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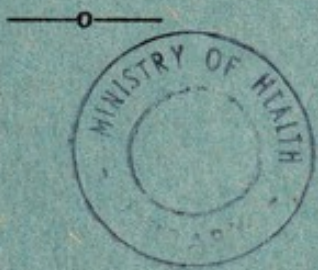
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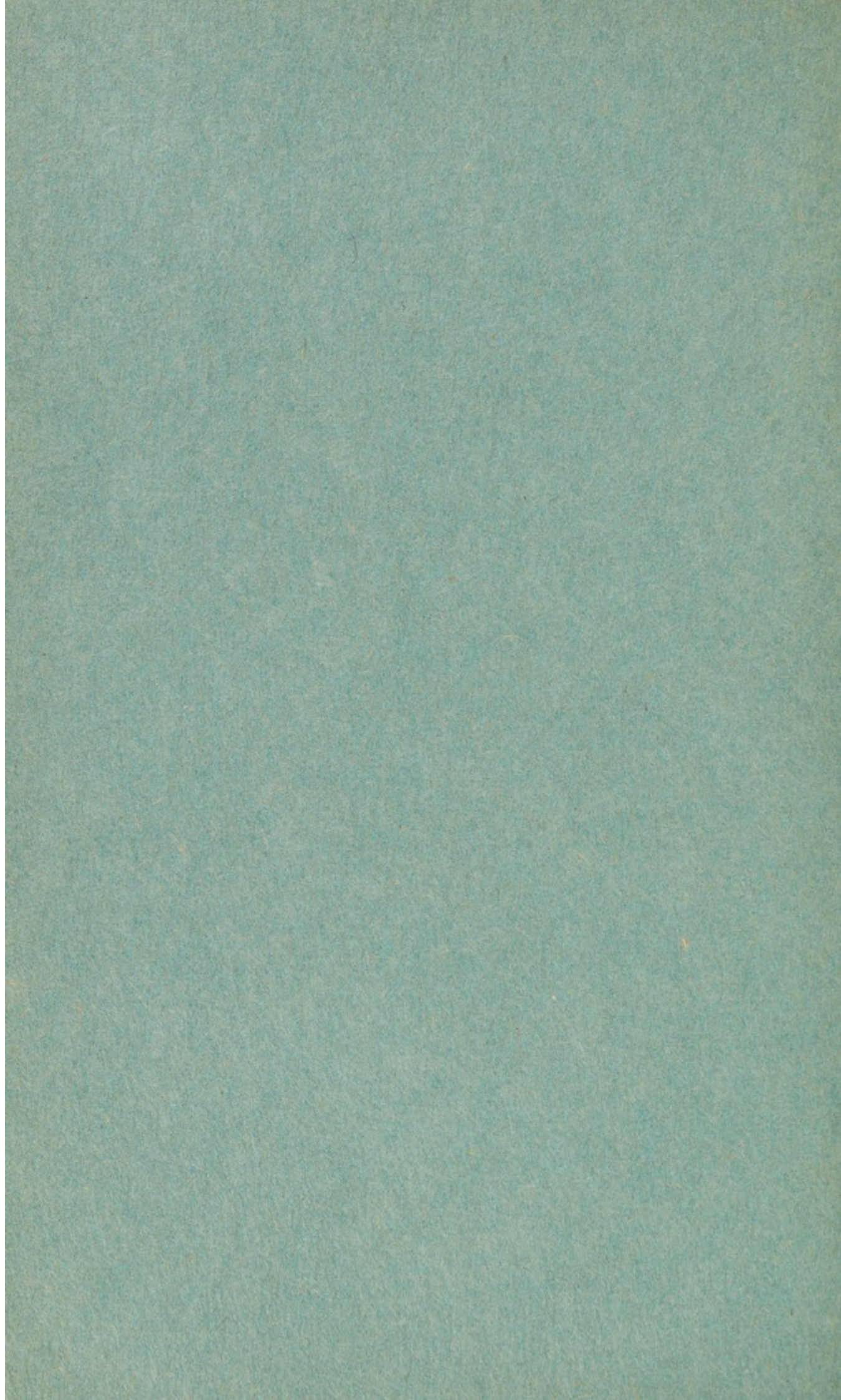
**Annual Report of the  
Medical Officer of Health**

together with the Report of the

**Chief Public Health  
Inspector**



**Year 1956**



**Rugeley Urban District Council**

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**Annual Report**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

together with the Report of the

**Chief Public Health Inspector**

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**Year 1956**



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# *To The Rugeley Urban District Council . . .*

MADAM & GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1956.

The Birth and Death rates compare favourably with the National rates, but the Infantile Mortality rate and Still Birth rate are higher.

The town has been free from any major outbreak of infectious disease during the year. Only Whooping Cough occurred to any considerable extent, but at the low rate of five cases per thousand population.

Two outbreaks of mild Food Poisoning occurred during the year. In both instances the attacks were of short duration and no case called in a doctor. As, in the first case, 67 children and 12 adults at 7 schools were affected, and in the second, 70 children and adults at 9 schools, enquiries were made but in neither case could the source be located. Circumstantial evidence in both outbreaks suggested that cold meat, contaminated after cooking was the vehicle of infection.

No case of Diphtheria has occurred in an immunised child for over 12 years but the presence of a focus of infection in the 'Black Country' demands that the campaign for immunisation be continued. The excellent work of the Health Visitors for the District is largely responsible for the continued success of the campaign.

During the year 17 Council houses and 20 private houses have been built and occupied. While this maintains the level of previous years, future building will be based on the Slum Clearance Programme. It is to be hoped that some provision will be made for the elderly and for couples without children, possibly on the lines of a one-bedroomed flat for the couples and something in the nature of a bed-sitting room for individuals, in view of the high cost of building and therefore of rentals.

While no action was necessary under the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, difficulties arose with voluntary admission to hostels for the aged and hospital admission.

The County Council provides accommodation for the able bodied elderly and the Hospital Board for those in need of treatment. Cases occur, too frequently for complacency, where the individual concerned is not sufficiently active and independent of physical help to be admitted to a hostel and where the infirmity or disability is not severe enough to justify admission to a hospital, either for acute or chronic illnesses. What is lacking is a 'half-way house' where individuals who are not completely self-reliant can receive assistance with their physical needs such as feeding, washing etc., and where cases who have improved in hospitals can be sent (as to a Convalescent Home) to relieve the shortage of hospital beds.

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

**Medical Officer of Health.**—CHARLES FLEMING, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., who is also Assistant County Medical Officer to the Staffordshire County Council, and Medical Officer of Health to the Tutbury Rural District Council.

**Chief Public Health Inspector.**—J. T. G. CRADDOCK, C.S.I.B., C.F.I.

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of the District	...	...	...	...	...	2882 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	...	...	...	...	...	11,270
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£105,734
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£414 3 9
Number of houses inhabited at the end of 1956	...	...	...	...	...	3,228

### VITAL STATISTICS

	Total		M.		F.	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
<b>Live Births</b>	283	261	139	124	144	137
Legitimate	274	246	134	115	140	131
Illegitimate	9	15	5	9	4	6

Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	25.11
Corrected for age and sex distribution	...	...	22.85
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales	...	...	15.6

	Total		M.		F.	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
<b>Stillbirths</b>	9	9	6	8	3	1
Legitimate	9	9	6	8	3	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	31.8
Stillbirth Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 Live and Still Births	...	23.0

	Total		M.		F.	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
<b>Deaths</b>	107	95	63	50	44	45

Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	9.49
Corrected for age and sex distribution	...	13.09
Death Rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...	11.7
Deaths from Cancer	...	17
Deaths from Measles	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	—
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	—

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

(Under 1 year of age)

	Total		M.		F.	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955
<b>Deaths</b> ... ..	14	8	8	4	6	4
Legitimate ... ..	14	8	8	4	6	4
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

	1956	1955
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	49.43	30.65
England and Wales ... ..	23.8	24.9

<b>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks</b>	M.		F.	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Total ... ..	5	9	4	2
Legitimate ... ..	5	9	4	2
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—	—
Neo Natal Mortality Rate ... ..	...		31.8	

### Maternal Mortality

NO deaths from puerperal causes were registered.

## PREVENTION AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Immunisation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough

Immunisation has been carried out as before at the Infant Welfare Centre and among entrants to Infants Schools.

The records are in the charge of the Area Medical Officer and doubtless will be commented on in his Annual Report.

Diphtheria (Figures for 1955 in brackets)

Primary Immunisations: Under 5—96 (99), Over 5—57 (68).

Reinforcing Doses: 236 (210).

Whooping Cough: 94 (99).

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis was introduced during the year. Only 35 children in Rugeley came within the scope of this scheme.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1956**

	Cases Notified		Total Deaths	
	1956	1955	1956	1955
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	9	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	57	2	2	—
Measles ... ..	—	135	—	—
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	—	1	1	—
Cerbro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—				
Non-paralytic ... ..	—	2	—	—
Paralytic ... ..	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever "B" ... ..	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	8	2	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	5	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	—	5	—	5

**Analysis of Infectious Diseases classified according to age**

Age Groups ...	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown
Whooping Cough ...	6	11	11	28	1	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

	Under 5	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over	Age unknown
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	3	4	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of 1956 there were 56 cases (1955-72) on register.

Respiratory	MALES		FEMALES	
	Non-Respiratory		Respiratory	Non-Respiratory
24 (25)	5 (14)		20 (23)	7 (10)

Two deaths from T.B. occurred during the year.

The rate of 4.97 per 1000 population is almost half that for the county as a whole.

## DEATHS FROM CANCER for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1956

		Age Groups								
		Under 26	26- 35	36- 45	46- 55	56- 65	66- 75	76- 85	Over 85	Totals
Males	...	—	—	—	2	6	3	—	—	11
Females	...	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	1	6

## HOUSING ACT 1936

### Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953

#### UNFIT HOUSES

During the year the following 6 houses were demolished in the district—  
‘Fernlea’ Bungalow, Etching Hill.

Bradbury, Main Road, Brereton.

Southwell, Main Road, Brereton.

1 Selwyn Place, Horse Fair.

17 Horse Fair.

Hayes Farmhouse, Brereton.

During the year the following houses were closed as a result of proceedings under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Hollins, 9 Sandy Lane.

Parr, 86 Talbot Street.

Part of Building closed (Section 12)

Sullivan, 11 Market Square.

#### Unfit houses still in occupation at 31st December, 1956

The following 28 dwellings (in respect of which the Council have put on Demolition Orders or Closing Orders, or accepted Undertakings not to relet) are still in occupation:—

Owens, Brereton Fields, October, 1939	...	Demolition
Coughlin, Brereton Fields, October, 1939	...	..
1 Brook Square, (part) 15th February, 1946	...	Closing Order
Threadgold, Love Lane, 22nd Feb., 1953	...	Undertaking
78 Sheep Fair, 30th March, 1951	... ..	..
Tanner, The Hayes, 1st December, 1953	...	..
Slade Cottage, The Hayes, 11th Feb., 1954	...	Closing Order
13 Green Lane, 6th May, 1954	... ..	Undertaking
Lower Birches Farm house, 3rd April, 1954	...	..
Lowe, The Levels, Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	...	Closing Order
3 Brook Square (Top Flat) 18th Dec., 1946	...	Undertaking
J. W. Harvey, Glovers Hill, 22nd Nov., 1955	...	..
J. Molineux, Glovers Hill, 22nd Nov., 1955	...	..
Greatrix, 20 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	Demolition
Elsmore, 26 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
Bentley, 30 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
Worodik, 34 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
Middleton, 36 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
Wilson, 38 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
Lycett, 46 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
J. Gough, 1 Wharf Road, 18th April, 1956	...	Closing Order
Barber, 9 Market Square, 18th April, 1956	...	..
Eaton Lodge Cottage, Wolseley Rd., 18th Apl., 1956	...	..
17 Sheep Fair, 4th June, 1956	... ..	Undertaking
81 Armitage Road, 8th Nov., 1956	... ..	..
11 Lower Brook St., 21st Nov., 1956	... ..	Demolition
38 Bow Street, 19th Dec., 1956	... ..	Closing Order
40 Bow Street, 19th Dec., 1956	... ..	Closing Order

#### **Unfit houses not occupied 31st December, 1956**

The following 16 Dwelling Houses are not occupied for human habitation but are subject to Demolition Orders, Closing Orders, or Undertakings not to relet:—

Cox's Bungalow, Fortescue Lane	... ..	Demolition
22a Sheep Fair, 18th June, 1952	... ..	..
32 Sheep Fair, 18th June, 1952	... ..	..
Late Whittaker, Love Lane, 27th Oct., 1952 (Used for commercial purposes)	...	Closing Order
29a Horse Fair, 18th November, 1953 (Used for commercial purposes)	...	Closing Order
11 Sandy Lane, 9th August, 1946	... ..	Undertaking
9 Sandy Lane, 9th Aug., 1946	... ..	..
Holloway, 24 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	Demolition
Silcocks, 28 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..
Sharrard, 48 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	..

Birch, 58 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	...	Demolition
9 Lower Brook St., 21st November, 1956	...	„
Davis, Batesway, Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	...	„
Richards, Batesway, Brereton, 11th Feb., 1954	...	„
22 Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	... ..	„
46a Sheep Fair, 15th Feb., 1956	... ..	„

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

In 1956 the third full year in which the gauges were in operation, the following results were obtained—

	Site 1		Site 1		Site 2		Rainfall 1956
	Solid Deposit		Sulphur Dioxide		Sulphur Dioxide		
	tons/sq.	ml./mth.	mgm/sq.	cm./day	mgm/sq.	cm./day	
	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	
January	11.07	10.16	1.04	1.10	2.00	2.13	3.47
February	6.00	9.97	1.33	1.23	1.95	2.22	0.79
March	9.44	12.17	1.12	0.93	1.20	1.61	1.54
April	8.94	7.27	0.76	0.58	0.65	1.11	1.50
May	10.34	10.31	0.49	0.59	0.28	0.92	0.83
June	10.67	11.44	0.38	0.45	0.57	0.74	2.01
July	8.27	10.17	0.46	0.46	0.59	0.77	2.88
August	11.80	5.60	0.32	0.69	0.24	0.48	3.82
September	12.11	10.74	0.67	0.36	0.87	0.54	3.39
October	6.90	9.80	0.86	0.55	0.96	1.03	1.85
November	4.27	9.74	1.01	0.89	1.13	1.53	0.79
December	8.04	7.97	1.24	0.81	1.04	2.55	3.47
Total for year	107.85	115.34	9.68	8.69	11.48	15.63	26.34
Monthly average	8.98	9.63	0.80	0.72	0.95	1.30	2.19

Site 1 is at the back of Eaton Lodge, Wolseley Road.

Site 2 is on open ground at Heathfields Farm, Etching Hill (since 1st April, 1956).

As there are only four factories in the district which burn coal, it would appear that, as far as Rugeley is concerned, the chief offender is the domestic fire. The proximity of the main Euston—Crewe railway line and the factory at Colton Mill is offset by the prevailing westerly winds.

The amount of pollution is relatively low, compared with other authorities carrying out similar investigations, but it must be borne in mind that these authorities all contain sources of heavy atmospheric pollution.

#### National Assistance Acts 1948 and 1951

No action under these Acts was necessary during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH					Males		Females	
					1955	1956	1955	1956
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	50	63	45	44
1	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
2	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
3	Syphilis	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
10	(Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	—	—	2	1
11	(Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	2	4	—	—
12	(Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	—	2	1
13	(Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
14	(Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	7	7	3	3
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	—	1	—	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	—	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	7	6	8	4
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	11	5	3	4
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	1	1	2
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	6	7	4	9
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	—	2	2	3
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	—	1	1	—
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	5	1	1
25	Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	—	—	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	1	—	4	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	2	—	1	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	3	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	3	2	1	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	2	7	4	7
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	1	—	—
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	—	10	2	—
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	1	2	—
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Special causes (included in No. 32 above)								
	Smallpox	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Deaths of (Total ... ..)					4	8	4	6
Infants —(Legitimate ... ..)					4	8	4	6
under 1 year (Illegitimate ... ..)					—	—	—	—
Live Births (Total ... ..)					124	139	137	144
—(Legitimate ... ..)					115	134	131	140
(Illegitimate ... ..)					9	5	6	4
Stillbirths (Total ... ..)					8	6	1	3
—(Legitimate ... ..)					8	6	1	3
(Illegitimate ... ..)					—	—	—	—
Population ... ..					11,270			

## FACTORY ACT 1937

### 1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number of			
	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	6	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	36	57	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	42	67	—	—

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

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4) By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	2	2	0	0	0

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

CHARLES FLEMING,

Medical Officer of Health.



# Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

MADAM & GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of presenting my 26th Annual Report dealing with the work carried out in my department during 1956.

## Hednesford Road Area

So far 34 houses have been connected to the new sewer.

The number of visits paid in connection with the giving of advice and the examination and testing of new drains was 20.

The following premises have not yet been connected:—

10 houses with W.C.'s to septic tanks, the owners of which have been asked to connect to the new sewer.

The owners of the following houses have not been asked to connect to the new sewer:—

- Upper Birches Farm, over 100ft.
- Lower Birches Farm, over 100ft.
- Mr. L. C. Johnson's house, over 100ft.
- Flaxley Green Farm, limited life.
- Mr. G. Thomas's house, limited life.

## Brereton Sewerage Scheme

### Premises within 100ft. of new sewer

So far 326 properties out of the 342 have been connected to the new sewer.

There is no sewer available in Fortescue Lane (part), Wolseley Road (part), Etching Hill, and Slitting Mill, where the closet accommodation is as follows:—

#### Fortescue Lane.

- 14 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.
- 7 premises with pail closets.

#### Wolseley Road area.

- 40 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.

#### Etching Hill area.

- 123 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.
- 12 premises with pail closets.
- 2 premises with privy middens.

#### Slitting Mill area.

- 27 premises with W.C.'s to Septic Tanks.
- 25 premises with pail closets.
- 8 premises with privy middens.

## Swimming Baths

There are no private swimming baths or pools in the area.

## Public Cleansing

(a) **Dry House Refuse.**—The whole of the refuse of the district is removed by the Council's workmen in two covered vehicles, once every week. The Council carry out Controlled Tipping at the tip at the top of Springhill Terrace.

(b) **Contents of Pail Closets, Cesspools, etc.**—This is conveyed from the premises in a special trailer sludge tank. The pail closets are emptied at night once every week, 94 cesspools were emptied by the Council's workmen during the year, and the Mount Road tank was emptied 4 times.

### Sanitary Improvements and Notices

Number of visits during the year, either in connection with Infectious Disease, or in course of investigating complaints, or in carrying out surveys amount to 2,379.

Number of **Statutory Notices** complied with: 172 as follows:—

#### Public Health Act, 1936

Section 39.	Defective or insufficient drainage ... ..	5
Section 44.	Insufficient closet accommodation ... ..	2
Section 45.	Defective closet accommodation ... ..	14
Section 75.	Provision of new dustbins ... ..	2
Section 79.	Accumulations causing nuisance ... ..	2
Section 83.	Cleansing of premises ... ..	3
Section 89.	Sanitary conveniences at Inns ... ..	3
Section 92.	Animals causing nuisance ... ..	1
Section 93.	Houses made fit or repaired ... ..	91
Section 269.	Caravans causing nuisance ... ..	2
Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 ... ..		47

Number of **Intimatory or Verbal Notices** complied with, 180 as follows:—

Dwelling houses made fit or repaired ... ..	15
Obstructed drains cleansed ... ..	19
Drains amended in construction ... ..	8
Water closet basins renewed ... ..	5
Water closet cisterns repaired or renewed ... ..	17
Closet structure repaired ... ..	5
Dustbins provided ... ..	34
New drainage constructed and connected to the new sewer ... ..	4
Animals improperly kept ... ..	4
Cesspools emptied or repaired ... ..	11
Burst water piping ... ..	30
Offensive accumulations ... ..	14
Dirty Houses ... ..	12
Caravans causing nuisance ... ..	2

#### Premises and Occupations which can be controlled by By-Laws or Regulations

There are no Common Lodging Houses in this District. There is a Tannery in the district. There are no underground sleeping places in the district. There are no By-Laws for:—Houses-let-in-Lodgings, tents, vans, sheds, etc., offensive trades, or Lodgings and accommodation for Hop-pickers.

#### Schools

In Rugeley Town and Brereton the sanitary conveniences are on the water carriage system. The Slitting Mill Schools have privy middens. The water supply to all the schools is received from the Council's mains.

## Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises in the district which are controllable by the Council under the Act, viz., Registered Premises, where filling materials are used in the manufacture of bedding, toys, upholstery, etc., or Licensed Premises, where rag flock is (a) manufactured or (b) stored for distribution to Registered Premises.

### HOUSING

#### 1. Unfit Dwelling Houses

<b>Inspection—</b> (1)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health Acts or Housing Acts ... ..	350
	Number of Inspections made for that purpose	540
(2)	Number of Houses inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	201
	Number of inspections made for that purpose	500
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as being unfit for human habitation ...	9
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under previous sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation ... ..	192

#### 2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defected dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	36
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#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers

##### Houses demolished or closed

(a)—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936.		
(1)	Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Sec. 11) ... ..	6
(2)	Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Sec. 11 and still in force ... ..	2
(3)	Parts of buildings closed (Sec. 12) ... ..	1
(b)—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949, closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sec. 3 ... ..		0
(c)—Proceedings under Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Closed as a result Closing Orders under Sec. 10 and 11 ... ..		0

##### Repairs

(a)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts. Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.		
(1)	By owners ... ..	91
(2)	By local authority in default ... ..	0
(b)—Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936. Houses made fit after service of formal notice.		
(1)	By owners ... ..	65
(2)	By local authority in default ... ..	0

## RODENT CONTROL

The work of dealing with infestations has been carried out throughout the year under my supervision.

During the year the part time Rodent Operative was on duty 454 hours. Of this 84 hours were spent on treating the Council's property such as sewage work, refuse tips, etc., 203 hours were spent at private houses, canal banks, hedge rows etc., and the remaining 167 hours were spent on either rechargeable work at business premises, or the general inspection of business premises.

In addition to the above the baiting of sewers was again carried out twice yearly.

## CARAVANS

### Public Health Act, 1936 Section 269

There are 14 caravans licensed under the above Act within the Urban District.

No nuisance has resulted from the caravans during the year.

The names of those holding licenses and the site of each caravan are as follows:—

- Mr. J. Norman, "The Vine Inn", Sheep Fair.
- Mr. C. W. H. Robson, 42 Bow Street.
- Mr. F. M. Hill, "Sunnybank", Slitting Mill.
- Mr. F. E. Burton, Love Lane.
- Mr. F. E. Cope, "Dresdene", Garden Drive.
- Mr. S. G. Collier, Talbot Road.
- Mr. R. Deadman, "Alma Dene", Garden Drive.
- Mr. D. I. Wassell, Heathfields Farm, Etching Hill.
- Mr. D. Walker, Slitting Mill.
- Mr. S. Southall, Market Street.
- Miss J. Southwell, 50 Park View Terrace.
- Mr. G. Henderson, 31 Horse Fair.
- Mr. L. Hall, Slitting Mill.
- Mr. F. Fowell, Station Road.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### 1. Food Premises in the District

Wet fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Combined fruit, vegetable and wet fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Butchers shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
General shops for the sale of sweets, grocery, provisions, fruit and vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Sweet shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cake shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Fruit and vegetable shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Works Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Private Clubs etc.,	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

**2. Premises Registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Ice Cream Regulations**

(a) For the preparation or manufacture of cooked meats, etc.	13
(b) For the manufacture of ice cream by hot mix ... ..	0
(c) For the manufacture of ice cream by cold mix ... ..	0
(d) For the sale and storage of ice cream only. Such ice cream being purchased from the leading ice cream manufacturers ... ..	38

**Milk Supply**

In the District we have registered three retail purveyors of milk who are not cowkeepers. We have three other retail purveyors whose dairies are situated outside our District. The Staffordshire County Council carried out sampling and examination of milk for bacterial contents and for tubercle bacilli.

**MILK (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) REGULATIONS, 1949**

**Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949**

Dealers' licences granted under these Regulations authorising the use of a Special Designation are held by the following:—

Miss C. F. Gee, Rugeley ...	"Tuberculin Tested Milk", "Pasteurised Milk", "Sterilised Milk."
North Staffs. Co-operative Dairy Ltd., Hanley ...	"Tuberculin Tested Milk," "Sterilised Milk", "Pasteurised Milk."
Messrs. L. Harvey and H. Aspley, Rugeley ... ..	"Tuberculin Tested Milk," "Sterilised Milk," "Pasteurised Milk."
Mr. J. Grimley, Rugeley ...	"Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mrs. M. L. Carney, Rugeley	"Pasteurised Milk," "Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. C. A. Pratt, Rugeley ...	"Pasteurised Milk," "Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. C. Southwell, Rugeley	"Pasteurised Milk," "Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. A. C. Conway, Armitage	"Pasteurised Milk," "Sterilised Milk" and "Tuberculin Tested Milk."
Mr. E. Taylor, Rugeley ...	"Tuberculin Tested Milk."

3. Number of inspections of registered premises ... .. 135

4. Advice is given to food handlers during visits and clean food leaflets and circulars are issued at regular intervals.

**5. Methods of disposal of condemned foods**

- (a) Meat. At Mr. Parker's slaughterhouse by removal after staining to the Knacker's Yard for sale as animal food. At other slaughterhouses it is stained by Inspector and afterwards destroyed by burning or boiled for animal food in accordance with the Ministry of Food's Circular 21/53.
- (b) Other foods. Tins pierced, jars etc. broken. Contents of same and other foods buried at refuse tip.

6. It has not been found necessary to examine any special consignment or stock of food during the year. Mostly on request for examination by the provision merchants the following were found to be unfit for human consumption:—

612 tins of tomatoes, 143 tins of fruit, 104 tins of meat, 68 tins of peas, 57 tins of fish, 50 tins of milk, 15 tins of rabbit meat, 8 tins of mixed vegetables, 7 tins of milk, 3 tins of spaghetti, 3 tins of soup, 1 box of sausages.

#### 7. Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-52

It will be seen that no ice cream is now manufactured in the district either by hot or cold mix.

#### 8. Food and Drugs Act, 1955

##### Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

##### Food Handling Byelaws

The number of food premises other than registered premises which were inspected during the year was 88. The number of statutory notices complied with was 47.

All the occupiers of food premises in the district and their employees have co-operated to ensure compliance with the above provisions. During the year compliance with statutory notices has resulted in the following improvements.

Regulation 6.	To cleanliness of equipment ... ..	1
Regulation 12.	To soil drainage ... ..	2
Regulation 14.	To sanitary accommodation ... ..	7
Regulation 16.	Provision of hot and cold water over hand washing basin ... ..	17
	Provision of separate hand washing basin ... ..	14
Regulation 17.	Provision of first-aid equipment ... ..	7
Regulation 18.	Provision of locker accommodation ... ..	9
Regulation 19.	Provision of hot and cold water over food and equipment sinks ... ..	10
	Provision of separate food and equipment washing sink ... ..	6
Regulation 23.	To cleanliness of food rooms ... ..	18
	Proper screening of food under Food Handling Byelaws ... ..	4

##### Public Health Act, 1936

Section 89.	Flushing apparatus to urinals ... ..	2
Section 93.	To abate nuisance ... ..	1

9. **Adulteration, etc.** This is not an authority for enforcing the Acts and Regulations referred to under this head.

10. **Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.** The Staffordshire County Council has provided laboratories and carries out such work.

**MEAT INSPECTION**  
**Carcases Inspected and Condemned**

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ...	404	371	78	1,746	747	158
Number inspected	404	371	78	1,746	747	158
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	62	2	2	1	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	15	69	—	8	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	3.7%	35.3%	2.5%	0.56%	0.13%	1.97%
<b>Tuberculosis only:</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	42	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	44	66	—	—	31	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	10.8%	28.1%	—	—	4.0%	—
<b>Cysticercosis</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Most of the cows slaughtered were at Mr. A. Parker's Slaughterhouse. The condemned percentage figures are on the high side because this is a casualty station for the emergency slaughter of animals from the districts surrounding Rugeley. It is also used by the Ministry of Agriculture Inspectors for the slaughter of animals under the T.B. Order.

## SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND KNACKERS' YARDS

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 57.

There are five slaughter houses and one knacker's yard licensed under the above Act within the district. They are as follow :—

- Slaughterhouse, Love Lane. Owner Mr. A. Parker.
- Slaughterhouse, Upper Brook Street. Owner Mr. R. Sanders.
- Slaughterhouse, Horse Fair. Owner Mr. Astbury.
- Slaughterhouse, Upper Brook Street. Owner Mr. A. J. Toy.
- Slaughterhouse, Brereton. Owner Mr. R. Sanders.
- Knackers Yard, Turkeyshall Lane. Owner Mr. A. Parker.

## SLAUGHTER-MEN

### Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 and 1951

The following is a list of persons licensed to slaughter or stun animals in slaughter-houses and knackers' yards.

- Mr. A. Astbury, Holly Lodge, Sandy Lane, Rugeley.
- Mr. E. E. Upton, Wolseley Road, Rugeley.
- Mr. G. Parker, Bridge House, Love Lane, Rugeley.
- Mr. P. Parker, Bridge House, Love Lane, Rugeley.
- Mr. J. V. Toy, 14 Upper Brook Street, Rugeley.
- Mr. D. O. Sanders, Horse Fair, Rugeley.
- Mr. A. E. Chinnock, 75 Queen Street, Rugeley.
- Mr. R. W. Wallbank, 7 Mossley, Rugeley.
- Mr. S. R. Sanders, 30b Horse Fair, Rugeley.
- Mr. J. K. Rosser, 1 Redbrook Lane, Brereton.
- Mr. J. Bentley, 54 Lion Street, Rugeley.
- Mr. B. Savage, Brewery Yard, Great Haywood.
- Mr. K. A. Hollins, 48 Queen Street, Rugeley.
- Mr. F. Southwell, " Hillcrest," Hednesford Road, Rugeley.
- Mr. F. B. Cowan, 2 Larches Road, Brereton.

## WATER SUPPLY

The Council obtain their water in bulk from the South Staffordshire Water Company. This supply has been satisfactory (a) in quality, and (b) in quantity.

In addition to the samples we submit to the County Analyst and County Bacteriologist, the Water Works Company take frequent samples of the raw water for bacteriological and chemical examination (a) before treatment, (b) after treatment, and (c) from taps in our district.

The supply is a constant one, **and does not have a plumbo-solvent action.** There was no action in respect of any form of contamination during the year.

It is estimated that 3,228 dwelling houses occupied by 11,270 persons are supplied from the public mains. As far as these houses are concerned, 3,225 dwelling houses occupied by 11,264 persons have the supply directly over the sinks. The remaining 3 houses occupied by 6 persons obtain the public supply from a stand pipe in the yard. A Demolition Order has been put on these 3 houses.

The following are reports of samples of the Council's Public Water Supply:—

## ANALYST'S REPORT—

pH Value	...	...	...	...	...	7.4
						Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212° F	...	...	...	...	...	28.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid	...	...	...	...	...	0.0012
Nitric Nitrogen	...	...	...	...	...	0.45
Chlorine present as Chloride	...	...	...	...	...	2.65
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	...	...	...	...	...	0.017
Appearance—Clear matter.						
Metallic contamination	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Total Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	—
Permanent Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	—
Temporary Hardness	...	...	...	...	...	—

REMARKS:—This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.

## BACTERIOLOGIST'S REPORT—

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37° C:—  
Nil per 100 ml.

**PETROLEUM (Regulation) ACTS, 1928 and 1936.****Petroleum (Mixtures) Order, 1929.**

Licences were granted subject to the licensees complying with the Council's regulations and the Chief Fire Officer's recommendations.

The premises licensed within the Urban District are listed below:—

Palfreyman's Yard, Sheep Fair—Mr. A. Manton	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Garage, Brereton Road—Messrs. J. Edwards & Son	...	...	...	...	2,500 gallons
Garage, Wolseley Road—Messrs. J. S. Pendlebury & Son	...	...	...	...	2,000 gallons
Garage, Anson Street—Fred Degg Ltd.	...	...	...	...	1,000 gallons
Garage, Bees, Lane—Messrs. J. Edwards & Son	...	...	...	...	1,300 gallons
Garage, Wolseley Road—Mr. S. Cubley	...	...	...	...	2,500 gallons
Mr. D. Rowley, Main Road, Brereton	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Brereton Colliery, National Coal Board	...	...	...	...	1,000 gallons
Garage, Market Street—Mr. B. Oakley	...	...	...	...	1,000 gallons
Garage, Armitage Road—Mr. A. R. Harding	...	...	...	...	2,000 gallons
Garage, Elmore Lane—Messrs. M. A. & C. J. Whieldon	...	...	...	...	1,000 gallons
Brereton Wharves Ltd., Wharf Road	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Mr. C. S. Hulse, "Stoneleigh," Etching Hill	...	...	...	...	250 gallons
Mr. A. Parker, Bridge House, Love Lane	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Electronic Products, Ravenhill	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Carney Bros., Brewery Street	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Stokes & Co., Phoenix Tannery, Bryans Lane	...	...	...	...	1,500 gallons
Rugeley Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd.	...	...	...	...	750 gallons
Staffordshire Fire Brigade, Taylors Lane	...	...	...	...	40 gallons
B. Sunley and Sons Ltd., Wolseley Road	...	...	...	...	2,000 gallons
Mr. G. Toy, Cason House, Wolseley Road	...	...	...	...	500 gallons
Messrs. J. Laing & Sons Ltd., Lea Hall Colliery	...	...	...	...	16 gallons
E. Pinchess & Co., Mill Lane	...	...	...	...	25 gallons
Lotus Ltd., Market Square	...	...	...	...	10 gallons
Mr. J. Carney, Wolseley Road	...	...	...	...	500 gallons

## HOUSING POINTS SCHEME

During 1950 the Council adopted a points scheme introduced by Alderman Newman for dealing with applications for Council houses. The Council asked for my co-operation in the scheme.

When the scheme was introduced I visited all the applicants on the list to ascertain (1) possible overcrowding, (2) possible sexual overcrowding, (3) condition of properties occupied by applicants, and (4) the particulars necessary for allotting the remaining points.

Each year since then it has been necessary to visit each new applicant during the year and all the old applicants remaining on the list. When these particulars have been obtained the Housing Committee have held special points meetings and the revised points have been fixed for each applicant. The points list has then been exhibited to the general public.

In my opinion the scheme has proved very satisfactory and the applicants are more satisfied with it that they were with arrangements prior to 1950.

The Housing Points Scheme with amendments up to date is as follows:—

1. No application will be considered for points allocation until the applicant has been on the housing list for a period of 12 months.
2. A maximum of 20 points to be allocated at the rate of 2 per year of married life which the applicant has spent in lodgings. (Only applicable where applicant is in lodgings at time of consideration for tenancy of house.)
3. A maximum of 10 points to be allocated at the rate of 1 per year in which the applicant has lived in overcrowded conditions.
4. A maximum of 10 points to be additionally allocated to people living in sexually overcrowded conditions, allocated at the rate of 1 per year in such conditions.
5. A maximum of 5 points to be allocated at the rate of 1 per year to applicants who are living in property to be made fit for habitation, which when surrendered will not be re-let until such conditions are fulfilled.
6. A maximum of 5 points to be allocated to applicants where a Medical Certificate is supplied from some Authority, (not Local Practitioners) certifying some unusual extenuating circumstances. (Certificates by Practitioners shall be disregarded under this paragraph but may be taken into consideration under Paragraph 8.)
7. Five to 10 points to be added to total points (in relation to paragraphs 3 and 4) arising from state of accommodation based on Sanitary Inspector's Report.
8. A floating 10 points to be allocated by the Council under the following headings:—
  - (a) In cases where special housing hardship arises and is not covered by any of the preceding provisions.
  - (b) Loss of points incurred under paragraphs 3 and 4 by initiative in obtaining improved conditions.

### NOTES

**Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4**—Only periods of lodging or tenancy in the Urban District shall qualify for points allocation. (Extended on 9th October, 1951 to applicants at Wolseley Road Camp provided they were already on the Council's register.)

**Paragraphs 3 and 4**—In calculating sex overcrowding it shall be assumed that the accommodation is sexually overcrowded if the man and wife

are compelled to separate for sleeping purposes to prevent adults of opposite sexes from sleeping in the same room.

Under the Housing Act, 1936, living rooms are counted as well as bedrooms but under this scheme the first living room shall be ignored.

**Paragraph 7**—Under the Housing Act, 1936, a house shall be deemed to be overcrowded if “**any two persons**, being of 10 years or more of opposite sexes, and not being persons living together as man and wife must sleep in the same room.” It will be seen that this applies only to cases where **two persons** are over ten. Points shall therefore be given under paragraph 7 to cover cases where there is one person over ten and another person of the opposite sex under ten years of age sleeping in the same room. Points shall be also given under Paragraph 7 for overcrowding caused by the presence of the applicant's family **although not themselves overcrowded**.

(The standard laid down by the Housing Act, 1936 in connection with overcrowding shall be adopted with the above modifications).

#### **ALTERATIONS TO THE SCHEME PASSED BY THE HOUSING COMMITTEE ON 26th OCTOBER, 1954**

1. Applicants now residing at the Wolseley Road Camp and already on the Housing List be given lodging points up to 1951, and overcrowding etc., points up to 1st January, 1953 or the date when overcrowding ceased whichever is earlier.
2. That in cases where applicants were in lodgings when investigation was made in 1950, but have since become tenants of houses within the District but not at the Wolseley Road Camp, lodging points be allotted up to the date they became tenants and overcrowding etc., points up to the date that overcrowding ceased.
3. In cases where lodger applicants have relieved overcrowding by securing better lodgings, points shall be given only up to the date when overcrowding ceased, the question of any additional points under paragraph 8 (c) to be decided by the committee.

#### **Applicants who have applied for a Council House since 15th August, 1950**

4. Points in these cases are now not to be given for all periods of lodgings or tenancy in the Urban District **but only from date of application**.
5. That applicants who are residing at the Wolseley Road Camp and who are not yet on the Housing List shall be given points only in those cases where they were residing within the Urban District and had made application prior to moving to the Camp.
6. In future where any pre-war Council houses become vacant they shall be offered in the first instance to applicants who are on the “Waiting at Own Request” list in the order in which they appear on that list but if any of those applicants refuse the houses offered, they shall be considered as having lost their points and shall be treated as new applicants from the date of refusal to accept the pre-war house.
7. In future no further applicants shall be added to the “Waiting at Own Request” list, and in all future cases where a house allocated to applicants is refused, such applicants shall lose their existing points and be treated as new applicants from the date of refusal of the house allocated.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. T. G. CRADDOCK.  
Chief Public Health Inspector.



