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BOROUGH OF NUNEATON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year

1954

J. H. BRISCOE-SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.





BOROUGH OF NUNEATON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1954

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

(as on 31st December, 1954)

The Worshipful The Mayor (Councillor Mrs. L. Whetstone)

The Deputy Mayor (Alderman C. H. Cartwright)

Chairman (Councillor F. B. J. Warr)

Deputy Chairman (Councillor R. Wilkinson)

Members

Alderman W. R. Chamberlain

Councillor P. Woodward

„ G. L. J. Cossey

„ A. Cox

„ H. J. Deeming

„ N. Elston

„ L. Ford

„ J. W. Lee

„ C. P. Mann

„ R. A. Moore

„ M. R. Moreton

„ H. Rowston

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT

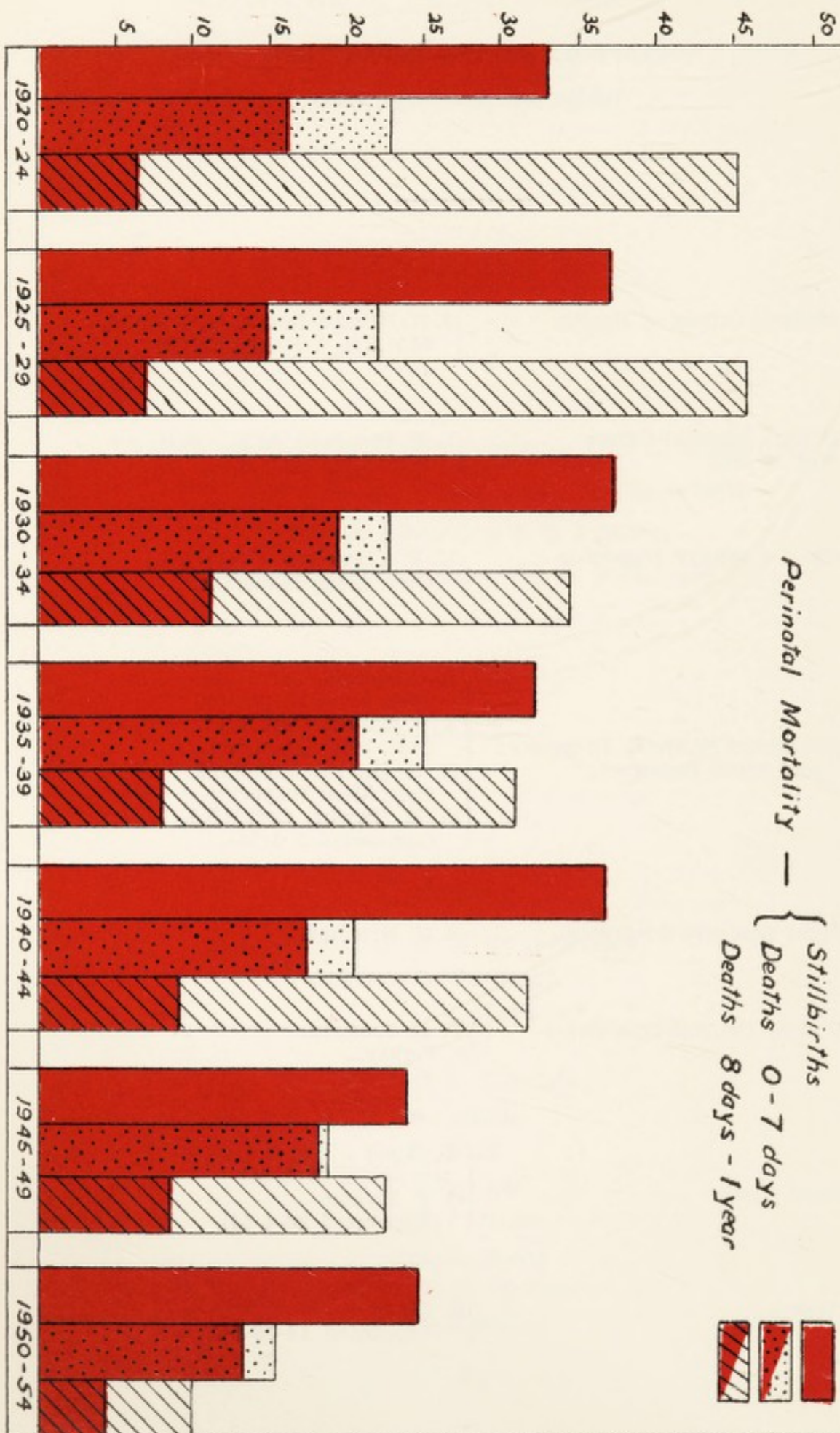
(as on 31st December, 1954)

Medical Officer of Health	{ J. H. Briscoe-Smith, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	{ L. S. Stephens, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	{ K. P. Llewellyn, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors and Meat Inspectors	{ E. C. Herold, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector. A. J. Collett, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector. R. D. Davies, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspector. G. H. Taylor, Cert.R.S.I. (appointed 5-4-54).
Pupil Sanitary Inspector	R. T. Newman.
Rodent Control Operatives	{ P. B. Jackson. C. Oakey.
Chief Clerk	{ W. Wood (resigned 31-3-54). G. F. Baume (appointed 26-4-54).
Clerk	{ B. Glass (appointed 14-10-54).

Rate per 1,000 total births (Live and Still)

INFANT LIFE WASTAGE - NUNEATON - FIVE YEAR PERIODS 1920-1954
AVERAGE ANNUAL RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL)

Perinatal Mortality — { Stillbirths
Deaths 0-7 days
Deaths 8 days - 1 year



RED denotes proportion due to antenatal causes

BOROUGH OF NUNEATON

Health Department,
Council House,
Nuneaton.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Statistical Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1954.

Vital Statistics and Social Conditions

Births

There were 879 live births during 1954. This gives a crude birth rate of 15.8 per thousand population. The corrected birth rate, which is adjusted according to the age and composition of the population for comparison with other areas, was 15.3 as compared with 16.7 in 1953. The rate for 1954 is slightly above the corresponding figure for the whole of England and Wales (15.2). It is below the rate of 16.8 for the 160 great towns, of which Nuneaton is one, and also the rate of 17.1 for the whole of Warwickshire. The number of illegitimate births was lower than in 1953, having fallen from 35 in that year to 30 in 1954. Still births, on the other hand, rose from 19 in 1953 to 23 in 1954. It is doubtful, however, whether the changes in illegitimate births and still births can be regarded as significant in view of the small numbers involved.

Deaths

Deaths at all ages amounted to 482, giving a crude death rate of 8.7 per thousand population. Apart from two exceptional years, 1926 and 1928, this is the lowest death rate recorded over the past 54 years and the table on page 10 indicates the decline which has occurred during this period. The corrected death rate was 10.2. That for England and Wales was 11.3, for the 160 great towns 12.1, and for the whole of Warwickshire 10.5.

During 1954, deaths of infants under one year of age fell to 21.6 per thousand live births—the lowest figure so far recorded in the Borough. This compares favourably with the figures of 25.5 for the whole of England and Wales, 29.2 for the 160 great towns and 31.9 for the whole of Warwickshire.

Infant Life Wastage

While expressing satisfaction that infant mortality has reached its present low level, there must be no relaxation of our efforts to reduce it still further. It must also be borne in mind that infant mortality is only one facet of the larger problem of infant life wastage which begins shortly after conception and includes all miscarriages and still births as well as deaths in the first year of life.

We have no accurate information with regard to abortions and miscarriages since they are not notifiable, but still births have been reported for a number of years. It is thus possible to assess the total wastage of infant life from the 28th week of pregnancy to the end of the first year after birth. On this basis the infant life wastage in the Borough in 1954 was 46.6 per thousand total births, live and still, or more than double the infant mortality rate.

The number of still births is obviously determined by factors operating before birth. Infant deaths, however, may result from a number of causes, some of which are due to conditions affecting the mother or the foetus, or both, during pregnancy and the process of birth, while others result from hazards to which the baby is exposed only after it has been born. These are not two clearly defined groups. For example, the premature baby is born before it is mature as a result of ante-natal influences, and may die simply because development has not proceeded to a point where a separate existence is possible. On the other hand, such a baby may die as a result of inadequate care or infection during the early weeks of life, when in the normal course of events the uterus would have provided a natural protection. Similarly, in the case of a number of other conditions present at birth, survival or death often depends upon the treatment and care the infant receives after delivery. Nevertheless, if the predisposing congenital cause is accepted, a rough division can be made between deaths due to ante-natal causes, including accidents of birth, and those due to post-natal influences.

The diagram on page 4 shows the infant life wastage which has occurred in the Borough over the past 35 years, distinguishing between infant lives lost as a result of ante-natal and post-natal causes. In its preparation regard has been had to the fact that the figures for any particular year may be misleading and average annual rates for five year periods have, therefore, been given. Further, since the majority of infant deaths attributable to ante-natal causes occur in the first week of life, deaths during this period have been shown separately from those which occur in the remaining 51 weeks of the first year.

The first fact which this diagram clearly illustrates is the sharp decline in infant deaths due to post-natal causes since 1920; the second is the increasingly important part played by still births and infant deaths due to ante-natal causes in determining the annual infant life wastage. It would appear that the time has arrived when, in considering the preventive measures to be taken for the saving of infant lives, a distinction should be drawn between deaths pre-natally determined and those due to factors to which the infant is not exposed before birth. It has been suggested that for this purpose a new statistical rate should be introduced—the perinatal mortality rate—and in his report for the year 1953 the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health tentatively defined this as the number of still births + deaths occurring in the first week per thousand related total births, live and still. The perinatal mortality rate for Nuneaton in 1954, according to this definition, was 37.7.

Up to the present our main attack has been upon the group of infant deaths due to infection and other post-natal causes, an attack which has been eminently successful. The weapons used have been measures to improve social conditions, better medical services, and more recently the introduction of new drugs such as the sulphonamides and the whole range of antibiotics, of which Penicillin was the first. We have also used the Health Visitor, who has made one of the greatest single contributions to our success.

There can be little doubt of the considerable part that the Health Visitor has played in the reduction of infant mortality as a result of her advice and practical help. What is not so well appreciated is the vast amount of knowledge with regard to the causes of infant mortality and morbidity which has been gained over the years from the study of the reports compiled during her routine visits to the home.

In the campaign to reduce perinatal mortality we are handicapped by our inadequate knowledge of the predisposing factors which lead to still births and pre-natally determined infant deaths. It is a matter for speculation whether the closer study of the expectant mother in her home by the employment of the Health Visitor technique would increase our knowledge in this respect. Nevertheless certain facts have been established which point to improved social conditions as being mainly responsible for such reduction of perinatal mortality as has already occurred.

It is generally accepted that perinatal mortality is highest in older women, especially those having their first child and those who have had a number of pregnancies in rapid succession. It is high also in the case of all illegitimate pregnancies. It is lowest in young married mothers who have had an adequate diet from infancy and who have lived under healthy conditions.

If couples are to be encouraged to marry and to commence child-bearing at a reasonably early age, they must be provided with a home of their own at a rent which will still leave sufficient money available to ensure that the wife and her children will not be deprived of any of the foods essential to their well-being. It is obvious too that illegitimacy is to some extent related to enforced postponement of marriage and the absence of suitable recreational facilities for young people. It seems probable also that the raising of standards by re-housing in a better environment and the encouragement of a greater sense of responsibility by community activities may well have its effect in the reduction of too frequent pregnancies.

The Council have already made great strides in the provision of good homes and if they are able to continue to do so at rents which the people can afford and also develop community centres and other recreational facilities they will be making a further valuable contribution to the reduction of infant life wastage in the Borough.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

The incidence of the commoner infectious diseases was low during the year. The only outbreak of note was one of dysentery.

This was extensive and affected a large number of school-children, mainly in three infant schools. Fortunately the disease was of a mild type and although it caused considerable inconvenience, since it was necessary to exclude from school both cases and family contacts, most of the children affected were not seriously ill. Although dysentery can be spread by food, there was no evidence that this was a vehicle of infection in the present outbreak, and it would appear that the spread was the result of direct contact between case and case. Apart from exclusion of cases and contacts, the measures adopted to control the spread of infection included additional precautions in the schools to ensure proper hand washing after use of the toilet and the use of separate towels. Altogether 101 cases of dysentery were discovered in this outbreak, although it is certain that many cases were missed in which the illness was so mild that medical aid was not sought.

In connection with this outbreak, I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Ewart Jones and his staff for their invaluable assistance in dealing with the very large number of specimens which were sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory in Coventry.

Meat Inspection

In July, 1954, the Ministry of Food relinquished control over the slaughter of animals and the distribution of meat. Local authorities had previously been charged with the responsibility of ensuring that on the appointed day slaughtering facilities in their districts would be adequate to meet the needs of the local butchers. After due consideration the Council decided that the need could be met in Nuneaton by the use of the existing public abattoir and resolved that no licences should be issued for private slaughterhouses. There were objections from individual butchers and from their trade organisation, but following an enquiry at which the Council and the objectors were represented, the Minister upheld the Council's decision. From the public health point of view this decision was of major importance, since it has enabled meat inspection to be carried out much more efficiently than would have been possible otherwise. With a meat inspector available at all times on the premises at the abattoir, examination of animals can be carried out before slaughter. This is most important and is rarely possible in a private slaughterhouse. After slaughter carcasses can be examined without delay under good conditions and laboratory facilities are immediately available should further investigations be necessary.

Slum Clearance

Inspection of properties for slum clearance continued throughout the year and a programme has been prepared showing the unfit properties, amounting to some 800 houses, scheduled for demolition within the next five to ten years. A number of individually unfit houses were condemned during the year and in December the first slum clearance area since the war, affecting Meadow Street and Bottrill Street, was represented to the Council.

Eliot House

The closing of Eliot House in December was welcomed by the Health Department. Although this hostel had for many years served a useful purpose in providing for men who would otherwise have been homeless, the building had long since passed the point when it could be regarded as suitable, particularly for the old people who comprised the majority of the residents. It is pleasing to report that, with the co-operation of the County Welfare Officer, all the older residents were found suitable accommodation, in which they should be much more comfortable.

In presenting this report I wish to say how much the work of the department has been assisted by the willing co-operation received from the many colleagues, both medical and administrative, from whom it has been necessary to seek information and help. My thanks are also due to the staff of the Health Department for their loyal support and conscientious work during the year.

To you, Mr. Chairman, and to the members of the Committee, may I express my gratitude for your continuing interest and support in all our endeavours.

J. H. BRISCOE-SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

20th November, 1955.

Table I

VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of District	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,767 acres
Population (Registrar General's Estimate) Mid. 1954							55,650
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£316,908
General Rate Levied	...	...	...	...	...	...	26/6
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£1,260

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954

Population (estimated) Mid. year, 1954	...	...	55,650
Birth Rate (Crude) per 1,000 population	...	...	15.80
Birth Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 population	...	...	15.32
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	25.50
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	0.41
Death Rate (Crude) per 1,000 population	...	...	8.66
Death Rate (Corrected) per 1,000 population	...	...	10.22
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:			
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	21.62
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	22.38
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	Nil
*Perinatal Mortality Rate	...	...	37.69
Sex Ratio at Birth	...	923 males per 1,000 females	
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion			1

*Stillbirths plus deaths in the first week of life per 1,000 related total births (live and still).

Table II

VITAL STATISTICS, 1901-1954 (Crude Rates)

Ten year Average	Population	No. of Deaths	No. of Births	No. of Infant Deaths	Death Rate	Birth Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1901-10	30,822	382	1,034	129	12.5	33.6	126
1911-20	38,697	472	1,076	109	12.2	26.8	100
1921-30	44,152	444	939	63	9.9	20.9	66.9
1931-40	47,971	497	807	48	10.3	16.8	59.4
1941-50	51,262	540	1,063	48	10.6	20.7	44.7
Yearly							
1951	54,120	611	917	22	11.2	16.9	23.9
1952	54,340	541	857	37	9.9	15.7	43.1
1953	54,970	526	943	22	9.6	17.2	23.3
1954	55,650	482	879	19	8.7	15.8	21.6

Table III
BIRTHS AND DEATHS BY SEXES—1954

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	407	442	849
Illegitimate	15	15	30
Total	422	457	879
Stillbirths			
Legitimate	13	10	23
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	13	10	23
Total (live and still)	435	467	902
Deaths	Males	Females	Total
All ages	268	214	482
Under one year	13	6	19

Table IV
INFANT MORTALITY
ANALYSIS OF INFANT DEATHS, 1954

Causes of Death	1st. week	2nd. wk.	3rd. wk.	4th. wk.	Total und'r 4 wks	1-3 mths	4-6 mths	7-9 mths	10-12 mths	Total under 1 year
Congenital										
Malformations	—	1	2	—	3	2	—	—	—	5
Prematurity	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Birth Injuries	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Haemorrhagic Disease of New- born	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Gastro Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Misadventure	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Totals	11	1	2	—	14	3	2	—	—	19

Table V
CAUSES OF DEATH, 1954

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
All Causes	268	214	482
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	7	1	8
Tuberculosis—Other Forms	1	—	1
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	4	6	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	9	3	12
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	25	14	39
Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	1	1	2
Diabetes	—	6	6
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	32	42	74
Coronary Disease, Angina	41	24	65
Hypertension with Heart Disease	6	7	13
Other Heart Disease	30	38	68
Other Circulatory Disease	11	10	21
Influenza	—	—	—
Pneumonia	7	7	14
Bronchitis	22	5	27
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	11	3	14
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	5	2	7
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa	1	3	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	5	2	7
Hyperplasia of Prostate	7	—	7
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ..	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	6	3	9
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	21	19	40
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	3	5
All Other Accidents	9	6	15
Suicide	5	—	5
Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—

Table VI
AGE ANALYSIS OF DEATHS

Under 1 year	19
1—2 years	1
3—4 years	—
5—9 years	6
10—14 years	1
15—24 years	4
25—44 years	33
45—64 years	113
65 years and over	305
Total	482

Table VII

**NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE
DISEASES**

(Totals after any cancellations)

Disease	Age at Notification									Age unknown	Totals	Deaths
	Under 1 yr	1-2 yrs	3-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45-64 yrs	65 yrs and over			
Scarlet Fever	—	1	11	31	9	2	—	1	—	—	55	—
Whooping Cough	5	13	17	23	—	—	1	—	—	1	60	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	5	28	34	76	8	7	2	—	—	—	160	—
Pneumonia	1	3	1	2	3	4	8	9	7	—	38	1
Dysentery	3	7	15	56	4	3	12	—	1	7	108	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	5	—	11	—
Meningococcal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infection	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	—	1	1	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	9	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary	—	2	5	3	3	19	23	10	1	1	67	8
Other forms	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	1	—	—	8	1

Table VIII

**NOTIFICATION OF THE COMMONER INFECTIOUS DISEASES
DURING THE FIVE YEARS 1950-1954**

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Scarlet Fever	47	71	273	85	55
Measles	589	516	442	423	160
Whooping Cough	80	94	70	62	60
Poliomyelitis:					
Paralytic	{ 10	{ 10	1	9	1
Non-Paralytic			—	6	—

Table IX
TUBERCULOSIS

**FIRST NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS ANALYSED IN
AGE GROUPS**

Age Group	New Notified Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4 years	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-14 "	4	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
15-24 "	10	9	2	—	—	—	—	—
25-34 "	4	8	1	1	—	—	—	—
35-44 "	8	3	—	1	2	1	—	—
45-54 "	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-64 "	4	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
65 years & over .	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
Age unknown ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	41	26	3	5	7	1	1	—

Table X
STAGE OF DISEASE AT TIME OF NOTIFICATION

Through the helpful co-operation of the Chest Physicians and General Practitioners I have been successful in obtaining the classification of the stage of disease at diagnosis for all but 10 of the 67 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified. The results were as follows:

	No positive sputum		Positive sputum	
Stage 1 (Early)	...	30	...	2
Stage 2 (Intermediate)	...	9	...	8
Stage 3 (Late)	...	2	...	6
Totals	...	41	...	16

Table XI

**ADDITIONS AND REMOVALS FROM THE TUBERCULOSIS
REGISTER DURING 1954**

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F
Cases on register at 1st January, 1954	276	241	35	40	311	281
Cases notified for the first time	41	26	3	5	44	31
Cases which came to notice, e.g., removals, etc.	14	6	—	—	14	6
Cases removed from the register, e.g., cured, deaths, removals, etc.	59	50	12	11	71	61
Cases remaining on the register at the 31st December, 1954 ..	272	223	26	34	298	257

Table XII

**THE STATE OF THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER DURING THE
TEN YEARS 1945-1954**

Year	New Cases Notified		Deaths		Cases Remaining on Register on 31st December	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1945	83	8	22	3	334	132
1946	60	6	34	7	371	140
1947	84	13	23	3	423	146
1948	108	15	20	2	360	84
1949	96	10	28	6	416	79
1950	60	14	23	7	436	84
1951	69	8	12	3	470	87
1952	91	12	8	3	494	79
1953	71	8	15	1	517	75
1954	67	8	8	1	495	60

Table XIII

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

The Warwickshire County Council as the Local Health Authority continued to supply excellent facilities for mothers and babies to attend infant welfare centres. Owing to the rapid growth of the Camp Hill Estate a new welfare centre was opened on the estate on the 22nd July, 1954. The following table shows the clinics functioning during the year—each session was attended by health visitors and a medical officer.

Camp Hill	Every Tuesday afternoon.
Riversley Park	Every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon.
Stockingford	Every Monday and Wednesday afternoon.

Table XIV

**SITUATION OF POST-WAR COUNCIL HOUSES
ERECTED BY 31st DECEMBER, 1954**

Estate	No. Completed
Abbey Street (Flats)	21
Attleborough	49
Bucks Hill	46
Caldwell Estate	372
Camp Hill Estate	671
Church Street (Flats)	58
Green Lane	60
Greenmoor Road	46
Heath End Road	48
Hill Top (East Estate)	364
Marston Estate	246
Mount Street (Flats)	27
Ramsden Avenue	34
Valley Road	36
Various small sites	84
Vernons Lane	246
Weddington	84
Whittleford Road Estate	70
Total ...	2,562
Total houses erected during the year	= 407

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS MADE DURING THE YEAR

Public Health

Dwelling-houses (number of nuisances inspected) ...	1,131
Dwelling-houses (re-inspections) ...	1,673
Dwelling-houses (inspections re. water supply) ...	65
Inspections:	
Municipal Lodging House ...	2
Moveable Dwellings ...	13
Smoke Observations ...	23
Drains tested or inspected ...	44
Visits to cases of infectious disease ...	499
Disinfections (infectious disease) ...	31
Disinfestations (vermin) ...	52

Housing

Dwelling-houses inspected for possible action under the Housing Act, 1936 ...	227
Dwelling-houses—re-inspections ...	195

Food and Drugs

Attendances at Abattoir ...	522
Inspections:	
Butchers Shops ...	7
Dairies ...	4
Bakehouses ...	2
Licensed premises ...	3
Other food premises ...	222
Private pigs inspected ...	30
Visits to premises for food inspection ...	136
Visits to premises for food sampling ...	59

Miscellaneous

Inspections under the Pet Animals Act, 1952 ...	1
Inspections under the Shops Act, 1950 ...	332

NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

Public Health Act, 1936

Informal ...	539
Statutory ...	144

RESULT OF SERVICE OF NOTICES

General Repairs

Roofs repaired and made weatherproof	...	...	...	74
Spouting repaired or renewed	...	...	...	68
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	136
Staircases repaired or renewed	...	...	...	6
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	59
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	24
Walls and ceilings re-plastered	...	...	...	145
Cooking facilities provided or improved	...	...	...	22
Fireplaces repaired or replaced	...	...	...	39
Walls re-pointed	...	...	...	39
New sinks provided	...	...	...	1
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	30
Washing coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	42
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	35
Damp-proof courses provided	...	...	...	1

Drainage

Drains cleared from obstruction	...	...	...	188
New drains provided	...	...	...	2
Defective drains repaired or relaid	...	...	...	21
Drainage inspection chambers provided or renewed	...	...	...	6
Yard pavement relaid or repaired	...	...	...	17

Sanitary Accommodation

W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	80
New W.C. pedestals provided	...	...	...	50
W.C. buildings re-built or repaired	...	...	...	17
W.C.s repaired	...	...	...	50

Domestic Refuse

New dustbins provided (a) by the Council	...	...	120
(b) by owner or occupier	...	...	9

Water Supply

Domestic water services renewed	...	...	...	24
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

Miscellaneous

Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	9
Filthy houses cleaned	...	...	...	1

WATER SUPPLY

SOURCES OF SUPPLY, CONSUMPTION, ETC

The main sources of supply of water to the district are as follows:

- (1) A piped supply from the Desford Reservoirs (Leicestershire).
- (2) Deep wells at Whittleford, Robinsons End, Newtown Road and the White Stone, Lutterworth Road.

With the exception of the water from the White Stone Well, all supplies are subject to treatment before consumption.

The water from Desford and the Whittleford well is filtered and chlorinated, and that from Robinsons End and Newtown Road, is chlorinated.

The average daily consumption of water in the Borough during 1954 was 1,781,534 gallons. The maximum consumption in any one day was 2,067,000 gallons. The number of houses being supplied direct from public water mains at the end of the year was approximately 16,391.

Extensions to Mains

The extensions to mains totalled 6,649 yards of 18in. pipes, 2,292 yards of 15in. pipes, 3,662 yards of 12in. pipes, 6,199 yards of 9in. pipes, 599 yards of 6in. pipes, 3,581 yards of 4in. pipes and 1,479 yards of 3in. pipes, details of such extensions being as follows:

Birmingham Water Scheme	6,649	yards	of	18	inch
	2,292	"	"	15	"
	3,662	"	"	12	"
	6,199	"	"	9	"
	6	"	"	6	"
	87	"	"	4	"
Camp Hill Estate	581	"	"	6	"
	2,274	"	"	4	"
	775	"	"	3	"
Marston Estate	12	"	"	6	"
	684	"	"	4	"
Hill Top (East) Estate	83	"	"	3	"
Windmill Road	334	"	"	4	"
Barrington Road	46	"	"	4	"
Oakdene Crescent	156	"	"	4	"
	4	"	"	3	"
Lutterworth Road	342	"	"	3	"
Pingle Fields	275	"	"	3	"

SAMPLING

Regular sampling from each source of supply has been carried out as follows:

Place of Sampling	No. of samples taken		Chemical		Bacteriological	
	Chemical	Bacteriological	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuttle Hill Booster Station (Desford Supply)	4	18	4	—	18	—
Whittleford Pumping Station	4	35	4	—	35	—
Robinsons End Pumping Station	4	75	4	—	62	13
White Stone Well	4	15	4	—	15	—
Newtown Road, Borehole	4	16	4	—	16	—
Miscellaneous	6	12	6	—	7	5
Totals	26	171	26	—	153	18

SPECIMEN CHEMICAL ANALYSES

	Sources of Supply				
	Tuttle Hill Reservoir	White Stone Well	Robinsons End	Newtown Road	Whittleford
Appearance	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear	Bright & clear
Total dissolved solids .	19.20	70.80	51.60	60.70	70.80
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 26.7 deg. C.)	0.080	0.040	0.030	0.020	0.045
Chlorides as Cl.	1.40	2.57	3.57	2.10	4.20
Free and saline N.H.3	Trace	Nil	Nil	Nil	Trace
Albuminoid ammonia .	0.002	Trace	Trace	Nil	Nil
Nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrates	0.110	0.110	0.060	0.025	0.025
Temporary hardness . .	3.00	17.00	19.00	9.75	19.75
Permanent hardness . .	11.90	18.60	22.75	24.25	25.00
Total hardness	14.90	35.60	41.75	34.00	44.75
pH Value	—	—	—	—	—
Alkalinity as CaCo3 . .	6.95	18.90	22.50	12.00	19.90

NOTE: Results expressed in parts per 100,000.

SWIMMING BATHS

The Public Swimming Baths at St. Mary's Road were open to the public from the 8th May to the 19th September. During this period the number of persons using the baths was as follows:

Individuals	...	...	...	...	70,920
Schoolchildren in organised parties:					
Boys	...	...	...	...	9,808
Girls	...	...	...	...	6,663
					Total 87,441

Twenty-eight Bacteriological samples of the water were taken at regular intervals during the season, all of which were satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

SEWER EXTENSIONS

Sewerage extensions during the year have been as follows:

Camp Hill Estate:

Foul Sewers	...	...	...	...	1,675 yards of 6 inch
Storm Water Sewers	...	...	...	177	" " 18 "
				43	" " 15 "
				157	" " 12 "
				343	" " 9 "
				2,230	" " 6 "

Marston Estate:

Foul Sewers	...	...	...	...	431 yards of 6 inch
Storm Water Sewers	...	...	...	343	" " 9 "
				710	" " 6 "

Windmill Road:

Foul Sewers	...	...	...	...	338 yards of 6 inch
Storm Water Sewers	...	...	...	338	" " 9 "
				201	" " 6 "

RODENT CONTROL

The following is a tabulated statement of rodent control work carried out during the year:

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricultural
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling houses inc. Council Houses	(3) All other including Business Premises	(4) Total of Columns 1, 2, 3	(5)
Number of properties in Local Authorities' District	30	15,899	1,678	17,607	73
Number of properties in- spected as a result of:					
(a) notification	3	186	38	227	2
(b) Survey under the Act	22	73	13	108	1
(c) otherwise	—	4	2	6	—
Number of properties in- spected which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats—Major	5	8	9	22	—
Minor	9	152	26	187	3
(b) Mice—Major	1	—	—	1	—
Minor	—	37	15	52	—
Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority	15	197	50	212	1
Number of "Block" con- trol schemes carried out	—	8	—	8	—

NOTE: The figures above relate to the *number of properties* inspected and not to the number of inspections, infestations or treatments at each property.

SEWER TREATMENT

The treatment of sewers for rat infestation was carried out as follows:

<i>Test baiting</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>October</i>
Period of test baiting	6th—9th	11th—16th
No. of manholes tested	120	200
No. of manholes tested showing bait take	40	105
<i>Treatment</i>		
Period of treatment	12th—16th	11th—16th
Bait Base and Poison used	Sausage Rusk and Zinc Phosphide	Bread Mash and Arsenic
No. of manholes baited	282	400

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The approximate weight of refuse collected during the year was 11,221 tons 10 cwts.

The plant for the disposal of offals, condemned meat, fish, etc., for the production of fertilizers and feeding stuffs, etc., has been working satisfactorily and has produced the following during the year:

					Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
No. 1 Fertilizer	...	...	...	...	15	9	3	7
"Etone" "	...	...	...	...	12	0	0	0
Bone Meal	...	...	...	...	4	9	1	14
Meat Meal	...	...	...	...	9	12	0	0
Dried Blood	...	...	...	...	4	6	1	21
Grease and Fats	...	...	...	...	17	6	3	7
Concentrated Pig Food	...	...	...	...	245	6	0	0
Compage	...	...	...	...	158	14	0	0

SALVAGE

					Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Waste Paper	...	...	...	...	376	13	0	0
Rags	...	...	...	...		18	3	0
Ferrous Metals	...	...	...	...	12	13	1	0
Rubber	...	...	...	...	1	3	3	0

LIST OF FACTORIES ON REGISTER

Aerated Waters	1	Lighting fittings	1
Agricultural machine re-		Marble masons	2
pairing	1	Metal foundry	1
Art silk winding	1	Metal polishing	1
Bakers	20	Mineral waters	1
Beer bottlers	2	Motor repairs	30
Blacksmith	1	Needle making	1
Boot repairers	7	Photography	4
Box making	2	Plumbing	4
Brick making	8	Potato crisp making	1
Cardboard games making .	1	Preservation and packing ...	1
Chamois leathers making .	1	Printing	9
Coach painting	1	Ribbon weaving and regalia	1
Cycle repairs	2	Sausage making	3
Dairies	1	Sawyers	4
Dental repairs	1	Scales repairing	1
Dressmaking	2	Sheep skin dressers	1
Elastic web making	1	Sheet metals	3
Electrical repairs	3	Silk weaving	1
Electric undertaking	1	Soft furnishings	1
Engineering	21	Spice mixing	1
Felt hat making	1	Spring seat centres	1
Flour milling	2	Tailors	8
Gas undertaking	1	Tarmacadam	1
Gown alterations	1	Tennis ball making	1
Gut scraping	1	Toolmaking	1
Hosiery	10	Tyre assembly	1
Hosiery repairs	1	Undertakers	1
Ironfounders	1	Upholsterers	1
Jam making	1	Vehicle and wagon repairs	2
Joinery	7	Watch repairs	1
Knitwear	1	Welding	1
Laundries	2	Wire work	1
Leather goods making ...	2	Worsted spinning	1

FACTORIES

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health :

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938	196	123	3	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	—	—	—	—
Total	200	126	3	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—
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 ..	25	25	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	2	1	1	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework)	—	—	—	—
Total	27	26	3	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Eighty-four samples were obtained under the above Act.
These were as follows:

Cooking Fat	...	...	...	...	...	3
Margarine	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	1
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coffee	...	...	...	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	38
Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fever Mixture	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	...	3
Health Salts	...	...	...	...	...	1
Worm Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dripping	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	2
Golden Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sardines	...	...	...	...	...	2
Yeastrel	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cream	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sauce	...	...	...	...	...	1
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	1
Buttered Buns	...	...	...	...	...	2

Total 84

Of these samples, 60 were informal and 24 formal.
Analyses showed the following results.

Satisfactory ... 77 Unsatisfactory ... 7

The unsatisfactory samples were:

- No. 1378 (Informal). Minced Chicken. Deficient of Chicken.
- No. 1397 (Informal). Minced Turkey. Deficient 35 per cent. Turkey.
- No. 1403 (Informal). Yeastrel. Contains 36.9 parts/1,000,000 Copper.
- No. 1413 (Informal). Pork Sausage. Deficient 17 per cent. Meat.
- No. 1428 (Informal). Milk. Deficient 5 per cent. Fat.
- No. 1448 (Informal). Pork Sausage. Deficient 6 per cent. Meat.
- No. 1456 (Informal). Buttered Buns. Butter in Fat not more than 1 per cent.

Sample No. 1378 (Informal) was followed by Formal Sample No. 1397. This particular product was the subject of a prosecution by another Local Authority, as a result of which amended labels were introduced to comply with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act.

Sample No. 1403 was followed by Sample No. 1431, which was satisfactory.

Sample No. 1413 was followed by Formal Sample No. 1420, which was genuine.

Sample No. 1428 was followed by Formal Samples No's 1436—1442, which were genuine.

Sample No. 1448 was followed by Formal Sample No. 1453, which was genuine.

Sample No. 1456 was followed by six further Informal Samples, which were genuine.

MILK SUPPLY

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of persons registered as distributors within the Borough under the Regulations	25
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MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of persons licensed to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk within the Borough	15
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MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of persons licensed to sell Sterilised Milk ...	35
Number of persons licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk ...	22
Number of persons licensed to Pasteurise Milk	1

SAMPLING

In addition to those procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, samples of Pasteurised Milk were taken for the purpose of bacteriological examination.

	<i>No. of samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Phosphatase Test	28	28	Nil
Methylene Blue	28	28	Nil

MEAT

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED, 1954

Detail	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,315	898	893	12,334	6,136
Number inspected	2,315	898	893	12,334	6,136
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcasses condemned	15	11	1	—	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	478	284	—	—	465
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	% 20.99	% 30.66	% 0.11	% —	% 7.17
All diseases except Tuberculosis: Whole carcasses condemned	6	21	36	49	15
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,040	484	4	262	380
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	% 44.99	% 53.18	% 5.09	% 2.28	% 6.64

MEAT—QUANTITY CONDEMNED, 1954

DETAILS	Weight			
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Tuberculosis:				
11 carcasses and all organs of cows	3	5	1	21
Portions of carcasses of cows		10	3	18
Organs of cows	2	15	2	13
15 carcasses and all organs of cattle other than cows	4	13	1	—
Portions of carcasses of cattle other than cows		16	3	4
Organs of cattle other than cows	5	10	1	0
1 carcass and all organs of calf			1	27
7 carcasses and all organs of pigs		12	0	23
Portions of carcasses of pigs	1	6	3	19
Organs of pigs	1	1	0	1
Diseases other than tuberculosis:				
21 carcasses and all organs of cows	5	4	3	10
Portions of carcasses of cows		5	2	22
Organs of cows	2	12	0	20
6 carcasses and all organs of cattle other than cows	1	14	2	4
Portions of carcasses of cattle		3	0	10
Organs of cattle other than cows	4	15	3	20
36 carcasses and all organs of calves		13	0	21
Portions of carcasses of calves	—	—	—	—
Organs of calves			2	14
15 carcasses and all organs of pigs		19	1	23
Portions of carcasses of pigs		2	3	0
Organs of pigs		10	0	5
49 carcasses and all organs of sheep	1	4	1	13
Organs of sheep		5	3	11
Portions of carcasses of sheep				18
Total Weight	39	5	2	9

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED (including Tinned Meat), 1954

DETAILS	Weight			
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
349 tins of meat	1	15	2	13 $\frac{1}{4}$
294 tins of fish		1	2	19
2,004 tins of fruit		14	2	7
638 tins of vegetables		6	1	12
272 tins of milk		2	1	5
Sausage		1	1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Jam		1	3	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pickles and sauces			2	24 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cheese		2	0	16 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cream			1	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Soups		3	1	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Dried Fruit			2	20 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cordials				20
Cake			1	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Fish and meat pastes				12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fishcakes			1	4
Poultry			2	6
Cereal			3	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
Salt				22
Sugar			3	10
Cocoa				5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Coffee				24
Jelly powder				2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gravy powder				17
Cake and pudding mixture				11
Condiments				2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Biscuits	3	1		2
Milk powder				5
Nuts				2
Flour				2
Sweets and chocolate			1	22 $\frac{1}{2}$
Potato crisps				6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Custard powder				4
Lemonade powder				3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Margarine				9
Onions	18	0		0
Rabbits		2		4
Bacon		2		3
Total Weight	4	18	0	13