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Contributors

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RAUNDS URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. McINNES, M.B., D.P.H.



1956

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RAUNDS URBAN DISTRICT

Chairman, 1956: G. Webster, Esq.

Clerk: B.M. Killick

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health: A. McInnes, M.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor: G. Whittam, F.I.A.S., M.R.S.I.

Area of District: 6,483 acres

Population: 4,680

PARTICULARS of Separate Dwellings, Population, Rateable Value and Product of 1d. Rate.

		Dwellings	Population	Rateable Value	Penny Rate
				£	£. s. d
1953	..	1,583	4,663	20,108	76. 14. 5.49
1954	..	1,618	4,690	20,662	78. 17. 5.15
1955	..	1,646	4,690	21,027	80. 14. 5.82
1956	..	1,616	4,680	31 March - 21,528	76. 13. 3.6
				1 April - 37,182	144. 19. 7.4

Mr. Chairman,

The report is mainly statistical. Statistics are given for the four years 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1956. For an area as small as Raunds there are bound to be wide fluctuations in statistics from year to year. If it is desired to compare Raunds of 1956 with any previous year the crude rates and not standard rates should be compared.

Birth Rate.

The number of births and a series of rates are given below. Up to 1950 only crude Birth Rates could be given, but for 1950 and afterwards a comparability factor has been issued so that standard Birth Rate = crude Birth Rate x comparability factor. For Raunds the comparability factor for 1953 was 1.08; for 1954, 1.17; for 1955, 1.17 and for 1956, 1.17.

Of the 62 births in 1955, 40 were born and registered in Raunds and 22 were inward transfers. In 1956 the births registered in Raunds were 26 and the inward transfers were 48.

Live Births.

TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS in Raunds Urban District :-

	1953		1954		1955		1956	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Legitimate	40	26	35	34	33	28	39	30
Illegitimate	0	0	2	2	0	1	4	1
TOTAL	40	26	37	36	33	29	43	31

Illegitimate rate per 1,000 Live Births 0.0 54.8 16.1 67.5

BIRTH RATES per 1,000 of population :-

Raunds U.D.C. - Crude	15.2	15.5	13.2	15.8
Standard	16.5	18.13	15.46	18.5
England and Wales	15.5	15.0	15.6	
Administrative County	16.67	15.4	16.67	

Still Births.

	1953		1954		1955		1956	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Legitimate	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	2	0	1	2	0	0

Rate per 1,000 of Live and Still Births :-

Raunds Urban District	15.0	26.6	46.0	0.0
England and Wales	22.4	23.1	23.0	
Administrative County	21.18	22.29	24.03	18.25

Death Rate.

Below are given the number of deaths and a table of death rates per 1,000 of population. A Comparability Factor has been given so that Crude Death Rate x Comparability Factor = Standard Death Rate. The necessity of this factor for the purposes of comparison is due to an unequal distribution of age groups and also, to a lesser degree, of the sexes. For example: Bournemouth and Cheltenham are more likely to have a greater number in the older age groups than say Coventry or Wigan, where most are of the earning ages. Females have a greater expectation of life than males.

A classification of the causes of death is given in tables at the end of the report.

Number of Deaths.

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Males	26	23	41	30
Females	15	21	40	26
TOTAL	41	44	81	56

In 1953 there were 10, in 1954, 19; in 1955, 23; and in 1956, 24, inward transfers of persons normally resident in Raunds who died in hospital or while temporarily resident away from home.

Analysis of ages at death were :-

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Over 90	1	3	0	4
80 - 90	11	15	22	13
70 - 80	14	12	25	22
60 - 70	7	7	11	12
50 - 60	5	5	12	4
40 - 50	0	0	5	0
30 - 40	1	0	2	0
20 - 30	0	0	1	0
10 - 20	0	0	0	0
1 - 10	0	0	1	0
Under 1	2	2	2	1
	41	44	81	56

Percentage of deaths over 70 ... 64% 68% 58% 69.6%

The greatest ages in 1956 were 95, 94, 92 and 90.

DEATH RATE :-

Raunds Urban District - Crude	8.8	9.38	17.3	11.96
Standard	7.2	7.41	13.6	10.05
England and Wales	11.4			11.7
Administrative County	11.51	11.04	11.38	11.24
Comparability Factor 1953	= 0.82			
1954	= 0.79			
1955	= 0.79			
1956	= 0.84			

Maternal Mortality.

The yearly number of births is too small to give a reliable figure of comparison with a populous area or of the trend when compared with figures for the whole of England and Wales. There has been no death associated with childbirth since 1935, the year of the formation of the District.

No case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified in 1955 or 1956. During 20 years only 5 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia have been notified.

Infantile Mortality Rate.

A special table at the end of this report gives rates since 1935, the year of the inclusion of Stanwick in the District.

NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE -

	1953		1954		1955		1956	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Legitimate	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	2	0	2	0	1	1	1	0

	1953	1954	1955	1956
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS :-				
Raunds Urban District	30.0	27.3	32.0	13.5
England and Wales	26.8			23.8
Administrative County	24.7			19.68
Legitimate death rate per 1,000 legitimate births	30.0	29.0	32.8	14.5
Illegitimate death rate per 1,000 illegitimate births	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

In 1953 both deaths were under 4 weeks.
 In 1954 there was no death under 4 weeks.
 In 1955 there was one death under 4 weeks.
 In 1956 the death was under 4 weeks of age and was of a premature child who was born and died in Hospital.

Cancer.

The number of deaths for the years of the report are given in the table of causes of death to be found at the end of the report.

Cancer of the Lung.

This is usually a cancer of the Bronchial tubes. Improved methods of diagnosis have separated this disease from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. There is no satisfactory evidence that Lung Cancer is on the increase, nor is there any satisfactory evidence that smokers are more liable to the disease than non-smokers.

The microscopic appearance of cancerous tissue, and after all the microscope is the final arbiter, indicates that the characteristic of the disease is a reversion to the primitive. By primitive is meant the type of tissue seen in the developing ovum or foetus. Although one cannot deny the possibility of a specific invasive agent as a cause, there is undoubted statistical evidence that old age is a most important factor in causation. Cancer may occur in young people, but this young cancer has its origin in the generative organs. In the old, cancer may develop in any part of the body. Medical science has given us a greater expectation of life and, at the same time, a proportionate increase in the number of deaths from Cancer. Another factor is the greatly increased use of hydrocarbon oils and the fact that we live in an atmosphere greatly contaminated by their combustion products.

Infectious Diseases are now treated at Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton.

Vaccination during year -

	Primary	Re-vaccination
Under 1	17	0
1	2	0
2 - 4	1	0
5 - 14	3	0
Over 15	4	2
TOTAL	27	2

Diphtheria.

It is now just over fourteen years since the national campaign for Immunisation was begun. Immunisation was practised in Canada and the United States long before its value was appreciated in this country. In 1936 the death rate of children during the ages of 1 - 15 years from Diphtheria was

2.1 per 100,000 of the population in New York and 31.8 per 100,000 in England and Wales. In 1937 there were 61,339 cases notified in England and Wales with 2,963 deaths. By immunisation, New York reduced the figures of 8,548 cases with 463 deaths in 1929 to 1,143 cases with 35 deaths in 1936. Since immunisation as part of a National Plan was started in this country the results have been spectacular. In 1941, 50,797 cases were notified with 2,641 deaths and for 10 years before this the average number of cases a year were round about 60,000 with an average death roll of 3,115.

Year	Deaths	Cases	Percentage	
			Deaths:	Cases
1940	2,480	46,281	5	
1941	2,641	50,797	5	
1942	1,827	41,404	4.4	
1943	1,371	34,662	4	
1944	934	29,949	3.1	
1945	722	25,246	2.8	
1946	472	18,283	2.6	
1947	244	10,465	2.3	
1948	150	8,034	1.9	
1949	84	1,890	4.4	
1950	49	980	5	
1951	33	664	5	
1952	31	340	9	
1953	23	266	8.6	
1954	9	173	5.2	
1955	13	155	8.4	
1956	8	51	15.7	

A table of statistics for the District is appended.

Year	Estimated Population		No. of Births	Immunised		Notifications	Deaths
	Under 5	5 - 15		Under 5	5 - 15		
1941	305	765	58	139	565	0	0
1942	280	650	73	61	13	0	0
1943	280	650	71	72	68	0	0
1944	328	651	88	36	24	1	0
1945	341	598	80	47	24	0	0
1946	328	565	89	43	10	0	0
1947	340	540	98	39	7	0	0
1948	355	550	77	69	14	0	0
1949	360	563	65	54	6	0	0
1950	360	593	53	36	8	0	0
1951	380	635	67	50	3	0	0
1952	N.K.	N.K.	55	48	4	0	0
1953	N.K.	N.K.	66	55	1	0	0
1954	N.K.	N.K.	73	52	21	0	0
1955	N.K.	N.K.	62	38	29	0	0
1956	N.K.	N.K.	74	51	0	0	0

Since 1935 only 9 cases of Diphtheria have been notified and there was one death in the year 1935.

Immunisation is chiefly by a triple antigen - Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Age -	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
at 31/12/45	0	25	28	41	42	270	402	808
at 31/12/46	2	18	34	32	49	240	392	767
at 31/12/47	2	28	24	35	34	238	370	731
at 31/12/48	6	42	37	29	39	231	335	719
at 31/12/49	1	38	54	41	34	222	314	704
at 31/12/50	1	31	41	55	45	218	296	687

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION (continued).

Age -	Under							Total
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	
at 31/12/51	0	35	44	40	58	212	263	652
at 31/12/52	4	21	37	44	44	218	257	625
at 31/12/53	7	35	37	39	45	223	243	629
at 31/12/54	16	32	36	38	39	239	229	629
at 31/12/55	6	47	34	37	38	245	223	630
at 31/12/56	6	42	54	35	38	236	216	627

Poliomyelitis.

6 children in the age group 5 - 9 vaccinated.

Scarlet Fever.

					1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	...	...	...	...	4	3	0	11
Number died	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	0

Erysipelas.

					1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	...	...	...	...	3	0	0	0
Number died	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	0

Pneumonia.

					1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	...	...	...	...	5	3	0	1
Number died	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	2

Pneumonia is not often notified so that no relationship exists between the number notified and the number of deaths.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.

There was a notification of one case which evidently was Influenzal in origin. The patient recovered without a trace.

Measles.

					1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	...	...	...	...	144	0	2	100
Number died	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	0

The incidence was in June and July.

Whooping Cough.

					1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	...	...	...	...	1	21	0	23
Number died	...	...	...	...	0	0	0	0

The period of prevalence was September - December.

Acute Policmyelitis and Polio-encephalitis.

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	0	0	0	0
Number died	0	0	0	0

Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age.

There was no death in 1953, 1954, 1955 or 1956.

Influenza.

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Number of deaths	1	0	0	0

Tuberculosis (Pulmonary).

NOTIFICATIONS - 1953 Four males, aged 45, 21, 10 and 9, and one female, aged 16.
1954 Four males, aged 70, 34, 21 and 12, and one female, aged 28.
1955 Nil.
1956 2 (Respiratory)

DEATHS - 1953 Nil.
1954 Nil.
1955 One.
1956 One.

Tuberculosis (Non-respiratory).

There were no notifications and no deaths from this cause in 1953, 1954, 1955 or 1956.

Tuberculosis - Number on Register.

At the end of 1953 there were on the Register 24 respiratory cases and 5 non-respiratory cases; on 31st December, 1954, 29 respiratory and 7 non-respiratory cases; on 31st December, 1955, 22 respiratory and 5 non-respiratory cases and on 31st December, 1956, 22 respiratory and 5 non-respiratory cases. Two new cases of respiratory disease were notified in 1956.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Number notified	0	1	0	0
Number died	0	0	0	0

Water Supply.

Raunds gets its water from wells sunk in the gravel of the Nene Valley. The position of the wells is a compromise between the two considerations of sufficiency of supply and prevention of contamination by flooding of the valley in winter. Before 1941 Raunds supply was not treated in any way, now the water is both filtered and chlorinated. It should be understood that treatment makes the water safer under varying conditions. Chlorine can be used in a range of 0.1 to 5.0 parts per million without unduly tasting the water provided the larger doses are necessary by reason of flooding. Over many years chemical and bacteriological analyses have been remarkably uniform and indicate a water of high purity.

This is a typical analysis :-

Sample of Water labelled, "Tap Water, Cartrill Street".

Physical Characters Good
Reaction pH 7.1

The sample contained :-						parts per 100,000
Chloride	...	...	...	...	...	8.65
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0012
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0058
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs at 37°C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0702
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.25
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	38.6
Fluorine	...	...	...	...	...	0.12

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.
Number of microorganisms per ml developing at 37°C = nil
Number of microorganisms per ml developing at 21°C = nil

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

I N F E R E N C E

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a hard water slightly contaminated with organic matter though free from bacterial contamination. The fluorine content of this sample may be considered satisfactory.

I am of opinion that this water as evidenced by the sample, is fit for drinking purposes.

It is to be recommended that the supply be kept under observation.

S. GREENBURGH

Public Analyst.

Dental Caries.

It is believed that .1 Fluorine in 100,000 parts water is sufficient to prevent dental caries that may develop from a deficiency of Fluorine.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

No action was taken by the Council under Section 47.

A. McINNES

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL TABLES 1953-56.

Table No.1

CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death	1953			1954			1955			1956		
	Ttl	M	F	Ttl	M	F	Ttl	M	F	Ttl	M	F
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
2 Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Syphilitic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Whooping cough	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Meningeal Infections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Measles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ...	2	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0
11 " " Bronchus	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0
12 " " Breast ...	1	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	1
13 " " Uterus ...	2	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	1	0	3	2	1	9	4	5	7	4	3
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16 Diabetes	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
17 Vascular lesions, nervous system	5	3	2	6	3	3	5	3	2	7	2	5
18 Coronary disease, angina ...	4	3	1	5	3	2	12	5	7	11	7	4
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0
20 Other Heart Disease	9	4	5	8	4	4	10	7	3	4	2	2
21 Other Circulatory Disease ...	2	0	2	2	0	2	5	3	2	4	3	1
22 Influenza	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23 Pneumonia	1	1	0	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	0	2
24 Bronchitis	4	3	1	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	2	0
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory system	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
27 Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	2	2	0
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31 Congenital malformations ...	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
32 Other defined and ill defined disease	4	4	0	9	4	5	11	3	8	9	5	4
33 Motor vehicle accidents ...	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34 All other accidents	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	2	1	1	0	1
35 Suicide	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36 Homicide and Operations of War	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	41	26	15	44	23	21	81	41	40	56	30	26

Table No.2

A TABLE OF BIRTH RATES AND DEATH RATES FROM SPECIAL CAUSES SINCE THE
FORMATION OF THE DISTRICT ON 1st APRIL, 1935.

Estimated Population	DEATHS																	
	Births			All Ages			Under 1			Pulm. Tubercu.			Non-Pulm. Tubercu.			Cancer		
	No.	Rate per 1000	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No.	Rate per 1000 Births	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	No.	Rate per 1000 Pop.	
1935	4440	10.6	8.5	40	22.0	1	48.0	1	0.22	0	0.00	6	1.4					
1936	4425	14.0	13.37	65	48.0	3	15.0	4	0.90	0	0.00	12	2.7					
1937	4423	14.7	13.7	67	16.0	1	59.0	4	0.90	0	0.00	12	2.7					
1938	4427	14.2	10.07	49	30.0	1	51.0	4	0.90	0	0.00	5	1.1					
1939	4443	12.3	9.2	45	84.0	3	36.0	0	0.00	0	0.00	7	1.6					
1940	4562	14.21	10.3	55	50.0	2	0.47	1	0.22	0	0.00	2	0.4					
1941	5392	10.7	11.5	62	56.0	3	0.23	2	0.57	1	0.18	7	1.3					
1942	5170	14.1	9.8	48	61.0	0	0.22	4	0.77	0	0.00	9	1.7					
1943	4833	14.7	11.6	56	46.0	6	0.00	2	0.41	0	0.00	9	1.8					
1944	4256	20.7	14.3	61	57.0	3	0.43	1	0.23	1	0.23	12	2.8					
1945	4222	18.9	16.8	71	27.3	4	0.21	2	0.47	0	0.00	9	2.1					
1946	4356	20.4	12.16	53	13.5	5	0.21	1	0.23	0	0.00	7	1.6					
1947	4412	22.2	13.14	58	15.0	6	0.00	1	0.22	0	0.00	10	2.6					
1948	4482	17.18	14.5	65	36.0	5	0.00	1	0.22	0	0.00	8	1.8					
1949	4543	14.3	11.8	65	27.3	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	1.8					
1950	4584	12.8	11.6	64	27.3	3	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	1.3					
1951	4579	16.0	11.1	62	13.5	1	0.43	2	0.43	0	0.00	10	2.2					
1952	4521	13.1	13.6	75	27.3	2	0.21	1	0.22	0	0.00	10	2.2					
1953	4663	16.5	7.2	41	13.5	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	6	1.3					
1954	4690	18.13	7.41	44	27.3	2	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	0.6					
1955	4690	15.46	13.6	81	13.5	2	0.21	1	0.21	0	0.00	17	3.6					
1956	4680	18.50	10.05	56	13.5	1	0.21	1	0.21	0	0.00	11	2.35					
TOTAL FOR 22 YEARS :-																		
1935-56																		
Raunds Urban District			1501	1283	59	33	2	186										

Birth Rate, Raunds 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1956 is Standard Rate.

Death Rate is Standard Rate except for years 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947 and 1948.

Table No.3

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Measles	1953	15	81	11	36	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	144
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	40	60	0	0	0	0	0	100
Whooping Cough	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	1954	0	0	0	0	2	1	11	3	4	0	0	0	21
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	9	9	23
Diphtheria	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	4
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	3
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	6	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Enteric Fever	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1953	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
	1954	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Erysipelas	1953	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Anterior poliomyelitis	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1953	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1954	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1955	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	1956	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

It is customary to begin this report with a brief review of the action taken by the Council under the 'Slum Clearance' Acts to deal with unfit houses. Previous reports have shown that by the end of 1955, 278 houses had been dealt with, 165 in Clearance Areas and 113 as individually unfit.

Of these 278 houses, action had been completed in respect of :-

169 which had been demolished,
30 which had been closed, and
43 which had been made fit.

Action had not been completed in respect of :-

14 houses which were vacant pending demolition,
18 houses scheduled for demolition, but occupied at 31st
December, 1955,
2 houses scheduled for closing, but occupied at 31st
December, 1955, and
2 houses which were to be made fit.

Further action.

During 1956, the year of report, action was taken in respect of a further 31 unfit houses. Two new Clearance Areas, comprising ten houses, were designated, the remaining twenty-one being dealt with as individually unfit. Of these twenty-one, five were closed and sixteen were made fit.

Particulars of the action taken in 1956 are :-

Clearance Areas :-

Clearance Area No.37. Two houses, Nos.56 and 58 Thorpe Street, Raunds.
2 houses occupied at 31st December, 1956.

Clearance Area No.38. Eight houses, No.1 North Street and Nos.2, 4, 6,
8, 10, 12 and 14 Midland Road, Raunds.
8 houses all occupied at 31st December, 1956.

Individual Unfit Houses :-

Four houses, Nos.8, 10, 12 and 14 Hill Street, Raunds.
2 houses closed.
2 houses occupied 31st December, 1956, to be closed.

One house, 29 Harcourt Street, Raunds.
1 house occupied 31st December, 1956, to be closed.

Six houses, Nos.42, 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52 Thorpe Street, Raunds.
6 houses repaired.

Two houses, Nos.25 and 27 Hill Street, Raunds.
1 house made fit.
1 house to be made fit.

Seven houses, Nos.3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 and 15 Hill Street, Raunds.
7 houses repaired.

One house, 6 Berrister Place, Raunds.
1 house to be repaired.

Also during the year, repairs were carried out to the two houses which were to be made fit, but which were outstanding at the end of 1955, and three of the previously condemned houses became vacant, so that at the end of the year of report action taken to deal with unfit houses could be summarised as follows :-

Action completed :-

169 houses had been demolished.
32 houses had been closed.
59 houses had been made fit.

Action not completed :-

17 houses were vacant pending demolition.
25 houses were occupied, but are scheduled for demolition.
5 houses were occupied, but are scheduled for closing.
2 houses were to be made fit.

309 Total

Summary action had to be taken against the owner and the new tenant of a house, 28 Grove Street, Raunds, which was re-let in contravention of a Closing Order made in 1955. The owner and the tenant were each fined £2 at the Thrapston Magistrates' Court and the house became vacant again very shortly afterwards.

168 day-to-day inspections of houses were made in addition to those upon which the above reported action was taken and representations were made to owners, either by letter or personal contact, concerning structural defects of various kinds in 68 houses, defective or inadequate sanitary accommodation at 12 houses, defects in drainage systems at 16 houses and defective water supplies or fittings at 23 houses. One case of unclean premises had also to be dealt with. This informal action was successful and the desired results were secured in every case without statutory action being necessary.

New Housing.

Only two new Council dwellings were completed in 1956. These were single bedroomed bungalows for old people, built at Raunds on the London Road site. They were occupied in the first month of the year and since then there has been a cessation of council house building because of the high costs involved.

These two bungalows brought the Council's post-war programme so far accomplished, up to 226 dwellings of which ten are prefabs; 180 are at Raunds and 46 are at Starwick. Only six of these houses, two at Raunds and four at Starwick, were specially designed for old people. They are all single-bedroom bungalows.

The Council also own 218 houses built before the last war, 173 at Raunds and 45 at Starwick. Included in them are ten one-bedroom bungalows for old people, six at Raunds and four at Starwick.

A small piece of undeveloped land in Manor Street was acquired during the year as a site for old people's bungalows.

The Council considered proposals for erecting a further 28 houses on a new site off Windmill Lane, but their erection was deferred because of the high building costs and interest rates.

Nine houses were erected in the district by private enterprise.

Improvement Grants.

The Council operate the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, and during the year made 22 grants amounting in all to £2,232.

Eighteen grants were made to owner-occupiers mainly for the provision of bathrooms with hot water supplies and indoor sanitation. The new bathrooms were generally provided as the result of straightforward conversions of spare bedrooms by the installation of the usual sanitary fittings and hot water apparatus and the minimum amount of drainage. Occasionally the schemes were rather more extensive and involved some additions to or some reconstruction

of existing buildings. One grant was for an improvement which required the demolition of an existing scullery and its replacement with an extension to the main building which gave a larger and better kitchen as well as a new bathroom and which with other necessary repair work have lifted the house well clear of the border line between the really fit and unfit categories.

Three grants were made for eligible works included in complete reconstruction schemes for cottages which otherwise must have been condemned.

One application was rejected because of non-compliance with statutory conditions.

Water Supply.

1956 was an uneventful year for the Council's Water Undertaking. When the year came in we were recovering from an anxious period of very low supplies and for the rest of the year the yield of the wells was always greatly in excess of the demand.

There were no developments at the source of supply and there were no changes in the waterworks plant, full details of which were given in the report for 1954.

The water is passed through pressure filters and then further treated by the chloramine process employing chlorine, stabilised in solution, and sulphate of ammonia. The average dosage rate throughout the year was 0.459 part per million which gave residual chlorine values never less than 0.1 part per million in each of the four, or more, comparator tests taken daily. A typical analysis of the treated water as it reaches the consumer is included by the Medical Officer of Health in his report.

The total consumption of water in the Urban District during the year was 52,986,000 gallons. Trade consumption accounted for 9,878,000 gallons and the difference of 43,108,000 gallons can be attributed to domestic requirements plus a little wastage. These figures return an average daily consumption of 145,165 gallons shared as 118,100 gallons a day for domestic consumption and 27,065 gallons a day for trade purposes. Expressed in gallons per day per head of population supplied the figures give 31 for all purposes made up of 25.6 for domestic use and 5.4 for trade requirements. These figures compare with 29.15 gallons, 23.4 gallons and 5.75 gallons per head per day in 1954 and with 30.22 gallons, 23 gallons and 7.22 gallons per head per day respectively in 1955.

In addition to the consumption in our own district we supplied 20,405,100 gallons during the year through the bulk supply scheme for the parish of Hargrave in the Oundle and Thrapston Rural District and for the parishes of Covington, Tilbrook, Kimbolton, Stoneley, Catworth and Stow in the St. Neots Rural District. This quantity gave an average daily supply of 55,900 gallons against the 40,000 gallons a day maximum provided for in the agreement with the St. Neots Rural District Council under which the supply is afforded.

There were no developments in the distribution system except that a number of unsatisfactory ball hydrants were replaced with the screw down valve type with standard outlets favoured by the Fire Services.

The water mains were tapped sixteen times for new domestic services and there were extensions of existing supplies to five houses and two caravans.

Indoor Water Supplies.

As a result of action taken under the provisions of the Water Act, 1945, nineteen houses were provided with sinks and indoor water supplies in place of the outside standpipes from which their water was obtained previously and which were removed.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The sewerage systems throughout the district, both for foul and storm water, functioned during the year without trouble.

At the Raunds Sewage Disposal Works two new humus tanks were constructed and brought into use. These tanks have made a considerable difference to the filter effluent, but have done nothing, of course, to the water which the filters can't deal with and which has to pass over the land for broad irrigation treatment. The land area is most inadequate and in very poor condition so that whilst an effluent of reasonably good quality is obtained from the half of the works where full treatment can be given, it is impossible all the time to produce a good effluent from the other half where the only treatment available is settling and ineffective irrigation. The honey-combed blue brick walls of the percolating filters which were bulging outwards and had cracked rather badly under the weight of the accumulated humus of years were taken down and replaced with battered slag walls.

Provision was made in the 1957-58 rate estimates for improvements at the Starwick works which will include new settling tanks and sludge beds.

House Refuse Collection.

House refuse is collected throughout the district once a week by means of a motor driven collecting vehicle of the low loading type. The collected refuse is disposed of by a modified form of controlled tipping in a disused limestone quarry in the Starwick ward of the district and owned by the Council. Tipping of trade refuse is allowed there by arrangement. No developments or complaints about the house refuse collection service occurred during the year.

Rodent Control.

The Council have an arrangement with the Wellingborough Urban District Council, under which the services of their full time Rodent Operator are made available to us as required up to the equivalent of three days a month. He carries out regular surveys as required by the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, and treats any infestations he discovers or are assigned to him. Supplementary action is also taken by the Council's own staff from time to time and as required for dealing with infestations noted during inspections for other purposes or reported as complaints. Regular treatments are carried out by the Council's own staff at the Sewage Disposal Works, at the refuse tip and at other Local Authority properties.

During the year of report 281 premises were inspected, 225 as a result of the survey required by the Act and 56 following complaints or incidental to other inspections. 244 of these inspections were of domestic properties, 12 of business or industrial premises, 10 of agricultural properties or allotments and 15 were of Local Authority premises.

Two major infestations by rats were discovered in old uninhabited domestic premises and dealt with. Four minor infestations by rats in occupied domestic premises were also cleared. There was also one case of infestation by house mice which had to be given several treatments before being finally eradicated.

Major infestations by rats were noted at one farm and at one factory and there was minor rat infestation at another factory. These were the subjects of four notices which were sent out requiring specified treatments.

Thirty eight treatments, including re-treatments, were carried out by the Rodent Operator and the Council's own staff at domestic and local authority properties and there were also the regular treatments carried out at the refuse tip and the sewage disposal works, of which no records are kept, and which no doubt check infestations at the start.

Factories.

There are 31 registered Factories in the district, mechanical power being used in 23. There were 19 separate building sites to which the sanitary provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, applied. Inspections of all these premises were carried out and as a result representations had to be made to occupiers requiring the cleansing of sanitary accommodation at four factories, requiring the provision of sanitary accommodation at a building site and the structural repair of a sanitary convenience at a factory.

Certificates of satisfactory means of escape in case of fire were issued in respect of six factories where new exits had been provided and other works had been done to comply with the Council's requirements.

Lists returned under the provisions of section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, showed that ten local factories employed 117 outworkers, 55 living in the Urban District and 62 in neighbouring towns and villages. Notifications received from Public Health Inspectors in adjacent areas showed that 13 people living in our own district were doing outwork for factories in their towns.

Meat and Food.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district where animals are killed for human consumption. Regular slaughtering is done on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and occasionally on Saturdays and Sundays. During the year 289 visits were made to slaughterhouses and butchers' shops and examinations were made of the carcasses and viscera of 263 beasts, 546 pigs and 988 sheep.

The whole carcass and organs of a beast, the whole carcass and organs of a sheep and the livers of eight beasts were condemned as unfit for human consumption and destroyed.

Eight licences for slaughtermen were issued.

New byelaws were made during the year under section 68 of the Food and Drugs Act for securing that slaughterhouses are kept in a sanitary condition and are properly managed.

Routine inspections of food premises were carried out and the following quantities of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and destroyed :-

60 lbs	Tomatoes
23 lbs (4 tins)	Corned Beef
48 lbs (33 tins)	Apricots
16 lbs (12 tins)	Peaches
12 lbs (8 tins)	Pears
2 lbs (3 tins)	Oranges
3 lbs (2 tins)	Pineapples
1 lb (1 tin)	Condensed Milk
6 lbs (5 tins)	Grapefruit
9 lbs (12 tins)	Processed Peas.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district, all sales being of prepacked products from refrigerated containers. Two new licences were issued bringing the total up to 22.

General.

Licences were renewed for the twenty registered stores for petrol and petroleum mixtures.

The district was again relatively free from infectious disease and no fumigations were required nor were any disinfestations for house vermin necessary.

G. WHITTAM

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.



