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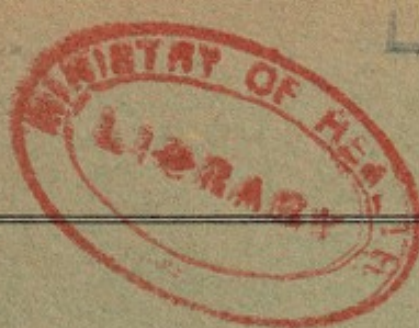
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Borough of Rugby.

Warwick

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1938,

BY

H. GIBBONS WARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

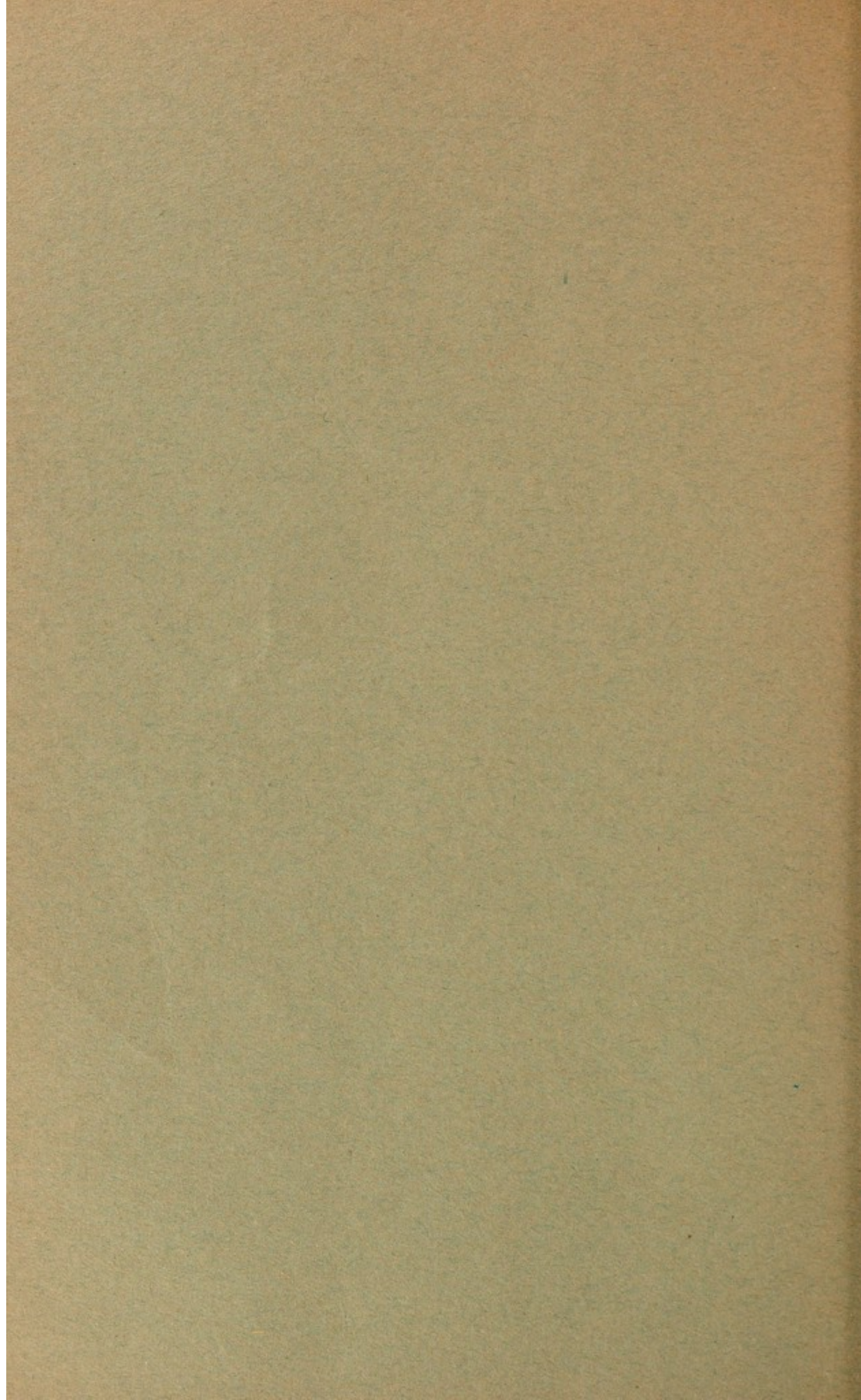
OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts.

Leamington Spa :

A. TOMES, LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET.

1939.



1, MILVERTON HILL,

LEAMINGTON SPA,

July, 1939.

To the Rugby Borough Council.

MR. MAYOR, MRS. GREEN, AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the Report for the year 1938, relating to the sanitary conditions of the Borough and the health of its inhabitants.

As mentioned in the Report for 1936, the improvement in industry has continued to create problems in housing and overcrowding, and it is certain that our figures with respect to the latter need considerable revision; this however entails a large amount of work, and having regard to other work in connection with Air Raids Precautions, etc., there does not seem any possibility of making the investigation.

To the Members of the Council I wish to express my thanks for their kindness and consideration, also to my colleagues for their ready help.

Much of the work in connection with this Report has been done by Mr. Bartlett, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, and I wish to thank him and his staff for willing assistance at this and all other times.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Green, and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GIBBONS WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF
RUGBY BOROUGH COUNCIL.**

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

T. BARTLETT, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I., for
Meat, etc.

Sanitary Inspectors :

†A. J. MASI, Cert.S.I.B., A.R.San.I. M.S.I.A., Cert.
R.S.I. for Meat, etc.

F. T. KEY, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.H.

W. L. LEACH, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert.R.S.I. for
Meat, etc.

*S. H. WEST, Cert.S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerks :

*S. H. WEST.

F. H. A. BURTON.

°R. WELCH.

Surveyor :

W. H. SPICER, M.I.M.Cy.E., A.I.W.E.

Public Analysts :

Messrs. HILL & RIGBY.

Medical Officer of Health :

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

† Commenced, 1st February, 1938.

* Promotion, 11th July, 1938.

° Commenced, 4th April, 1938.

Borough of Rugby.

A. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres)	7,010
Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1938	38,130
Population, Resident Census	34,433
Number of Inhabited Houses (1931)	8,460
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to Rate Book	11,440
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1931) ...	8,866
Rateable Value	£298,418
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,414

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births { Legitimate 526 277 249 } Birth Rate 14.6				
{ Illegitimate 18 9 9 }				
Still Births—Rate per 1,000 total births				20
Deaths 410 215 195 Death Rate 10.7				
Adjusting Factor for Death Rate				1.0
Adjusted Death Rate				10.7
Deaths from Diseases and { From Sepsis ... —				
Accidents of Pregnancy and { „ other causes 3				
Child-birth				
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births				39
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				38
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				55
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				—
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)				—
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				3

VITAL STATISTICS.

See Table II.

Population.—The Registrar-General estimates the population at the middle of 1938 as 38,130; this is an increase on the figure of 1937, viz., 37,260, of 870.

The “Natural Increase,” of population, that is, the excess of births over deaths, showed a net gain of 134.

Birth-Rate.—There were 544 births, giving a Birth-Rate of 14.6 per 1,000; in 1937 the respective figures were 498 and 13.4.

Death-Rate.—There were 410 deaths, giving a Death-Rate of 10.7 per 1,000. The respective figures for 1937 were 420 and 11.3 per 1,000.

Of the deaths, 83 were due to Heart Disease, 59 to Cancer, 8 to Bronchitis, 28 to Apoplexy, Suicide 12 and Other Violence 25. There were 22 deaths due to some form of Tuberculosis. Details of the various causes of death will be found in Table IV.

Cancer has been responsible for the following number of deaths in recent years :—

1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929
25	36	36	23	35	29	31	26	26
1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
32	30	39	55	49	51	61	51	59

The number of deaths from Cancer in 1938 was above the average for the past 10 years. The rate per 100,000 of the population was 155; this compares with the figures of the past 10 years :—

1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
107	107	132	123	111	157	140	142	169	133	155

The total number of deaths from Cancer in the Combined Districts population of 178,740 was 269, and the figures per 100,000 population for the past 10 years are as follows :—

1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
124	151	142	152	155	146	146	148	151	151

Infantile Mortality.—21 deaths of children under one year were registered, giving a rate of 39 per 1,000 births. Again the number of deaths due to congenital conditions is high, viz., 10.

The following Table gives the figures for past years :—

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Number	19	21	12	20	19	21	16	13
Rate	45	60	32	53	50	65	48	42
	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Number	16	25	17	20	11	22	20	21
Rate	62	62	45	45	28	50	40	39

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. *Public Health Officers.*—A complete list is given at the front of the Report.

There are four Sanitary Inspectors, one assistant Sanitary Inspector and two Clerks, all whole-time officials. The control of the sewerage, sewage disposal, public water supply, scavenging, and the supervision of new buildings is in the Department of the Borough Engineer.

The list of duties of the Inspector was given in the Report for 1930, and does not need repetition.

2. *Nursing in the Home*.—As stated in 1930 Report.

6. *Laboratory Facilities*.—The following Table shows the extent to which the County Scheme has been utilised for free bacteriological examinations by Birmingham University :—

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Diphtheria ...	7	95	102
Enteric Fever —	...	33	33
Tuberculosis...	5	42	47
			<hr/> 182

7. *Legislation in force in the District*.

Vide 1930 Report.

RUGBY CORPORATION ACT, 1933.

This Act gives power with respect to :—

Part	II.	Water Supply.
„	III.	Electricity.
„	IV.	Streets, Buildings, Sewers and Drains.
„	V.	Infectious Diseases and Sanitary Provisions.
„	VI.	Common Lodging Houses.
„	VII.	Lands.
„	VIII.	Hackney Carriage and Traffic Provisions.
„	IX.	Public Buildings, Parks, etc.
„	X.	Financial.
„	XI.	Miscellaneous.

The headings to Clauses relating to Parts V. and VI. were detailed in the 1933 Report.

8. *Hospitals*.—No change to report during the year, but reference to the Isolation Hospital accommodation is made under the report on Scarlet Fever.

13. *Ambulance Facilities*.

(a) Infectious diseases, arrangements remain the same as given in the 1930 Report.

(b) As regards non-infectious cases, including maternity cases, requiring removal to Hospital, Institution or Nursing Home, the Corporation operate two ambulances, over an area defined roughly as being within a radius of six miles of the Clock Tower.

No charge is made to persons permanently resident within the area so defined, the charges being met by the Corporation or by the Rugby Rural District Council according to the place of residence.

The details of the above arrangements are set out in the Report of 1934, and are still in operation.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) *Water*.—A constant watch is kept for possible pollution in the catchment area of Rugby's water supply, and the sewage works maintained by the Corporation are regularly inspected. The supply has been perfectly satisfactory, both in quality and quantity, and twenty bacteriological examinations of the water supply in various parts of the town have been made, and in each case have been satisfactory.

A new eight inch diameter main has been laid from Lancaster Road to Newbold, and this has improved the supply in this village, as previously at certain periods the original three inch diameter main was insufficient to reach all points in the village.

(2) *Drainage and Sewerage*.—The scheme of re-organisation of the sewage disposal works is nearing completion, and the centralization of the works has dispensed with the New Bilton, Bilton and Brownsover sewage works Naseby Pumping Station and Benns Farm Ejector Station, Hillmorton Sewage Works continue to give satisfactory results. The sewerage of a portion of Newbold has been completed and connections are now being made to individual houses. Additional pumping plant at the Destructor pumping Station has been installed.

2. *Rivers and Streams*.—Clifton Brook has been improved by the better effluent from the Hillmorton Sewage Works, and with the centralization of the sewage disposal works, improvement should be effected to the streams into which effluents previously discharged.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation*.—The majority of the closets are water-closets, but approximately 350 pail closets and earth closets remain in the area that was added in 1932.

The number has been reduced by 47 during the year by conversion into water-closets connected to the sewer and by demolition of houses in Clearance Areas, etc., and will be reduced progressively from year to year.

During the year 74 water-closets have been provided with flushing cisterns under the powers given in the Public Health Act, 1936 and it is anticipated that the progress under these powers will be continued.

(ii) *Public Cleansing*.—Maintained satisfactorily.

(iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*.—A detailed report by the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the work carried out in his Department, and a tabular statement is given.

The work of the Department has been carried out efficiently and although systematic house-to-house inspection has received more attention, the inspections made do not represent a normal year's working.

(iv) *Shops and Offices*.—Conditions in shops are reasonably satisfactory as a result of last year's survey and subsequent action under the Shops Act, 1934. The present standard will be maintained.

(v) *Camping Sites*.—There are no sites used for camping purposes within the Borough Area.

(vi) *Smoke Abatement*.—Thirty-eight observations have been made during the year, and although it has been necessary to serve two notices, formal action has not been necessary. Complaints by residents in New Bilton of fumes from the Cement Works chimneys were referred to the Ministry of Health and have been dealt with by that Department.

(vii) *Swimming Baths and Pools*.—(a) *Public Baths*. Regent Street Baths and Open Air Pool, Newbold Road. Filtration plant and water maintained in a satisfactory condition. (b) There are no privately owned swimming baths within the Borough Area.

(viii) *Eradication of Bed Bugs*.

(1) (i) Houses infested:—

(a)	Council Houses ...	...	Nil
(b)	Other Houses ...	...	20

(ii) Houses disinfested:—

(a)	Council Houses ...	...	Nil
(b)	Other Houses ...	...	70

(2) The methods employed for freeing houses from bugs have varied according to circumstances.

Sulphur fumigation has been employed in unoccupied houses prior to demolition, allowing 5lbs. of sulphur to every 1,000 cubic feet of air space, measures being taken against leakage and infiltration of air. The atmosphere in the houses was first humidified and the treatment period 24 hours.

For occupied houses, mouldings, architraves, etc., have to be eased off or removed from the walls and all surfaces cracks, etc., thoroughly sprayed with a vapourising vermicide of proprietary manufacture.

(3) The methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal from Clearance Areas, etc., to Council Houses are as follows :—

(i) All furniture and effects other than bedding are collected in removal vans owned by the Corporation and are taken to an open spot well removed from dwellings or other occupied buildings, and treated with HCN. After treatment, the vans are opened and well aired and the goods returned to their owners at the new houses, all soft furnishings being tested for the presence of HCN and given further airing as required.

(ii) All bedding is removed separately and steam treated at the steam Disinfector, and after airing, returned as above.

(4) Sulphur fumigation, spraying with a vapouring vermicide and steam treatment are carried out by the Corporation, but the HCN treatment is carried out by a Contractor.

(5) Periodic visits of inspection are made to all houses occupied by tenants from Clearance Areas, and enquiries made as to further infestations, and so far no single instance has been found.

One instance of reinfestation of a privately owned house has occurred, but enquiries showed that reinfestation had taken place on account of some second-hand bedding having been purchased and later found to be infested.

There have been a greater number of infestation by bed bugs reported this year, and as usual it was during the earlier warm spell that the majority of complaints were received. The methods referred to above proved effective in all cases, the only apparent failure being that previously explained.

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)	371
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2055
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	66
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	171
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	83
(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 ...	211

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	227
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3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(a).—*Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	60
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	1

(b).—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	39
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	29
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	3

(c).—*Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3

(d).—*Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	8
--	---

- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... —

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV. OVERCROWDING.

- | | | | |
|-----|-------|--|----|
| (a) | (i) | Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year | — |
| | (ii) | Number of families dwelling therein | — |
| | (iii) | Number of persons dwelling therein | — |
| (b) | | Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year | 3 |
| (c) | (i) | Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year | 57 |
| | (ii) | Number of persons concerned in such cases | — |
| (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 ... | — |
| (e) | | Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report | — |

5. NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Total	724
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----

Housing Conditions.

(i) *General Observations.*—Although some systematic house-to-house inspection has been carried out most of the general housing work which has received the attention of the Department has arisen in consequence of complaints received, but as in the past year some difficulty has been experienced in getting repair work carried out within a reasonable period.

It will be seen in a subsequent paragraph that the work of clearance and unfit property has continued and some satisfaction can be expressed with regard to the progress made.

(ii) *Sufficiency of supply of houses.*—The supply of houses to let has been considerably met by the erection of 152 houses by the Corporation on the Hillmorton Estate, a portion of which only has been utilised by the reception of families from clearance areas, etc., and another factor that has been responsible for a reduction of the demand is that a very large number of houses have been erected by private enterprise, and are of a type suitable for persons of the wage scale obtaining in the industrial area.

During the year a total of 756 houses have been completed within the Borough, 546 of which were erected by private enterprise and 202 by the Corporation, which complete the Hillmorton and Newbold Housing Schemes. The total of 756 constitutes a record in expansion for the Borough.

(iii) *Overcrowding*.—As a result of action under the Act of 1936, all the overcrowding in the Borough has been abated. Provision was made on the Newbold Housing Site for houses to accommodate families displaced from overcrowded houses, and although the majority of removals were carried out without any trouble, some little difficulty was experienced in respect of a few on account of the high economic rents which were inevitable in respect of the larger types of houses. The difficulty was met by the Housing Committee deciding to consider each case on its merits and make reasonable reductions to meet each case.

Although the figures obtained at the survey were used as a basis for calculation of the number of houses required it was found that when removals were commenced a number of larger families found accommodation for themselves, and in consequence a number of the B4 type houses were not utilised.

The migration from depressed areas has halted and it would seem that the housing situation has become easier during the past few months.

(iv) *Fitness of Houses*.—Further progress has been made with regard to Slum Clearance, and in the course of the year 17 Individual Unfit Houses were considered by the Corporation and the action taken resulted in the acceptance of 4 undertakings, and the making of 5 demolition orders and 8 clearance orders. Four clearance areas were declared in respect of 23 houses and orders made thereon. At the end of the year no objections had been received.

(v) *Unhealthy Areas*.—At the end of 1938, the position in Rugby can be best shown by quoting the following figures :—In clearance areas 143 houses had been demolished and resulted in the displacement of 432 persons ; 48 unfit houses had been demolished either as a result of informal or formal procedure under Section II of the Housing Act, 1936 ; and 7 dwelling houses had been closed. This had resulted in the displacement of 149 persons.

The Council are now awaiting the confirmation of the clearance orders made, and although some further action is necessary in respect of a few houses, it may well be said with regard to unfit houses that the position is well in hand and the programme well advanced.

(vi) *Byelaws relating to Houses*.—The existing byelaws are still under review and the draft of new byelaws under preparation, and these will be submitted in due course.

(vii) *Town Planning*.—See the Report of 1930.

V. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply*.—During the year the following samples were taken :—

- (1) 1 designated milk for bacteriological examination.
- (2) 75 ordinary milks for bacteriological examination.
- (3) 26 milks for biological examination.
- (4) 68 milks for chemical analysis.

Results of the examinations or analyses :—

- (1) This sample was satisfactory.
- (2) 53 were satisfactory.
22 were unsatisfactory.
- (3) 24 gave negative results.
2 or 7.69 per cent. showed the presence of living tubercle bacilli.
- (4) 60 were genuine.
8 were not genuine.

In respect of the unsatisfactory samples no legal proceedings were instituted, but in respect of fat deficiencies in milk, "appeal to the cow" samples showed the milk as produced from the cow was not up to the presumptive standard. The matter was referred to the County Agricultural Advisor who gave instruction as to proper feeding in order to overcome these deficiencies. In regard to three instances where small amounts of added water were found to be present, investigation showed that the presence of water was due to the lack of care on the part of the producer and a warning issued, as it was considered that there had been no intent to defraud.

(b) *Meat Inspection*.—The details of animals slaughtered, carcasses inspected and meat condemned is given in the table below, and further reference is made in the Sanitary Inspector's Report as to this matter. There were 18,696 animals slaughtered and inspected in the slaughterhouses in the town, of which 5 are owned by the Corporation and

9 privately. The provision of a public abattoir is still under consideration and is becoming an even more urgent necessity than in the immediate past, as the present accommodation is overcrowded and in some instances not satisfactory.

Slaughterhouses in use.

	1930.	Jan. 1938.	Dec. 1938.
Registered ...	4	4	4
Licensed ...	12	10	10

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	2,002	23	376	9,519	6,776
Number Inspected ...	2,002	23	376	9,519	6,776

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	5	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	69	1	1	23	160
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	3.45	4.35	.27	.29	2.40

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned ...	4	—	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	142	1	—	—	165
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	8.09	4.35	—	—	2.48

(c) *Bakehouses.*—There are 27 bakehouses, including factory bakehouses, on the register, and these have been visited and supervised and are generally well maintained and kept in a clean condition.

(d) *Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.*—This Act is administered within the Borough partly by the Warwickshire County Council and partly by the Corporation.

A total of 112 samples were taken by the sampling officers of the Corporation during 1938, 106 of which were

formal and 6 informal (including the 68 samples of milk already referred to), and submitted to the Public Analysts for chemical analysis.

The proportion of samples per 1,000 of population was 3.01 and the percentage of unsatisfactory samples was 8.04. The average composition of the milks submitted was fat 3.28 per cent., and solids not fat 8.79 per cent.

Details of samples taken and results are given in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

No legal proceedings were instituted.

VI. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Incidence of Commoner Infectious Disease since 1929.

		Smallpox.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever	Pneumonia.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1930	...	—	67	49	3	39	1	5
1931	...	—	33	32	3	29	—	—
1932	...	—	9	29	—	52	—	1
1933	...	—	11	244	—	79	—	2
1934	...	—	30	433	5	64	—	2
1935	...	—	84	191	1	26	—	—
1936	...	—	127	86	—	48	—	8
1937	...	—	71	163	—	84	—	22
1938	...	—	37	55	4	33	—	16

Reference to Table III. will give the age incidence of the cases notified during 1938.

Smallpox.—No cases were notified during the year.

Diphtheria.—During the past year there were 37 cases notified, with 3 deaths.

Of the cases, 33 were taken to the Isolation Hospital.

As far as I am aware the SCHICK REACTION has not been used in the District.

Immunisation.—Arrangements have been made whereby the material for this purpose is supplied free by the Council to such practitioners as apply for it. This scheme has so far not been much used.

Anti-toxin is supplied free by the Council for use amongst the poorer patients in the town. This can be obtained by doctors from Messrs. Chamberlain, Chemists, Market Place.

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases notified during the year was 55, shewing a considerable decrease on the figure for 1937 of 163, and of these 39 were removed to Hospital. In 2 instances there were 2 cases in one family, and 3 in one family.

Harborough Magna Hospital.—As the result of the completion of the Hospital there has not been the difficulty experienced in past years in obtaining the necessary beds for isolation.

Enteric Fever.—There were 4 cases of Paratyphoid B. Fever, 3 of which were in the Hospital of St. Cross, the other case was in the town and no source of infection could be discovered.

Pneumonia.—33 cases were notified, and there were 17 deaths.

Encephalitis Lethargica.—No cases were notified.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—16 cases were notified; there were no deaths.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—1 case was notified, and reported to the County Medical Officer for immediate action if necessary.

Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917.—No action was taken or required.

School Closures.—The following list indicates the prevalence of Non-notifiable Infectious Disease :—

Rugby R.C. Juniors. 4th to 21st Feb. Mumps.
 Rugby R.C. Infants and Juniors. 25th April to 9th May.
 Measles.
 Bilton C.E. 14th to 28th Feb. Measles.
 Rugby Northlands Infants and Juniors. 8th to 21st March.
 Measles.
 St. Matthews. Infants. 10th to 21st March. Measles.
 Northlands Infants and Juniors. 21st to 28th March. Measles.
 Eastlands. Infants. 25th April to 16th May. Measles.
 Eastlands Infants. 7th to 28th November. Chicken-pox and
 Whooping Cough.
 Eastlands. 5th December to Xmas Holidays. Whooping
 Cough.
 Hillmorton Infants. 9th December to Xmas Holidays. Chicken
 pox and Whooping Cough.

Non-notifiable Infectious Disease.—There was nothing of special note.

Notification of infectious disease occurring amongst the children at school is duly sent by the teachers.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE—PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
			Non-				Non-	
	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	3	9	—	3	—	1	1	—
25	7	2	1	3	1	4	2	—
35	3	6	—	—	2	4	1	—
45	9	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	7	1	1	—	2	—	1	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	31	18	3	6	7	9	5	—

During the past year there have been notified 58 cases. In 49 cases the lungs were affected, and the remaining 9 the disease affected other parts of the body.

	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Cases	39	42	31	36	31	25	26	35
Deaths	19	22	20	21	23	13	19	15
	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Cases	38	37	42	41	45	47	49	58
Deaths	25	22	23	25	31	19	22	22

I have set down the number of cases notified each year since 1922. It will be seen that the number of deaths each year for the same period has been included. There is little change in the incidence of the disease during the past 15 years.

The above figures show that the total number of cases put on the Register since notification commenced up to the end of 1938 was 1,240, with 551 deaths. As regards some of the earlier cases nothing is known of their fate or whereabouts. Of the 58 new cases notified during the past year, 6 have died during the year.

Treatment.—The total known number of cases treated at a Sanatorium since the establishment of the register is 544. During the past year 37 cases have been admitted to a Sanatorium for treatment.

38 cases were discharged after treatment.

Disinfectants and sputum bottles are supplied free through the Sanitary Inspector for cases where they are desirable. After deaths from tuberculosis, and after removals of tuberculous patients, disinfection is carried out by the Inspector.

4. CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

There is nothing of special note to record.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND BURGESSES OF THE
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

MR. MAYOR, MRS. GREEN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your information my Report on the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors in the Year 1938.

Table I shows that part of the work that can usefully be summarised and tabulated.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year notifications were received in respect of 151 cases of infectious diseases, details of which are set out in Table III.

The hospital accommodation at the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Harborough Magna proved sufficient to meet all requirements and the following summary shows how diphtheria and scarlet fever cases were nursed.

	<i>Diphtheria.</i>		<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	
At Harborough Magna Hospital	...	35	...	44
Nursed at Home	...	2	...	11
		—		—
Totals	...	37	...	55
		—		—

The motor vehicle which is provided in connection with infectious disease prevention has covered a distance of 4941.2 miles.

The vehicle is well maintained in satisfactory condition and is giving excellent service. Owing to the fact that the vehicle was involved in an accident it was out of service for nearly seven weeks, during which time a hired vehicle was used.

The total number of visits made by the two assistants was 4,328 in connection with infectious disease prevention and other work.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are 14 slaughterhouses in the town, of which 4 are registered and 10 licensed, none of the premises are modern, most are old, structurally unsuitable and are overcrowded. There has been a further increase in the number of animals slaughtered bringing the total for the year to 18,696. So far as is known, and I believe there have been no defaulters, all animals slaughtered have been notified and of those notified inspection has been complete.

UN SOUND FOOD.

During the year there have been 624 voluntary surrenders of diseased and unsound food which has been deemed unfit for food of man and has been destroyed.

Details given below are an analysis of the articles of food so dealt with :—

	<i>Bovines.</i>		<i>Sheep.</i>		<i>Pigs.</i>	
Carcases and organs ...	5	...	4	...	3	...
Heads and tongues ...	61	...	—	...	115	...
Lungs ...	93	...	2	...	70	...
Livers ...	64	...	7	...	25	...
Spleens ...	15	...	—	...	2	...
Kidneys ...	8	...	—	...	5	...
Hearts ...	7	...	—	...	8	...
Mesenteries ...	9	...	—	...	35	...
Forequarters ...	8	...	—	...	—	...
Plucks ...	1	...	—	...	55	...
Organs ...	8	...	—	...	—	...
Skins ...	—	...	—	...	2	...
Miscellaneous ...	175	...	65	...	—	...
(lbs. weight).						

In addition, the following have also been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—19½ lbs. boiled Ham ; 3 tins Ox Tongue (6 lbs. each) ; 3 tins Brisket Beef (4 lbs. each) ; 2 tins Pressed Beef (9 lbs. and 12 lbs.) ; 1 tin Corned Beef (6 lbs.) ; 1 tin Ham (14½ lbs.) ; 1 tin Chicken and Ham Roll (3 lbs.) ; and 1 pail Lamb's Livers.

FACTORIES.

The premises registered under the Factory Act number 216, of which 27 are bakehouses and the remainder are classified as follows :—

	<i>Mechanical</i>		<i>Non-Mechanical</i>	
Blacksmiths and Ironmongers	4	...	2
Bottling Establishments	2	...	—
Bottle Seal Makers	1	...	—
Builders Yards	3	...	6
Cement Manufacturers	1	...	—
Corset Manufacturers	1	...	—
Cycle Engineers	4	...	8
Dairies	2	...	—
Dressmakers and Costumiers	—	...	2
Electrical and Radio Engineers	13	...	—
Food Preparation Premises	2	...	1
Gas Cooker Assembly	—	...	1
Ice Cream Depot	—	...	1
Joiners and Carpenters	5	...	8
Laundries	5	...	—
Masons and Sculptors	—	...	3
Marine Stores	—	...	2
Millinery	—	...	2
Motor Engineers	19	...	2
Painters and Decorators	—	...	1
Photographers	—	...	3
Printing Works	6	...	1
Saddler	—	...	2

					Mechanical	Non-Mechanical
Scale Repairers	...	...	...	...	—	1
Shoe Repairers	...	...	...	...	24	11
Tailoring	...	...	...	...	1	14
Timber Merchants	...	...	...	...	3	—
Upholstering	...	...	...	...	3	3
Wagon Repairing	...	...	...	...	1	—
Watch Repairs	...	...	...	...	1	7
Water Engineers and Plumbers	...	...	...	...	—	3
Wig Makers	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other Works	...	...	...	...	—	3

A survey of factory premises has been carried out during the year and premises brought into conformity with the new Act and Regulations. A number of notices have been served requiring the remedying of unsatisfactory conditions and these have been satisfactorily complied with.

Lists of outworkers have been received from 16 employers within the Borough showing that 16 persons are so employed. Visits to outworkers' premises show them to be generally satisfactory.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The number of persons on the registers as retail purveyors was 114 and as wholesale purveyors and producers 26, making a total of 140.

There are 24 registered cowkeepers and 73 dairies within the Borough.

Improvements to premises and in methods of production have been progressively effected and I am able to report a material improvement in the bacteriological standard of ordinary milk produced within the Borough. One of the major difficulties experienced by producers is the lack of a sufficiently cold water supply during the summer months.

<i>Samples taken.</i>	<i>Results.</i>
1 Pasteurised Milk ...	Satisfied the prescribed conditions.
75 Ordinary Milks ...	53 satisfactory.
	22 unsatisfactory.

With reference to the results obtained from ordinary milks, I have taken the "accredited" standard as the basis for judgment and have taken as unsatisfactory all milks that did not conform thereto, but regard has also been had to the presence or otherwise of bacillus coli and I am satisfied that the results obtained represent a marked improvement on those obtained for 1937.

Twenty-six samples of milk were submitted for examination for the presence of living tubercle bacilli and 2 of these, or 7.69 per cent. were reported upon as positive and were accordingly report for action by the County Council.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The total number of samples submitted to the Public Analysts was 112, of which 106 were formal and 6 informal.

The proportion of samples per 1,000 population was 3.01 and the articles sampled were as follows:—almonds (ground) 2, apricots 1, butter 2, caramels (blackcurrant) 1, chocolate roll 2, cordial 2, curry powder 2, cheese 1, dates 2, gin 4, ginger 4, jam 2, lard 1, milk (ordinary) 68, peaches 2, peas (tinned) 1, sausage 1, sago 2, sugar (demarara) 2, tapioca 2, vinegar 4, whisky 4.

The average composition of the milk samples was fat 3.28 per cent., and solids not fat 8.79 per cent.

No legal proceedings were taken against the vendors of unsatisfactory samples, and I beg to refer you to the Medical Officer's Report relating to milk supply for the action taken.

MANUFACTURE OF PRESERVED AND POTTED FOODS.

The register of premises used for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, sausage meat, or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved meat, fish or other food intended for sale, required by the Rugby Corporation Act, 1933, shows that 79 premises are so registered. Of these 39 are butchers, 21 fish friers, and 19 premises where food is prepared.

All premises are clean and in reasonably satisfactory condition. No complaints have been received in respect of fish friers' premises.

MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM.

The register of ice cream manufacturers and dealers shows the total number of persons registered as 84 and the premises where ice cream is prepared or sold as 81. The premises are clean and conditions under which ice cream is made are satisfactory.

Fourteen samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, and ten samples were reported as being unsatisfactory, having either a colony count grown on Agar exceeding 1,000,000 per gram or showing the presence of bacillus coli on 1/100th gram. Advice on the preparation and storage of ice cream and the sterilization of utensils resulted in the improvement of all except two.

RAG FLOCK ACTS.

There is little rag flock used in the Borough in the manufacture or repair of upholstery or bedding.

During the year no samples were submitted for analysis.

HOUSING ACTS.

Further progress has been made under Sections 11 and 25, of the Housing Act, 1936.

During the year, 4 Clearance Areas have been declared, Orders made, Ministry of Health Inquiries held and Orders confirmed in respect of 23 houses. Twenty Individual Unfit Houses have been considered for clearance order action, seven demolition orders were made, one undertaking to repair and four undertakings that the houses would cease to be used for human habitation were accepted by the Corporation, and eight closing orders made. During the year 84 houses, subject to Clearance or Demolition Orders, have been demolished.

RIVER POLLUTION.

The River Avon and its tributaries within the Borough are subject to very little pollution within the Borough boundaries, and conditions can be reported as very satisfactory. The river bed is clean and the improvements previously reported have been maintained.

CANAL BOATS.

During the year 12 inspections of six canal boats, four of which were motor driven and two horse drawn, were made. The number of persons occupying were four adult males and four adult females and no children. Conditions were found to be satisfactory on all boats and no notices were served.

SHOPS ACTS.

A total of 1,834 visits and observations were made during the year and 3 notices served in respect of sanitary defects and omissions to comply with the Acts in respect of forms to be exhibited. All notices were complied with.

One prosecution arising out of non-compliance with the half-holiday requirements was instituted and a conviction recorded.

GENERAL.

Although the year's work has been in the main satisfactory, some interference with the normal routine occurred as a result of the September crisis and with the following concentration of Air Raid Precautions activities during the last quarter of the year, was one during which the work of the Department suffered considerably in that programmes of work which should have been completed during this quarter did not materialise.

Included in the inspections and observations recorded in Table I., the following visits, etc., have been made ;—

Cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	22
Drain Tests	...	...	...	...	...	272
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	...	...	12
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	121
Factories Act	...	...	...	...	...	366
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1,155
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	1,989
Knackers Yards	...	...	...	...	...	10
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	226
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	17
Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	...	...	39
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	1,834
Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	341
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	46

Staff changes that have taken place have been the appointment of Mr. A. J. Masi of Bury, to fill a vacancy, the promotion of Mr. S. H. West from Clerk to Assistant Sanitary Inspector, and the appointment of Mr. R. Welch as Clerk.

I wish to express my thanks to Dr. Gibbons Ward for the consideration shown to me during the year and to my Staff for their co-operation and their ever-ready assistance to cope with the unusual

circumstances that have arisen during this year's work, but more particularly for their loyalty and persistence in the trying times experienced during the last quarter of the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Mrs. Green and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. BARTLETT,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE I.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR 1938.

			Inspections and Observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances Abated after Notices.
				Statu- tory.	In- formal	
Dwelling Houses and Schools	...	...	2428	64	214	1419
Lodging Houses	...	...	27	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	119	—	10	26
Cow Sheds	...	...	115	—	11	3
Bakehouses	...	...	53	—	10	39
Slaughter Houses	...	...	3202	—	1	4
Canal Boats	...	...	12	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies	...	...	110	5	24	20
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	...	...	167	1	4	2
Water-closets	...	...	150	34	11	22
House Drainage	...	...	1602	8	39	46
Water Supply	...	...	262	28	—	9
Pigsties	...	...	95	—	2	2
Animals improperly kept	...	...		
Offensive Trades	...	...	13	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	38	—	2	5
Other Nuisances	...	...	6451	2	70	130
TOTALS	...	...	14844	142	398	1727

Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	....	....	No.
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	...	...	624
Ditto of Food found adulterated	...	...	112
Ditto of Water taken for Analysis	...	...	8
Ditto of Water condemned as unfit for use	...	...	—

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Disinfected or Destroyed	...	...	1346
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	...	222
Schools ditto ditto ditto	...	...	—

T. BARTLETT, Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.
BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1938 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1932	35,110	400	12.3	25	62	356	11.0
1933	35,070	379	10.8	17	45	392	11.2
1934	35,140	443	12.6	20	45	367	10.4
1935	35,680	400	11.2	11	28	406	11.4
1936	36,080	436	12.1	22	50	412	11.5
1937	37,260	498	13.4	20	40	420	11.3
1938	38,130	544	14.6	21	39	410	10.7

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1938.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

*Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1938
(Provisional Figures).*

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

			Live Births.	Still Births.	Deaths.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.
England and Wales	...	...	15.1	0.60	11.6	53
126 Great Towns, including London			15.0	0.65	11.7	57
148 Smaller Towns	...	...	15.4	0.60	11.0	51
London	...	...	13.4	0.48	11.4	57

TABLE III.—BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR 1938.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.								
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.		
Small-pox										
Plague										
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)	37	1	5	7	17	7			33	3
Erysipelas	19		2		2	4	8	3		
Scarlet Fever	55		15	30	6	4			39	
Pyphus Fever										
Enteric Fever	4			1	1	1	1			
Pneumonia	33	2	7	2	2	12	7	1		17
Malaria										
Dysentery	1			1						
Puerperal Pyrexia	16				4	12				
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	2			1	1					
Poliomyelitis	2				2					
Encephalitis Lethargica										
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1								
Polio-Encephalitis										
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	49			1	12	18	17	1		16
Other forms of Tuberculosis	9			1	3	4	1			5
Totals	228	4	29	44	50	62	34	5	72	41

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF RUGBY.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1938.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes	215	195
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...		
2 Measles		
3 Scarlet Fever		
4 Whooping Cough		
5 Diphtheria	2	1
6 Influenza	1	1
7 Encephalitis Lethargica		
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever		
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	11	9
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	
11 Syphilis		1
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	1	
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	27	32
14 Diabetes	2	4
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	14	14
16 Heart Disease	44	39
17 Aneurysm	1	
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	15	8
19 Bronchitis	5	3
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	11	6
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2
22 Peptic Ulcer	4	4
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	2	1
24 Appendicitis	2	
25 Cirrhosis of Liver		1
26 Other Diseases of Liver, etc.		3
27 Other Digestive Diseases	3	5
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	5	9
29 Puerperal Sepsis		
30 Other Puerperal Causes		3
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformation, etc.	8	2
32 Senility	18	17
33 Suicide	8	4
34 Other Violence	15	10
35 Other Defined Diseases	13	16
36 Causes, ill-defined or unknown		

