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RURAL DISTRICT OF MERIDEN

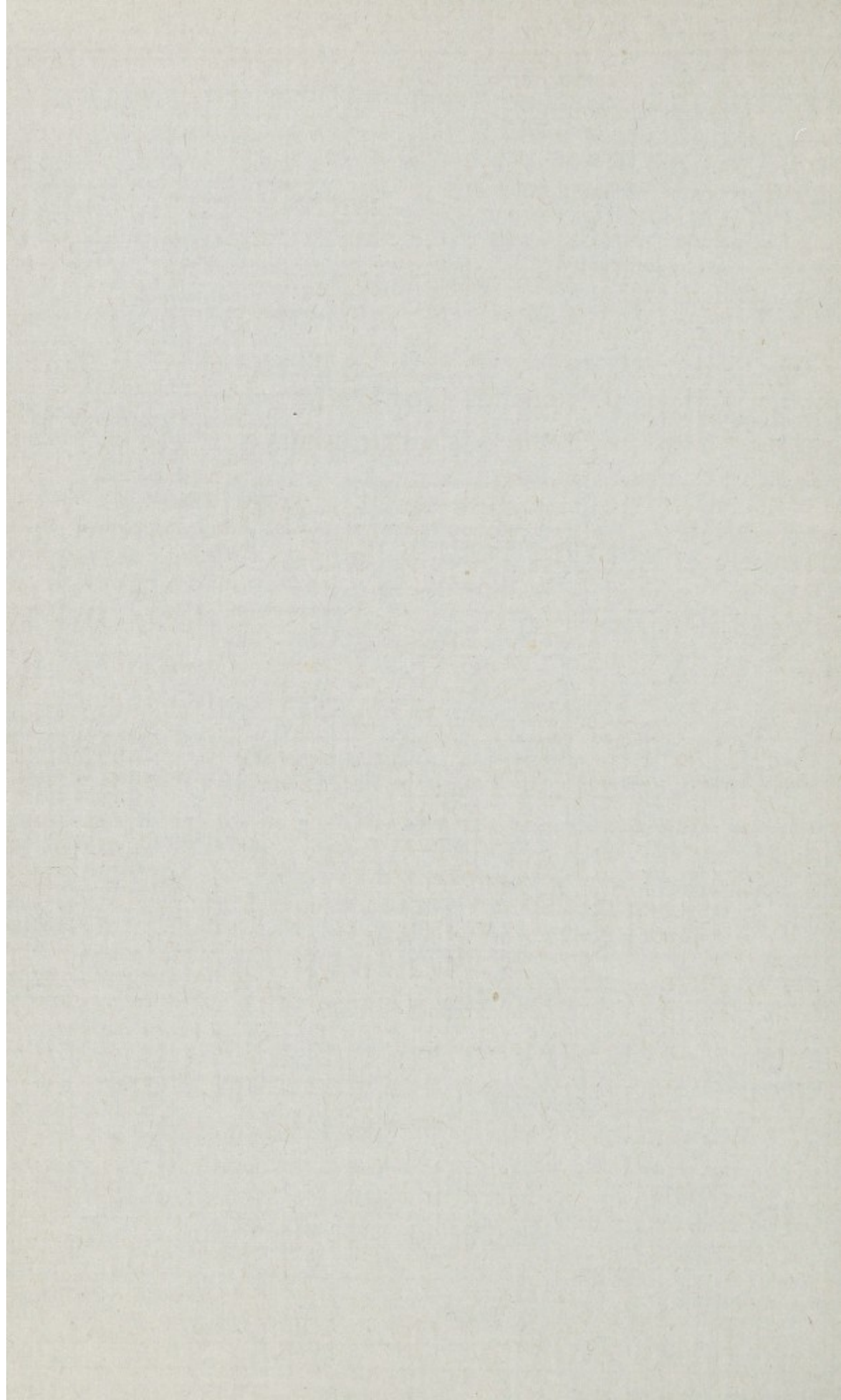
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1964





RURAL DISTRICT OF MERIDEN

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*To the Chairman and Members of the
Meriden Rural District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the state of the public health of the Meriden Rural District for the year 1964. As customary, in so doing, the many social services also administered by me in my capacity as Area Medical Officer on behalf of the Warwickshire County Council are not specifically mentioned because full details of them will be found in the Annual Reports of the County Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer.

In keeping with the country-wide trends the population of the district increased by 1,810 to 64,240—some 190 less than that for 1963 and 770 for the year 1962. This fall in the annual population increase is likely to be only temporary, coinciding with the completion of development by Birmingham Corporation in the parish of Kingshurst, where it now owns 2061 units of accommodation representing 63.6 percentage of all dwellings in that parish and 11.4 percentage of the total number in the district. The balance of ownership of households will be altered still further by the projected overspill housing scheme on the part of this same Authority in the Chelmsley Wood development area, embracing 1,450 acres, ultimately providing some 15,000 houses accommodating 60,000 persons in the parishes of Bickenhill, Coleshill and Water Orton in that order of density. Thus, within the next ten years, the present overall picture of the district as predominantly rural will change to a lesser degree and its "green belt" waist will, perforce, be further narrowed by pressure from the two population conurbations at its opposite poles. Therefore, "the shape of things to come," particularly regarding local government and the services it provides, although ill-defined at present, is a matter for conjecture and food for thought.

On the whole, the general state of health of the community was good and no serious outbreaks of disease occurred.

For the fifteenth successive year no cases of Diphtheria were notified and for the seventh no reports of Poliomyelitis were received. Nevertheless, no slackening in the immunisation campaign against these serious maladies can be countenanced, especially in view of the possibility of unprotected or non-immune immigrants introducing fresh infections into the community.

Compared with 1963, the incidence of Measles fell by two thirds, without any serious complications and no hospitalisation was necessary. During the year reports regarding the preparation of a vaccine against Measles revealed good progress and it is not unlikely that a suitable preparation will be available in the near future.

Although notifications of Scarlet Fever increased from 15 to 25 this does not imply that the general decline in this disease throughout England and Wales has not continued.

Cases of Dysentery slightly increased to 106, the majority in the 5 to 15 age group, and all of a comparatively mild nature readily amenable to treatment.

Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis totalled 12—a figure in keeping with the general fall in notifications of this disease in this district, and with only one death.

No reports of Typhoid or Paratyphoid came to hand but 8 cases of Food Poisoning came to light. Unfortunately, the source could not be traced.

The general volume and scope of the work of a busy inspectorate continued at a high level and the number of individual visits and inspections was 10,734, an increase of 1,892 over the previous year. Details of this increasing volume of work will be found in the body of the report.

Regarding housing, whereas in 1963, unfortunately, no new Council dwellings were completed, it is pleasing to report that 35 Council houses became available for letting during the year. Nevertheless the number of applications on the Register at the end of the year was 555, including 324 for general needs and 77 for slum clearance purposes. On the other hand, regarding overcrowding, the situation was relatively satisfactory in that only three private and four Council houses were known to be overcrowded, involving a total of 80 persons. At the end of the year the Council owned 1,857 houses comprising 10 per cent. of the total inhabited dwellings in the district.

The Birmingham and Coventry Water Departments supply the bulk of the water with contributions by the North Eastern Warwickshire Water Board (parishes of Arley and Astley) and the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company (parishes of Wishaw and Moxhull). The overall ratio of house/pipeborne supplies rose from 98.32 per cent. to 98.47 per cent., covering 17,782 of the 18,058 homesteads in the district. Three small schemes involving 23 properties were completed and four other schemes were approved but not commenced.

The public water supplies continued to be adequate, pure and wholesome with no evidence of plumbo-solvency. In connection with sampling of "mains" supplies, chemical and bacteriological examinations are conducted by the abovementioned water authorities and proved satisfactory. On the other hand, as might well be expected, sampling of wells and springs gave varying results, the majority unsatisfactory from the more important bacteriological viewpoint.

The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963 continued to operate satisfactorily and, on the whole, working conditions at the eight slaughterhouses and the quality of the meat were satisfactory.

An important part of the routine work of the department in connection with the safeguarding of food is the inspection of premises where foodstuffs are prepared and/or served. In all, some 554 premises were visited including 118 mobile shops and

109 premises open to the public. Full details will be found elsewhere in the report where it will be noted that 284 defects and contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations are recorded.

Maintaining its interest in problems arising from atmospheric pollution, your Authority continued its membership of the Warwickshire Clean Air Council.

Measurement of grit and sulphur dioxide, which commenced in 1948, continued to reveal a decrease in the amount of the former but not in the case of the latter and, as mentioned in the previous report, reduction or elimination of sulphur dioxide from chimney emissions is unlikely to be overcome in the near future. The most unpleasant smell arising from the Lurgi gas-producing plant of the West Midlands Gas Board at Coleshill was the subject of many complaints, and despite the considerable efforts on the part of the Board to abate the nuisance, the situation continued to be most unsatisfactory.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 came into force during the year under review, and considerable progress was made in implementing its provisions. However, owing to the large number of premises for inspection and the detailed nature of the work, completion of the programme is likely to take another year.

In preparing this composite report some sections have been contributed by the Chief Public Health Inspector. Once again I am indebted to your Engineer and Surveyor for information regarding sewage and sewerage disposal as well as refuse collection.

In conclusion, I wish to record my appreciation of the work of a keen, zealous, inspectorate and other members of the staff, and the ready co-operation and help from other departments. At the same time I hasten to express my thanks for your encouragement and support throughout the year.

R. S. McELROY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Park Road,
COLESHILL.

June, 1965.

MERIDEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1964

Chairman of the Council :

H. KELSEY, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council :

A. R. WYLDBORE-SMITH, M.A., J.P.

Clerk of the Council :

RAYMOND E. HALE, F.C.C.S.

Public Health Committee: 1964-65

Adams, H. W.	Edwards, N. A.	Mold, B. A.
Antrobus, W.	Fish, E. G.	Neal, W. B.
Barnes, Mrs. D.	Greensmith, H.	Parry, Mrs. E. I.
Bradley Miller, K.	Gregg, Mrs. M.	Pimlott, E. J. R.
Cockersole, B. F.	Guest, G. B.	Stewart, J. D.
Cosgrove, M. J.	Harland, Mrs. J. M.	Wallace, Mrs. D. V.
Day, A. R.	Heath, H. W.	Wills, H. C.
Earle, R. J.	Kelsey, E. J. O.	Wyldbore-Smith, A. R.
	Kelsey, H.	

Housing Committee: 1964-65

Aylesford, Earl of	Harland, Mrs. J. M.	Martin, Mrs. L. E.
Barnes, Mrs. D.	Harvey W.	North, Mrs. E. M.
Blunt, F. V.	Jackson, Mrs. V. L.	Page, J.
Boakes, G. W. R.	Kelsey, E. J. O.	Parry, Mrs. E. I.
Bradley Miller, K.	Kelsey, H.	Prosser, D. W.
Day, A. R.	Knowles, T.	Sakne, E.
Durman, C. H.	Lowe, G. H.	Stewart, J. D.
Gregg, Mrs. M.	Lynall, Mrs. G. M.	Wyldbore-Smith, A. R.

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF
AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1964**

Medical Officer of Health :

R. S. McELROY, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.T.M.

(Also Medical Officer of Health, Tamworth Rural District Council
and Area Medical Officer, North Western Area, Warwickshire
County Council)

Chief Public Health Inspector :

R. HAINES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector :

G. B. STOKES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors :

W. W. G. CUTTS, M.A.P.H.I.

R. L. TUDGE, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

B. H. HALES, M.A.P.H.I.

E. FOSTER, M.A.P.H.I.

D. HUNT, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Clerk :

J. D. MYNARD, L.M.R.S.H.

Council Offices :

Council House,
Coleshill

Telephone : Coleshill 3141.

Office of the Medical Officer of Health :

Area Health Office,
Park Road,
Coleshill.

Telephone : Coleshill 2331-2.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in acres.....	61,775
Population (estimated Mid. 1964)	64,240
Population (Census 1951)	38,075
(Census 1961)	57,520
No. of inhabited dwellings (Dec. 1964)	18,767
Rateable value (at 1st April, 1964)	£2,592,003
Product of a penny rate	£10,601

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	613	585	1,198
Illegitimate	22	41	63
Totals	635	626	1,261

Birth Rate

18.65 per 1,000 estimated population

1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
18.65	18.58	19.37	19.60	20.20	19.08	20.03	18.55	17.37	16.14

Illegitimate Live Births. (Per cent. of total Live Births) = 5.25

Still Births

Still Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	12	15
Illegitimate	—	2	2
Totals	3	14	17

Still Birth Rate

18.11 per 1,000 total (live and still) births

1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
18.11	18.86	20.08	16.5	14.52	16.05	20.58	18.18	21.67	25.35

Total live and Stillbirths = 1,848

Deaths

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths from all causes ..	242	204	446

Crude Death Rate

6.81 per 1,000 estimated population

1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
6.81	7.41	7.06	7.11	7.33	7.03	7.36	6.91	7.49	8.35

Classified Causes of Death.

Cause of Death		Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	1	—	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8.	Measles	2	—	2
9.	Other infective and parasitic disease ..	1	—	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	3	11
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	22	2	24
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	10	10
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	21	44
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	—	2
16.	Diabetes	1	4	5
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	19	32	51
18.	Coronary disease, angina	58	39	97
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	7	8
20.	Other heart disease	16	16	32
21.	Other circulatory disease	12	14	26
22.	Influenza	1	1	2
23.	Pneumonia	11	9	20
24.	Bronchitis	8	7	15
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	4	1	5
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	2	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	6	3	9
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	31	17	48
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	8	4	12
34.	All other accidents	4	7	11
35.	Suicide	2	1	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
37.	All causes	242	204	446

Population and Birth and Death Ratio.

Year	Estimated Population	Total Live Births	Total Deaths	Birth and Death ratio
1954 ..	39,590	694	327	+367
1955 ..	42,870	692	358	+334
1956 ..	46,820	813	351	+462
1957 ..	49,490	918	342	+576
1958 ..	52,260	1,047	385	+662
1959 ..	54,590	1,042	384	+658
1960 ..	56,960	1,153	418	+735
1961 ..	57,750	1,132	411	+721
1962 ..	60,430	1,171	427	+744
1963 ..	62,430	1,160	463	+697
1964 ..	64,240	1,831	446	+1,385

Maternal Deaths .. Nil.

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	17	7	24
Illegitimate	1	3	4
	—	—	—
Totals	18	10	28
	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate.

15.20 per 1,000 births.

1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
15.20	12.93	18.78	15.01	17.34	14.39	16.2	20.7	22.1	30.3

Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age).

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	15	4	19
Illegitimate	—	2	2
	—	—	—
Totals	15	6	21
	—	—	—

Neonatal Death Rate .. 8.70 per 1,000 live births.
(first four weeks)

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births
13.1

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births
Nil

Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per
1,000 total live births)
9.10

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	14	4	18
Illegitimate	—	2	2
Totals	14	6	20

Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one
week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)
20.2

Comparative Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 population.

	Meriden Rural District	England and Wales (provisional)
Births		
Live Births ..	*15.85	18.4
Still Births ..	18.11(a)	16.3
Deaths		
All causes	*10.35	11.3
Infant Mortality ..	15.29(b)	20.0
Neonatal mortality	8.70 (b)	

* Using comparability factors (Births 0.85 and Deaths 1.52).

(a) per 1,000 total live and still births.

(b) per 1,000 live births.

Cancer.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths all Forms	55	38	93

Cancer Death Rate = 1.4 per 1,000 estimated population.

Population

The mid-year estimate of the Registrar General was 64,240—an increase of 1,810 over the 1963 total of 60,430, still mostly in the Parish of Kingshurst.

Births

The standardised Birth Rate of 15.85 per 1,000 estimated population was lower than the figure of 18.4 for England and Wales.

Deaths

The standardised Death Rate of 10.35 per 1,000 population was again less than that of 11.3 for England and Wales. The pattern of the chief causes of death remained largely unchanged with heart, cancer and vascular disease of the central nervous system predominating in the order given. Cancer in various forms caused 93 deaths. Of these, 24 were due to lung cancer—nine more than last year—affecting 22 males and 2 females.

Motor vehicle accidents were responsible for eight male and four female deaths.

For the thirteenth year in succession no mother died in childbirth.

National Assistance Act, 1948

Although several cases were assessed for admission to chronic sick or residential accommodation, in no instance was statutory action necessary on my part for compulsory removal under Section 47 of the Act.

SECTION B.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1964.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified. (Comparative figures for 1963 in parenthesis) at Ages — Years								Total cases re- moved to Hospital	Total Deaths
	At all ages	Un- der 1	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and up- w'ds.		
Measles	379 (1,028)	10	163	203	2	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	25 (40)	2	14	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	- (4)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	25 (15)	-	3	22	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	13 (16)	-	-	2	-	5	6	-	-	20
Malaria	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	106 (90)	6	19	60	5	16	-	-	4	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	9 (91)	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	9	-
Meningococcal Infection	- (1)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Infective Encephalitis	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	- (43)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	12 (9)	-	-	3	1	4	3	1	-	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2 (4)	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	- (8)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	571 (1,349)	18	199	299	12	32	10	1	14	21

Total Cases of Infectious Disease notified during previous years.

Notifiable Disease	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955
Measles	379	1028	93	1,980	21	344	619	1,006	7	705
Whooping Cough	25	40	11	49	71	72	20	112	118	57
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	4	6	2	4	2	5	3	5	3
Enteric Fever ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever....	25	15	15	36	35	54	46	15	92	28
Pneumonia	13	16	17	35	23	63	42	48	25	40
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	106	90	158	46	48	96	41	36	122	60
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	91	79	98	67	98	111	118	100	73
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	1	1
Acute Poliomye- litis : Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	6
Non-paralytic..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Acute Infective Encephalitis ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	-	43	22	8	3	8	24	34	23	7
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	12	9	19	27	19	15	33	18	26	31
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	2	4	3	4	4	4	2	3	2	5
Food Poisoning..	-	8	9	7	17	11	2	-	2	11
Totals	571	1349	443	2,293	313	769	945	1,405	525	1,030

General Comment

Compared with 1963, notifications of infectious diseases fell from 1,349 to 571, for the most part due to the decreased incidence of Measles, in keeping with the bi-ennial periodicity of this disease.

Whooping Cough

Cases reported declined from 40 to 25, mostly in the 1-5 year age group.

The following table gives details of the immunisation campaign where, for the most part, the injection against whooping cough is combined with those against diphtheria and tetanus.

Table showing number of children Immunised against Whooping Cough in 1964.

	Age at Date of Injection					
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	Total
Primary	698	94	2	7	2	803
Reinforcing	-	465	86	125	1	677
Totals	698	559	88	132	3	1,480

Diphtheria

For the fifteenth successive year no cases have been notified but this satisfactory state of affairs gives no ground for complacency because the disease still does occur in this country.

The table sub-pended summarises the work undertaken by General Practitioners and County Council Staff.

Table showing number of children Immunised against Diphtheria during 1964.

(Comparative figures for 1963 are given in parentheses)

	Age at date of injection					
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	Total
Primary	700 (759)	96 (246)	5 (11)	22 (20)	2 (64)	825 (1,100)
Re-inforcing	- (1)	486 (501)	120 (201)	718 (507)	306 (321)	1,630 (1,531)
Totals	700 (677)	582 (747)	125 (212)	740 (527)	308 (385)	2,455 (2,631)

Smallpox

In my 1962 report, mention was made of the large number of vaccinations performed as a repercussion of the outbreak of small-pox elsewhere in England and Wales. During the year under review this figure was 948, nearly two thirds of which related to infants under two years of age.

Table showing number of Persons vaccinated against Smallpox in 1964

(Comparative figures for 1963 are given in parentheses)

	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Totals
Vaccinated	49 (68)	521 (333)	138 (65)	33 (35)	48 (53)	789 (554)
Re-Vaccinated ..	— (—)	— (—)	8 (7)	19 (16)	132 (145)	159 (168)
Totals	49 (68)	521 (333)	146 (72)	52 (51)	180 (198)	948 (722)

Scarlet Fever

The incidence of 25 cases increased by 10 compared with 1963, the majority in the 5-15 year age group and all of a mild nature.

Pneumonia

13 cases were reported, most of which were in persons of 25 and upwards. In addition, 20 deaths were notified the excess of 7 relating to fatalities where Pneumonia was only a second cause of mortality.

Dysentery

Notifications increased to 106 compared with 90 in 1963 and 158 for 1962. Of these, 4 cases had to be admitted to hospital. As part of the Health Education programme in schools emphasis is laid on the necessity for strict attention to personal hygiene and no group of cases was specifically connected with any school.

Puerperal Pyrexia

Reports decreased from 91 to 9 practically all from Marston Green Maternity Hospital where admissions for the year were 7,364 so that the incidence was relatively low.

Acute Poliomyelitis

As mentioned in my introductory remarks, for the seventh successive year no cases came to light and the following table summarises the vaccination campaign in the Meriden and Tamworth Rural Districts comprising the North Western Area of the County.

The use of the Sabin or Oral Vaccine has now largely superseded that of the Salk or injection preparation.

Completed Poliomyelitis Injections as at 31st December, 1964

Age	Primary		Booster		Fourths		Totals		Grand Totals
	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	Oral	Salk	
0-15 years	568	20,518	4,327	18,615	1,541	8,766	6,436	47,899	54,335
15-25 years	56	4,904	421	4,019	48	12	525	8,935	9,460
25-40 years	300	3,868	382	4,683	18	21	700	8,572	9,272
Others ..	48	2,333	489	2,240	24	15	561	4,588	5,149
Totals ..	972	31,613	5,619	29,557	1,631	8,814	8,222	69,994	78,216

Tuberculosis

During the year 16 new cases of Pulmonary and two of the non-pulmonary type were reported compared with 11 and four cases respectively in 1963. Inward transfers of cases already notified elsewhere totalled 20 with the majority re-housed by Birmingham Corporation in their Kingshurst Estate and for the most part arrested or quiescent and non-infectious but, of course, still subject to regular supervision.

Total number of Tuberculous persons remaining on Register at 31st December, 1964

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
1. Total on register at 31st December, 1963	199	146	16	37
2. New Cases	11	5	2	—
3. Inward Transfers	10	10	—	—
4. Removals	9	16	—	1
5. Total on register at 31st December, 1964	211	145	18	36

The Chest Clinic, opened at Coleshill in 1954, continued in the charge of Dr. W. E. Zundel, the Chest Physician, with the radiographer from St. Gerard's Hospital, Coleshill, in attendance on Tuesdays and Wednesdays when the Clinic operates.

Cases attending Coleshill Chest Clinic at 31st December, 1964

	Men	Women	Children	Total Patients	Total attendances
Pulmonary	118	98	17	233	—
Non-Pulmonary	9	11	3	23	—
Other Cases	—	—	—	234	—
Totals	127	109	20	490	1,119

The B.C.G. Vaccination Clinic, opened in February 1955, continued in the charge of Dr. Zundel and from the table below it will be seen that 83 children were vaccinated.

No. of persons vaccinated at Coleshill B.C.G. Clinic during 1964

Men	Women	Children	Total
—	—	83	83

The sex incidence and age groups of the new pulmonary cases is shown in the following table, a feature of which is the large proportion of males (6) in the 15-65 age groups, compared with females (3) affected, demonstrating the greater degree of exposure to infection by men as would be expected. It is also noteworthy that one male over the age of 65 was diagnosed among the "chest" cases, proof of the increasing importance of screening elderly persons thought to be suffering from chronic bronchitis but, in reality, from, or also with a superimposed tubercular infection. Cases of this kind constitute a reservoir of infection for the spread of a disease which although, nowadays, under control is far from complete eradication in the community.

Age and Sex Distribution of New Cases and Deaths Notified during 1964

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	9	3	2	—	1	—	—	—

Mass Radiography Survey

In the report of the Coventry Mass Radiography Unit for 1964 which covers the greater part of the County ~~and~~ including Birmingham, Dr. A. Gordon Evans, Medical Director of the Unit, states that the Main Unit ceased operating in its central headquarters site in Keresley at the end of May. The reason for closure was because it was considered uneconomical to run two static units, one situated at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital, Coventry, and the other at Keresley. However, the catchment area of the Mobile Caravan Unit was revised to include parts of Warwickshire as well as Coventry and Warwickshire, thereby serving an approximate population of 1.2 million.

Special consideration was given to the part played by mobile mass radiography in discovering new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis among residents of Coventry. While the total number of new cases notified from all sources in 1964 was less than half compared with the year 1958 (112:264) the proportion of these cases revealed by mass radiography during the past four years (1961-64) is considerably higher than in the preceeding three years (1958-60). At the same time, the over-all incidence per 1,000 X-rays (irrespective of site) has remained constant over the past

four years. Thus, it is reasonable to conclude that while recognizing the general decrease in the amount of pulmonary tuberculosis, there remain some mainly early active cases widely scattered amongst the population which can only be brought to light through mobile units, the continuing use of which is still justified.

Suspected milk supplies are investigated by the County Health regarding the District Department and the position was as follows:—

Tuberculous Milk Investigations—Routine Milk Samples for Biological Examination during the year 1964

Designation of Milk	Total No. of Samples.	No. Positive
Tuberculin Tested	14	Nil

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The commencement of the re-sewering of parts of Castle Bromwich was commenced during the year. Sewer extension schemes were completed in the Balsall Street area and in Birmingham Road, Water Orton. Designs were prepared for sewer extensions in the Keresley End and Gilson areas and in Meeting-house Lane, Berkswell, and Blackfirs Lane, Bickenhill, with a view to tenders being obtained.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection services have operated satisfactorily during the year. Further progress has been made towards the replacement of pail closets and since the approach to owners in 1960, 261 pail closets have been replaced and proposals in respect of a further 80 have been approved.

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Inspections and visits made:

Public Health Acts

Nuisances	1,075
Sewers and drains	215
Closet conversions	27
Infectious diseases	872
Moveable dwellings	7
Water supplies	305

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 395

Housing Acts

Houses recorded	55
Other visits	1,074
Overcrowding	9

Food and Drugs Acts

Food premises	535
Bakehouses	6
Food stalls and vehicles	61
Food examination	2,472
Registered premises	56
Dairies	4
Slaughterhouses	54

Noise Abatement Act 94

Clean Air Act 344

Factories Act

Non-power	5
Power	30
Others	28

Shops Act 34

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 731

Rent Act 4

Pet Animals Act 2

National Assistance Act 5

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1,859

Animal Boarding Establishments Act 61

Hairdressers and Barbers 45

Miscellaneous 270

10,734

Complaints received and investigated—1,199

NUISANCES

Nuisances were reported and dealt with as follows :—

Accumulations of refuse	34
Animals so kept	25
Cesspools overflowing	64
Sanitary conveniences defective	23
Drains and sewers obstructed	59
Dustbins defective or absent	7
Ditches and watercourses in foul state.....	48
Smoke, dust and effluvia	38
Houses in dirty condition (occupiers' neglect).....	3

Housing defects :

Dampness	25
Defective walls.....	13
,, roofs	12
,, chimneys	9
,, windows and doors	16
,, rainwater gutters and pipes.....	8
,, wall and ceiling plaster	23
,, floors	9
,, firegrates	8
,, washing boilers	1
,, sink waste pipe	1
,, W.C. cistern	2
Unsatisfactory water supplies	24

452

HOUSING

Applications on register at the end of the year:

General needs	324
Slum clearance	
General	46
Old People.....	31 77
Agricultural	16
Old People (other than slum clearance)	138
	<hr/>
	555
	<hr/>

Number of houses available for letting during the year:

by new building	35
by casual vacancies	37
	<hr/>
	72
	<hr/>

Allocations:

General needs	25
„ „ (old people).....	5
Slum clearance	25
„ „ (old people)	6
Agriculture	3
Other priorities, including Council staff ..	8
	<hr/>
	72
	<hr/>

SLUM CLEARANCE

Clearance Areas

Number of orders made	1
Number of houses affected	6
Number of orders confirmed	nil
Number of houses demolished	4

Single houses

Demolition orders made	28
Houses demolished	16
Undertakings accepted that houses will cease to be used for habitation	11
Closing orders made	4
Houses made fit—	
Voluntarily, by owners	42
By owners, after formal notices	7
By Council, in default of owners	nil

Overcrowding

The position at the end of the year was as follows :—

No. of private houses known to be overcrowded	3
No. of Council houses known to be overcrowded	4
No. of families involved	11
No. of persons involved	80
Cases relieved during year by Council	—
Cases relieved during year otherwise	1

Rent Act, 1957

One application for a certificate of disrepair was received and granted after the service of the necessary notice.

WATER SUPPLIES

The following additional water mains were laid during the year :—

Locality	Length of main (yards)	Estimated cost £	No. of properties to be served
(a) <i>Schemes approved during 1964</i>			
Hodgetts Lane, Berkswell	125	340	1
(b) <i>Schemes approved in 1963</i>			
Fern Hill Lane, Balsall	320	1,020	3
Tamworth Road, Wishaw	1,180	2,480	5
Kingsbury Road, Lea Marston	1,970	8,100	12
(c) <i>Schemes approved in 1962</i>			
Kingsbury Road, Lea Marston	165	750	2

In addition, the following schemes were approved and ordered, although the work had not been started by the end of the year.

Solihull Road, Hampton-in-Arden	1,335	4,350	5
Tippers Hill Lane, Fillongley	254	990	2
Little Packington	4,269	19,890	21
Church Lane, Corley Moor—Coventry Water Undertaking scheme for link main.			

SAMPLING

The following table gives the results of analysis and bacteriological examination of water samples taken during the year:

<i>Nature of Source</i>	<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bacteriological</i>	
	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>
Old Wells	5	1	19	26
Springs	—	—	—	1
Mains	—	—	20	1
	5	1	39	28

Extent of Provision of Piped Supplies

The following table shows the extent of provision of piped supplies throughout the district.

Parish	Total Houses	Houses without mains water available	Houses having water mains available			
			Birmingham Water Department	Coventry Water Department	N.E.W'shire Water Board	S. Staffs Waterworks Co.
Allesley	1,320	2	—	1,318	—	—
Arley	957	3	—	—	954	—
Astley	65	10	—	—	55	—
Balsall	1,056	14	—	1,042	—	—
Barston	160	11	—	149	—	—
Berkswell	688	5	—	683	—	—
Bickenhill	1,001	10	991	—	—	—
Castle Bromwich	2,893	—	2,893	—	—	—
Coleshill	1,821	12	1,809	—	—	—
Corley	248	2	—	246	—	—
Curdworth	170	4	166	—	—	—
Fillongley	437	92	341	—	4	—
Hampton-in-Arden	462	9	—	453	—	—
Keresley	1,104	—	—	1,104	—	—
Kingshurst	3,243	3	3,240	—	—	—
Lea Marston	87	2	85	—	—	—
Maxstoke	86	33	53	—	—	—
Meriden	563	16	—	547	—	—
Packington (Great and Little)	64	26	33	5	—	—
Shustoke	191	—	191	—	—	—
Water Orton	991	—	991	—	—	—
Nether Whitacre	277	2	275	—	—	—
Over Whitacre	109	8	101	—	—	—
Wishaw and Moxhull	65	12	—	—	—	53
	18,058	276	11,169	5,547	1,013	53

Percentage of houses which do not have public water mains available is 1.53 compared with 1.68 in 1963

MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	4,160	319	189	20,561	8,117
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	2	7	19	12
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	390	31	1	597	748
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysti- cerci	9.4	10.3	4.2	3.0	9.4
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	28	8	1	—	104
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.7	2.5	1.1	—	1.3
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	28	2	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	3	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Food Condemnations

Meat

		Tuberculosis			All other diseases and conditions		
		cwts. qrs. lbs.			cwts. qrs. lbs.		
Cattle (excluding cows)							
	Carcase meat	3	2	12	24	0	21
	Offals		3	2	55	3	26
Cows	Carcase meat	5	0	14	7	2	10
	Offals		1	4	4	0	8
Sheep	Carcase meat				8	1	8
	Offals				10	3	12
Pigs	Carcase meat	14	0	1	22	0	25
	Offals			7	9	2	0
Calves	Carcase meat	1	0	2	2	0	11
Totals		24	3	14	144	3	9

Other food

Miscellaneous tinned and other food: 21 cwts. 3 qrs. 19 lbs.

Slaughterhouses

Number of licensed slaughterhouses in use: 8 (no change).

Food premises

Premises inspected and recorded are classified as follows :—

Grocery.....	87
Grocery and general (not exclusively food)	50
Bread and cakes	10
Sweets and confectionery	39
Greengrocery	50
Butchery	38
Fish, wet and/or fried.....	17
Restaurants, cafes, etc.	31
Hotels and licensed premises	78
Ice-cream (incidental to trades other than food)	7
Industrial catering	24
Mobile shops, known to be trading in the district (irrespective of place of origin)	118
Bakehouses	5
	<u>554</u>

Registered food premises

Premises registered under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955:

Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	4
Sale only of ice-cream	142
Manufacture of sausage and/or cooked meat	20
Fish frying	14

Food Hygiene Regulations

Defects and contraventions discovered and dealt with in the course of routine inspections:

Absence of hot and/or cold water supply	19
Sink and/or washhand basin defective or absent	37
Dirty walls and/or ceilings	44
Inadequate lighting	6
Inadequate equipment	23
Dirty equipment	22
No separate space for clothing	16
Closets and drains effective	13
Lack of attention to personal hygiene	17
Smoking whilst handling open food	9
Mobile shops without name and address	6
Absence of first aid equipment	14
Structural defects	49
Exposure of food to contamination	3
Inadequate ventilation	2
Dirty premises	4
	<hr/>
	284

Complaints regarding alleged unfit food received and dealt with: 26.

Milk and Dairies

Registered distributors of milk:

Retail dairymen having premises in the district	37
Shopkeepers selling bottled milk	45
	<hr/>
	82

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Number of persons licensed as slaughtermen: 40

AIR POLLUTION

		Tons per sq. mile per month
Deposit Gauge—Lea Marston Site		
Monthly average	1949-1960 inclusive—	18.10
“ “	1961	—16.04
“ “	1962	—14.68
“ “	1963	—13.03
“ “	1964	—10.39

Sulphur Gauge—Lea Marston Site

		Empirical Units
Monthly average	1949-1960 inclusive—	1.06
“ “	1961	— 0.97
“ “	1962	— 1.05
“ “	1963	— 1.15
“ “	1964	— 1.22

CARAVAN DWELLINGS

Number of licences issued	26
Number of caravans permitted by licence	208

RODENT CONTROL

Number of inspections made	1,859
Number of premises found to be infested and subsequently treated :—	
(a) domestic	477
(b) business	82
Second treatments	559
Third treatments	26
Premises cleared	4
Premises not completely cleared	559
Number of dead rats found	—
Sewage works treated	368
Refuse tips treated	6
	1

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of shops licensed	1
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 50

Number of bodies buried 2

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Registrations and Inspections

Class of premises	Registration during year	Premises on register at end of year	Inspections during year
Offices	89	89	41
Retail shops	242	240	69
Wholesale shops, warehouses	8	8	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	55	55	6
Fuel storage depots	3	3	1

Persons Employed

Number of persons employed

Offices	563
Retail shops	796
Wholesale departments, warehouses	61
Catering establishments open to the public	674
Canteens	17
Fuel storage depots	11

Total	2,122
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Total Males	958
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Total Females	1,164
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FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

Information regarding action taken and defects recorded is given below in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Labour :—

Inspections

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	5	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	158	30	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	14	28	—	—
Total ..	174	63	—	—

Defects found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) :—					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	7	7	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	9	9	—	—	—

Outworkers

No outworkers were reported during the year.

