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RURAL DISTRICT OF MERIDEN



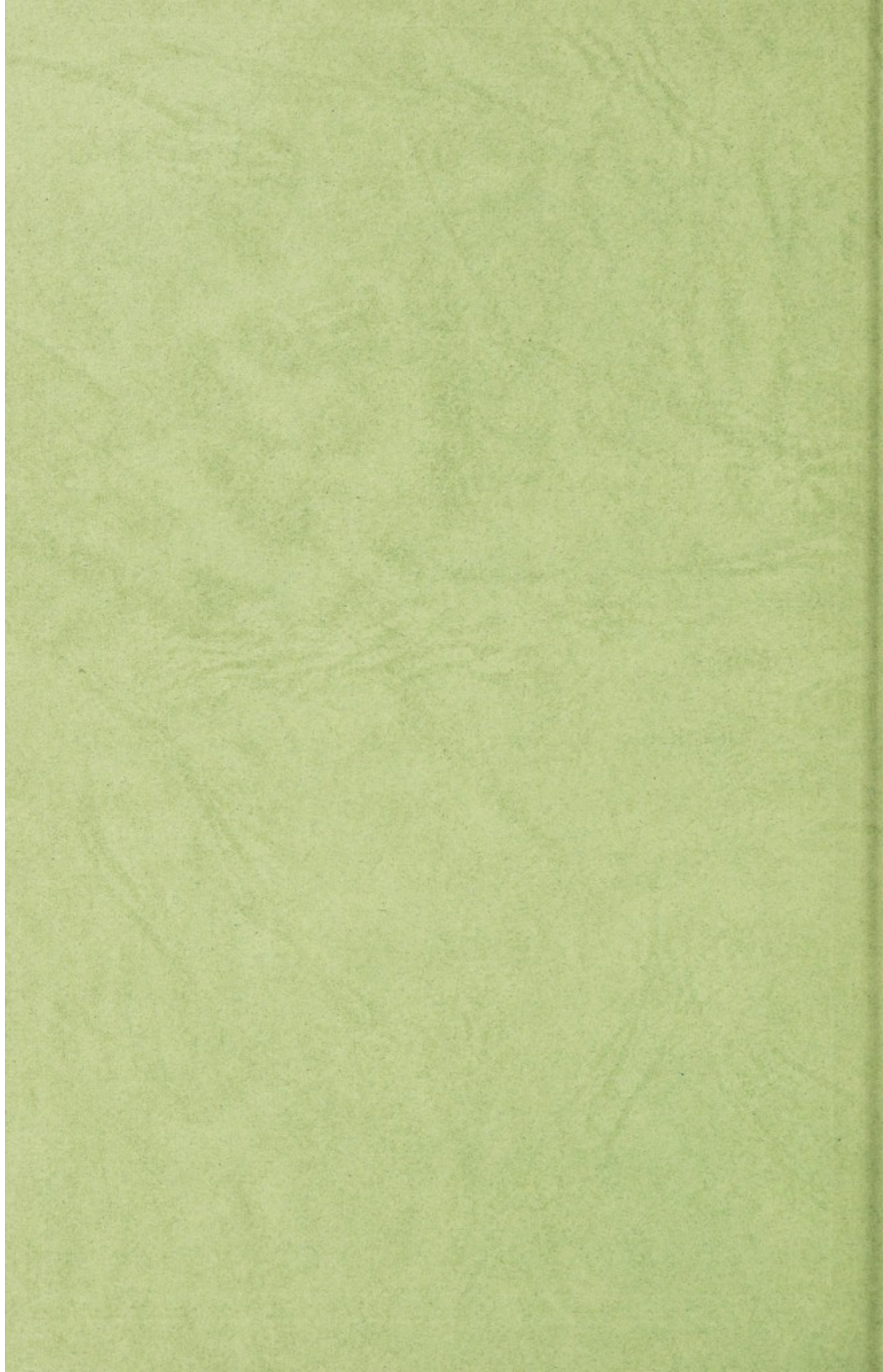
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1965





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 1965. 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.

Owing to boundary changes and consequent reduction in the size of the district, the population fell from 64,240 to 61,890—a decrease of 2,350 compared with the previous year. Also, in keeping with the unexpected countrywide trend, a fall in the birth-rate further reduced the number of inhabitants. Nevertheless, despite this, and as mentioned in my Report for 1964, development by the City of Birmingham in the Chelmsley Wood area is likely to increase the population to 125,000 by the year 1971. Plans for this major change in the character of the district have been largely completed, and, at the time of writing, work has already commenced in that part of the district adjoining Tile Cross where mains services were already present, and it is hoped that several hundred dwellings will be ready for occupation by the end of 1966. The Warwickshire County Council will be responsible for the provision of facilities for social and personal health services grouped in three or four centres embracing National Health and Local Authority workers.

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

For the sixteenth successive year no cases of diphtheria were notified, and for the eighth 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 1964, the incidence of measles increased more than two-fold but without any serious complications, and no admissions to hospital. Although a vaccine affording protection against this disease became available during the year, it was not considered necessary to embark on a large scale campaign, and it was decided to restrict its use to special cases.

Notifications of scarlet fever increased slightly from 25 to 28, the majority in the 5-15 year age group. In fact, with the coming of the antibiotic drugs, the treatment of this erstwhile serious malady is comparatively simple and effective.

Although the number of dysentery cases fell from 106 to 22, 18 of these had to be treated in hospital chiefly because 16 of them were in the 1-5 year age group—usually more seriously affected than others.

Cases of puerperal pyrexia rose to 45, but this figure gave no cause for alarm, because it represented only a small proportion of some 3,387 deliveries at Marston Green Maternity Hospital from where the notifications were received.

Notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis totalled 18—an increase of 6, compared with 1964—fairly evenly spread throughout the age groups from 1 to 65 years, with one case in a person over 65. The efficacy of modern drugs is highlighted by the fact that none of these cases had to be admitted to hospital but were treated at home.

No reports of typhoid or paratyphoid came to hand and the absence of any cases of food poisoning was satisfactory.

The general volume and scope of the work of a busy inspectorate continued at a high level. The number of individual visits and inspections was 10,196. The preliminary inspection and recording of premises liable to registration under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 was completed by the end of the year, whereby some 380 premises—the majority retail shops—were registered. While many contraventions came to light, the majority were of a minor nature capable of ready rectification on request. Details of this aspect of the work will be found in the body of the report and makes interesting reading.

Concerning housing, it is pleasing to record a large increase in the number of Council houses available for letting, especially new dwellings which trebled from 35 to 105. Despite this, the number of applications on the Register at the end of the year was only reduced by 33 to 522, including 315 for general needs and 63 for slum clearance purposes. With regard to unfit houses, a report was adopted by the Council in April of the year under review in response to a Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular. This brought the situation up to date and revealed an increase in the number of houses requiring demolition to 328, compared with 285 classified as unfit in 1961, and despite 148 houses demolished since then. Turning to overcrowding, the situation continued to be relatively satisfactory, in that only three private and four Council dwellings were recorded as such. At the close of the year the Council owned 1,749 houses comprising approximately ten 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 North Staffordshire Waterworks Company (parishes of Wishaw, Moxhull and Middleton). The overall ratio of house/pipeborn supplies fell slightly from 98.47 to 98.42 per cent, covering 16,434

of the 16,694 homesteads in the district. This small decrease was occasioned by boundary changes. Three small schemes involving 12 properties were completed, two schemes involving 26 properties were commenced, and seven schemes embracing 36 properties were approved but not commenced, by the end of the year. No decision had been reached regarding a major scheme to augment supplies in the parishes of Fillongley and Maxstoke comprising 110 homesteads, because discussions were still taking place with Birmingham and Coventry Corporations.

The public water supplies continued to be adequate, pure and wholesome, with no evidence of plumbo-solvency. Sampling of "mains" supplies, both chemical and bacteriological, were conducted by the abovementioned water authorities, and proved satisfactory. On the other hand, as could 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 smoothly and, on the whole, conditions at the eight registered slaughterhouses and the quality of the meat were satisfactory. The total of animals inspected was 35,617.

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, 402 premises were visited and 704 defects recorded, the majority being resolved informally. A total of 84 hotels and licensed premises were inspected and legal proceedings against the proprietor of one hotel arising from unsatisfactory conditions in the kitchens resulted in a substantial fine. In another instance, successful proceedings were taken against the manufacturer of a pork pie containing foreign matter.

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

In the light of the Chelmsley Wood 1,450 acre development by Birmingham Corporation, the Public Health Committee decided it would be opportune to impose smoke control at the outset under the current building regulations. At the same time, in order to "round-off" the boundaries, a limited number of existing houses immediately adjoining the main area were included. In October the Council adopted a recommendation to make its first Smoke Control Order and preparations commenced for a detailed survey early in 1966.

While the nuisance in the shape of an unpleasant smell arising from the Lurgi gas-producing plant of the West Midlands Gas Board at Coleshill diminished, another serious nuisance arose at the National Coal Board's "Homefire" plant at Keresley. The burning of coal-tar fuel in the preliminary warming-up stages in the commissioning of the plant resulted in the emission of large volumes of black smoke containing oily smuts, and the seriousness

of the situation was voiced by numerous protests from the residents which were fully justified. Vibration, especially at night, was another very disturbing factor which the Board was able to diminish. At the close of the year, these teething troubles had not been fully overcome, nor had the plant come into full production.

Some sections of this composite report have been contributed by the Chief Public Health Inspector and information regarding sewerage and sewage disposal, as well as refuse collection, by your Engineer and Surveyor, to whom I am indebted.

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.

August, 1966.

MERIDEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1965

Chairman of the Council :

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

Vice-Chairman of the Council :

N. A. EDWARDS

Clerk of the Council :

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

Public Health Committee: 1965-66

Adams, H. W.	Edwards, N. A.	Neal, W. B.
Antrobus, W.	Fish, E. G.	Nicholas, R. N.
Barnes, Mrs. D.	Greensmith, H.	Page, J.
Bradley Miller, K.	Gregg, Mrs. M.	Parry, Mrs. E. I.
Cockersole, B. F.	Heath, H. W.	Watts, Mrs. D. J.
Cosgrove, M. J.	Kelsey, H.	Wallace, Mrs. D. V.
Day, A. R.	Meddings, R. W.	Wills, H. C.
Earle, R. J.	Mitchell, P. J.	Wyldbore-Smith, A. R.
	Mold, B. A.	

Housing Committee: 1965-66

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

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF
AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1965**

Medical Officer of Health :

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

(Also 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.

S. C. GOULD, M.A.P.H.I.

L. HATCH, 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	66,519
Population (estimated Mid. 1965)	61,890
Population (Census 1951)	38,075
Population (Census 1961)	57,520
No. of inhabited dwellings (Dec. 1965)	17,448
Rateable value (at 1st April, 1965)	£2,543,951
Product of a penny rate	£10,719

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

	Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate		509	527	1,036
Illegitimate		32	25	57
Totals		541	552	1,093

Birth Rate

17.66 per 1,000 estimated population

1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
17.66	18.65	18.58	19.37	19.60	20.20	19.08	20.03	18.55	17.37

Illegitimate Live Births. (Per cent. of total Live Births) = 5.50

Still Births

	Still Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate		9	7	16
Illegitimate		—	1	1
Totals		9	8	17

Still Birth Rate

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

1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
17.94	18.11	18.86	20.08	16.5	14.52	16.05	20.58	18.18	21.67

Total live and Still births = 1,110

Deaths

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths from all causes ..	245	209	454

Crude Death Rate

7.34 per 1,000 estimated population

1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
7.34	6.81	7.41	7.06	7.11	7.33	7.03	7.36	6.91	7.49

Classified Causes of Death.

Cause of Death		Males	Females	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	—	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	—	2	2
3.	Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8.	Measles	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic disease ..	1	2	3
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	2	8
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	21	5	26
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	10	10
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	29	21	50
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16.	Diabetes	3	7	10
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	21	32	53
18.	Coronary disease, angina	67	26	93
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	2	6	8
20.	Other heart disease	13	22	35
21.	Other circulatory disease	6	14	20
22.	Influenza	2	—	2
23.	Pneumonia	12	15	27
24.	Bronchitis	16	6	22
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ..	6	1	7
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2	5
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	4	5
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	—	5	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	16	17	33
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	12	2	14
34.	All other accidents	5	5	10
35.	Suicide	1	—	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
37.	All causes	245	209	454

Population and Birth and Death Ratio.

Year	Estimated Population	Total Live Births	Total Deaths	Birth and Death ratio
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	1,261	446	+815
1965 ..	61,890	1,093	454	+639

Maternal Deaths .. Nil.

Infant Deaths (under 1 year of age)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	7	6	13
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	—	—	—
Totals	8	6	14
	—	—	—

Infant Mortality Rate.

12.72 per 1,000 births.

1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
12.72	15.20	12.93	18.78	15.01	17.34	14.39	16.2	20.7	22.1

Infant Deaths (under 4 weeks of age).

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	1	—	1
	—	—	—
Totals	4	4	8
	—	—	—

Neonatal Death Rate 7.32 per 1,000 live births.
(first four weeks)

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births
12.55

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)
7.32

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	3	4	7
Illegitimate	1	—	1
Totals	4	4	8

Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under one
week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)
22.52

Comparative Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 population.

	Meriden Rural District	England and Wales (provisional)
Births		
Live Births ..	*15.19	18.0
Still Births ..	17.94(a)	15.7
Deaths		
All causes	*11.01	11.5
Infant Mortality ..	12.72(b)	19.0
Neonatal mortality	7.32(b)	

* Using comparability factors (Births 0.86 and Deaths 1.50).

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

(b) per 1,000 live births.

Cancer.

	Male	Female	Total
Total Deaths all Forms	56	40	96

Cancer Death Rate = 1.55 per 1,000 estimated population.

Population

The mid-year estimate of the Registrar General was 61,890—a decrease of 2,350 from the 1964 total of 64,240.

Births

The standardised Birth Rate of 15.19 per 1,000 estimated population was lower than the figure of 18.0 for England and Wales.

Deaths

The standardised Death Rate of 11.01 per 1,000 population was again less than that of 11.5 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 96 deaths. Of these, 26 were due to lung cancer—two more than last year—affecting 21 males and 5 females.

Motor vehicle accidents were responsible for twelve male and two female deaths.

For the fourteenth 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 1965.

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	1,077 (379)	23	573	467	2	10	2	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	31 (25)	7	15	9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2 (-)	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-
Enteric Fever	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	28 (25)	-	7	21	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	13 (13)	-	3	2	2	2	3	1	1	27
Malaria	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	22 (106)	-	16	3	2	1	-	-	18	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	45 (9)	-	-	-	29	16	-	-	45	-
Meningococcal Infection	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-paralytic	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Infective Encephalitis	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3 (-)	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	18 (12)	-	3	4	1	5	4	1	-	-
Other forms of Tuberculosis	4 (2)	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	2
Food Poisoning	- (-)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1,243 (571)	33	617	507	36	36	11	3	68	29

Total Cases of Infectious Disease notified during previous years.

Notifiable Disease	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Measles	1,077	379	1028	93	1,980	21	344	619	1,006	7
Whooping Cough	31	25	40	11	49	71	72	20	112	118
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	2	-	4	6	2	4	2	5	3	5
Enteric Fever . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	28	25	15	15	36	35	54	46	15	92
Pneumonia	13	13	16	17	35	23	63	42	48	25
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	22	106	90	158	46	48	96	41	36	122
Puerperal Pyrexia	45	9	91	79	98	67	98	111	118	100
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis : Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	1
Non-paralytic . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Acute Infective Encephalitis . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum . . .	3	-	43	22	9	3	8	24	34	23
Pulmonary Tuberculosis . .	18	12	9	19	27	19	15	33	18	26
Other forms of Tuberculosis . .	4	2	4	3	4	4	4	2	3	2
Food Poisoning . .	-	-	8	9	7	17	11	2	-	2
Totals	1,243	571	1349	443	2,293	313	769	945	1,405	525

General Comment

Compared with 1964, notifications of infectious diseases increased from 571 to 1,243, for the most part due to the increased incidence of measles, in keeping with the bi-ennial periodicity of this disease.

Whooping Cough

Cases reported increased from 25 to 31, 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 1965.

	Age at Date of Injection					
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	Total
Primary	296	739	37	2	3	1,077
Reinforcing	-	382	62	78	1	523
Totals	296	1,121	99	80	4	1,600

Diphtheria

For the sixteenth 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 1965.

(Comparative figures for 1964 are given in parentheses)

	Age at date of injection					
	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	Total
Primary	296 (700)	739 (96)	41 (5)	14 (22)	5 (2)	1,095 (825)
Re-inforcing	- (-)	474 (486)	117 (120)	912 (718)	445 (306)	1,948 (1,630)
Totals	296 (700)	1,213 (582)	158 (125)	926 (740)	450 (308)	3,043 (2,455)

Smallpox

Table showing number of Persons vaccinated against Smallpox in 1965

(Comparative figures for 1964 are given in parentheses)

	Under 1	1	2-4	5-14	15 or over	Totals
Vaccinated	19 (49)	279 (521)	303 (138)	25 (33)	4 (48)	630 (789)
Re-Vaccinated ..	— (—)	— (—)	4 (8)	19 (19)	8 (132)	31 (159)
Totals	19 (49)	279 (521)	307 (146)	44 (52)	12 (180)	661 (948)

Scarlet Fever

The incidence of 28 cases increased by 3 compared with 1964, 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 15 and upwards. In addition, 27 deaths were notified the excess of 14 relating to fatalities where Pneumonia was only a second cause of mortality.

Dysentery

Notifications decreased to 22 compared with 106 in 1964 and 90 for 1963. Of these, 18 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 increased from 9 to 45, practically all from Marston Green Maternity Hospital where deliveries for the year were 3,387 so that the incidence was relatively low.

Acute Poliomyelitis

As mentioned in my introductory remarks, for the eighth successive year no cases came to light and the following table summarises the vaccination campaign.

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

Poliomyelitis Injections completed during 1965

Oral	Primary	Booster	Totals
0—1	916	925	1,841
2—5	383	1,071	1,454
6—15	172	539	711
Total	1,471	2,535	4,006

Salk	Primary	Booster	Totals
0—1	—	—	—
2—5	34	109	143
6—15	45	187	232
Total	79	296	375

Tuberculosis

During the year 18 new cases of Pulmonary and four of the non-pulmonary type were reported compared with 16 and two cases respectively in 1964. Inward transfers of cases already notified elsewhere totalled eight 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, 1965

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
1. Total on register at 31st December, 1964	211	145	18	36
2. New Cases	14	4	1	3
3. Inward Transfers	1	7	—	—
4. Removals	11	12	—	4
5. Total on register at 31st December, 1965	215	144	19	35

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 when the Clinic operates.

Cases attending Coleshill Chest Clinic at 31st December, 1965

	Men	Women	Children	Total Patients	Total attendances
Pulmonary	111	83	21	215	—
Non-Pulmonary	7	9	3	19	—
Other Cases	—	—	—	181	—
Totals	118	92	24	415	920

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 41 children were vaccinated.

No. of persons vaccinated at Coleshill B.C.G. Clinic during 1965

Men	Women	Children	Total
—	—	41	41

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 (10) in the 15-65 age groups, compared with females (1) affected, demonstrating the greater degree of exposure to infection by men as would be expected.

Age and Sex Distribution of New Cases and Deaths Notified during 1965

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 ..	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—45 ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 ..	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Totals ..	13	4	1	3	2	—	—	—

Mass Radiography Survey

Although this district was not visited last year, in the report of the Coventry Mass Radiography Unit for 1965, covering Coventry, Warwickshire (excluding Birmingham), and parts of Worcestershire, Dr. A. Gordon Evans, Medical Director of the Unit, records that the total number of persons X-rayed was 53,510. During the period, 164 sites were visited, demonstrating the great mobility of the Caravan Unit. The overall picture reveals a further small decline in cases of pulmonary tuberculosis—28 cases compared to 36 in the previous year. Of these cases, 24 were under the age of 45 and 10 were in the 15-20 age group. This is contrary to the recent trend of finding more cases at a later age. Although a relatively small number of new cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis now come to light, the Unit is still well supported, particularly in industrial surveys, with an attendance of 80 to 90 per cent of employees. In the course of the year 19 new cases of cancer of the lung were discovered, an increase of two compared with the previous year, and all in males.

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

Tuberculous Milk Investigations—Routine Milk Samples for Biological Examination during the year 1965

Designation of Milk	Total No. of Samples.	No. Positive
Tuberculin Tested	15	Nil

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The re-sewering of parts of Castle Bromwich was substantially completed during the year. Schemes in respect of sewer extension in Meeting House Lane, Berkswell ; Blackfirs Lane, Marston Green, and at Keresley End, were submitted to the Ministry for approval, and at the end of the year the Meeting House Lane, Berkswell scheme had been commenced and tenders had been invited for the Keresley End scheme. Owing to restrictions on national expenditure the Blackfirs Lane, Marston Green scheme, although receiving technical approval was deferred. A joint scheme prepared by the Warwick Rural District Council for the provision of sewers in their parish of Baddesley Clinton, and including Chadwick End which is partly in Warwick Rural District and partly in Meriden Rural District, received Ministry approval and a tender was accepted. The consulting engineers submitted details of a design for the proposed new sewage disposal works in the parish of Arley and these were approved by the Council.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The various 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, 314 pail closets have been replaced and proposals in respect of a further 57 have been approved.

Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

The following tables summarize the activities of the Council's public health inspectorate during the year. They are mainly self-explanatory, but comment is made on the administration of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, at the request of the Ministry of Labour. A note of the Council's preliminary proposals to control domestic smoke is also included.

GENERAL INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

Inspections and visits made :

Public Health Acts

Nuisances	1,310
Sewers and drains	403
Ditches and water courses	108
Filthy and verminous premises	15
Infestations	13
Infectious diseases	127
Hairdressers' premises	3
Water supplies	335
Moveable dwellings other than caravans ..	5

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 487

Housing

Houses recorded	52
Other visits	1,155
Overcrowding	29

Rent Act 19

Food and Drugs Act

Food premises	851
Bakehouses	25
Food stalls and vehicles	54
Registered premises	51
Food examination (including meat inspection)	1,914
Slaughterhouses (premises)	107
Dairies	1
Investigation of food complaints	47

Clean Air Act 311

Factories Act

Non-power	1
Power	132
Others	11

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act

Initial inspections	308
Re-inspections	80
Other visits	82

Pet Animals Act	1
Animal Boarding Establishments Act	35
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	1,754
Scrap Metal Dealers	1
National Assistance Act, section 50	10
Miscellaneous	359
	<hr/>
	10,196
	<hr/>
Complaints received and investigated	1,138
Nuisances reported and dealt with (including housing defects)	1,024

HOUSING

Register of Applications for Council Houses

Number of applications on register at end of year :

General needs	315
Slum clearance	
General	40
Old people	23
	63
Agricultural	23
Old people (other than slum clearance)	121
	<hr/>
	522
	<hr/>

(Comparative total, December 1964-555)

Number of houses available for letting during year
(all types, including flats) :

by new building	105
by casual vacancies	44
less transfers to new houses	13
	31
	<hr/>
	136
	<hr/>

Transfers approved :

between Council tenants	24
" " " and tenants of other houses (including those owned by other local authorities)	11

SLUM CLEARANCE

Clearance Areas

Number of orders made	1
Number of houses affected	6
Number of orders confirmed	1
Number of houses demolished	11

Single houses

Number of demolition orders made	21
Number of houses demolished	31
Number of undertakings accepted that houses will cease to be used for habitation	3
Number of closing orders made	1
Number of houses made fit—	
by owners, voluntarily	1
by owners, after formal notices	2
by Council, in default of owners	nil

Estimate of unfit houses

(Prepared April 1965 and adopted by the Council in response to Circular 11/65 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government).

Houses classified as unfit in 1961	285
Less houses demolished since 1961	148
	<hr/>
Houses remaining to be dealt with at March 1965	137
Additional unfit houses recorded since 1961	10
	<hr/>
Total unfit houses not yet represented.....	147
Houses condemned and awaiting demolition (in- cluding 106 already vacated)	181
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Total houses requiring demolition	328
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Improvement of houses

Number of requests by tenants for compulsory improvement of houses	2
Number of undertakings to carry out improve- ments accepted from owners	2
Number of houses improved in accordance with undertakings given	—

Overcrowding

Position at end of year :—

Number of private houses known to be overcrowded	4
Number of Council houses known to be overcrowded	1
Number of families involved	6
Number of persons involved	51
Cases relieved during year by Council	1
Cases relieved during year otherwise	4

Rent Act, 1957

Applications received during year	nil.
Certificate of disrepair issued (from 1964 application)	1

WATER SUPPLIES

Additional water mains laid during year :

Locality	Length of main (yards)	Estimated Cost £	No. of properties to be served
<i>(a) Scheme approved in 1964</i>			
Solihull Road, Hampton-in-Arden	1,335	4,350	5
<i>(b) Schemes approved in 1963</i>			
Whitestitch, Packington	626	1,860	4
Wishaw Lane, Curdworth	659	2,470	3
<i>Schemes started during year but not completed</i>			
Birmingham Road, Coleshill	1,047	5,450	5
Little Packington	4,269	19,890	21
<i>Schemes for additional water mains approved and ordered but not started by the end of the year</i>			
Atherstone Road, Over Whitacre	1,383	5,600	10
Coleshill Road, Maxstoke	667	2,600	4
Holly Lane, Wishaw	1,110	3,150	4
Lichfield Road, Wishaw	900	2,500	4
Marsh House Farm, Berkswell	560	1,330	2
Chadwick Lane, Balsall	1,950	7,450	8
Church Lane, Corley Moor	800	1,800	4
<i>Scheme awaiting decision</i>			
Parishes of Fillongley and Max- stoke	12,113	56,511	110

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	4	—	18	37
Springs	2	—	2	3
Mains	—	—	15	—
Totals	6	—	35	40

Extent to which piped water supplies are available throughout the Council's district

See table on following page.

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	248	2	—	246	—	—
Arley	963	3	—	—	960	—
Astley	65	10	—	—	55	—
Balsall	1,083	14	—	1,069	—	—
Barston	160	11	—	149	—	—
Berkswell	692	5	—	687	—	—
Bickenhill	1,048	10	1,038	—	—	—
Castle Bromwich	2,903	—	2,903	—	—	—
Coleshill	1,860	10	1,850	—	—	—
Corley	253	4	—	249	—	—
Curdworth	172	2	170	—	—	—
Fillongley	498	84	410	—	4	—
Hampton-in-Arden	470	4	—	466	—	—
Keresley	237	—	—	237	—	—
Kingshurst	3,291	1	3,290	—	—	—
Lea Marston	87	2	85	—	—	—
Maxstoke	86	33	53	—	—	—
Meriden	642	16	—	626	—	—
Middleton	220	5	—	—	—	215
Packington	64	22	37	5	—	—
Shustoke	193	—	193	—	—	—
Water Orton	1,005	—	1,005	—	—	—
Nether Whitacre	279	2	277	—	—	—
Over Whitacre	110	8	102	—	—	—
Wishaw and Moxhull	65	12	—	—	—	53
Totals	16,694	260	11,413	3,734	1,019	268

Percentage of houses which do not have public water mains available is 1.58 compared with 1.53 in 1964. This apparent increase is due to boundary changes.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD PRODUCTION AND HANDLING

Meat Inspection

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	3,888	129	196	20,892	10,512
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	1	8	21	24
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	346	13	1	1,029	1,278
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysti- cerci	8.98	10.85	4.59	5.03	12.39
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	11	2	—	—	170
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.28	1.55	—	—	1.62
<i>Cysticercosis</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	29	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigera- tion	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—

Food Condemnations

Meat

		Tuberculosis cwts. qrs. lbs.			All other diseases and conditions cwts. qrs. lbs.		
Cattle (excluding cows)							
	Carcase meat	1	3	12	28	1	17
	Offals	1	0	2	49	1	18
Cows							
	Carcase meat			2	4	2	19
	Offals		1	6	1	2	9
Sheep							
	Carcase meat				8	3	19
	Offals				19	0	27
Pigs							
	Carcase meat	19	0	2	31	0	22
	Offals			9	15	0	7
Calves							
	Carcase meat				4	1	1
Totals		22	1	5	162	2	27

Other food

Miscellaneous (mainly tinned) food : 1 ton 19 cwts. 80 lbs.

Slaughterhouses

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

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

Category	Number inspected and recorded	Number complying with Regulation 16*	Number to which Regulation 19 applies*	Number complying with Regulation 19
Grocery	80	75	79	78
Grocery and General (not exclusively food) ..	45	40	41	39
Bread and cakes	9	8	9	9
Sweets and confectionery ..	30	28	30	30
Greengrocery	20	19	20	19
Butchery	34	31	33	33
Fish, wet and/or fried ..	8	8	8	8
Restaurants, Cafes, etc. ..	26	26	26	26
Hotels and Licensed Premises	84	79	84	82
Ice-cream (incidental to trades other than food)	3	3	3	3
Industrial Catering ..	25	25	25	25
Bakehouses	5	4	5	5
School Kitchens	33	30	33	30
	402	376	396	387

* Regulation 16 requires the provision of wash-hand basins for the use of food personnel.
Regulation 19 requires the provision of sinks for washing food and equipment where open food is handled.

Summary of defects discovered and dealt with informally in the course of routine inspections :

Defects of premises and lack of proper maintenance	374
Defective or inadequate equipment	185
Unhygienic practices	129
Miscellaneous contraventions involving food vehicles	16
	<hr/> 704 <hr/>

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	147
Manufacture of sausage and/or cooked meat	21
Fish frying.....	12

Ice-cream sampling

The following table gives the results of bacteriological examination of the twelve samples taken during the year :

Grade	Mobiles				Premises			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Soft ice-cream	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other ice-cream	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	—

Legal Proceedings

- (1) against the proprietor of an hotel in respect of contraventions at the hotel kitchen :

(a) dirty equipment	}	Fines totalling £80 imposed plus 20 guineas costs.
(b) defective sink		
(c) dirty walls, floors and windows		
- (2) in respect of the sale of a pork pie containing foreign matter

Shopkeeper relied on implied warranty ; proceedings against the manufacturer	}	Fined £25 plus 10 guineas costs.

Complaints regarding alleged unfit food received and dealt with: 18.

Milk and Dairies

Registered distributors of milk:

Retail dairymen having premises in the district	37
Shopkeepers selling bottled milk	48
	<hr/>
	85
	<hr/>

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Number of persons licensed as slaughtermen: 44

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Proposed smoke control programme

The intention of Birmingham Corporation to develop about 1,400 acres of land at Chelmsley Wood gave rise to a proposal by the Council's Public Health Committee to impose smoke control at the outset, with minimum inconvenience to incoming occupiers and without incurring undue public expense. It was thought desirable also to include with the area a limited number of existing houses which immediately adjoin it. Informal approaches to various interested bodies indicated that the proposal was likely to be supported, and from officers of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government it was learnt that a smoke control order would probably be favourably considered provided it fitted into a wider programme which would ultimately extend to other built-up parts of the district. A recommendation in principle to make the Council's first smoke control order was adopted by the Council in October, and preparations were begun for a detailed survey to be made early in 1966.

AIR POLLUTION

Deposit Gauge—Lea Marston Site		Tons per sq. mile per month
Monthly average	1949-1960 inclusive—	18.10
„ „	1961	—16.04
„ „	1962	—14.68
„ „	1963	—13.03
„ „	1964	—10.39
„ „	1965	—14.65

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
”	1965	— 1.49

CARAVAN DWELLINGS

Number of sites licensed	28
Number of caravans permitted	199

RODENT CONTROL

Number of inspections made, (mainly by rodent operator)	1,754
Number of premises found to be infested and subsequently treated :—	
(a) domestic	415
(b) business	97
Second treatments	55
Third treatments	7
Premises cleared	512
Number of dead rats found	158
Sewage works treated	3

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of shops licensed	1
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 50)

Number of bodies buried by local authority	1
--	---

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

Number of person registered (all in respect of premises within the Rural District)	11
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OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The preliminary inspection and recording of premises liable to registration was completed by the end of the year. Whilst it is possible that a few occupiers may have failed to register, this is thought to be unlikely. Considerable trouble has been taken to make the requirement known, and the extensive local knowledge of the inspectors has been used to seek out all premises likely to be within the scope of the Act. The following tables gives the effective registrations at the 31st December and the general inspections made during the year.

Class of premises	Premises Registered during year	Total registered premises at end of year	General Inspections during year
Offices	11	85	56
Retail shops	29	230	193
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	6	4
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	5	56	49
Fuel storage depots	—	3	2
Totals	45	380	304

The reduction of ten registered premises from the original figure of 390 represents the net adjustment after deleting certain cases which were later found not to be liable to registration and adding those notified subsequently. The total number of visits of all kinds for purposes of the Act was 470. All were made by the permanent public health inspectors and no special appointment has been needed.

The following table analyses the persons employed in registered premises by classification of employment.

Class of Business	Persons employed
Offices	560
Retail shops	882
Wholesale departments, warehouses	57
Catering establishments open to the public	744
Canteens	18
Fuel storage depots	11
Total	2,272

(Total males, 1,011 ; females, 1,261)

No exemptions have been granted or applied for.

The primary inspections revealed many contraventions but a fair proportion were of a minor character and capable of being readily remedied on request. The contraventions are summarized in the following table :

Cleanliness unsatisfactory	9
Overcrowding	4
Temperature of workroom inadequate	15
Thermometer not provided	158
Ventilation inadequate	7
Lighting inadequate	23
Sanitary conveniences inadequate or otherwise unsatisfactory	55
Washing facilities inadequate or otherwise unsatisfactory	44
Drinking water inadequate or otherwise unsatisfactory	11
Accommodation for clothing inadequate or otherwise unsatisfactory	9
Sitting facilities unsatisfactory	11
Seats not provided for sedentary workers	5
Eating facilities unsatisfactory	1
Floors, passages and stairs not properly maintained	41
Fencing of exposed machinery inadequate	83
First Aid equipment unsatisfactory	181
Abstract of Act not displayed	162
	<hr/>
	819
	<hr/>

Informal warnings were sent in all cases and it is known that many received prompt attention. No case arose in which legal proceedings were thought to be justified. The frequency with which routine inspections can be made has not yet been determined, but the subject of enforcement will be dealt with in the next report.

Lighting

The Ministry of Labour have called for a special report on the lighting of shops and offices, for which no legal standards have yet been prescribed, beyond the general requirement that lighting should be "suitable and sufficient." The impression gained is of widely varying existing standards of lighting, with relatively few premises that could be called well-lighted and many that may be considered

poor. Extensive measurements have not been practicable, but some special observations were made during November and the intensity of lighting measured at certain premises, comprising a branch of one of the major banks, a very large industrial paint warehouse, and various professional and commercial offices. The following is a summary of the intensity of lighting recorded.

Rooms in which lighting
measured at position of
work, was

(a) less than 5 lumens.....	7
(b) 6 to 10 lumens	13
(c) 11 to 15 lumens	5
(d) 16 to 25 lumens	8
(e) over 25 lumens	nil.
	<hr/>
	33
	<hr/>

These results are probably typical. They do not however include any premises where retail sales are made, these being in the main better lighted. The general impression is of inadequate standards of illumination, particularly where tungsten bulbs are used, the standards being markedly higher in premises provided with fluorescent fittings. In several cases the intensity of lighting in corridors and other non-working areas was too low to give a reading on an ordinary light meter. Offices of all kinds seem to be more deficient in lighting than most other premises to which the Act applies. This is not because the actual intensity of light is less, but arises from the need for better lighting to maintain the visual concentration that office work requires. In one case, improved lighting was installed almost at once following the taking of measurements, it appearing that neither management nor employees had appreciated the poorness of the existing lighting until it had been demonstrated to them. No complaint of glare was made and no case was detected.

The imposition of precise legal standards of lighting might well give rise to difficulties of interpretation and enforcement, since requirements vary widely according to individual circumstances. One of the problems would be to decide where the measurements should be taken. Whilst the desk plane might be appropriate in offices it would not necessarily apply in warehouses and shops, and floor level might be a better criterion in passages and stairways. Lighting seems to be the one requirement of the Act that might in general be left for negotiation between the Council and the employers, preferably with a presumptive standard for guidance in the form of a code of practice. If however, there is a case for a definitive standard for any class of premises it is for offices, where there is the greatest need for good lighting and where a uniform basis for measuring it could readily be established.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

Inspections

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	155	132	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	15	11	—	—
Total ..	174	144	—	—

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)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) :—					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	84	49	—	5	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences ..	18	11	—	—	—
Total ..	105	63	—	5	—

Outworkers

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Bead stringing	4	—	—	—	—	—



