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RAUNDS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

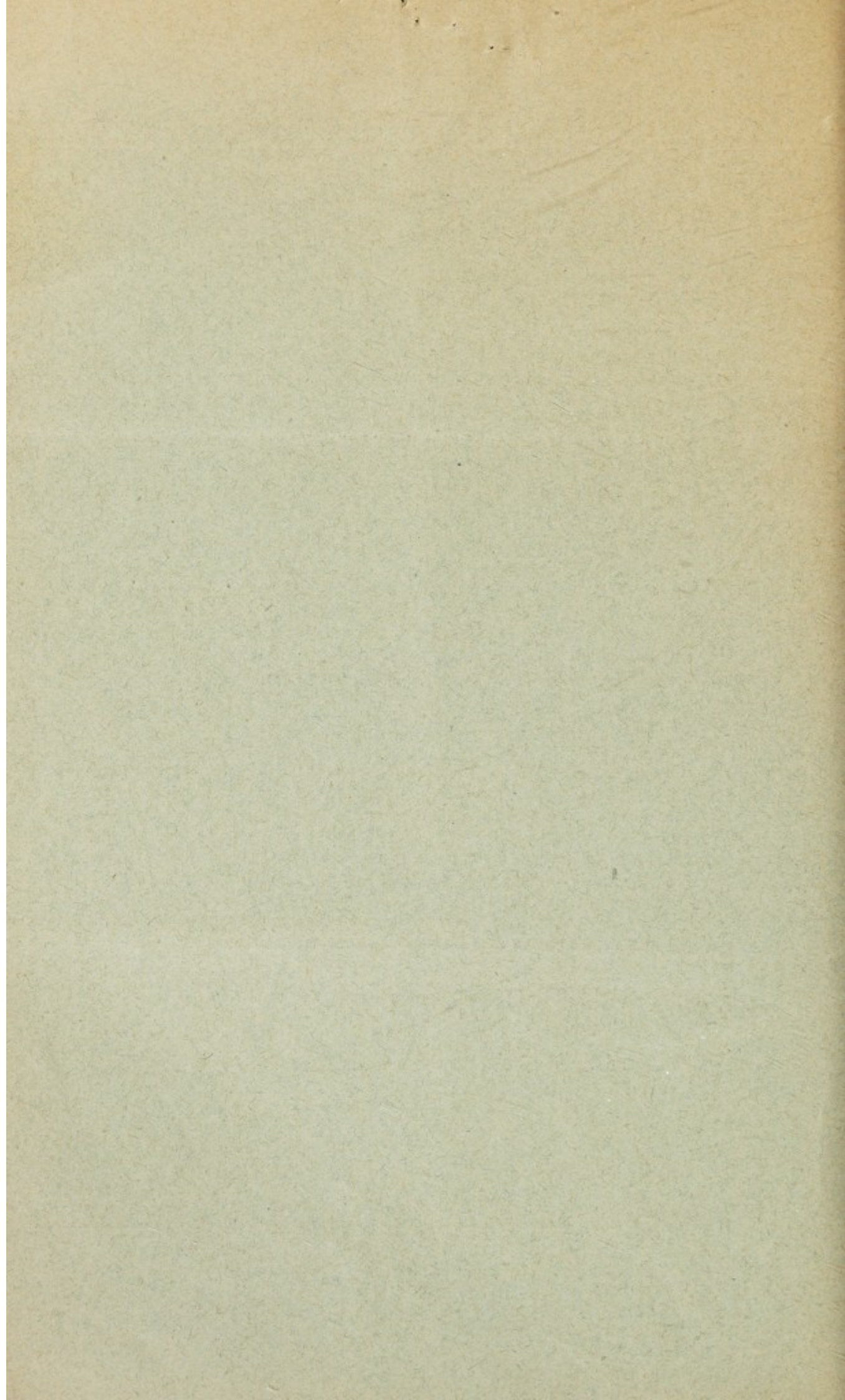
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. MCINNES

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

1936



Raunds Urban District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN,

The Annual Report for 1936 is the first complete report since the extension of the urban boundary to include the parish of Stanwick. The area of the district is 6,483 acres, and the estimated population for the middle of 1936 was 4,425. These figures indicate a reduction of 15 on the estimated population for 1935. The density of population is .71 persons per acre.

The rateable value is £16,529, and the product of a penny rate £62 0s 8d.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1936 was 1,368.

Birth Rate—There were 62 live births equally divided between the sexes. Illegitimate births were three, two males and one female, and the still births two, one male and one female, both legitimate. The number of still births represents a rate of 31 per 1000 of live and still births combined. The illegitimate rate was 4.8 per cent of live births. Birth rates per 1000 of population were :

			Raunds		England & Wales		London
Live Births	...	...	14.0	...	14.8	...	13.6
Still Births	...	...	.45	...	.61	...	.53

Death Rate—There were 65 deaths, and of these 29 were males and 36 females. The crude death rate—that is a rate taking no consideration of age and sex distribution of the population—was thus 14.6 per 1000 of population on the Registrar General's figures for deaths and population. The standard death rate, which is the comparable rate, is the crude death rate multiplied by the comparability factor for this area, was $14.69 \times .91$ equals 13.37. This is comparable to 12.1 for the whole of England and Wales. The ages at death according to age groups of 64 of the returns were as below :

Age Periods		Male		Female
Over 80	...	2	...	6
70-80	...	11	...	11
60-70	...	8	...	6
50-60	...	1	...	3
40-50	...	2	...	3
30-40	...	0	...	2
20-30	...	3	...	1
10-20	...	0	...	1
1-10	...	0	...	1
Under 1	...	2	...	1
		29		35
		—		—

The causes of death were :—

	Males	Females
Whooping Cough	0	1
Diabetes	0	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0
Cancer	5	7
Heart Disease	12	8
Other Circulatory Diseases	0	1
Aneurism	0	1
Other Defined Diseases	1	5
Pneumonia	0	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Senility	1	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	2
Ill Defined	0	1
Nephritis	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases	2	1
Suicide	0	0
Other Violence	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	1	0
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	0
	—	—
	29	36
	—	—

Infantile Mortality—There were 3 deaths of children under the age of one year, and of these one was of illegitimate birth. The causes of death were one broncho-pneumonia, one intestinal obstruction, and one incomplete inflation of lungs from obstruction by a large thymus gland. The infantile mortality rate per 1000 of births was 48, that of England and Wales 59. The mortality rate of legitimately born children per 1000 legitimate births was 34, while that of illegitimately born children 333 per 1000 illegitimate births. In an area as small as this the illegitimate mortality rate has no meaning unless taken in periods of 30 or 40 years.

Measles and Diarrhœa (under 2 years)—There was no death from these causes.

Whooping Cough—There was one death, a female child of 6 years. This child was a sufferer from asthma and skin disease for the whole of her life. The single death gives a mortality rate of .22 per 1000 of population, that of England and Wales being .05.

Maternal Mortality—There was no death associated with child-birth or pregnancy.

Cancer—There were 12 deaths from cancer although records in my possession give particulars of 10 only. The 12 deaths represent almost 18.5 per cent of the whole deaths, or 2.7 per 1000 of population. The crude death rate from cancer in this country has increased from .842 per 1000 of persons living in 1901 to 1.587 in 1935. The standard rate, which takes note of the age distribution of the population, has increased from .841 in 1901 to 1.001 in 1925. It is possible that part of the increase is due to better diagnosis, but by far the most important factor is the increase in the expectation of life. The average age of the population in 1935 is considerably greater than in

1901. Cancer is a disease of middle age and beyond. It is a degenerative disease and is slow and insidious in its early stages. If diagnosed early surgery, X ray, and radium give good chances of cure. Although not infectious, there is a decided hereditary proneness to the disease. At present the only hope in diminishing cancer^{mortality} is an early diagnosis. When the disease affects the skin or superficial organs diagnosis is easy. Early diagnosis is very difficult when deep-seated organs are affected, for in the early stages there is rarely pain or symptoms of any kind. Medical advice should always be sought early for any lump of the breast or skin or superficial organs; or for any chronic ulcer of the skin or other surfaces; or for irregular bleeding from the womb. There may not be much the matter, but the precaution is wise and may mean the difference between cure and certain early death.

Details of 10 of the deaths from cancer are given below :

Stomach, Liver, and Pancreas		Rectum and Colon		Prostate and Urinary System		Breast and Generative Organs		Pharynx and Lungs	
Age		Age		Age		Age		Age	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
	87		73	74			70	62	
	78		47	63				40	
	65								
	3		2	2			1	2	

Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis—Details are as follows :

Disease	Total Cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Erysipelas	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	8	0	0
Pneumonia	3	0	2
Puerperal Fever	1	1	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0

Scarlet Fever—The 8 cases give a notification rate of 1·8 per 1000 of population, that of England and Wales 2·53. The ages of those notified were 3, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 15 and 18 years.

Paratyphoid Fever—This was a case of Paratyphoid B Fever, and the patient's ~~blood~~ gave a positive reaction in a dilution of 1/25. The patient was from an overcrowded house, and was sent to Wellingborough Isolation Hospital.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—The two cases were twins, and both did very well.

Tuberculosis—Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and one non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. All the cases notified were males, and the ages of the pulmonary notifications 21, 23, 23, 28, 33 and 33; the non-pulmonary notification was one of the knee joint and was 25 years of age. There were 4 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, two males aged 25 and 27, and two females,

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water received on the 2nd March, 1936, from Dr. A. McInnes, Medical Officer of Health, Raunds Urban District Council, and labelled "Town's Water Supply taken from the "New well." The new well supply was not being used as the old well had more than enough to supply the District.

Physical Characters						Very slight deposit, otherwise good.
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	p.H. 7.5
The sample contained ;						parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter	...	...	...	...	...	82.6
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	2.2
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0116
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37 deg. C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.1176
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.65
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	Absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	Absent

Bacteriological Examination—Coliform organisms absent in 100 ccs.
 Number of micro-organisms per cc. developing on Agar at 37 deg. C., 2
 " " " " " " 21 " 120

Microscopical Examination of Deposit—Mineral matter and a little organic debris.

<i>Hardness</i> —Total	...	29.56 degrees
Permanent	13.00	"
Temporary	16.66	"

Action on Metals—Positive action on Cast Iron in 12 hours at 10 deg. C.
 Very slight positive action on Zinc in 3 days at 10 deg. C.
 No action on Copper in 3 days at 10 deg. C.
 No action on Lead in 3 days at 10 deg. C.

Inference—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water slightly contaminated with organic matter which however does not appear to be of a sewage nature.

I am of opinion that this water is of second quality and that it is safe for drinking. The quality may improve in course of time with use of the Supply or by continuous pumping for several days.

Signed, S. GREENBURGH,

6th March 1936.

Public Analyst.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water received on the 10th July, 1936, from Dr. A. McInnes, Medical Officer of Health, Raunds Urban District Council, and labelled "Town's Water Supply, from house in Brook Street, Raunds." Rainfall in July 5.73 ins.

Physical Characters Very slight deposit, otherwise good.

Reaction p.H. 7.3

The sample contained :—	Parts per 100,000
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Total Solid Matter	68.8
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	------

Chlorine	3.45
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Ammonia (Free and Saline)	Absent
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„	(Albuminoid)	0.0044
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Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs at 37 deg. C ...	0.0407
---	--------

Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	0.60
--------------------------------------	-----	------

Nitrites	Absent
----------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--------

Poisonous Metals	Absent
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Bacteriological Test—Coliform organisms present in 1 cc.

Number of micro-organisms per cc. developing on Agar at 37 deg. C., 22

" " " " " at 21 deg. C., 376

Microscopical Examination of deposit—Mainly mineral matter.

Total Hardness—24.88 degrees (English)

Inference—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water containing little organic matter but nevertheless contaminated with micro-organisms of a sewage type.

I am of opinion that this water is unsafe for drinking purposes.

Signed, S. GREENBURGH.

15th July, 1936.

Public Analyst.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of water received on the 13th July, 1936, from Dr. A. McInnes, Medical Officer of Health, Raunds Urban District Council, and labelled "Tap Water, Brook Street, Raunds. Heavy rains and floods," for bacteriological examination only. This sample was sent for verification of analysis of July 10th, 1936.

The following results were obtained :—

Coliform organisms present in 1 cc.

Number of micro-organisms per cc.

developing on Agar at 37 deg. C., 8 and mould

Number of micro-organisms per cc.

developing on Agar at 21 deg. C., 360

Signed, S. GREENBURGH.

20th July 1936.

Public Analyst.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of Water received on the 11th August, 1936, from Dr. McInnes, Medical Officer of Health, Raunds Urban District Council, and labelled "Town's Water Supply from tap in Brook Street, Raunds." Taken during a fairly dry spell.

Physical Characters	Very slight deposit, otherwise good				
Reaction ... ..	...	...	...	...	p.H. 7.5
The sample contained :					Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter ... ..	...	...	...	...	68.8
Chlorine ... ..	...	...	...	...	3.15
Ammonia (Free and Saline) ... ..	...	...	...	...	Absent
" (Albuminoid) ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.0046
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37 deg. C.					0.0623
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen) ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.60
Nitrites ... ..	...	...	...	...	Absent
Poisonous Metals ... ..	...	...	...	...	Absent

Bacteriological Examination—Coliform organisms absent in 100 ccs.
 Number of micro-organisms per cc. developing on Agar at 37 deg. C., Nil
 " " " " " " at 21 deg. C., 6

Microscopical Examination of deposit—Mainly mineral matter.

Inference—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is safe for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
 Public Analyst.

15th of August 1936.

The analyses show that the supply is not safe under all conditions. In July the rainfall was 5.73 inches, and the floods in the Nene valley were extensive. Samples taken from the supplies at Woodford and Thrapston, in the Oundle and Thrapston Rural District, in July gave similar results to the samples taken at Raunds. The wells at Raunds, Woodford and Thrapston are similarly situated in the Nene valley. For absolute security the water should undergo some method of filtration and there should be chlorinating plant for emergency use.

Housing Acts—A detailed list of clearance areas is given below. The good progress under the Housing Acts is largely due to the keen, untiring labours of Mr. Whittam.

Meteorological Report—A report for the year 1936 is not available.

A. McINNES.

**Particulars of Clearance Areas upon which action has been taken by the Council
(as at 31st December, 1936)**

Title and Date of Order	Number of Occupants	Number of Houses	Property concerned	If opposed	Date of Inquiry	Date of Confirmation by Minister
Raunds (No. 1) Clearance Order made 15th October, 1934	18	3	Nos. 12, 14 and 16 Newtown Road	No		7/4/1935
Raunds (No. 2) Clearance Order made 15th October, 1934	37	10	Nos. 3, 5, 7, 9, Marshalls Road, and Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11 Litchfields Yard	No		7/4/1935
Raunds (No. 3) Clearance Order made 15th October, 1934		2	Nos. 16 and 18 Midland Road	No		7/4/1935
Raunds (No. 4) Clearance Order made 15th October, 1934	19	3	Nos. 28, 30 and 32, Midland Road	Yes	4/12/1934	7/4/1935
Raunds (No. 5) Clearance Order made 15th July, 1935	19	5	Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 Tittyho	No		17/2/1936
Raunds (No. 6) Clearance Order made 15th July, 1935	24	6	Nos. 4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4e and 4f, Rotton Row	No		17/2/1936
Raunds (No. 7) Clearance Order made 15th July, 1935	27	6	Nos. 62, 64, 66, 68, 70 and 72, High Street	Yes	5/11/1935	17/2/1936
Raunds (No. 8) Clearance Order made 15th July, 1935	13	3	Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Woodruff's Yard	No		17/2/1936
Raunds (No. 9) Clearance Order made 15th July, 1935	9	3	Nos. 1, 3 and 5, Rotton Row	Yes	5/11/1935	17/2/1936
Raunds (No. 10) Clearance Area defined 20th April, 1936	10	3	Nos. 16, 18 and 20, The Square	No		Confirmation by Minister not required
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 1 made 20th July, 1936	39	10	Ivy Place	Yes	29/9/1936	11/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 2 made 20th July, 1936	6	2	Brookside	No		11/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 3 made 20th July, 1936	6	2	Back Lane	No		11/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 4 made 20th July, 1936	8	2	Hill House Cottages	No		21/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 5 made 20th July, 1936	8	3	West End	No		11/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 6 made 20th July, 1936	14	3	West End	Yes	29/9/1936	11/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 7 made 20th July, 1936	17	5	West End	Yes	29/9/1936	11/12/1936
Raunds (Stanwick) Clearance Order No. 8 made 20th July, 1936	9	2	Higham Road	Yes	29/9/1936	
Raunds (No. 11) Clearance Order made 21st Dec., 1936	50	19	Swincroft Place	Yes		
TOTAL	333	92				

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

DEAR SIR,

I have pleasure in presenting my report as Sanitary Inspector for the year ending 31st December, 1936 as follows :—

SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

List of premises inspected and number of inspections made :

Complaints received	...	11	Slaughterhouses	...	...	125
First inspections of dwelling-houses under Public Health Acts	...	...	Butcher's Shops	...	...	62
Under Housing Acts	...	128	Market Stalls	...	...	8
Subsequent Inspections	...	62	Fish Shops	...	...	8
Factories	...	15	Cowsheds	...	...	18
Workshops	...	5	Dairies	...	...	16
Bakehouses	...	10	Visits for milk samples	...	...	36
Outworkers' Premises	...	8	Other premises	...	...	8
			Disinfections	...	...	7
			Total			553

Housing Inspections.—Summary of defects found. Houses concerned 53.

	Defects found	Defects remedied at end of year.
Structural defects	82	71
Ventilation	14	11
Dampness	10	8
Drainage	2	2
Paving	18	14
Refuse Storage	5	4
Washing arrangements	2	2
Total	133	112

Food Premises.—Slaughterhouse Inspections 125, Butcher's shops and carts 62, Market Stalls 8, Fish Shops 8.

Food surrendered and destroyed :

Two whole carcasses of oxen, including all organs were destroyed.

Cowsheds and Dairies.—Inspection of cowsheds 18, Dairies 16, Visits for Milk samples 36.

Defects found and remedied : Unclean premises 1, Limewashing required 3, Unsatisfactory water supply 1.

Milk Samples.—Thirty-six samples of milk were submitted to the Northamptonshire County Council's Laboratory for examination and report of Coliform and Bacteriological content, 24 samples were designated "good," 10 "moderate," and 2 "bad." Representations were made to the producers of the ten moderate and two bad samples, and special inspections made during the process of milking.

In no case could it be said that the producer was not doing his best to produce clean milk, but difficulty is always experienced by producers whose farms have not a good water supply. An unsatisfactory water supply was a real trouble to one producer who eventually had the town's supply connected at a cost of very nearly £100.

Housing.—Details of Housing Inspection are given in a subsequent table where 106 houses are noted as found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation." Of this number of unfit houses, 51 were included in Clearance Orders made by the Council during the year and 6 were dealt with as "Individual Unfit." The remaining 49 are being dealt with in 1937

Re-Housing—During the year 46 houses erected by the Council for the rehousing of persons displaced from "slum" property were completed and occupied, and by the end of the year 206 persons from 53 houses had been displaced.

Housing Act, 1935—Particulars relating to the position of the Overcrowding Survey are given in a subsequent table.

Water supply—The town's water supply was very satisfactory in quantity during the year and except for a very brief period during exceptionally heavy rains and consequent severe flooding the quality was good as will be seen by the Public Analyst's Reports given in the Medical Officer's Report.

During the year the scheme for the bulk supply to the St. Neots Rural District was completed. By this scheme Raunds water is being supplied to the adjacent parishes of Hargrave, Tilbrook, Kimbolton, Stonely, Catworth and Dean. As their part of the scheme the Raunds Urban District Council erected an elevated steel tank of 23,000 gallons capacity about 75 feet high, duplicate automatically controlled electrical controlled pumping plant, and laid about 1500 yards of 5 in. water main to a meter at the Council's boundary. All work beyond this point was done by the Rural Council.

The rural district began to take water on July 8th, 1936.

Also during the year about 200 yards of new 4 in. water main were laid to supply the new housing site at Stanwick.

No alterations or additions were made at the source of supply.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—New 6 in. and 9 in sewers and a 6 in surface water drain for the Crow Spinney Housing Scheme of 84 houses were laid during the year. No work other than repairs and general maintenance was done at the Sewage Disposal Works. The effluent was good throughout the year.

House Refuse Collection.—House refuse is collected weekly from all houses in the area except outlying farms, by a modern motor vehicle properly designed for the purpose.

Destruction of Rats.—The Council pays twopence for each rat destroyed by the ratcatcher and one penny for each tail brought in by any other person. During the year £7-0-6 was paid for 1,656 tails.

Yours obediently,

G. WHITTAM,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.	
1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	144
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	206
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	128
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	172
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	106
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	26
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	25
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
A. Proceedings under section 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By local authority in default of owners	0
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By local authority in default of owners	0
C. Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	2
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	1
D. Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	0
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4. Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.	
(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	17
2. Number of families dwelling therein	17
3. Number of persons dwelling therein	134
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	18
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	142
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	0

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Nil

