----------------------------	--

Rate per 1,000 total live	
---------------------------	--

and still births - - - - -	
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# CAUSES OF DEATH

	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	3	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	2	2	4
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	3	5	8
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	5	5
Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	-	1	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	5	4	9
Benign & Unspecified Neoplasms	1	1	2
Diabetes Mellitus	2	4	6
Anaemias	1	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	2	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	3	2	5
Ischaemic Heart Disease	27	17	44
Other Forms of Heart Disease	10	13	23
Cerebrovascular Disease	25	22	47
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	2	5
Influenza	3	1	4
Pneumonia	2	9	11
Bronchitis & Emphysema	7	2	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	2	3
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia	1	1	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	-	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases - Genito-Urinary System	-	2	2
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	1	2
Congenital Anomalies	2	-	2
Birth Injury	1	1	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	3	10	13
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	1	4
All Other Accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	1	-	1
All Other External Causes	1	1	2
	116	120	236



**PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER  
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

Disease	Total cases notified
Tetanus	1
Scarlet fever	1
Food poisoning	3
	<u>5</u>

	AGE GROUPS										
	Under 1	1 2	3 4	5 9	10 14	15 24	25 34	35 44	45 64	65 & over	Total
Disease	1	2	4	9	14	24	34	44	64		
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	3
	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	5

**TUBERCULOSIS**

During the year 1972 the following new case of tuberculosis was notified:-

Age Group	New Cases				Deaths			
	Resp.		Non-resp.		Resp.		Non-resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION PROCEDURES

The following immunisation/vaccination procedures were carried out during the year by Medical Practitioners:-

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Poliomyelitis. Smallpox vaccination is no longer insisted upon as one of the child's early immunisation procedures because the disease is no longer present in Britain and the actual vaccination carried with it a very small risk to the child. However, it is still advisable that certain categories of health staff who run the risk of meeting smallpox on persons entering the country, or persons going on holiday to areas where there are known cases of smallpox existing, should receive immunisation.

B.C.G. vaccination (against tuberculosis) of school children was carried out during the year at the following schools:

Sarson High School and Ferneley High School.

	Number of Pupils Skin Tested	Result		Vaccinated	X-Rayed
		Pos.	Neg.		
Sarson High	229	17	212	224	5
Ferneley High	202	21	175	192	4

X-rays of the chest were carried out at the Melton Chest Clinic and all the results were found to be negative.

German Measles (Rubella) now on the list of immunisations is offered to girls of 11 years of age, that is before they leave school. This offer is being pressed by Health Education Officers who visit the schools.

Ambulance Facilities: Home Nursing Service: Maternity  
and Child Welfare: School Health Services: Child Life  
Protection: Personal Health Services:

The Leicestershire County Council is the responsible authority for administration of these services. The new Social Services Department was inaugurated in April, 1971 and took over from the Health and Welfare Department, such services as old peoples home, home helps, special housing, mental welfare services etc.

The new Health Department itself will be leaving the bosom of local authorities in 1974 to work in Area Health Boards in the proposed new regional set up. The local authority will still be responsible for environmental health. This means that the Medical Officer of Health will leave the local authority and join the Area Health Board, but the Public Health Inspector will remain.

National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 47

No action taken during the year.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

I am indebted to Mr. P. Raymond, Chief Public Health Inspector, for the following information:

### WATER SUPPLY

The water undertaking is under the control of the City of Leicester, and the supply has been satisfactory as regards quantity and quality.

Fifteen samples of mains water supplies taken for bacteriological examination were reported as satisfactory.

There is no indication of any tendency to plumbo-solvent action in the piped supplies.

Except for a small number of isolated premises the dwellinghouses have an internal mains water supply.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Total number of complaints received..... 202

Number of premises at which defects  
or nuisances were dealt with..... 378

### VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Animal Keeping..... 10

Bakehouses..... 2

Dairies..... 8

Drainage works..... 25

Dwellinghouses (all purposes)..... 168

Infectious disease inquiries..... 11

Food Poisoning inquiries..... 9

Food premises..... 252

Rodent control..... 247

Verminous premises..... 2

Shops and Offices..... 83

Abattoir and meat inspection..... 574

Caravans..... 29

Factories and workplaces..... 27

Other inspections..... 264

1,711



## Notices

## Housing

## Public Health

### Informal

Outstanding on 1st January.....	47	-
Issued during year.....	15	39
Complied with during year.....	23	30
Outstanding 31st December.....	39	9

### Statutory

Outstanding on 1st January.....	12	-
Issued during year.....	4	-
Complied with during year.....	16	-
Outstanding 31st December.....	-	-

6 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination from the Urban District Council's Public Swimming Bath and from the children's open air paddling pool owned by the Town Estate.

The results of the samples were satisfactory.

## RODENT CONTROL

111 minor rats or mice infestations reported or discovered, have been dealt with and surveys made in conjunction with these infestations. Sections of the main sewers in the district have been test baited and treatments carried out to deal with rat infestations.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

### Caravan Sites & Control of Development Act, 1960

No new site licenses were issued during the year. There is one privately owned licensed site for a maximum of 20 vans. Several vans have had to be moved from unlicensed sites.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Three premises are licensed under the Act.

The conditions are satisfactory and no contraventions exist.



# **OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

Class of Premises	Number registered	Number of inspections	Found	Contraventions	
				Remedied	Outstanding 31.12.72
Offices.....	51	14	1	1	-
Retail Shops.....	129	50	21	20	1
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses.....	5	2	1	1	-
Catering estabs. open to the Public, canteens.....	23	17	15	13	2
Fuel Storage Depots.	1	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>

Total number of visits..... 83

During the year seven further registrations of premises were received.

Three accidents reported at an office, a retail shop and a catering establishment, were all of a minor nature.

## Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace	No. of persons employed
Offices	1,007
Retail shops	799
Wholesale department, warehouse	108
Catering establishments open to the public	165
Canteens	4
Fuel Storage depots	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,098</b>
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>1,027</b>
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>1,071</b>



## HOUSING

### HOUSING IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

#### A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Displaced During Year</u>	
	<u>Demolished</u>	<u>Persons</u>	<u>Families</u>
<u>In Clearance Areas</u>			
Houses unfit for human habitation	13	75	27
Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.	-	-	-
Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>			
As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	45	16	8
Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-
Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-

#### B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

#### C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT & HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

	<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
After informal action by local authority	10	-
After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Act	-	-
(b) Section 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957	-	-

#### D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

NIL

#### E. PURCHASE OF HOUSE BY AGREEMENT

NIL



## Inspection of dwelling houses

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 113

Number of inspections made..... 146

Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 5

## New Houses:

By Local Authority By Private Enterprise

Number of houses completed during the year..... 22 206

Number of houses in course of erection at the end of the year..... 42 101

Total number of post-war houses completed..... 1,278 2,832

## Occupied Houses:

Total number of occupied houses in district..... 6,737

Number of council houses occupied..... 1,534

## Discretionary Improvement Grants

No. of applications for grants received during the year from:- (a) Owner/Occupiers 6

(b) Owners of rented property 4

No. of applications approved..... 7

No. of houses improved during the year..... 4

## Standard Grants

No. of applications received for standard grants from:- (a) Owner/Occupiers 21

(b) Owners of rented property 12

No. of applications approved..... 33

No. of properties improved during the year.. 21

## Qualification Certificates

No. of applications for Qualification Certificates..... 11

Certificates issued..... 5

Provisional Certificates issued..... 5

Applications refused..... -



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

#### Dairies (other than Dairy Farms) and Distributors

	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>
Dairies.....	4	8
Distributors.....	19	13

No contraventions found.

### Ice-Cream

Number of premises registered:

- (a) Manufacture and Retail..... NIL
- (b) Manufacture only..... NIL
- (c) Retail only..... 42

Inspections of the registered premises and vehicles used for the sale of ice-cream were made during the year, and were found satisfactory. Most of the ice-cream is sold ready packed.

17 samples of ice-cream tested during the year, were all satisfactory.

#### Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966

- Stallholders complying with the Regulations..... 42
- Vehicles complying with Regulations..... 18

### Meat and Other Foods

All animals slaughtered at the abattoir have been inspected and marked in accordance with the provisions of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

- Number of slaughterhouses in area..... 1
- Number of animals slaughtered and inspected. 30,233
- Number of visits to slaughterhouse..... 574
- Number of knackers yards in area..... 1
- Number of visits to knackers yard..... 6
- Number of licensed slaughtermen..... 13
- Licenses issued during the year:
  - (a) new licenses..... 3
  - (b) renewals..... 10



# Carcases Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed and inspected	1,243	58	11	22,618	6,303	30,233
All Diseases except Tuberculosis						Weight in lbs.
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	48	5	2,711
Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	114	11	3	4,811	429	16,200
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	9.2%	18.9%	45.4%	21.5%	6.9%	
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	18	198
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.3%	
Cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	-	

Total weight in lbs 19,109

8 tons 10 cwts. 2 qrt. 13 lbs of meat was condemned during the year,  
compared with 7 tons 16 cwts. 3 qrt. 26 lbs last year.



The following foods were condemned and voluntarily surrendered during the year:-

1 ton. 19 cwts. 3 qrts 17 lbs of retail meat; 1 ton. 9 cwts. 2 qrts. 26 lbs of butter; 76 cases and 65 tins of various foods; 5,800 packets of frozen foods; 739 ice-creams; 32 frozen chickens and 20 churns of milk.

No. of certificates issued..... 21

### Poultry Processing

No. of poultry processing premises in area..... 1

No. of visits..... 13

No. of birds processed during the year..... 350,000

Type of birds processed:- Chickens, Capons and Hens.

Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption 3%

Weight of birds condemned as unfit for human consumption 18 tons. 15 cwts.

### Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

The following table shows the number of food premises grouped in categories of trade carried on and includes information regarding compliance with Regulations 18 and 21 concerning washing facilities.

Trade	No.	No. complying with Reg.18	No. to which Reg.21 applies	No. complying with Reg.21
Grocer	30	30	10	10
Greengrocer	6	6	6	6
Fried fish	6	6	6	6
Wet fish	2	2	2	2
Butcher	17	17	17	16
Confectioner	17	17	3	3
Cafes and canteens	17	17	15	15
Licensed premises and restaurants	32	32	32	32



**Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961**

**1). Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health:**

<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>Inspec- tions</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
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(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.

6 5

(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.

73 18

(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities.

3 4

82 27

**2). Cases in which defects were found:**

	Found	Remedied	Referred	
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness	2	2	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	2	2	-	1
(a) insufficient	2	2	-	1
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-

**Outwork**

No. of outworkers..... 66

Nature of work..... Making etc. of wearing apparel.

There were no instances of outwork in unwholesome premises.







