[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Rugby Borough.

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BOROUGH OF RUGBY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1949

David J. Jones

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To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Rugby.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present the Annual Report for the year 1949, the first completed year of the newly created Eastern Area, of which the Borough forms part.

The vital statistics can again be regarded with satisfaction. The population, estimated mid-year 1949, again shows an increase of 680 over the 1948 figure. The number of live births and the birth rate show a slight increase over 1948, the figures being 797 and 17·38 respectively. The birth rate of 17·38 compares favourably with the National rate of 16·7. The death rate of 11·01 contrasts with a rate of 9·85 in 1948.

A glance at the table on page 9 shows that heart and other circulatory diseases are responsible for almost half of all deaths and cancer one sixth. It will be noted also that anterior poliomyelitis was responsible for five deaths during an epidemic of the disease which lasted from July to December.

The still birth figure of 7 compares very favourably with that of 17 for the previous year.

Referring to the sections of the report dealing with environmental and sanitary matters, I again tender my thanks to Mr. T. Bartlett, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his loyal co-operation throughout the year and for his contributions to the report. The comments made on page 31 with regard to the taking over of control of the production side of milk will, with the passage of time, prove correct. Milk is a food, used on a large scale for one important section of the population, the children, and as such should be subject to the strict supervision of the Health Department in the same way as meat, bread, etc.—supervision commencing at the place where the food begins to take shape. One aspect of the new Milk and Dairies Regulations, long overdue, is the power granted to the Medical Officer of Health to order the pasteurisation of a milk supply suspected of carrying the organism of tuberculosis.

I would here tender my thanks to the Borough Surveyor, Mr. S. G. Fox, for the details supplied regarding the water undertaking, and also to the Housing Officer, Mr. J. Smedley, for figures relating to new housing.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
DAVID J. JONES,
Medical Officer of Health.

ALBERT HOUSE,
ALBERT STREET,
RUGBY.
August, 1950.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY

Mayor: ALDERMAN A. J. DUKES.

Deputy Mayor: COUNCILLOR T. A. LORD.

Members of the Public Health Committee:

DR. J. R. OWEN (Chairman); MRS. I. O. HODSON and MRS. J. TATHAM; MESSRS. F. R. AVERY, J. G. LYNN, H. P. T. PHIPPS, S. H. ROBBINS and REV. C. T. P. POWELL.

The Mayor is an *ex-officio* member of the Public Health Committee.

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

Medical Officer of Health:
DAVID J. JONES, B.Sc., M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of
Medical Officer of Health—Rugby Rural District Council.
Area Medical Officer—Warwickshire County Council.
Divisional School Medical Officer—Warwickshire County Council.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

T. BARTLETT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector:

A. J. MASI, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

F. H. A. BURTON, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Resigned 28th September, 1949).
J. R. DAVENPORT, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
R. WELCH, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Resigned 16th October, 1949).

Clerical Staff:

MISS M. PENNINGTON
(from 17th January, 1949, to 30th June, 1949).
MRS. R. E. FISHER
(from 18th July, 1949).
MISS G. GILBERT.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

1(a) GENERAL STATISTICS, 1949.

Area in acres	7,010
Population (estimated mid-1949)	45,860
Rateable value (1st April, 1949)	~~£318,151~~ £344,4
Product of a penny rate	£1,423

1(b) VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*	*BIRTH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population.*
Legitimate	362	403	765	
Illegitimate	14	18	32	
	376	421	797	**17·38**

Still Births	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*	*Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.*
				0·15
Legitimate	4	2	6	*Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.*
Illegitimate	—	1	1	
	4	3	7	**8·71**

Deaths	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*	*DEATH-RATE per 1,000 of the estimated population.*
All causes	271	234	505	**11·01**
Adjusted death-rate				**11·67**

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal Sepsis	*Nil*
Other puerperal causes ...	*Nil*

Infant Mortality	*Male*	*Female*	*Total*	*Rate per 1,000 Live Births.*
Legitimate	9	10	19	23·84
Illegitimate	1	1	2	2·51
	10	11	21	**26·35**

Deaths from	Cancer (all ages)	88
,, ,,	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2
,, ,,	Measles	*Nil.*
,, ,,	Whooping Cough	*Nil.*

2. AREA AND POPULATION.

The area of the Borough remained unchanged at 7,010 acres.

Population. The mid-year population, as estimated by the Registrar-General, was 45,860, an increase of 680 over 1948. The natural increase, the excess of births over deaths, was 292.

Deaths. The number of deaths assigned to the Borough was 505, compared with 445 in 1948. The death rate of 11·01 per 1,000 of the population was higher by 1·16 per thousand than the rate for the previous year, but lower by 0·69 than the rate for England and Wales.

The following table gives the death rates per 1,000 of the population for the years 1945–1949 :—

	1945	**1946**	**1947**	**1948**	**1949**
Rugby M.B. ...	10·0	10·10	11·00	9·85	11·01
(No. of deaths) ...	(429)	(438)	(482)	(445)	(505)
Warwickshire ...	10·45	10·61	10·68	9·62	
England and Wales	11·4	11·5	12·0	10·8	11·7

Adjusted Death-Rate. The adjusted death-rate for 1949 was 11·67. This rate is obtained by applying to the crude death rate an area comparability factor of 1·06 supplied by the Registrar-General, which corrects for the difference in age and sex distribution of the population of the Borough from that of England and Wales as a whole.

The registered causes of death were as follows:—

	Causes of Death	*Males*	*Females*	*Total*
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	—	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	10	1	11
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	2	2	4
8.	Syphilitic disease...	3	1	4
9.	Influenza	1	6	7
10.	Measles	—	—	—
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	4	1	5
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	4	6	10
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	10	3	13
15.	Cancer of breast	—	10	10
16.	Cancer of all other sites	35	20	55
17.	Diabetes	1	2	3
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	25	33	58
19.	Heart disease	96	72	168
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system ...	8	11	19
21.	Bronchitis	10	4	14
22.	Pneumonia	17	12	29
23.	Other respiratory diseases	2	4	6
24.	Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum ...	3	2	5
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	1	2
26.	Appendicitis	—	—	—
27.	Other digestive diseases...	3	7	10
28.	Nephritis	5	6	11
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	—	—	—
31.	Premature birth	6	4	10
32.	Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	2	5	7
33.	Suicide	1	4	5
34.	Road traffic accidents	4	1	5
35.	Other violent causes	2	2	4
36.	All other causes	16	14	30
	Total All Causes	271	234	505

Births. The number of live births assigned to the Borough for 1949 was 797, compared with 782 the previous year. The birth rate of 17·38 was slightly higher than the rate for 1948 (17·31) and also higher than the rate for England and Wales (16·7). The birth rate exceeded the death rate by 6·37 per 1,000 of the population.

The birth rates for the years 1945–1949 have been as follows:—

	1945	**1946**	**1947**	**1948**	**1949**
Rugby	19·20	19·70	19·80	17·31	17·38
Warwickshire ...	18·95	19·64	20·77	18·24	
England and Wales	16·1	19·1	20·5	17·9	16·7

Still Births. The number of still births during the year was 7 (4 legitimate males, 2 legitimate females and 1 illegitimate female), compared with 17 in 1948.

The still birth rates per 1,000 total (live and still) births for the past 5 years have been as follows :—

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Rugby	20·23	14·92	11·42	21·28	8·71
Warwickshire ...	25·39	22·32	19·93	20·03	

Illegitimate Births. There were 32 illegitimate live births and 1 illegitimate still birth assigned to the Borough in 1949.

Maternal Deaths. There were no maternal deaths during the year.

Infant Mortality. The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 21 (10 male, 11 female), and of this number 1 male and 1 female were illegitimate.

The infant death rates per 1,000 live births during the years 1945–1949 have been as follows :—

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
Rugby	46	31	35·83	23·02	26·35
Warwickshire ...	42	40	34·27	31·41	
England and Wales	46	43	41	34	32

The causes of death were as follows :—

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Cause of Death	*Age in Weeks*					*Total*
	1	2	3	4	5—52	
1. Congenital malformation ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
2. *Diseases of early infancy* :						
(*a*) Congenital debility ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
(*b*) Premature birth	10	—	—	—	—	10
(*c*) Injury at birth	1	—	—	—	—	1
(*d*) Atelectasis	2	—	—	—	—	2
(*e*) Others	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Diseases of respiratory system	2	—	—	—	3	5
4. Diseases of digestive system...	—	—	1	—	1	2
5. Diseases of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculous diseases... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Infectious disease	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Overlaying	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Other violence	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. All other causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	15	—	1	—	5	21

Neo-Natal Deaths. The number of infants who died within 28 days of birth was 16. The death rate of these infants per 1,000 live births was 20·08.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

1. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Coventry Public Health Laboratory, which was opened in the beginning of 1949, has carried out all examinations required by the Department in relation to the examination of milk and food samples and to the control of infectious diseases. In addition, a large number of milk samples were examined for the presence of tubercle bacilli, and these examinations have been carried out as far as the Laboratory can supply guinea pigs for each milk sample.

A full chemical analysis of water and sewage samples is still being carried out by the Counties Public Health Laboratories on behalf of the Borough Surveyor. Such examinations cannot be carried out by the Coventry Laboratory.

2. DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN.

Supplies of diphtheria anti-toxin can be obtained by any general practitioner on application to the Public Health Laboratory at Coventry or from any general hospital in this Area.

3. NURSING IN THE HOME.

On the 1st July, 1949, the County Council assumed full responsibility for the nursing services within the Borough, taking the whole of the work from the Nursing Association, which had acted for the previous 12 months on an agency basis for the County Council. In my report for the year 1948 it was regretted that the number of staff available for the nursing services was insufficient, but the year 1949 saw little or no improvement.

4. AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The ambulance service, which was taken over by the County Council from the Borough Fire Brigade in 1941, is operated by a full-time staff with a fleet of modern vehicles. The service has been entirely free since the inception of the National Health Service Act on the 5th July, 1948. During 1949 the ambulances covered 120,018 miles and transported 12,376 patients.

5. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Child Welfare Centres, Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics and School Health Services are operated by the County Council, and staffed by medical officers and specialists employed by that Authority. The following centres functioned during the year :—

(1) Child Welfare Centres.

First Aid Post, Temple Street ...	Every Friday and alternate Monday afternoons.
New Bilton	Every Wednesday afternoon.
Bilton	Alternate Thursdays.
Hillmorton	Alternate Mondays.

The attendances at the Centres continue to increase, and at the time of writing this report an additional Centre has been opened in Newbold. Sessions at this Centre are held on the first and third Fridays of each month.

(2) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics.

The Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics were held in the Bungalow, Temple Street, but at the end of the year preparations were made for these Clinics to be transferred to the first floor of the First Aid Post.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held every Wednesday and the Post-Natal Clinic on the third Thursday in each month.

(3) School Health Service.

The following clinics were held at the First Aid Post during the year :—

Minor Ailments ...	Every Tuesday morning.
Vision	Every Monday and Wednesday mornings.
Speech Therapy ...	Every Tuesday and Thursday.

The cleansing of verminous children is also carried out at the First Aid Post.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies. Water is obtained from three sources. Firstly from the Stanford Reservoir on the River Avon. This water is hard in character, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents and is free from metals apart from traces of iron and manganese. It is of fairly satisfactory organic quality for a raw supply and bacterial purity is of reasonable standard. The second source of supply is from the River Avon at Brownsover. This water is similar in character to Stanford except that it is inferior in quality and the hardness is increased. The third source is from the River Swift feeder at Cosford and this water is very hard in character.

All these waters are reasonable for raw supply and no exceptional difficulty is experienced in the treatment of the water for the production of a public supply.

The total quantities obtained from the several sources during the year ended the 31st March, 1950, were as follows :—

River Avon—Stanford Reservoir	385,380,000 gallons
River Avon—Brownsover	336,620,000 gallons
River Swift—Cosford Feeder...	109,180,000 gallons
Total	831,180,000 gallons

This total quantity exceeds the amount pumped to supply by 58,350,000 gallons or an average of 160,000 gallons per day, this being the quantity used for washing the filters, etc., during purification treatment.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses of Water. Bacteriological and chemical analyses have been made at regular intervals during the year to determine the quality of the supply and to ensure that the standard is maintained. The analyst's report on all the samples of water taken from the supply pumping main has stated that the " results are consistent with an efficiently treated water, pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes."

There is a resident attendant at Stanford Reservoir who makes regular inspections of the whole of the catchment area. No access to the Reservoir grounds is allowed except with permission, which is restricted to ornithologists, etc.

The daily average quantity supplied during the year ending the 31st March, 1950, was 2,114,603 gallons and the supply was maintained at all times.

The whole of the Borough with the exception of approximately 17 houses is supplied with water from the public mains.

BOROUGH OF RUGBY—WATER UNDERTAKING.
GENERAL SUMMARY OF WATER SUPPLIED.

Year ended 31st March	Total quantity supplied during the year				Average quantity per day				Estimated population in Borough	Average quantity per head per day		
	To Borough		To Rural Districts	Total	To Borough		To Rural Districts	Total				
	Domestic	Trade			Domestic	Trade				Domestic	Trade	Total
1940	340,216,488	209,947,023	17,516,489	567,680,000	929,553	573,626	47,859	1,551,038	40,350	23·04	14·22	37·26
1941	375,638,378	269,533,312	27,048,310	672,220,000	1,029,146	738,447	74,105	1,841,698	44,000	23·38	16·74	40·12
1942	423,654,603	286,248,267	53,607,130	763,510,000	1,160,697	784,242	146,869	2,091,808	44,000	26·38	17·82	44·20
1943	374,259,844	257,480,556	90,239,600	721,980,000	1,025,369	705,426	247,232	1,978,027	44,000	23·30	16·03	39·33
1944	386,026,618	290,615,436	106,473,946	783,116,000	1,054,718	794,031	290,912	2,139,661	44,000	23·97	18·05	42·02
1945	380,963,026	292,757,258	107,419,716	781,140,000	1,043,734	802,074	294,300	2,140,108	44,000	23·72	18·23	41·95
1946	343,949,868	274,768,532	115,791,600	734,510,000	942,328	752,791	317,237	2,012,356	43,930	21·45	17·14	38·59
1947	356,903,458	251,524,956	113,341,586	721,770,000	977,818	689,109	310,525	1,977,452	44,000	22·22	15·66	37·88
1948	396,289,760	266,988,240	128,832,000	792,110,000	1,082,759	729,476	352,000	2,164,235	44,000	24·61	16·58	41·19
1949	363,768,250	265,983,450	122,048,300	751,800,000	996,625	728,722	334,379	2,059,726	45,500	21·90	16·01	37·91
1950	363,230,460	276,703,940	132,895,600	772,830,000	992,412	758,093	364,098	2,114,603	46,000	21·57	16·48	38·05

Drainage and Sewerage. Practically the whole of the borough is drained to the public sewerage system, and in the majority of cases the foul and surface water systems are separate, or partially separate. There are two sewage disposal works, one for Hillmorton and the other situated at Newbold, for the remainder of the borough. Apart from Newbold, Brownsover and the B.T.H. Works, all sewerage is by gravitation.

The dry weather flow at the Main Works is 1,630,000 gallons and at Hillmorton 180,000 gallons.

In each works the method of treatment is by settling tanks, percolating filters followed by humus tanks, with a certain amount of land irrigation.

Analyses of the final effluent from the main works give results ranging from 10–23 parts per million suspended matter (Total); 5·8 to 9·8 parts per million oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 27°C.); and 1·2–18 parts per million Biological Oxygen Demand (5 days at 18·3°C.).

These results can be considered reasonably satisfactory, but a scheme for the provision of additional works to cope with the increased amount of sewage is still deferred by the Ministry of Health.

During the year a scheme for sewering houses in the Crick Road and Alwyn Road areas has been deferred by the Ministry of Health.

Refuse Collection and Disposal. The collection of refuse has proceeded reasonably satisfactorily and collection is made approximately every 10 days. The shortage of labour, however, is still marked. The Refuse Destructor is closed temporarily, and all refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at two tips on the outskirts of the borough.

From time to time considerable fly breeding has taken place and the assistance of the Health Department has been sought to keep the infestations under control. This has been effectively achieved by the use of Gammexane dust spread over the tipping face and upon the levelled refuse. This dressing has also achieved complete control of crickets.

Scavenging. All the carriageways in the built-up portion of the borough are swept by a mechanical sweeper, the centre daily and the remainder fortnightly. In addition 24 street scavengers are employed to deal with the footpaths and the general cleanliness of the streets.

Gullies are cleansed mechanically, and the vehicle is used alternate weeks in the flushing of sewers and on gully cleansing. All sewers are flushed at least once a fortnight and gullies cleansed 7 times per year.

Swimming Pools. The Regent Street Baths has provision for 29 slipper baths in addition to the swimming pool of a capacity of approx. 85,000 gallons. The water is filtered by a Royles filtration plant, using alumina and soda, and chlorinated before entering the pool—the turnover period is 4 hrs. Samples taken at intervals during the year proved the water of satisfactory organic and bacterial purity, and suitable for swimming bath purposes.

The total number of bathers during the year was 83,413.

The Newbold Road open air pool has a capacity of 250,000 gallons and again, water is filtered and chlorinated by a Paterson's filtration plant, the turnover period being 8 hrs. Analyses shew the water of satisfactory organic quality and of a high standard of bacterial purity.

The total number of bathers during the year was 30,827.

The epidemic of poliomyelitis necessitated closure of the Public Swimming Baths from the 11th October to the 14th November.

Infectious Diseases. Enquiries were carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors into all cases of infectious diseases where it was deemed necessary.

Disinfection in certain cases has been carried out by means of formaldehyde spray or vapour after removal of patients to hospital, or upon notification by the Doctor in charge that the patient is free from infection.

Disinfection is also carried out after removal of cases of tuberculosis to a Sanatorium or after death, and is offered when death has resulted from cancer.

The Sanitary Inspectors have made 176 visits of enquiry in respect of infectious disease cases and the disinfection of 109 rooms has been carried out by the Sanitary Assistant.

Rodent Control. Action under powers given in the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, and the Infestation Order, 1943, has been continued throughout 1949. It is a feature of this work at this stage that no matter how successful has been the action in the past, no decrease of work under these powers is possible, without permitting an immediate relapse to occur, when all the improvement achieved would be lost. In some respects the present is more exacting than the past, since the maintenance of control demands a more precise attention to detail.

All operative schemes have continued throughout the year covering sewers, dwelling houses and business premises as well as Corporation properties.

SEWERS. Two maintenance treatments, the fourth and the fifth in the series, were carried out during the year in February and July respectively. The February treatment was confined to areas where on the immediate previous maintenance treatment "takes" had been recorded, and the July treatment was widened to cover all manholes where any "take" had ever been recorded, plus, in each, a 10% test baiting in the "clear" areas. The results, taken together, are interesting, but are quite striking when compared with the results obtained on the occasion of the original treatment.

	Manholes baited	*Pre-bait Takes*	%
Feb., 1949 Treatment	185	27	14·6
July, 1949 Treatment	384	15	3·88
Original Treatment Dec., 1946	731	327	42·7

It is perhaps not a fair figure to take for purposes of assessing results, but when it is considered that the total number of manholes on the sewers in the Borough exceeds 1,000, some measure is obtained on the extent of the residual infestation. If the regular maintenance treatments were not carried out, re-infestation would occur in a very short time and surface infestations would increase also.

DWELLING HOUSES. Most of the work of control comes under this heading. Out of a total of 1,834 visits made by the Rodent Operative for all purposes other than sewer treatment, 1,572 were made in respect of survey and treatment in connection with private dwellings. No costs were recovered in respect of treatment in private dwellings.

BUSINESS PREMISES. During the year 12 infestations on business premises were dealt with and the cost of the necessary treatment recovered from the occupiers. For this purpose 101 visits to business premises were made.

CORPORATION PREMISES. The Corporation Works, refuse tips and similar premises were under constant supervision, but special attention was given to all premises in April and September. At none of the premises mentioned has a serious infestation developed, but experience has emphasized the necessity of maintaining a constant watch so as to prevent the establishment of a major or reservoir infestation in premises or on land used for purposes which are peculiarly attractive to rats. In all 161 visits were made.

GENERAL. New complaints throughout the year numbered 154, of which 103 were in respect of rats and 51 in respect of mice.

Verminous Premises. The number of visits made, viz. 25, may again be taken as a measure of the size of the problem in Rugby. There is no reason to suppose that people are becoming less inclined to report vermin, and since they have been given every assistance for years to get rid of bugs, fleas, etc., it is a fair assumption that the number of infested premises is less than it was, and that new infestations are fewer. 80 visits were made for treatment purposes, mostly for cockroaches. It is good that pyrethrum is now readily available again for these treatments. No matter how effective are other forms of poisoning, that which produces the highest number of " bodies " gives the highest satisfaction. It can be reported, however, that, as with other infestations, it is those which are left alive which matter, and not job is finally left until there is more than a reasonable assurance that nothing alive remains. It is believed that this policy is responsible for the decreasing numbers of new infestations which are reported year by year.

Barrier treatment in all new council houses was continued during 1949, all houses being sprayed with D.D.T. emulsion on all inside bedroom walls prior to occupation. Only one report of an infestation in houses pre-treated has been received by the Department. This was of fleas which, on investigation, was found to have its source in some rags left by the previous tenant.

The Department has continued to give assistance in excessive moth infestations where householders have tried in vain to achieve control. Wasps nests have also been destroyed where they have been reported in dangerous positions.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948. Details are given in the tabulated statement below of action taken, and the totals show that 112 inspections were made and 14 written notices served under these Acts. It is perhaps an interesting feature of the year's work that in many instances the Department has informed H.M. Inspector of Factories that changes have taken place, whereas previously the process of notification was in the opposite direction. Not of itself important, but it does indicate an improvement in the work of the Department. Pre-war standard is not yet attained but progress is satisfactory.

A considerable amount of work outstanding at the end of last year has been cleared up and the work at one of the larger factories in the town mentioned in last year's report is in hand.

Bakehouses have received close attention under factory legislation, but more particularly with regard to the requirements of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The lines of action are complementary. One bakehouse has been completely reconstructed during the year and in several others major improvement works have been carried out.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937, FOR THE YEAR 1949.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. **INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).**

Premises	*No. on Register*	*No. of*		
		Inspections	*Written Notices*	*Occupiers Prosecuted*
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	52		6	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	136	112	8	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	—		—	—
Total ...	188	112	14	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	*No. of Cases in which Defects were found*				*Number of Cases in which prosecutions were Instituted*
	Found	*Remedied*	*Referred*		
			To H.M. Inspector	*By H.M. Inspector*	
Want of cleanliness... ...	7	7	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(*a*) Insufficient	6	3	—	—	—
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	10	14	—	—	—
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	—	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	4	—	—	—
Total ...	23	29	—	—	—

River Pollution. The year 1949 has not been sensational. Works have been carried out under the Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1937, and so far as can be ascertained all known potential sources of pollution are under control.

The River Avon and other water courses within the Borough are in reasonable condition. It has been noted that the flow in the river seems to be less than hitherto. It is agreed that 1949 was, on the whole, a dry year, but of late years the water level in the river reaches sooner " dry weather level," after rain, than used to be the case. There are several reasons for this which are known, but there are dangers, too, which should be noted. There is the higher risk, if pollution enters, of the whole stream becoming grossly polluted, since dilution is now much less. There is a slower flow and deleterious substances may be deposited in the deeper pools. There is much greater risk of considerable temperature rise of river water in summer weather with attendant consequences. Practically the whole of the summer flow is diverted for one purpose or another.

Having regard to all these considerations it is perhaps a matter for congratulation that the condition is as good as it is.

Smoke Abatement. Relatively little trouble arises from industrial smoke within the Borough.

During the year 49 observations of chimneys were made and one nuisance under the Byelaws noted, and duly reported. Subsequent observations indicated that improvement had been effected.

A laundry chimney continues to give some trouble and though a number of investigations have been made, no explanation of the erratic behaviour of this boiler plant is forthcoming. It certainly needs very careful handling.

The boiler plants at two institutional buildings are not satisfactory.

The frequent excuse of indifferent fuel is justifiable, but almost any fuel can be used if it is properly and intelligently handled. One appreciates that this is not always easy.

Canal Boats. There have been no inspections made during the year.

Shops Acts. During the year little has been done or is necessary concerning the hours of closing sections of the Acts, beyond the answering of enquiries.

On other matters 68 inspections have been made and 14 informal notices served in respect of contraventions found, of which 7 were complied with before the end of the year.

Much of the work in food shops is done under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and as most of the health requirements are carried out under this Act, further reference will be made to these matters in the appropriate section of this report.

Petroleum Acts. Altogether 57 visits and revisits have been made for the purposes of inspection of installations. All of these have been of a routine character connected with licensing conditions. It was necessary to serve 11 notices in respect of contraventions found.

General. Reference to the analysis of complaints received will disclose some variations when comparison is made with the previous year. This is inevitable, and is not very significant. It will be seen, however, that there was a rise in the complaints concerning dustbins. This was almost entirely due to the co-operation of the refuse collectors. If taken with the next largest item, " housing defects," the effects will be seen to be reflected in the summary of inspections made.

It is becoming more obvious that the public are taking advantage of the rodent destruction service and that more and more complaints are being received, in spite of the numbers of rats and mice being killed. This is due almost entirely to earlier reporting of infestations by a more enlightened public.

It will be noted too that the Inspectors spend a lot of time revisiting, most of which is in respect of housing defects and repairs. Interviews too, represent a good deal of time but are very necessary to the proper working of the Department. More and more requests for advice are being received from tradesmen and traders, and a deal of satisfaction derives from this as it is felt that advisory work is the most fruitful of any work the staff is called upon to do.

ANALYSIS OF COMPLAINTS RECEIVED, 1949.

Cause of Complaint	*Number Received*
Housing Defects	215
Defective Dustbins	438
Drainage Defects, etc.	131
Animals, Birds, etc., improperly kept ...	14
Conditions in Factories	3
Offensive Accumulations	19
Overcrowding	18
Rats and Mice	154
Filthy and/or Verminous Premises ...	14
Smell Nuisances	32
Insect Pests	30
Water Supply	5
Miscellaneous	7
Totals ...	1080

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1949.

	Initial Visits	*Re-visits*
Dwelling Houses	423	866
Overcrowding	25	3
Verminous	19	6
Tents, Vans and Sheds	5	—
Accumulations	30	14
Animals and Birds	35	11
Cesspools	46	43
Drainage	277	209
Drain Tests	73	—
Entertainment Houses	3	—
Factories Acts	55	11
Interviews	696	—
Knackers' Yards	6	—
Offensive Trades	3	—
Pail Closets	28	26
Rats and Mice	544	852
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	449	104
Rivers and Streams	13	3
Sewers	193	133
Shops Acts	47	21
Smoke Observations	47	2
Water Closets	82	91
Water Supply	102	119
Petroleum Act	47	10
Miscellaneous	121	22
Slaughterhouses	891	—
General Food	460	32
Meat Shops	17	2
Food Preparation	49	35
Ice Cream	68	10
Bakehouses	31	15
Markets...	64	—
Milk and Dairies	106	22
Cowsheds	46	1
Food and Drugs Sampling	204	37
Bacteriological Sampling	357	6
Biological Sampling	46	—
Water Sampling	2	—
Infectious Disease	172	4
Totals ...	5882	2710

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED DURING 1949.

	Served		*Complied with*	
	Preliminary	*Statutory*	*Preliminary*	*Statutory*
Public Health Acts ...	315	131	310	90
Housing Acts	2	—	5	2
Factories Acts	14	—	14	—
Rugby Corporation Acts...	244	46	149	7
Shops Acts...	14	—	7	—
Milk and Dairies	1	—	2	—
Food and Drugs Act ...	55	—	52	—
Petroleum Act	11	—	4	—
Rugby Urban District Council Act	—	21	1	21
Total ...	656	198	544	120

During the year the Sanitary Assistant made 2,986 visits in connection with disinfections, disinfestations, drain tests, removing condemned foods for destruction and also assisted in Food and Drugs sampling.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The total number of houses owned by the Corporation prior to the war was 728, of which number 116 were erected by the Rural District Council prior to the extension of the Borough boundary.

Since the war, to the end of 1949, the number of houses erected is as follows :—

Corporation :

Parkfield	...	60	Temporary Arcon 2 bedroom bungalows.
Station	...	54	,, Tarran ,, ,,
Overslade	...	40	2 bedroom bungalows.
,,	...	160	3 bedroom houses.
,,	...	550	3 bedroom B.I.S.F. houses.
Millfields	...	12	3 bedroom houses.
Private ...	...	32	
Re-building :			
(*war destroyed*)...		7	
Kingsway Housing Association	...	214	
		1,129	

The following table gives details of the numbers and types of houses let by the Corporation during 1949 :—

Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10a	10b	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Pre-war Houses																*Total No. of Tenancies*		
	N.P.			*P.*		*B.*	*Prefabs.*	*Prefabs. Re-Let*	*Post war Brick Houses*	*Post war Brick Bungalows*		*Post war Brick Re-Let*	*B.I.S.F. Houses*	*B.I.S.F. Houses Re-Let*	*Req. Properties*	*Req. Properties Re-Let*	*Total Cols. 1-15*	*Exchanges Transfers*	*Total*
	2	3	4	3	4														
1949																			
Jan.		1		1				4	7				46	5	1		65	7	58
Feb.	1	4		1	1			3	2			1	10	6		2	31	14	17
Mch.	1	1							5			1	11	3			22	5	17
Apl.		3		1		1		3	1			1	5	6			21	4	17
May								4	4					3			11	3	8
June								1						5			6	2	4
July	1	2		1		1		3						1		1	10	2	8
Aug.		1		2										1			4	1	3
Sept.		2						2				1		2			7	4	3
Oct.		2		1		1											4	—	4
Nov.		1		1										2			4	2	2
Dec.				3						6				2		1	12	2	10

Number of houses let 1949 = 151.
Number of persons (including children) rehoused = 528.

NOTE.— N.P.2 — Non-parlour, 2 bedroom type.
N.P.3 — Non-parlour, 3 bedroom type.
N.P.4 — Non-parlour, 4 bedroom type.
P.3 — Parlour, 3 bedroom type.
P.4 — Parlour, 4 bedroom type.
B. — Bungalow.
O.P. — (Column 10b) Post war bungalows let to elderly persons.

Details of the persons housed by the Kingsway Housing Association during 1949 are as follows :—

Month	*Bilton Estate*		*Rokeby Estate*		*Total Tenancies*
	Nominated by H.L.S.C.	*Selected by English Electric Co. Ltd.*	*Nominated by H.L.S.C.*	*Selected by English Electric Co. Ltd.*	
January	6	2	—	6	14
February	2	2	—	4	8
March	—	—	—	10	10
April	3	3	1	3	10
May	1	1	2	4	8
June	—	—	2	6	8
July	—	—	1	3	4
August	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	2	—	—	2
October	2	—	—	—	2
November	—	4	—	—	4
December	1	3	—	—	4
Totals	15	17	6	36	74

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) 423

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose 1,289

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 ... —

(*b*) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ... —

3 Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 12

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 317

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 315

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 ... ... —

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

(*a*) By owners 7

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners —

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

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 310

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

(*a*) By owners 90

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners ... 1

(*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 7

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ... —

(*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 2

(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 1

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein 2

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein 6

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

(*c*) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ... —

(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 1,604

Housing Conditions. It is not satisfactory to report, but it is a fact, that again very little real progress has been made. It is also a fact that further structural deterioration has taken place in sub-standard houses. Systematic house to house inspection is impracticable, because the volume of work such inspections could produce would utterly overwhelm the jobbing builders in the area. In addition, it is thought that many houses would be found to be in such a state that clearance or closure would be the only action possible. Such a result would aggravate the present unsatisfied demand for new houses. The very unsatisfactory method of waiting for people to complain has had to be continued and, although this procedure is deprecated, there is no alternative.

Arising from complaints received, 423 houses have been inspected, and 19 statutory and 310 informal notices served in respect of defects found. Most of these were completely complied with or the work was in hand before the end of the year, but for the first time for many years it was necessary to institute legal proceedings. In the three cases taken, it was felt that neither shortages of labour nor materials affected the position. The action taken was successful and the work required to comply with the Court Orders was carried out. It will be noted that the actions were instituted under the Public Health Act and not under the Housing Act. In addition to these cases work was carried out by default in one instance.

Undoubtedly, the cost of repairs is one of the reasons why work is taking longer, and more and more persuasion is being needed to achieve compliance with the requirements of notices. Costs are increasing without a corresponding increase in rents and the effects cannot be ignored when the situation is being reviewed. During the year 316 houses have been rendered fit.

Eighteen complaints have been received of overcrowding and 28 visits were made in respect of these complaints, but only two cases of statutory overcrowding were found to exist. Most complaints received were allied with applications for council houses and in every instance, excepting the two cases mentioned, the complaint arose where houses were occupied by two or more families.

Action under Sections 11, 12 and 13 of the Housing Act was taken in 12 cases as a result of which seven demolition orders and three closing orders were made. In the three remaining cases undertakings that the houses would not be used for human habitation were accepted.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

Meat and Food Inspection. All slaughtering for Rugby and District is carried out on behalf of the Ministry of Food at the Corporation's Slaughterhouses at Rugby. All animals slaughtered are fully inspected both ante- and post-mortem, and all condemned meat and offals sent to utilization plants for conversion.

The following tables show the number of animals slaughtered and inspected and the details of meat condemned during 1949 :—

	Cattle excl. Cows	*Cows*	*Calves*	*Sheep and Lambs*	*Pigs*	*Total*
Number killed	1863	1074	1470	10059	532	14998
Number inspected	1863	1074	1470	10059	532	14998
All diseases except Tuberculosis :						
Whole carcases condemned	6	24	40	150	15	235
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	534	394	16	478	68	1490
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	28·98	38·92	3·81	6·24	15·60	11·51
Tuberculosis Only :						
Whole Carcases condemned	16	46	1	—	1	64
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	259	293	2	—	29	583
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	14·22	31·56	0·20	—	5·64	4·32

MEAT CONDEMNED.

Animals	*Whole Carcases*		*Part Carcases*		*Offal*	
	No.	*Weight in lbs.*	*No.*	*Weight in lbs.*	*No.*	*Weight in lbs.*
Beasts ...	22	9479	49	2765	1389	22328
Cows ...	70	33390	64	3902	1805	24553
Sheep ...	150	5974	115	746	507	2140
Pigs	16	1675	47	993	110	762
Calves ...	41	1831	9	116	52	421
Total ...	299	52349	284	8522	3863	50204

GRAND TOTAL 49 Tons, 11 cwt., 83 lbs.

By comparison with last year the number of animals inspected has risen by nearly 30% and the amount of meat condemned by nearly 50%. It is not strictly possible to relate these figures since one refers to animals and the other to the weight of meat, etc., condemned, but as a means of comparison with the preceding year it serves as an indication that food animal health is deteriorating rather than improving. Tuberculosis again shows no sign of decreasing and this and other causes of condemnation, as will be seen from the table at the beginning of this section, have been responsible for the condemnation as unfit for food of 49 tons 11 cwt. 83 lbs. of meat and offal. Although such meat is sent for processing and the recovery of many by-products, it is a woeful waste of what might have been good food.

The " Casualty " animal is the cause of considerable concern. It is often brought in from the farm with a note from the Veterinary Surgeon, couched in vague terms. This may be inevitable, but as the meat inspector is often unable to obtain ante-mortem history or reasons for slaughter, he finds it difficult to give a satisfactory judgment.

All other foods are subject to inspection and during the year 313 certificates of unfitness were issued covering the following :—

Article	*Tins or Packets*	*Lbs.*
Bacon	2	244
Cereals	—	1292
Cheese	—	255
Eggs	317 (Number)	—
Fats	—	15
Fish	103	1683
Flour Confectionery	—	100
Fruit	69	497
Meat	347	1107
Milk	568	—
Nuts	—	112
Poultry	—	574
Preserves	61	45
Sausages	—	439
Sugar	—	8
Sugar Confectionery	—	70
Soup	35	—
Tea	—	5
Vegetables	486	33
Total	1671	6479

Food and Drugs. Two hundred and four samples of foods and drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst for Chemical Analysis and the table given below summarises the results obtained and the action taken :—

Article	*Formal*		*Informal*		*Action Taken*
	Genuine	*Adulterated*	*Genuine*	*Adulterated*	
Amm. Elixir of Quinine ..	—	—	1	—	
Baking Powder	—	—	4	—	
Barley Pudding	—	—	1	—	
Beef and Vegetable Puree	—	—	1	—	
Beef and Ham Paste ..	—	—	1	—	
Blackcurrant Pastilles ..	1	—	—	1	Informal Sample No. 32, Label unsatisfactory ; Formal Sample No. 58, genuine.
Blood Mixture	—	—	1	—	
Brawn	1	—	—	—	
Butter	6	—	—	—	
Cake	—	—	1	—	
Cold and Influenza Mixture	1	—	—	—	
Coffee Essence	—	—	2	—	
Cookiemalt	—	—	1	—	
Cooking Fat	3	—	—	—	
Creamola Foam	—	—	1	—	
Custard Powder	—	—	1	—	
Doughnuts	—	—	2	—	
Fish Cakes	—	—	1	—	
Gin	2	—	—	—	
Ginger Cordial	—	—	1	—	
Glycerine	—	—	1	—	
Ground Almonds	1	—	—	—	
Gripe Mixture	—	—	1	—	
Halorax Emulsion	—	—	1	—	
Ice Cream	—	—	25	—	
Jam	—	—	10	—	
Lard	1	—	—	—	
Lemon Sauce	—	—	1	—	
Macaroni	—	—	1	—	
Marmalade	—	—	1	—	
Meat Paste	—	—	3	—	
Milk	63	—	—	—	
Mincemeat	1	—	—	—	
Parishes Food	—	—	1	—	
Paromalt	—	—	1	—	
Peppermint Essence ..	—	—	1	—	
Potted Meat	1	—	1	—	
Pudding Mixture	—	—	1	—	
Raising Powder	—	—	2	—	
Rum	1	—	—	—	
Salad Cream	—	—	3	—	
Salad Dressing	—	—	1	—	
Salad Oil	1	—	2	—	Informal Sample No. 147 : Unsatisfactory, no manufacturer's name, label of ingredients or volume.
Sausage Meat	6	—	—	—	
Sausages	8	2	—	—	Sample No. 131 : Contained 390 parts per million SO_2 ; Vendor warned. Sample No. 161 : Deficient of 9% of its meat ; Vendor warned
Sauce	—	—	1	—	
Self Raising Flour ..	2	—	3	—	
Sherry	1	—	—	—	
Short Cakes	1	—	—	—	
Spice Cakes	—	—	1	—	
Sponge Mixture	—	—	1	—	
Suet	2	—	—	—	
Sweetening Tablets ..	—	—	1	—	
Toffees	—	—	1	—	
Tomato Ketchup	—	—	2	—	
Tonic Elixen	—	—	1	—	
Tomato Sauce	—	—	2	—	
Vaporcreme Rub	—	—	1	—	
Vinegar	3	—	1	—	
Whisky	2	—	—	—	
Total ..	109	2	91	2	

In addition, samples of ice cream were taken and submitted from all sources of supply. These samples came from 25 different manufacturers both from within and outside the Borough. The Analysts' reports showed that fat content varied from 2·9% to 13·5%, and that every sample analysed had a fat content in excess of the standard of 2·5% fixed as a condition of the supply of extra fat and sugar by the Ministry of Food. The Ministry have been informed of the results as requested.

Reference to the table will show that foods and drugs generally were of good quality. The numbers of samples taken were in excess of the 4 per 1,000 of population standard and the variety was sufficiently wide to be representative.

Milk and Dairies. For nine months of 1949 control was exercised over milk production in the Borough, but, from the 1st October, 1949, the registration and supervision of milk was handed over to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Time alone will tell if this has been a proper step, but it is to be regretted that supervision of this all-too perishable food passes from a Department whose primary concern is Health, to a Department whose primary concern is Agriculture. It is as well not to dwell on this theme, it is too early. Although it has been known since 1944 that this work would be lost to Local Authorities, their staffs carried on achieving a steady but progressive improvement in the conditions of milk production. So far as this Borough was concerned, there were more assets than liabilities taken over.

During the year two pasteurising plants have been installed by dairymen, and duly licensed after the requisite tests were carried out.

An examination of the present position with regard to milk consumed in the Borough gave results which may be of interest :—

Ungraded Milk	35·0%
T.T. Milk	3·0%
Sterilized Milk	0·5%
Pasteurised Milk	61·5%
	100·0%

Of the ungraded milk, approximately one third is produced by the distributors who retail it within the Borough.

At the end of the year two dairymen were completing arrangements for the installation of pasteurising plants. During the year 175 inspections of dairy premises were made. It was necessary to serve one notice only, which was complied with. All other work was achieved by discussion and co-operation.

There were 28 producers registered at the commencement of the year, but at the end of the year the 34 names remaining on the register were classified as follows :—

Wholesalers	4
Retailers	18
Occupiers of shops where milk is sold ...	12

The following table shows the number of samples taken and indicates their quality by the various tests for milks. In regard to ordinary milk (ungraded), the standard adopted was that it should pass the methylene blue test as prescribed for " tuberculin tested " and " accredited " milks.

Type	*Pasteurised*		*Sterilized*		*Tuberculin Tested*		*Ungraded*		*Total*	
	Sat.	*N.S.*	*Sat.*	*N.S.*	*Sat.*	*N.S.*	*Sat.*	*N.S.*	*Sat.*	*N.S.*
T.B. Inoculation ...	—	—	—	—	6	—	36	3	42	3
Methylene Blue, etc.	47	4	13	—	34	15	89	63	183	82
Chemical	6	—	—	—	2	—	55	—	63	—
Total ...	53	4	13	—	42	15	180	66	288	85

The proportion of T.T. milks not satisfying the methylene blue test was too high, but that of ordinary milks was higher.

Appropriate action was taken in respect of every unsatisfactory sample.

Ice Cream. There are 11 manufacturers of ice cream who are registered, of whom 8 are using a complete cold mix powder method of preparation. Of the remaining three, two are fully complying with the requirements of the Heat Treatment Regulations. The remaining person is ceasing to manufacture ice cream.

Itinerant vendors from neighbouring towns have not decreased; the majority of them are selling pre-packed product.

The Public Health Laboratory Service was available for the examination of ice creams, and the following table shows the results of examinations of samples submitted during the year :—

Grades		1	2	3	4	*Total*
Hot Mix	Loose	13	13	5	11	42
	Pre-packed	11	2	3	1	17
Cold Mix	Loose	6	10	3	3	22
	Pre-packed	—	—	—	—	—
Total		30	25	11	15	81
%		37%	31%	14%	18%	—

It will be seen that 68% of the samples of ice cream submitted could be considered as satisfactory under the provisional grading scheme.

Food Premises. Considerable attention has been paid to food premises this year, and during the twelve months 703 inspections have been made to such premises. Food handling and preparation have been a " feature," although, in fact, it has been a continuation of work already commenced.

The time spent has been well worth while, much improvement has taken place both in respect of premises and food handling. This work is largely educational, needing frequent repetition, but is well worth while, and brings satisfaction to the members of the staff.

In this connection, all types of premises have been included wherever food or drink is prepared or sold. Improvements have been effected at 52 premises, including structural alterations and repairs, the provision of hot and cold water for washing purposes, and other similar hygienic requirements.

The degree of co-operation received from traders concerned has been marked although some comment has been forthcoming on account of the high expenditure sometimes involved.

During the year it has been necessary on two occasions to institute proceedings in respect of food sold in a state unfit for human consumption. In each case the food contained foreign bodies which could not have entered the article except through lack of reasonable care in preparation. Fines of £25 and £20 respectively were imposed.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

1. INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever. 70 cases were notified in 1949 compared with 162 the previous year. There were no deaths from the disease.

Diphtheria. No cases were notified.

Whooping Cough. 84 cases were notified, an increase of 2 over the number for the previous year. No deaths occurred.

Measles. A total of 422 cases were notified of which 318 occurred during the month of January. No deaths were recorded.

Erysipelas. 17 cases were notified, the same number as in 1948.

Puerperal Pyrexia. One case was notified compared with 4 during the previous year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. There were 2 cases notified during the year, the same number as in 1948.

Pneumonia. 37 cases were notified, 6 more than the previous year.

Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis. During an outbreak of this disease, which lasted from July to December, 23 cases were notified and 5 deaths occurred. The majority of these cases were nursed in the Hospital of St. Cross, Rugby—due to the fact that the cases were seen by the Consultant Medical Specialists of the Regional Hospital Board, serving on the staff of that hospital. The number of deaths—5 out of 23 cases—was high, and death occurred within 36 hours of admission to hospital. The ages of the patients ranged from 11 months to 37 years. A number of the cases have severe residual paralysis, which will handicap them permanently. One case, at the time of writing this report, had but recently been permanently removed from the Iron Lung.

Points of note in the outbreak :—

(1)	Case rate	1 per 2,000 population.
(2)	Age span of cases ...	11 months—37 years.
(3)	Duration of outbreak ...	July—December.
(4)	Number of cases housed on new Council estates ...	7.

In order to eliminate, as far as possible, the chances of infection spreading, the public baths were closed, infant welfare centres in the Borough were suspended for some two months, the infant departments of Borough Schools were closed (this was done to permit greater spacing of the remaining children in the schools), and the Saturday morning children's matinee at the local cinema was suspended for two months.

2. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation against diphtheria was continued during the year and was carried out at the First Aid Post, Temple Street, Rugby, at School Medical Examinations and Child Welfare Centres, and also by private practitioners.

The numbers of children who, at any time up to the 31st December, 1949, had completed a full course of immunisation, are as follows :—

Age at 31.12.49 *Born in*	*Under 1 year* *1949*	*1–4 years* *1945–1948*	*5–14 years* *1935–1944*	*Total*
Number immunised	51	1,818	4,392	6,261
Estimated mid-year population	4,155		6,275	10,430
Percentage immunised	44·98		69·99	60·03

3. TUBERCULOSIS.

59 new cases of tuberculosis, 52 respiratory and 7 non-respiratory, were notified during the year, compared with 60 cases in 1948. In addition 3 new respiratory cases were transferred to the Borough from other authorities. At the 31st December there were 360 cases on the Register, classified as follows :—

Respiratory		*Non-respiratory*		*Total*	
Male	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*
169	113	36	42	205	155

The following table gives details of the age incidence of the new cases and of deaths from the disease :—

AGE INCIDENCE OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1949.

Age Groups	*New Cases*				*Deaths*			
	Respiratory		*Non-respiratory*		*Respiratory*		*Non-respiratory*	
	Male	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*
—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—5 ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15 ...	6	—	2	2	—	—	1	—
—25 ...	7	7	—	—	3	—	—	—
—35 ...	7	12	1	—	1	2	—	2
—45 ...	4	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
—55 ...	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—
—65 ...	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65+ ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ...	31	21	3	4	10	2	1	2

AGE INCIDENCE OF CIVILIAN CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1949.

FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION.

Disease	0—	1—	3—	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65+	*All Ages*
Scarlet Fever ...	—	4	7	46	12	—	—	1	—	—	—	70
Whooping Cough ...	8	23	24	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	84
Acute Poliomyelitis...	1	1	5	2	2	4	3	3	—	—	—	21
Measles	15	112	140	129	9	7	3	3	1	—	3	422
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	2	—	2	2	2	2	7	5	6	9	37
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Enteric or Typhoid fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid... ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	6	6	17
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	9	18	—	—	—	—	—	27

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS), 1949.

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	6	8	3	3	3	2	—	—	8	4	9	24	70
Whooping Cough...	20	8	1	4	13	12	13	2	2	—	3	6	84
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	8	3	1	21
Measles	318	58	21	4	6	6	2	3	1	—	2	1	422
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	4	4	11	3	3	—	1	2	1	1	2	5	37
Dysentery... ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2
Enteric or Typhoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas... ...	2	5	3	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	17
Cerebro-spinal Fever... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	26	—	—	27

SECTION G.

Statistical Tables.

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR THE BOROUGH OF RUGBY AND ENGLAND AND WALES, 1949.

		Rugby M.B.	*England & Wales*
		Rates per 1,000 of population	
Live Births		17·38	16·7
Still Births		0·15	0·39
Deaths :			
All causes		11·01	11·7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid		0·00	0·00
Whooping Cough		0·00	0·01
Diphtheria		0·00	0·00
Tuberculosis		0·33	0·45
Influenza		0·15	0·15
Smallpox		0·00	0·00
Acute Poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis		0·11	0·01
Pneumonia		0·63	0·51
		Rate per 1,000 live births	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age		26·35	32
Deaths from enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age		2·51	3
		Rates per 1,000 of population	
Notifications :			
Typhoid	(—)	0·00	0·01
Paratyphoid	(1)	0·02	0·01
Cerebro-spinal fever	(—)	0·00	0·02
Scarlet Fever	(70)	1·53	1·63
Whooping Cough	(84)	1·83	2·39
Diphtheria	(—)	0·00	0·04
Erysipelas	(17)	0·37	0·19
Smallpox	(—)	0·00	0·00
Measles	(422)	9·20	8·95
Pneumonia	(37)	0·81	0·80
Acute Poliomyelitis	(21)	0·46	0·13
Acute Polioencephalitis	(2)	0·04	0·01
Food Poisoning	(27)	0·59	0·14
		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	(1)	1·24	6·31

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1949 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	*Estimated Mid-Year Population*	*No. of Live Births*	*Birth Rate*	*Total No. of Deaths*	*Death Rate*	*Infant Deaths*	*Infant Mortality*	*Tuberculosis Deaths*	*Tuberculosis Death Rate*
1928	24,290	322	13·1	229	9·4	21	65	13	0·54
1929	24,350	334	13·7	289	11·9	16	48	19	0·78
1930	24,350	311	12·8	239	9·8	13	42	16	0·62
1931	24,310	256	10·5	272	11·2	16	62	25	1·03
1932	*34,433	400	12·3	356	11·0	25	62	22	1·08
1933	35,070	379	10·8	392	11·2	17	45	24	0·68
1934	35,140	443	12·6	367	10·4	20	45	25	0·71
1935	35,680	400	11·2	406	11·4	11	28	31	0·87
1936	36,080	436	12·1	412	11·5	22	50	22	0·61
1937	37,260	498	13·4	420	11·3	20	40	22	0·59
1938	38,130	544	14·6	410	10·7	21	39	22	0·58
1939	39,190	534	14·0	459	11·6	19	36	30	0·77
1940	41,670	578	13·9	508	12·2	28	47	30	0·72
1941	44,180	690	15·6	487	11·0	31	44	22	0·50
1942	43,770	705	17·1	419	9·6	22	31	24	0·55
1943	43,540	856	19·6	462	10·6	33	39	19	0·44
1944	43,930	885	20·0	406	9·3	30	34	28	0·64
1945	42,820	823	19·2	429	10·0	38	46	31	0·71
1946	43,410	858	19·7	438	10·1	27	31	25	0·58
1947	43,780	865	19·8	482	11·0	31	36	29	0·66
1948	45,180	782	17·31	445	9·85	18	23·02	37	0·82
1949	45,860	797	17·38	505	11·01	21	26·35	15	0·33

* As constituted on the 1st April, 1932.

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