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RURAL DISTRICT OF RUGBY



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1948



David J. Jones.



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ALBERT HOUSE,
ALBERT STREET,
RUGBY,
July, 1949.

TO THE RUGBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present the Annual Report for the year 1948, the first of what I hope may be a series, to approach the 29 reports presented by my predecessor, Dr. H. Gibbons Ward.

The changes brought about by the National Health Service Act, 1946, saw the dismembering of the Mid-Warwickshire Combined Districts, with your Council and the Borough of Rugby forming a new Eastern Area, each Council retaining its independence for environmental services, and combining to form committees for area administration of Part III services of the National Health Service Act, and for educational purposes. These committees are in their infancy, but the local interest in the day to day running of these services will increase with the passage of time, to the benefit of its inhabitants.

Points to be noted in the report are (i) the increase in the population by 860 over the figure for 1947 ; (ii) the decrease in the number of births—331 as against 398 in 1947, with a birth-rate of 18.23 in 1948 against 23.00 in 1947 ; (iii) death-rate of 9.58 contrasted with 10.5 in 1947 ; and (iv) infant mortality of 45.32 per 1,000 births, against a rate of 23 in the previous year.

It will be noted that the general layout of the report has been modified from that of previous years, and I am much indebted to Mr. Nutting, our Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his contributions under Sections C. D. and E. and for his co-operation in the work of the department since I took over the office of Medical Officer of Health of the area.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DAVID J. JONES,
Medical Officer of Health.

RUGBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council : Councillor E. R. Marshall, M.A.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman A. L. Adkinson, J.P., C.A.

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Mr. F. Roddis (Chairman), Mrs. E. G. Y. Fairholme, Mrs. V. M. Jepson, Messrs. R. Campion, D. Clarke, C. C. H. Coape-Arnold, T. F. Duffin, H. C. Fleming, R. Goode, J. M. Graham, R. W. Hall, C. T. Hancock, P. L. Handley, W. H. Harrison, S. H. Howard, A. O. Jones, D. H. Jones, C. E. Lewis, J. J. Mace, H. L. Oakes, C. W. Reay, C. W. Robinson, G. Simpson, G. R. Walker, P. E. Woolcombe-Adams and A. V. Wright.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman are ex-officio members of the Public Health Committee.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health :

H. Gibbons Ward, M.D., Ch. B., D.P.H. (until 31st October, 1948).
David J. Jones, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H. (from 1st November, 1948).

also holds appointments of :

Medical Officer of Health, Rugby Municipal Borough.
Area Medical Officer, Warwickshire County Council.
Divisional School Medical Officer, Warwickshire County Council.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

L. R. Nutting, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

A. E. Rogers, Cert. S.I.B.

Clerk :

Miss P. Kettle.

Housing Assistant :

A. J. Chisnall (resigned 12th August, 1948).
N. C. Rollph (from 1st October, 1948).

Rodent Operative and General Assistant :

A. H. Walton.

Public Analysts :

Messrs. Bostock Hill and Rigby, Birmingham.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

1(a) GENERAL STATISTICS—1948.

Area (in acres)	80,631
Population (estimated Mid-1948)	18,160
No. of separate dwellings, occupied, 1948	4,885
Rateable value (1st April, 1948)	£102,484
Product of a penny rate	£415

1(b) VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.</i>
Legitimate	160	154	314	
Illegitimate	8	9	17	
	168	163	331	18.23

Still Births

				<i>Rate per 1,000 estimated population</i>
Legitimate	7	1	8	0.50
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
	8	1	9	27.19

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.

Deaths (all causes)

				<i>Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population.</i>
	90	84	174	9.58

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal Sepsis		1		<i>Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.</i>
Other puerperal causes		1		
		2		5.88

Infant Mortality

				<i>Rate per 1,000 Live Births.</i>
Legitimate	9	5	14	42.30
Illegitimate	1	—	1	3.02
	10	5	15	45.32

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	26
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1
Measles	Nil
Whooping Cough	Nil

2. AREA AND POPULATION.

The area of the district is 80,631 acres.

Population.

The mid-year population of the Rural District was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 18,160 persons, an increase of 860 over 1947. The natural increase, that is the excess of births over deaths, was 157.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths assigned to the district by the Registrar-General was 174 as compared with 181 in 1947. The death rate of 9.58 per 1,000 of the estimated population was lower by 0.92 as compared with the previous year, and lower by 1.22 than the rate for England and Wales.

The following table gives the death rates per 1,000 for the years 1944—1948 :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
RUGBY R.D. (No. of deaths)	12.2 (211)	11.2 (189)	11.2 (193)	10.5 (181)	9.58 (174)
WARWICKSHIRE	10.64	10.45	10.61	10.68	
ENGLAND & WALES	11.6	11.4	11.5	12.0	10.8

The registered causes of death were as follows :—

				Males	Females	Total
1.	Typhoid & paratyphoid fevers	...	...	—	—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	1	—	1
3.	Scarlet fever	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	4	3	7
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	2	2	4
8.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	—	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Measles	...	...	—	—	—
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis	...	...	—	—	—
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (m), uterus (f)	...	...	3	4	7
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	4	—	4
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	—	3	3
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	6	6	12
17.	Diabetes	...	...	—	—	—
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	3	8	11
19.	Heart disease	...	...	27	31	58
20.	Other diseases of the circulatory system	...	...	3	2	5
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	3	4	7
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	7	2	9
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	3	2	5
24.	Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum	...	...	2	—	2
25.	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	1	—	1
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	1	—	1
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	—	3	3
28.	Nephritis	...	...	1	1	2
29.	Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	...	...	—	1	1

30. Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	1	1
31. Premature birth	...	...	...	1	—	1
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	...	...	...	5	2	7
33. Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	2
34. Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	1	—	1
35. Other violent causes	...	...	...	3	1	4
36. All other causes	...	...	...	7	7	14
Totals	...	...	...	90	84	174

Births.

The number of live births assigned to the District was 331, compared with 398 in 1947. The birth-rate for 1948 was 18.23 compared with a rate of 23.0 per thousand in 1947.

The birth-rate for 1,000 of the population during the years 1944—1948 was as follows :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Rugby Rural District	20.6	18.0	21.2	23.0	18.23
Warwickshire	20.88	18.95	19.64	20.77	
England & Wales	17.6	16.1	19.1	20.5	17.9

Still Births.

The number of still-births during 1948 was 9, 8 legitimate and 1 illegitimate. The still-birth rate per 1,000 live and still births over the past five years is given in the following table :—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Rugby Rural District	30	19	16	24	27.19
Warwickshire	25.35	25.39	22.32	19.93	

Illegitimate Births.

There were 17 illegitimate births assigned to the district in 1948.

Maternal Mortality.

There were two maternal deaths in the district during 1948, from diseases or accidents of pregnancy and childbirth.

Infant Mortality.

The number of infants who died before reaching their 1st birthday was 15 (10 male, 5 female) of which 1 male was illegitimate.

DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS, 1944—1948.

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Rugby Rural District	28	33	33	23	45.32
Warwickshire	35	42	40	34.27	
England & Wales	46	46	43	41	34

The causes of death are given in the table below.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE, 1948.

Cause of Death	Age in Weeks					
	—1	—2	—3	—4	5-52	Total
1. Congenital malformations ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
2. Diseases of early infancy						
Congenital debility ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ...	2	—	—	—	1	3
Birth injury ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Others ...	3	—	—	—	—	3
3. Diseases of Respiratory system	—	—	—	1	3	4
4. Diseases of Digestive system	—	—	—	—	1	1
5. Diseases of Nervous system	—	—	—	—	1	1
6. Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Infectious Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Overlaying ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Other Violence ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. All other causes ...	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals ...	6	—	—	1	8	15

Neo-natal Deaths.

The number of infants who died within 28 days of birth was 7 giving a death rate of 21.15 per 1,000 live births.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations were carried out in the Laboratory of the University of Birmingham. Examination of material requested by general practitioners has been carried out at the Hospital of St. Cross when it has been more convenient for doctors to utilise the Laboratory there.

Milk and water samples have been examined by Messrs. Bostock Hill & Rigby of Birmingham.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

Until the 5th July, 1948, when the National Health Service Act came into force, supplies of anti-toxin were obtainable from local chemists, and accounts for which were paid by the Rural District Council. After the 5th July, doctors requiring anti-toxin made application to the hospitals nearest them, and listed in a brochure of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board. In the area of 20 Hospital Group, all the main hospitals carried stocks of anti-toxin.

Nursing in the Home.

Prior to the 5th July, 1948, nursing in the home was carried out by District Nursing Associations of the County Nursing Association. Under arrangements with the County Council, this service was maintained on an agency basis following the introduction of the National Health Service Act, and remained in force throughout the remainder of the year.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Wolvey	...	...	Every 4th Tuesday, Village Hall.
Wolston	...	...	2nd Wednesday in each month, Oddfellows Hall.
Stretton-on-Dunsmore			Alternate Thursdays, Village Hall.
Long Lawford	...		Alternate Tuesdays, Village Hall.
Dunchurch	...	...	Alternate Thursdays, Women's Institute Hall.

The Centres are staffed by County Council Medical Officers, Health Visitors, together with local members of the village population, and also act as distribution centres for cod liver oil, orange juice, war-time dried milk, etc.—all distributed on behalf of the Ministry of Food.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

During the year 57 samples of water were submitted for chemical or bacteriological examination, of which 28 were from water mains and 29 from wells, with the following results :—

27 samples safe for drinking.

29 samples unsafe.

1 sample unsatisfactory.

Of the samples examined approximately 50% were reported as being unfit for domestic purposes. These were mainly individual wells.

Main water service connections were made to 47 properties during the year.

The following table gives details of the proportion of houses supplied by public water mains.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>Percentage proportion of houses with mains water in the house</i>	<i>Percentage proportion of houses served by stand taps</i>
Binley	810	226	95	—
Birdingbury	180	49	96	2
Bourton	278	70	88	7
Brandon & Bretford	668	143	54	27
Brinklow	941	275	58	28
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	860	232	78	17
Dunchurch	1858	435	75	10
Easehall	158	41	50	25
Frankton	278	83	78	13
Grandborough	326	87	46	34
Harborough Magna	409	107	71	13
Church Lawford	418	85	75	13
Long Lawford	1380	332	73	20
Leamington Hastings	358	118	63	15
Marton	386	105	79	6
Monks Kirby	560	142	12	6
Pailton	510	132	60	22
Princethorpe	334	67	36	9
Ryton-on-Dunsmore	958	262	72	10
Shilton	662	221	54	6
Stretton-under-Fosse	333	247	63	5
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	782	72	89	11
Thurlaston	250	83	56	14
Willoughby	315	89	73	23
Wolston	1144	309	55	17

There were no complaints of total absence of water supply, although occasions do arise when the well supply at an individual house gets very low. The supply of water by public supply mains is slow, but the Council are gradually carrying out this work and 24 of the 40 parishes in the area are so served at the present time, a further 2 parishes are due to have water mains laid almost immediately, whilst the Council's Consulting Engineers are making a survey of the remainder of the district in order to expedite the work of supplying pure water to the villages.

An extension of the water main from Bourton to Draycote was also carried out during the year.

Check sampling is carried out periodically by the Chief Sanitary Inspector in order to reveal any contamination of the supply and appropriate action taken immediately where necessary.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Statement of Position as to sewerage and sewage disposal Schemes.

A total of 654 visits were made in connection with drainage problems and complaints. The year 1948 saw no change in the methods of sewerage or sewage disposal. It is obvious that much work in this direction will have to be carried out in the next few years if considerable nuisance is to be avoided. The Council is building a large number of houses, and endeavouring to provide all the additional sanitary amenities, and unless adequate drainage and disposal arrangements are made, trouble will arise. It is my opinion that housing projects should not be entered upon on a large scale unless water supply and sewerage and sewage disposal are *simultaneously considered*.

One had hoped to be able to report that Clifton-on-Dunsmore had been sewered, but it has not yet been carried out. This problem is, to a great extent, linked up with the proposals of Rugby Borough, and in the next Annual Report I may possibly have details of the proposals.

Public Cleansing.

The Council, through the Surveyor, operates its own public cleansing service by direct labour. Refuse collection is carried out weekly throughout the District. Few complaints are received, and one assumes that satisfactory service is obtained.

Rivers and Streams.

During the year a complaint was lodged by an angling society regarding the condition of the River Avon, but an inspection by the Sanitary Inspector produced no evidence to substantiate the claim. Altogether, 48 inspections were made in the year, and a close watch is maintained of those water courses near factories, establishments maintained for H.M. Forces, and also adjacent to sewage works and receiving effluent from those works.

The following table gives details of the sewerage and sewage disposal schemes already in existence.

Parish	Type of existing sewage disposal	Schemes approved in principle by Ministry of Health	
		Cost	Stage of proposals
Ansty	Combined highway and foul drains discharging into ditches. several cesspools.	£43,388	Now out to tender 7/7/49.
Binley	Cesspools and ditches.		
Birdingbury	Drains into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Bourton	Drains into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Brandon and Bretford	Drains into inadequate tanks and overflows into ditches.		
Brinklow	Part sewerd into inadequate tanks, and land treatment.		
Burton Hastings	Combined highway and foul drains into ditches.		
Church Lawford	Combined highways and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Churchover	Combined highway and foul drains into ditches.		
Clifton-on-Dunsmore	Combined highway and foul drains into inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Coombe Fields	Cesspools and ditches.	£26,450	In course of preparation for submission to Ministry of Health.
Copston Magna	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Cosford	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Dunchurch	Part to tanks and double filtration filters ; other part to inadequate tank and land treatment. Some part to cesspools.		
Easehall	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Frankton	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Grandborough	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Harborough Magna	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Leamington Hastings	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Little Lawford	Cesspools and ditches.		
Long Lawford	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Marton	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches and river.		
Monks Kirby	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Newnham Regis	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Newton and Biggin	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Pailton	Combined highway and foul drains to inadequate tanks and ditches.		
Princethorpe	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Ryton-on-Dunsmore	Combined highway and foul drains to tank, and land treatment.		
Shilton	Part to tanks and filters and part to ditches.		
Stretton Baskerville	Cesspools and ditches.		
Stretton-on-Dunsmore	Combined highway, and foul drains to settlement tanks.		
Stretton-under-Fosse	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Thurlaston	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Wibtoft	Combined highway and foul drains to tanks and land treatment.		
Witley	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Willoughby	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Withybrook	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Wolfhampcote	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		
Wolston	Combined highway and foul drains to settlement tanks.		
Wolvey	Combined highway and foul drains to ditches.		

N.B. In 1944, the Council's Post War Development Committee outlined a scheme for sewerage the following parishes :—

Phase 1	Phase 2
Binley	Ryton-on-Dunsmore
Clifton-upon-Dunsmore	Stretton-on-Dunsmore
Wolston	Long Lawford
	Pailton
	Dunchurch
	Willoughby
	Frankton

Long Lawford was taken out of Phase 2 to join in with the Borough of Rugby who proposed sewerage that portion of the Borough adjacent to Long Lawford.

Shops and Offices.

No action during the year.

Camping Sites.

Two licensed sites. Mains water laid on to sites and water closets. No complaints during 1948. Both sites maintained in satisfactory condition.

Smoke Abatement.

No action necessary during the year. Frequent observations were carried out during 1948.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one swimming pool attached to licensed premises. Water is filtered and chlorinated automatically. The baths are open only in the summer season.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action necessary during 1948.

Canal Boats.

Six canal boats were inspected and found satisfactory.

Rats & Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, & Infestation Order, 1943.

The provisions of the above statutes are carried out by a wholetime member of the staff on lines recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries (Infestation Control Division). The work is being done with satisfactory results. Sewers are periodically treated ; infestations at private domestic premises are treated free of charge, but a reasonable charge is made for services at business premises. The Council's refuse tips are treated regularly and systematically. I think it is safe to say that to-day there is scarcely an authority without its own rodent eradication staff.

Inspections and Visits Made.

A total of 50 written complaints were received during the year and promptly investigated.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector and his Assistant made a total of 5,824 inspections and visits to premises, etc. of all descriptions.

Seven statutory notices and 446 informal notices were served during the year.

Petroleum Acts.

No. of licences issued 66. Petroleum visits 51.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS DURING 1948.

	<i>Inspec- tions & Re-visits</i>	<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Nuisances abated</i>
		<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Informal</i>	
Dwelling houses and schools	890	5	223	252
Roadside cafes and shops	94	—	6	6
Cowsheds and dairies	539	—	33	427
Bakehouses	19	—	1	1
Slaughterhouses and meat shops	59	—	—	—
Sampling visits (milk, foods)	50	—	—	—
Milk samples	36	—	—	—
Interviews and appointments	1393	—	—	—
Water samples and visits	318	1	24	39
Watercourses	48	—	—	—
Factories and workplaces	140	—	1	—
Special visits	177	—	—	—
Stables and piggeries	63	—	3	4
Refuse tips (rats, mice, etc.)	734	—	—	—
Complaints	50	1	5	5
Moveable dwellings	30	—	—	—
Infectious diseases visits	153	—	—	—
Houses disinfected	86	—	—	—
Verminous houses	33	—	4	4
Petroleum visits	51	—	—	—
Knacker yards	22	—	1	1
Closet accommodation	45	—	14	24
Drainage, cesspool, etc.	654	—	46	49
Dustbins	98	—	56	57
Accumulations	6	—	4	4
Water closet (conversion)	36	—	25	19
TOTALS	5824	7	446	892

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

In the Annual Report for 1947, Dr. H. Gibbons Ward made reference to the report following the survey of rural houses. It will be remembered that of a total of 3,396 houses surveyed, 699 were placed in Category 5 (within the terms of Section 11 and Section 25 Housing Act, 1936). Clearance of those unfit houses, with the re-housing of the tenants cannot be visualised for many years, and the state of disrepair steadily increases with the passage of time.

Reporting on this matter of house repairs, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Nutting, states—"I would refer to house repairs. Much remains to be done, although the position has eased with materials in greater supply, and the extension of the repairs limit, without licence, to £100. In past years repairs have been neglected, with resulting deterioration of such a degree that action under Sections 11 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936, is the only practical solution, and re-housing of tenants. Clearance of such Category 5 properties can only be visualised when many more new houses become available.

"Under the Government quota, the number of new houses to be built by the Local Authority and private enterprise is limited. The willingness on the part of many people to build their own houses is evident from the applications for licences to do so, and the Council have reluctantly to refuse many such applications because the quota has been exhausted.

"The number of applications for Council houses was recently reviewed, and it was found that many persons had applied for houses in more than one authority. It is obvious from the result of this review, that similar results will be forthcoming when other local authorities issue their findings.

"With reference to the letting of Council houses, your Chief Sanitary Inspector attends and reports to the Committee set up for this purpose. The reports presented involve a great deal of work, in order that families of outstanding need on health and grounds of severe overcrowding, shall have their cases properly presented and explained. One member of the staff is almost wholly occupied in such investigations, compiling of information and statistics for presentation to the Committee."

Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

1. (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	...	...	313
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	890

2.	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	8
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	12
3.		Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation				76
4.		Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	225

Remedy of Defects during Year without service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	252
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Action under Statutory Powers.

(a)	<i>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>						
	1.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	—
	2.	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—					
	(i)	By owners	...	...	...	...	—
	(ii)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	—
(b)	<i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts.</i>						
	1.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	4
	2.	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—					
	(i)	By owners	...	...	...	...	14
	(ii)	By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	—
(c)	<i>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>						
	1.	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	7
	2.	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	8
	3.	Number of dwellings demolished without service of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	14
(d)	<i>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.</i>						
	1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	...	...	...	...	—
	2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered unfit	...	...	...	...	—

Housing Act, 1936, Part IV Overcrowded. (1941 Figures).

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	90
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein at the end of the year	92
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein at the end of the year	617
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported —
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	68
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	... .. 314
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding —
(e)		Any other particulars with respect of overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report —

Permanent Housing.

Progress is steady in the provision of new houses and the following gives details of the work during 1948 :—

6 houses at Bretford (all occupied during 1948).

18 houses at Dunchurch.

4 houses at Frankton.

10 houses at Grandborough.

4+12 houses at Church Lawford (4 occupied during 1948).

14 houses at Ryton-on-Dunsmore.

30 houses at Shilton.

4 houses at Churchover.

4 houses at Broadwell.

Temporary Housing.

The Council have 50 prefabricated bungalows sited in the following Parishes.

Dunchurch 18, Wolston 12, Brinklow 20.

The Council have also accepted responsibility for disused military establishments at Dunchurch (4), Ryton-on-Dunsmore (25), Stretton-on-Dunsmore (26), and Monks Kirby (11). The numbers in brackets indicate the huts on each site. Despite the care and attention given to the huts, many have deteriorated to such a degree that demolition is advisable, and usually carried out when any such hut becomes vacant. Such demolitions are carried out by agreement with the appropriate Government Department.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply and Control.

The Council, through its officers, continued their work of supervision and control of milk production, although it has been indicated that such powers will eventually be taken over by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on some date in the future. If the powers to be granted to the Minister under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, were granted to Local Authorities, the administration of legislation relating to milk production could be adequately performed, with the addition of another sanitary inspector to the staff. It is my opinion that the supervision of milk production may best be controlled locally, and this could be done if the powers of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944 applied to Local Authorities.

The Council's officers give advice to producers on method of clean milk production. Sampling of milk for submission to tests of cleanliness was carried on as a routine measure throughout the year, with the results stated later in this section.

The number of cowkeepers registered on 31st December, 1948, was as follows :—

Tuberculin tested milk	...	20
Accredited milk	...	22
Undesignated milk	...	407

Milk Sampling.

A total of 38 samples were submitted with the following results :—

For chemical analysis	...	23	...	all satisfactory
For methylene blue test	...	2	...	" "
For phosphatase test	...	9	...	" "
For resazurin test	...	4	...	" "

The following information is supplied by Mr. Nutting in his report.

Cowsheds and Dairies and Purveyors of Milk.

There are five milking parlours in the district and if properly maintained these are a hygienic type of premises. Visits to cowsheds and dairies totalled 539. New cowsheds, new cooling-rooms, paved approaches, improved lighting and ventilation, concrete floors, water supply, drainage, etc., were provided during the year which are stated in the table below.

Cowkeepers and wholesale purveyors of milk	...	...	...	449
Cowkeepers and retail purveyors of milk	...	...	...	153
Retail purveyors of milk residing in the district	...	...	...	128
Retail purveyors of milk residing outside the district	...	...	...	25
New registrations during the year (wholesale)	...	...	...	11
No. of inspections (Cowsheds, dairies and milkshops, etc.)	...	...	...	539
No. of informal notices	...	...	...	33
No. of statutory notices	...	...	...	—

Contraventions Remedied.

Limewashing	...	...	...	...	...	403
Floors reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	24
Divisions renewed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Lighting and ventilation improved	...	...	...	...	...	21
Approaches relaid	...	...	...	...	...	11
Walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	10
Walls rendered	...	...	...	...	...	21
New cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sheds converted to cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	4

Dairies.

New dairies provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	20

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936—46.

The following licences were granted during the year :—

Pasteurising establishments	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dealers licensed to sell pasteurised milk	...	...	...	...	...	1
Supplementary licences to retail pasteurised milk	...	...	...	...	...	2

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

There are two premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, both constructed and maintained satisfactorily.

Pasteurisation.

There are two premises in the district where milk is pasteurised, one by the Holder Process and the other by the H.T.S.T. method. Both are maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Food Supervision.

	No.	Visits
Bakehouses	14	19
Slaughterhouses and Meat Shops	14	59
Ice Cream Shops (Manufacture)	2	—
Roadside Cafes	3	94
Registered Cowkeepers	449	539

Meat and Food Inspection.

Animals slaughtered for sale for human consumption at centralised premises in the area of an adjoining authority are inspected before distribution. Visits are made, however, to shops, etc., and during 1948 a total of 32 such visits were made, 27 visits to slaughterhouses where cottagers' pigs are dealt with.

Foodstuffs condemned in 1948.

Carcase beef	...	...	...	112½ lb.
Pork	...	...	...	140 lb.
Bacon	...	...	...	57 lb.
Canned meat	...	...	...	23 tins
„ fish	...	...	...	4 tins
„ vegetables	...	...	...	9 tins
Evaporated milk	...	...	...	54 tins
Sausages	...	...	...	6 lb.
Margarine	...	...	...	37 lb.
Various fruit	...	...	...	35 lb.
Bread rolls	...	...	...	94 doz.

A total of 187 notices were received in relation to the slaughter of cottagers pigs, and inspections were carried out in 60 cases, and a total quantity of nearly 3 cwt. condemned.

Knackers Yard.

There is one such establishment in the district, situated in an isolated position. During the year 22 visits were made, and at each visit the opportunity was taken to see that meat was properly stained.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

Seventy three cases of this disease were notified during 1948, and as will be seen from the accompanying table, the greater proportion of the cases occurred among the age group 10—15 years. Distribution of the cases in the area was general.

Measles.

During the year 122 cases of measles were notified in the district. Of this number 53 were between the ages of 5—10 years.

Whooping Cough.

There were 22 cases of whooping cough notified during the year. This number is small and may not be a true picture of the incidence of the disease. Many children who may have whooping cough in a not very severe form, never see the family doctor, and are therefore never notified.

It is interesting to note that many parents are making requests for the immunisation of their children against whooping cough. The efficacy of the injections is not proved absolutely, but results so far obtained by research workers in this field show that it diminishes the severity of attacks. Many general medical practitioners are utilising a combined Diphtheria—Whooping Cough prophylactic, but the numbers entailed are probably not great enough to give any valuable information at this stage.

Smallpox.

There were no cases of smallpox notified during the year.

Anterior Poliomyelitis.

There was one case notified in the district in 1948, a pupil in a preparatory school. He was removed to a London hospital for treatment, by his parents.

Food Poisoning.

During the year one notification of a suspected case of food poisoning was received, involving a boy of 6 years and his parents. The food under suspicion was sausage meat, obtained from a shop within the boundary of another local authority. Investigation by the officers of the Council were inconclusive, and a report received from the Medical Officer of the adjacent authority revealed that conditions pertaining at the place of sale of the sausage meat were satisfactory, and furthermore, there were no cases of suspected food poisoning in the population of that authority.

Diphtheria.

For the second year in succession there were no notifications of diphtheria in the district. It is to be hoped that the immunisation campaign, commenced in the early years of the war, will be continued with renewed energies, so that the child population will be protected from the dreaded disease which in the past has caused so much suffering and death.

It is interesting to note during 1947 there were 398 births in the district. When we consult the immunisation figures for 1948 we find that only 231 children *under the age of 5 years* were immunised. This figure (supplied by Warwickshire Health Department) includes children maybe of 2, 3 or 4 years of age. As a maximum the percentage immunised is approximately 58% and this is not high enough—very far from it. Some children, immunised by private practitioners, may not be notified to the authority as having been protected—what this number may be, one can merely guess.

Year	No. of children who completed full course of immunisation during the year.			No. of children who received Reinforcing dose.
	Under 5 yrs.	5-15 years	Total	
1941	129	1222	1351	Figures not available. ditto ditto ditto ditto ditto ditto 179
1942	121	218	339	
1943	112	365	477	
1944	150	25	175	
1945	196	35	231	
1946	239	77	316	
1947	174	6	180	
1948	231	16	247	
TOTALS	1352	1964	3316	
Estimated Mid-Year Population 1948	1608	2432	3040	

Tuberculosis.

On July 5th, 1948, the National Health Service Act came into operation, which meant that the Tuberculosis service of the County administered by the joint committee came under the jurisdiction of the Regional Hospital Board, except that part of the work related to after care, which remained with the Health Authority.

The hospitals and sanatoria, previously administered by the joint committee and also the tuberculosis dispensaries in the larger centres of population, are now controlled by the Regional Board in Birmingham, and whether it be coincidence or not, the number of cases awaiting admission to these hospitals does not in any way diminish, the reasons being almost entirely shortage of nursing staff. Cases are placed on the urgent priority list by the Tuberculosis Officers, but they are powerless to increase the nursing

staff required to cope with these cases. The local authority is much concerned with this problem—as in many instances an “open case” is living under conditions where segregation is virtually impossible—and rehousing of the patient under more favourable circumstances pending hospital admission has to be shelved for some months until new houses are available. In a rural area such as this one, the circumstances are often more difficult, a case may live under bad conditions of housing in a village not scheduled for new houses maybe for some years hence, and people are loth to leave their villages for others except under extreme circumstances. In the meantime, many “cases” are a potential danger to the rest of the family, and the only real immediate preventive measure is isolation in hospital under skilled medical care—the patient may in many cases be beyond hope of recovery—but the rest of the family can be protected by such isolation.

I would add at this point that the Council are much alive to its responsibility, and have rehoused cases on evidence produced by myself, without the slightest hesitation.

In addition to isolation in hospital, rehousing of patients under more favourable conditions, after care in their present homes by experienced health visiting staff, who advise on matters of hygiene and prevention, and also by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer, is of great assistance in many cases. The provision of sleeping shelters for erection in the gardens, is part of the County Council's after care scheme, and will assist many cases over the waiting period until admitted to hospital. There is, in addition a special allowance grant for extra nourishment.

But after all this is added together, outstanding need is for additional staffed hospital beds, so that early cases can receive adequate treatment, and the cases beyond hopes of recovery can be removed to a place where he or she cannot infect the other members of the family.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1948.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>NEW CASES</i>				<i>DEATHS</i>			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
—15	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
—25	4	9	1	1	1	1	—	1
—35	1	4	—	—	1	1	—	—
—45	5	3	—	—	—	—	1	—
—55	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
—65	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
65+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	15	18	3	2	4	3	2	2

**AGE INCIDENCE OF CIVILIAN CASES OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) FOR 1948.
FINAL FIGURES AFTER CORRECTION.**

<i>Disease</i>	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65+	All ages
Scarlet Fever	—	3	6	10	29	7	3	3	1	—	—	62
Whooping Cough	3	4	6	7	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	22
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	1	22	32	53	9	1	4	—	—	—	—	122
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	1	—	—	1	4	2	1	3	1	13
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	4

**MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES
(other than Tuberculosis) 1948.**

<i>Disease</i>	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Scarlet fever	9	7	14	10	6	5	5	1	—	2	2	1	62
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	—	4	4	7	1	22
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Measles	13	11	1	18	4	19	10	2	—	2	6	36	122
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	13
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute polio encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
<i>Totals</i>	26	19	19	33	12	25	18	4	8	9	16	39	228

SECTION G

STATISTICAL TABLES.

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR RUGBY RURAL DISTRICT AND ENGLAND AND WALES, 1948.

	<i>Rugby Rural District</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
	Rates per 1,000 of the population	
Live Births	18.23	17.9
Still Births	0.50	0.42
Deaths—		
All causes	9.58	10.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00
Whooping cough	0.00	0.02
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.61	0.51
Influenza	0.00	0.03
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio encephalitis	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.50	0.41
Deaths all causes under 1 year of age	Rates per 1,000 Live Births 45.32	34.00
Notifications—	Rates per 1,000 of the population	
Typhoid	0.00	0.01
Paratyphoid	0.00	0.01
Cerebro-spinal fever	0.00	0.03
Scarlet fever	3.41	1.73
Whooping cough	1.21	3.42
Diphtheria	0.00	0.08
Erysipelas	0.17	0.21
Smallpox	0.00	0.00
Measles	6.72	9.34
Pneumonia	0.72	0.73
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.06	0.04
Acute Polio Encephalitis	0.00	0.00

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1948 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Estimated Mid-Year Population	Births		Deaths		Infant deaths		Tuberculosis Deaths	
		No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1926	21,130	367	17.0	228	10.8	22	55	19	0.90
1927	21,290	314	14.7	249	11.7	18	57	21	0.99
1928	21,930	354	17.0	210	10.0	22	62	19	0.87
1929	21,170	354	16.8	257	12.2	16	45	15	0.71
1930	21,170	341	16.1	200	9.5	13	38	11	0.52
1931	21,950	348	15.9	189	8.6	18	52	16	0.73
1932*	18,190	316	16.5	200	10.9	15	48	8	0.44
1933	18,300	275	14.2	188	10.3	14	51	6	0.33
1934	18,210	321	17.6	197	10.8	19	59	9	0.49
1935	18,173	272	15.0	174	9.6	15	55	7	0.39
1936	18,200	322	17.7	203	11.1	17	53	8	0.44
1937	18,310	294	16.0	219	12.0	12	41	8	0.44
1938	15,570	282	17.3	194	12.0	24	85	16	1.03
1939	†15,530	232	15.1	184	11.6	9	39	7	0.45
	‡15,870								
1940	16,520	209	12.6	197	11.9	12	56	9	0.54
1941	17,910	297	16.5	214	12.0	15	48	8	0.45
1942	17,560	302	17.2	179	10.2	13	43	10	0.57
1943	17,090	316	18.5	194	11.4	19	60	10	0.59
1944	17,290	355	20.6	211	12.2	10	28	9	0.52
1945	16,920	303	18.0	189	11.2	10	33	18	1.06
1946	17,150	363	21.2	193	11.2	12	33	13	0.76
1947	17,300	398	23.0	181	10.5	9	23	6	0.35
1948	18,160	331	18.23	174	9.58	15	45.32	11	0.61

*Extension of Municipal Borough of Rugby.

†Population for calculation of Birth Rate.

‡Population for calculation of Death Rate.

**PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937, DURING THE YEAR.**

PART I OF THE ACT.

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

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	35	43	12	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	65	97	17	Nil
TOTAL	100	140	29	Nil

2. Cases in which **defects** were found.

Particulars	Number 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 ...	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	4	Nil	Nil	Nil



