

**[Report 1938] / Medical Officer of Health, Rothwell (Northamptonshire)
U.D.C.**

Contributors

Rothwell (Northamptonshire, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1938

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ROTHWELL
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Rothwell

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health of Rothwell

for the year

1938;

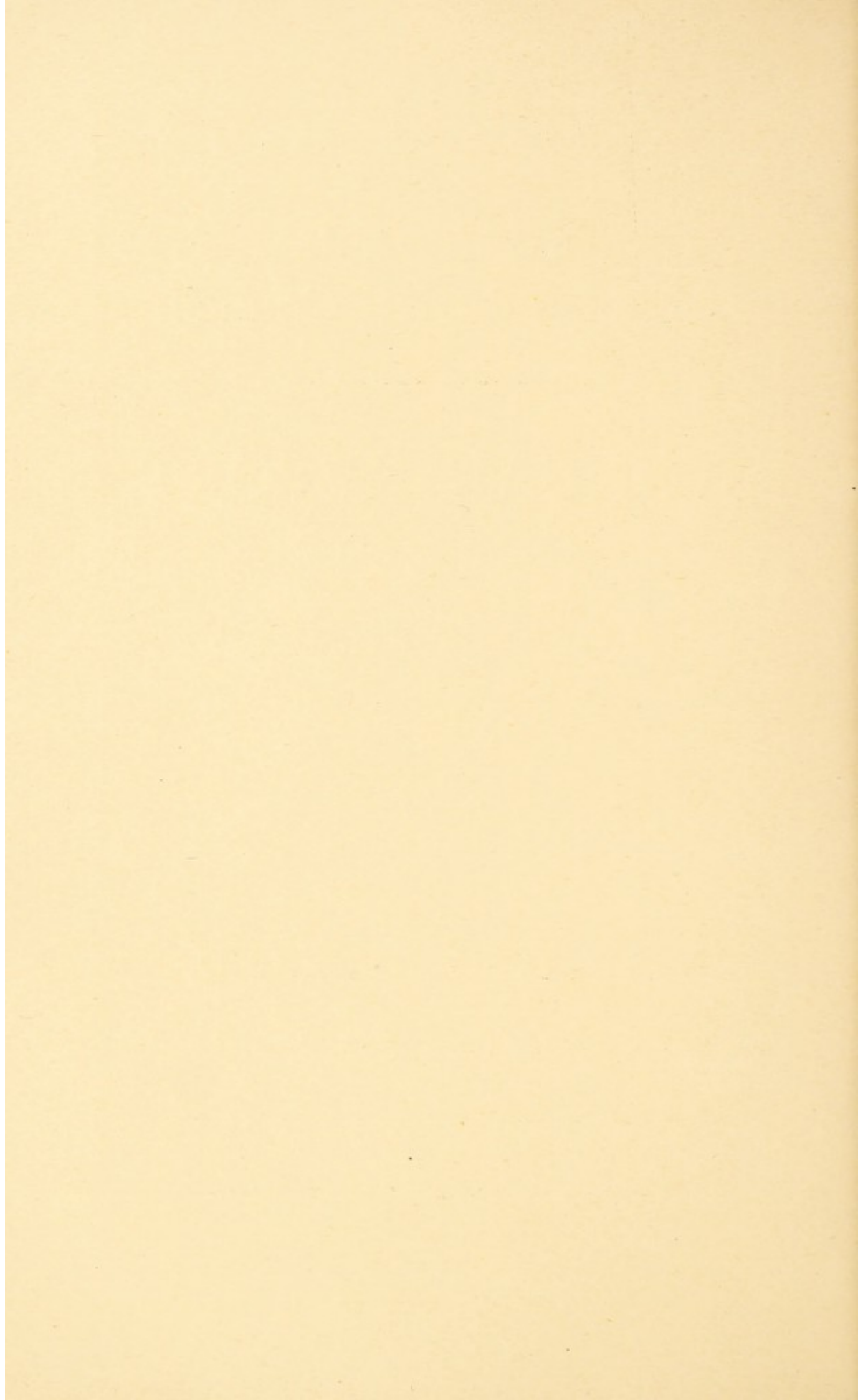
by

THOMAS O. GARLAND,

M.A., M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

ROTHWELL :
MARLOW & SON, PRINTERS, ETC., HIGH STREET.



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HEALTH CENTRE,
MARKET STREET,
KETTERING,
June, 1939.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Rothwell
Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Urban District for 1938.

I would like to thank the Public Health Committee, the Clerk, Mr. Tyldesley, and the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Miles, for their help and co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

THOMAS O. GARLAND,
Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938

	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
Area (acres)	3638	3638	3638	3638	3638
Population (Registrar-General's estimate)	4544	4558	4514	4507	4517
Number of Live Births ...	56	50	58	64	47
Legitimate ...	55	48	55	63	47
Illegitimate ...	1	2	3	1	—
Birthrate per 1000 population	12·3	11·0	12·85	14·2	10·40
Number of Still Births ...	1	6	1	5	2
Legitimate ...	1	6	1	5	2
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births ...	18	107	16·95	72·46	40·82
Rate per 1000 population ...	0·22	1·32	0·22	1·11	0·44
Number of Deaths ...	60	58	60	57	40
Death rate per 1000 population (corrected) ...	13·2	12·7	12·76	12·14	8·51
Infantile Mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	—	40	34·48	62·5	63·83
Total Maternal Deaths ...	1	—	—	—	—
(a) Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Other Puerperal causes ...	1	—	—	—	—
Death rate per 1000 population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	0·22	0·65	0·22	1·11	0·22
Death rate from all forms of Tuberculosis ...	0·22	0·65	0·22	1·33	0·22

Birth Rate, Death Rate and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1938.

	Rate per 1000 population.		Annual Death rate per 1,000 Population.								Rate per 1000 Live Births.	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Total Deaths under One Year	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years
England and Wales ...	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	53	5.5
126 County Boroughs and great Towns including London ...	15.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	—	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	57	7.8
148 smaller Towns (estimated resident population 25,000—50,000)	15.4	0.60	11.0	0.00	—	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	51	3.6
London ...	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	—	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	57	13.1
Rothwell Urban District	10.40	0.44	8.51	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.22	63.83	Nil

	Puerperal Sepsis.		Others.		Total.
	{ per 1000 live births	{ per 1000 total births	{ per 1000 live births	{ per 1000 total births	
The Maternal Mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows	0.89	0.86	2.19	2.11	3.08
The Maternal Mortality rates for Rothwell Urban District—	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	3,638
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid.-1938	...	...	...	4,517
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938)				
according to Rate books	...	...	...	1,437
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£19,050
Sum represented by Penny Rate	...	...	...	£73

The chief occupations of inhabitants are as follows:—Boot and shoe manufacture, Ironstone mining and manufacture of agricultural implements.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

LIVE BIRTHS.		TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
Legitimate	...	47	23	24
Illegitimate	...	0	0	0
	Totals	47	23	24

Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated population 10·40

STILL BIRTHS.	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
	2	1	1

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 40·82.

DEATHS	...	TOTAL.	MALES.	FEMALES.
		40	21	19

Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 8·51

Deaths from Puerperal causes:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	nil
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			nil

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	63.83
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	... ..	63.83
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	... ..	nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)		nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	nil
Cancer	...	8

As compared with the year 1937 the death rate is lower by 3.63 per 1,000 of the population, and the birth rate is lower by 3.80.

The birth rate exceeds the death rate by 1.89 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of deaths registered was 40, of which 21 were males and 19 were females.

The crude death rate per 1,000 of the population was 8.86 which, multiplied by the comparability factor, 0.96, supplied by the Registrar-General, gave a corrected death rate of 8.51 as compared with 11.6 for England and Wales. This death rate of 8.51 is the rate which, it is assumed, would be arrived at if the age and sex constitution of the population of Rothwell were distributed in the same proportion as that of England and Wales as a whole.

The registered causes of death were as follows :

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL
All Causes	21	19	40
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers			
2. Measles			
3. Scarlet Fever			
4. Whooping Cough			
5. Diphtheria			
6. Influenza	—	1	1
7. Encephalitis Lethargica			
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever			
9. Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system	1	—	1
10. Other tuberculous diseases			
11. Syphilis			
12. General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis, etc.			
13. Cancer	4	4	8
14. Diabetes			
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1	1	2
16. Heart Disease	7	5	12
17. Aneurism			
18. Other circulatory diseases	4	3	7
19. Bronchitis			
20. Pneumonia (all forms)			
21. Other respiratory diseases			
22. Peptic Ulcer			
23. Diarrhœa (under 2 years)			
24. Appendicitis			
25. Cirrhosis of Liver			
26. Other diseases of Liver			
27. Other Digestive diseases			
28. Acute & Chronic Nephritis	1	—	1
29. Puerperal Sepsis			
30. Other puerperal causes			
31. Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	—	2	2

32.	Senility	...	...	—	1	1
33.	Suicide	...	...	
34.	Other violence	...	1	—	1	
35.	Other defined diseases	...	2	2	4	
	(a)	Smallpox				
	(b)	Polio-myelitis				
	(c)	Polio-encephalitis				
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown					

SECTION B.—General provision of Health Services for the area.

The Medical Officer of Health acts in a similar capacity for Burton Latimer Urban District, Desborough Urban District and Kettering Rural District, and is, in addition, Assistant County Medical Officer.

The office of Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor is a joint appointment and the officer holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

(a) *Laboratory facilities.*

Chemical and bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Clinical Research Association, Limited, London, and at the County Public Health Laboratory and at the Northampton General Hospital Laboratory. The following specimens were examined:—

Blood	...	1
Swabs	...	7

(b) *Ambulance facilities.*

Infectious cases are removed by a motor ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital in the Kettering Borough, and non-infectious and accident cases are removed by the Desborough ambulance under the efficient administration of the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

(c) *Nursing in the Home.*

(1) General.—The Rothwell Nursing Association affiliated to the County Nursing Association makes the services of a whole-time nurse available for general cases.

(2) Infectious Diseases.—The services of a special nurse in certain specified cases of infectious diseases are available under arrangements made between the local and County Nursing Associations and the County Council.

(d) *Treatment Centres and Clinics.*

Persons suffering from venereal diseases are treated at Northampton General Hospital by arrangement with the County Public Health department.

The County Council is the authority for the treatment of Tuberculosis and the Tuberculosis Officer attends weekly at the Health Clinic, Market street, Kettering.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held in Kettering and children from Rothwell may attend by arrangement with the County Public Health department.

Under the County Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly in Rothwell.

(e) *Hospitals.*

The following hospitals are available for inhabitants of Rothwell :—

Kettering Infectious Diseases Joint Hospital.
 Rushden House Sanatorium.
 Kettering and District General Hospital.
 London Road Public Assistance Hospital, Kettering
 Leicester Royal Infirmary.
 Northampton General Hospital.
 Manfield Orthopædic Hospital.

(f) *Contraceptive Clinic.*

A contraceptive clinic is conducted by Dr. Mary Hendrie at the Infant Welfare Centre, Eyechurch Lane, Northampton, on the third and fourth Thursday in each month. Appointments can be made for the attendance of suitable cases on application to the Medical Officer of Health.

SECTIONS C and E.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area and Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Report by JOHN MILES,
 Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

Water.

In consequence of an extremely low rainfall figure for the spring months, the water supply showed a

marked diminution towards midsummer. A heavier rainfall during July and August, however, helped to stabilise the supply figure and obviate what promised to be a serious shortage. It was not found necessary to restrict the supply until the 23rd September, when the whole supply was turned off from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. This restriction was removed on the 12th October as the supply was sufficient to meet the ordinary demand.

During the year the Council purchased the necessary machinery and carried out the piping work in connection with a small auxiliary supply which can be utilised in future to augment the normal supply if and when required.

Full examinations of samples of water have been made during the year and have proved that a satisfactory standard of purity has been maintained.

The average daily yield amounted to 144,000 gallons to supply an average demand of 85,000 gallons.

Approximately 250 yards of 3-in. main were laid in the Kettering Road to extend the service to the Cemetery.

Baths.

With the exception of the first filling of the Public Swimming Baths, when a certain amount of Town's water was used, the whole of the water used was stream water. This proved to be satisfactory.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action was found necessary under this heading.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The system for the whole area continued to function well. The normal sewer flushing was carried out and a few minor repairs were made to ventilating columns. No extension was made to the system during the year under review.

The monthly samples of sewage effluent were in all cases satisfactory and no matter calling for comment has arisen at the sewage disposal works.

Public Conveniences.

Public Conveniences were erected at Squires Hill during the course of the year.

Public Cleansing.

The weekly collection of house refuse continues to work well and no complaints have been received relative to this service. The Orton Road disposal tip has been kept in good condition with a minimum of nuisance.

Notices to provide proper sanitary refuse bins were served in respect of 44 houses and in all cases such notices have been complied with.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Details of the inspections carried out are shown hereunder :

- (a) Number of Inspections made during the year inclusive of housing inspections 520
- (b) Number of Notices served during the year :

Statutory	...	...	2
Abated	...	...	Nil
Informal		...	58
Abated	...	...	55

Schedule of Principal defects :

Defective drains	...	...	...	28
„ eaves guttering	...	...	...	16
„ w.c's.	...	...	...	16
„ plaster	...	...	...	12
„ roofs	...	...	...	16
„ windows	...	...	...	13
„ floors	...	...	...	16
„ grates	...	...	...	5
„ chimneys	...	...	...	9
Other structural defects	...	...	...	17
Nuisances from dampness	...	...	...	23
Stopped drains	...	...	...	55
Insufficient food stores	...	...	...	14
„ w.c. accommodation	...	...	...	2
„ washing accommodation	...	...	...	2
„ cooking facilities	...	...	...	4
Premises needing cleansing	...	...	...	5

Factories and Workshops (including Bakehouses).

1. *Inspection of Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.*

Particulars of these inspections are set out below:

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (with mechanical power)	22	4	0
Factories (without mechanical power)	7	1	0
Other premises ...	4	0	0

2. *Defects found in Factories and other Premises.*

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied
Defective conveniences ...	6	6

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.—A frequent sampling of milk was carried out and the results obtained by the Methylene Blue Test were as follows:

(a) Good samples	...	106
(b) Bad	...	26
(c) Moderate	...	25

Slaughter-houses.—No serious cause for complaint in the matter of cleanliness of slaughter-houses has been revealed.

One diseased pig carcase was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed. Several bovine livers and lungs were also condemned and destroyed.

Cowsheds.—Frequent visits have been necessary to maintain good conditions in dairies and cowsheds.

In previous years a report by the local veterinary inspector, Mr. Trevor Spencer, to the Joint Dairies and

Cowsheds Committee has included Rothwell Urban District. At the beginning of April, 1938, the inspection of cows contributing to the public milk supply was taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and Mr. Spencer was allocated a district which included part of the County not under the jurisdiction of the Kettering Committee. As there would be some difficulty in sorting out those which belong or do not belong to the area of the Joint Dairies Committee, it has been decided, this year, to omit a report from Mr. Trevor Spencer.

SECTION D.—Housing.

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)...	55
(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose	135
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	36
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	102
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	10
(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 ...	23

2. *Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notice.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	21
--	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year.*

(1) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	2
--	---

(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners	<i>Nil</i>
(b) By local authority in default of owners	<i>Nil</i>

(2) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	<i>Nil</i>
--	------------

(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) By owners	<i>Nil</i>
(b) By local authority in default of owners	<i>Nil</i>

(3) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made *Nil*

(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... *Nil*

(4) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... *Nil*

(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit *Nil*

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.*

(1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year 14

(b) Number of families dwelling therein 14

(c) Number of persons dwelling therein 121

(2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... *Nil*

(3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... 5

(b) Number of persons concerned in such cases 36

(4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for abatement of overcrowding *Nil*

- (5) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ... *Nil*

SECTION F.—Infectious Diseases.

Excluding tuberculosis, we had only 1 case of infectious disease notified during the year. This figure shows a decrease of 4 on the number for 1937 and compares very favourably indeed with 30 for 1936, 12 for 1935, 8 for 1934, 13 for 1933 and 35 for 1932.

The only disease notified was one mild case of scarlet fever, which was removed to hospital.

Scarlet Fever antitoxin is available, free of charge, to practitioners, for the treatment of necessitous cases of scarlet fever.

Diphtheria antitoxin is also supplied free to practitioners for use in necessitous cases of diphtheria treated at home or prior to removal to hospital. Suspicious cases may be verified by bacteriological examination. For this purpose swab outfits are supplied to medical practitioners and specimens examined by the Clinical Research Association, Limited, London, and at the Northampton General Hospital Bacteriological Department, are reported on at the expense of the local authority.

Tuberculosis.—The following figures show the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1938.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	12	20
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	5	8
			—
Total Cases			28
			—

Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1938 as compared with 4 cases of pulmonary and 1 case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis in 1937.

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease are shown below.

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality, 1938 :—

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—								
1—								
5—		1						
15—		2						
25—		2						
35—	1				1			
45—								
55—								
65—			1					
TOTALS	1	5	1		1			

The death-rate from all forms of tuberculosis per 1,000 population was 0·22 as compared with 1·33 for 1937; 0·22 for 1936; 0·65 for 1935 and 0·22 for 1934.

The occupations of the new cases at the time of notification were shoe-operative 2, housewife 2, school-child 1, builder 1, retired 1.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. These regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from tuberculosis from engaging in the milk trade. It was unnecessary to take action under these regulations during 1938.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, and Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172. No action was taken under this section whereby an infectious case of pulmonary tuberculosis, which is a serious risk to others, may be compulsorily removed to hospital.

