

[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Rushden U.D.C.

Contributors

Rushden (Northamptonshire, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1957

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/hktvjyv3>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Library

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1957



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the
Senior Public Health Inspector

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1957



P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Together with the Annual Report of the
Senior Public Health Inspector

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

RUSHDEN LIBRARY DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health

for the
Year 1933

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1957.

Area (in acres)	3,777
Population 1921 (census)	13,511
" 1931 " 	14,247
" 1951 " 	16,370
" 1957 	16,670
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1921 (census)	3,076
" " " " " " 1931 " 	3,827
" " " " " " 1957 	5,934
Rateable Value, 1957	£180,000
Product of a penny rate, 1957	£720

Live Births.	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	226	120	106	
Illegitimate	7	2	5	
	233	122	111	13.97

Stillbirths.	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	6	4	2	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
	6	4	2	0.35

Deaths (all causes)	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
... ..	162	85	77	9.71


Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—
Other maternal causes	nil.

Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births :

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	5	2	3	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Total	5	2	3	21.45

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	34
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	nil.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30048527>

Rushden Urban District Council.

Members of the Health and Sanitary Committee :

COUNCILLOR A. ALLEBONE (*Chairman*), COUNCILLORS A. H. BAILEY, C. GINNS, B. GRAMSHAW, R. R. GRIFFITHS, MRS. A. U. MUXLOW, C. NORRIS, E. E. PIDD, MRS. C. E. SHRIVE.

COUNCILLOR MRS. W. M. LEAN, Chairman of the Council, was an *ex-officio* member.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

Medical Officer of Health,

P. X. BERMINGHAM, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District.

School Medical Officer.

Secretary :

MISS J. PEARSON.

Senior Public Health Inspector, Meat Inspector :

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

J. WADE, Certified Meat and Food Inspector. (*From 9/9/57.*)

Public Health Department,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.

June, 1958.

To the Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Rushden.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my tenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Rushden Urban District for the year 1957.

In Section A the Vital Statistics for the year will be found. From this it will be seen that the birth rate 13.97 per 1,000 of population was slightly higher than the previous year when it was 13.32. The death rate showed a considerable fall, 9.71 per 1,000 of population compared with 12.60. Once again the greatest cause of death was diseases of the heart and blood vessels, which accounted for 51.85% of the total deaths. Cancer was responsible for 20.09%, and diseases of the respiratory system 9.87% of the total deaths. Table No. 2 in Section H shows a record of deaths from selected causes dating back to 1929 and contains interesting information. The decline in deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis is marked, but it will be noted the increase in deaths from heart disease. The Infant mortality rate was 21.45 per 1,000 live births compared with 9.04 for the previous year.

In the next section an account of the Health Services available in the area is given and Rushden must be considered fortunate in having the Rushden Memorial Hospital. Here out-patient clinics are held in many different branches of medicine and it is estimated that approximately 1,400 persons visit in the course of a month.

Section C deals with the Sanitary Circumstances of the area, and in this an account of the water supply for the area is given and the Water Board's proposed scheme to augment the present supply. A scheme also is at the Ministry to enlarge the sewage works. This is most desirable, as the works are overloaded.

An account of the building progress and action taken with regard to unfit properties is given in Section D.

Section E contains information concerning the inspection and supervision of food. Unfortunately the number of samples taken during the year and visits to food premises showed a fall. This was due to the fact that the Senior Public Health Inspector was without an additional Health Inspector from January to September, when Mr. Wade was appointed.

Meat inspection takes up considerable time and it is pleasing to report that 100% inspection of all carcasses slaughtered for human consumption was maintained throughout the period.

In Section F, which deals with Infectious Diseases, a short account of the Influenza epidemic is given. Also a summary of the results of the fifth survey of the area which was carried out by the Mass Radiography Unit. It is very pleasing to note the vast improvement in the vaccination figures which must be the highest recorded for any one year.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and help throughout the year. I also would like to thank the officers of the Council for information supplied for this report, and Mr. Ellis for his help in many matters throughout the year. Also Miss Pearson for her help in compiling this report.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area. The Urban District of Rushden covers an area of 3,777 acres. The density of population is 4.4 persons per acre and the housing factor is 2.8 persons per house.

Population. The Registrar-General in his returns for 1957 shows the population of the area to be 16,670, which is 90 more than the previous year. The natural increase, which is the number of births compared with deaths for the year, was 71.

Deaths. There were 162 deaths in 1957 which gives a rate of 9.71 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 12.60. The death rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 11.5. A classification of the causes of death is given in Table No. 1 in Section H. From this it will be seen that diseases of the Heart and Circulatory system was by far the greatest cause of death, and accounted for 84 out of 162 deaths, also that coronary disease and angina was the cause of 30 of these deaths. Deaths from Cancer numbered 34 and was 9 more than the previous year. Five of the cancer deaths were due to cancer of the lung or bronchus. There were 3 deaths from this cause in 1956. There were no deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The following table shows a comparison between the death rates for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden for the period 1947 to 1957 :

Year	Rushden				County England & Wales	
	Total	Male	Fe- male	Recorded Rate	Recorded Rate	Recorded Rate
1947	200	103	97	12.95	12.43	12.00
1948	184	95	89	11.27	11.00	10.80
1949	221	112	109	13.46	12.07	11.70
1950	222	108	114	13.48	12.01	11.60
1951	218	120	98	13.44	12.13	12.50
1952	204	97	98	12.55	11.04	11.3
1953	156	80	76	9.51	11.51	11.4
1954	187	101	86	11.30	11.04	11.3
1955	187	98	89	11.29	11.38	11.7
1956	209	109	100	12.60	11.24	11.7
1957	162	85	77	9.71	*	11.5

Births. 233 births were recorded during the year, which gives a rate of 13.97 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 13.32. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 16.1. The following table shows a comparison between the rates for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden for the period 1953 to 1957:

Birth Rate, 1953-1957

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Rushden	13.97	13.84	13.34	13.32	13.97
Administrative County...	16.16	16.2	15.49	16.67	*
England and Wales ...	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.7	16.1

Stillbirths. Six stillbirths were recorded, which gives a rate of 0.35 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 0.30.

Illegitimate Births. Seven illegitimate births were recorded, which gives a rate of 30.04 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 36.19.

Maternal Mortality. For the third year no deaths were recorded under this heading.

Infant Mortality. Five infant deaths occurred. This gives a rate of 21.45 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 9.04. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 23.0. Table No. 3 in Section H gives the causes of infant deaths and Table No. 4 gives the rates dating back to 1899. The following table shows a comparison between the infant mortality rate for England and Wales, the Administrative County and Rushden over the last five years :

Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births.

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Rushden ...	8.73(2)	30.56(7)	31.67(7)	9.04(2)	21.45
Administrative County ...	24.70	23.49	20.79	19.68	*
England and Wales ...	26.8	25.5	24.9	23.8	23.0

Neonatal Mortality. This is a sub-division of the infant mortality rate and concerns infant deaths within 28 days of independent existence. All five deaths occurred in this period and so the rate is 21.45 per 1,000 live births. The rate for the previous year was 4.52. The following table gives the rates per 1,000 live births of infant deaths which occurred within 28 days of birth :

Deaths under one month per 1,000 live births.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Rushden ...	5.00(1)	8.73(2)	26.20(6)	13.57(3)	4.52(1)	21.45(5)

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Services. The Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the Laboratory attached to the Kettering General Hospital serve the area. The Kettering Laboratory has a branch at the Memorial Hospital, the Hayway, Rushden.

Ambulance Service. This is provided by the County Council.

Nursing in the Home and Home Helps. This service is provided by the County Council. The home help service is a very valuable one and often is the means of keeping old folk in their own homes where otherwise they would have to go to hospital. It often is the means of tiding over a crisis in a home where a mother with a young family has to go to hospital. Suitable persons to carry out these duties are found usually by the nurse and recommended to the County for the position.

Treatment Centres and Clinics. The County Council hold an infant welfare centre at the Wesleyan Church Rooms, Queen Street, on Wednesday afternoons. On the first and third Thursday of each month, at 9.30 a.m., ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the same place.

Hospital Accommodation. The responsible authority for the area is the Oxford Regional Hospital Board and the following facilities are available :

General Hospitals—Northampton and Kettering.

Wellingborough Hospital—Gynaecological and children.

Wellingborough Park Hospital—Chronic Sick, the Aged and Part III Accommodation for persons in need of Care and Attention.

Maternity—Cases from the area are accommodated at the Maternity block attached to the Park Hospital or at the Barratt Maternity Hospital, Northampton.

Tuberculosis—Rushden House Sanatorium.

Infectious Diseases—Harborough Road Hospital, Northampton.

The following Out-patient Clinics are held at the Rushden Memorial Hospital, The Hayway, Rushden :

Gynaecological	...	1st and 3rd Monday morning
		2nd and 4th Tuesday morning
Medical	... ..	1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Monday afternoon

Surgical	...	...	1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon 2nd, 4th and 5th Friday morning
E.N.T.	...	...	2nd and 4th Wednesday morning 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday afternoon
Eyes	...	...	1st and 3rd Thursday morning
Orthoptist	...	...	Every Thursday morning and afternoon
Urological	...	...	2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoon
Physiotherapy	...	...	Monday afternoons
Psychiatric	...	...	Every Friday afternoon
Skin	...	...	2nd and 4th Saturday morning
Paediatric	...	...	Wednesday mornings

National Assistance Act, 1948. No action was found necessary under Section 47 of this Act, but a number of old persons were visited during the course of the year and some, in their own interests, were persuaded to enter hospital for a period. A home for old people, Risdene, presented by Mr. W. J. A. Peck, who gave the property to the County Council, was opened during the year. This should be of great benefit to the area, as a need existed for more accommodation.

The Rushden Senior Citizens' Goodwill Committee continued to carry out its excellent work amongst the old folks in the area. The activities of this committee are legion. The chiropody service report in August stated that 1,233 treatments had been given since the beginning of the service and over 320 visits made to persons confined to their houses. A meals service sub-committee was active during the year and initiated hot meals on certain days for old folk. The different ward committees visited old folk in their homes and many gifts were made to fill a need in the homes of the old.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. The Rushden and Higham Ferrers Water Board are responsible for the supply to the town. The two chief sources of supply are Sywell reservoir and the river gravels at Hardwater Crossing, Wollaston. Sywell reservoir is situated in the Wellingborough rural area and covers 68½ acres. It is fed from the surrounding catchment area and springs. The catchment area covers about 1,747 acres. The reservoir has a capacity of about 236,000,000 gallons, and the yield from this source is about 330,000 gallons per day. Treatment consists of filtration, slow sand filters and mechanical filters, and then chlorination.

At Hardwater Crossing, Wollaston, the source of supply is from wells sunk in the Nene Gravels. Treatment consists of mechanical filtration and chlorination. Other smaller sources of supply are derived from the Earls Barton gravel well and springs at Grendon. To augment the supply of water the Board have under consideration the Ditchford scheme. This scheme consists of collecting water by means of a collector duct situated alongside Ditchford lake and on the distal side of this lake from the river Nene. Well points would be sunk at points along this duct to the lias clay.

Quality of Water. A sample of water labelled "Rushden Distribution Area" was received on the 23rd July, 1957, by the Public Analyst from the Engineer to the Board, and gave the following results:

Physical Examination. Clear, colourless and odourless.

General Chemical Examination. Reaction pH 7.3.

	<i>parts per 100,000</i>
Free Carbon Dioxide as CO ₂	0.90
Ammoniacal Nitrogen as N	0.0012
Albuminoid Nitrogen as N	0.0049
Nitrous Nitrogen	absent
Nitric Nitrogen as N	nil

Hardness as CaCO₃ (Clark)

Temporary	9.6
Permanent	9.8
Permanganate Figure (3 hours 37°C)	0.0924
Alkalinity	15.5
Total solids	36.9
Poisonous Metals	absent

Mineral Analysis

Calcium as Ca	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.9
Magnesium as Mg	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.65
Carbonate as CO ₃	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.0
Chloride as Cl	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.1
Sulphate as SO ₄	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.2
Nitrate as NO ₃	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Iron as Fe	...	...	...	...	...	...	nil
Sodium as Na	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.15
Fluoride as F	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.07

Microscopical Examination of Deposit None

Bacteriological Examination

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of microorganisms per ml developing at 37°C= nil

Number of microorganisms per ml developing at 21°C= 4

Remarks

The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a fairly hard water slightly contaminated with organic matter, though containing few bacteria. The fluoride content of the sample may be considered satisfactory.

I am of opinion that this water, as evidenced by the sample, is fit for drinking purposes.

Bacteriological examination of samples of water taken by the Board gave the following results :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
39	36	1	2

Water Consumption, Rushden :

Total quantity supplied	...	183,257,000 gallons
Domestic	...	156,461,000 gallons
Trade	...	26,796,000 gallons

The total consumption for the year showed a decrease of 1,191,000 gallons on the previous year.

The following table shows the consumption per head of population for Domestic and Trade purposes over the last five years:

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Domestic and Municipal Purposes	24.3	24.13	26.25	27.0	25.95
Trade Purposes	5.4	6.07	6.16	4.43	4.4
Total	29.7	30.20	32.41	31.43	30.35

Piped Water Supply. 5,839 houses in the area have a piped water supply. This figure shows an increase of 98 on the previous year. 35 houses in the area have not towns water supply and 93 houses are dependent on standpipes.

Number of Council houses connected to Towns Mains, 1957—40.

Number of Private houses connected to Towns Mains, 1957—63

The rainfall for the period 1950 to 1957 was :

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Rushden	25.31	27.80	25.01	18.64	28.44	18.69	22.83	23.72
Sywell	24.88	26.94	22.22	17.10	27.26	17.92	25.23	24.51

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage. The sewage works are situated on the outskirts of the town and are well screened from houses. A description of the works was given in last year's annual report. Treatment of sewage consists mainly of settlement in tanks and at this stage suspended solids should fall out and be removed as sludge. The effluent then passes on to the filter beds where biological action takes place. Primary and secondary filtration takes place in two rows of beds. These works are operating in a continuously overloaded condition, with consequent difficulties of operation. The preparation of plans for improvements to the sewage works is proceeding and it is hoped to obtain approval of details in 1958 with a view to carrying out the works in the following years 1959/60. For information the results of chemical analysis of crude sewage and final effluent is given and is as follows :

The sample contained :	<i>Crude Sewage</i> <i>Parts per 100,000</i>	<i>Final effluent</i> <i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Suspended Solids	1930.0	6.45
Chloride	13.10	6.40
Ammonia (Free or Saline) ...	8.10	0.0540
Ammonia (Albuminoid) ...	2.85	0.2180
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37°C.	33.48	3.5597
Dissolved oxygen absorbed in 5 days at 65°F. (B.O.D.) ...	830.5	2.85

Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	Absent	4.15
Tar Compounds	Absent	Absent
Sulpheretted Hydrogen ...	Trace	Absent
Tannin	Trace	Absent
Oily Matter	950.0	Absent

Remarks : The crude sewage is a very strong sewage. The final effluent does not conform to the recommendations of the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal with regard to suspended solids and B.O.D. These figures are as follows :

Suspended Solids	3 parts per 100,000
B.O.D.	2 parts per 100,000

The volume of sewage dealt with at the works during the year was as follows :

	1957	1956
Total flow	367,159,030 gallons	354,560,575 gallons
Filtered	243,377,000 gallons	241,885,875 gallons
Storm	123,782,030 gallons	112,674,700 gallons

Daily average maximum flow:

Filtered	666,786 gallons	660,890 gallons
Storm	339,129 gallons	— gallons

Maximum flow (4th Nov.) :

Filtered	1,212,500 gallons	— gallons
Storm	3,029,900 gallons	— gallons

Extension of Sewers. Cromwell Road 180 yards, also works commenced on sewers for housing site at Rose Avenue.

Disinfection. Articles of clothing, bedding, etc. connected with cases of infectious diseases are disinfected at the Council's disinfection station. Disinfection for neighbouring authorities is also carried out by arrangement.

Swimming Baths. The Council's swimming bath is maintained in a satisfactory manner. Water in the pool is filtered and chlorinated and changed frequently. Two samples taken for bacteriological examination gave very satisfactory results.

Moveable Dwellings. No new licences were issued during the year. The caravan site situated off the Bedford Road is maintained in a satisfactory manner.

Rats and Mice, Damage by Pests Act, 1949. The necessary works

associated with this act were carried out during the year. Details will be found in the Senior Public Health Inspector's report attached to this.

Public Cleansing. A weekly collection of household refuse is carried out. The Council's tip is situated outside the town off the Bedford Road. It is hoped to culvert part of a ditch that runs close to the tip in 1958.

Atmospheric Pollution. During the year I suggested to the Council that the question of Atmospheric Pollution should be investigated. On their instructions a report on the cost of installing and operating Atmospheric Pollution Measurement Instruments was submitted by me. The Council having consented to this investigation, a Deposit Gauge and Lead Peroxide Instruments were purchased. These have now been set up and records are being kept.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The number of houses built in the Rushden area during 1957 was as follows :

Number of Council houses built during the year	...	...	40
Number under construction at the end of the year	...	...	40
Number of private houses built during the year	...	...	65
Number of private houses under construction at the end of the year	...	...	42
Total number of Council houses completed to end of 1957 since end of War	...	...	798

Types of houses built. 50 prefabs ; 50 Trusteel houses ; 30 Unity, and the remainder Traditional. The 40 houses under construction at the end of the year were 20 houses, 6 flats and 14 bungalows.

Slum Clearance. No official representations were made concerning unfit properties during the year, but five houses were dealt with under Section 11 of the Housing Act and Closing Orders made. The situation of these houses was as follows :

Montague Street	...	...	1 house
Bedford Road	...	...	1 house
High Street	...	...	1 house
Albion Place	...	...	1 house
Cromwell Road	...	...	1 house

Housing Applications. The number of applicants for Council houses on the 31st December, 1957, was as follows :

<i>On general Housing list</i>	<i>In rooms</i>	<i>Tenants</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) Having completed a waiting period of 12 months	57	82	139
(b) Under 12 months (60% of nominal list)	—	—	28
(c) On list for bungalows	8	80	88
			309

The total number of applicants at the end of the previous year was 340.

Inspections of houses in two proposed Clearance Areas were carried out, but action with regard to these areas was postponed until the beginning of the present year.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food premises. There are 136 food premises in the district. Routine inspections are carried out, but during the year, due to lack of staff, the number of these visits had to be curtailed.

Milk Supply. 15 samples of milk were taken during the last quarter of the year and examined for keeping qualities. The results of these samples were as follows :

<i>Good</i>	<i>Bad</i>	<i>Test invalid</i>
15	—	—

Tests carried out—Phosphatase and Methylene Blue.

Pasteurised Milk. No. of samples : 15.

<i>Test</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>	<i>Invalid</i>
Phosphatase	15	—	—
Methylene Blue	15	—	—

These results are satisfactory. In the previous year 71 milk samples were taken, but it was not possible to devote the same amount of time to this important work during 1957.

Washed Milk Bottle Rinses.

Washed bottles :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Examined</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
2	2	2	Nil

I should like to reiterate my remarks of last year that members of the public should help the milk trade by returning milk bottles after use in a clean state. Milk bottles should not be used for other purposes.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream. 68 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. This is two more than the previous year.

<i>No. of premises registered</i>	<i>Bulk ice-cream</i>	<i>Cold mix</i>	<i>Pre-packed</i>	<i>Ice lollies</i>
68	1	4	62	1

No samples of ice-cream were taken during the year.

Meat Inspection. Details of the work carried out will be found in the Senior Public Health Inspector's report. Although, as stated, short staffed during the year, a 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered for human consumption was maintained.

SECTION F.

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

Smallpox. No cases.

Vaccination. The vaccination figures for 1957 were as follows :

Primary	213	6	15	10	48	292
Re-vaccination	—	—	4	6	28	38
						330

The figures for 1956 were :

	<i>Under 1</i>	1	2-4	5-14	15 and over	<i>Total</i>
Primary	66	5	4	11	18	104
Re-vaccination	—	—	2	4	15	21
						125

The improvement in the vaccination figures is very satisfactory, and if this level is maintained the future should hold no fears of such a dreaded disease as Smallpox.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever. No cases occurred.

Scarlet Fever. Seven cases were notified, which is one more than the previous year. Two cases were removed to hospital. The cases were scattered throughout the months of the year.

Diphtheria. No cases occurred. It will be remembered that one case in an adult occurred in the previous year. Previously the area had been free of this disease for eleven years.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis. The following numbers of children were immunised during the year :

	<i>Under</i>								
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	<i>Total</i>	<i>Booster</i>
Diphtheria ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	69
Combined Diphtheria- and Pertussis ...	135	15	17	6	2	7	3	185	38
Total ...	136	16	17	6	2	7	3	187	107
Whooping Cough only	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	

The following table shows the number of children in the different age groups who had completed a full course of Diphtheria Immunisation at the end of the year :

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31 December, 1956								
Age at 31:12:57 i.e. Born in Year ...	<i>Under</i> 1	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	<i>Total</i> <i>under 15</i>
...	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1948-1952	1943-1947	
Number <i>Immunised</i>	30	146	111	131	121	745	1064	2348

Measles. 36 cases were notified during the year compared with 41 in the previous year. 1955 was a Measles year, when 574 cases were notified. Cases were spread throughout the months of the year, as will be seen from Table No. 9 in Section H. No cases were removed to hospital.

Whooping Cough. Three cases were notified compared with one case in the previous year.

Puerperal Pyrexia. No cases were notified for the third year in succession.

Pneumonia. Seventeen cases of Pneumonia were notified compared with fourteen in the previous year. Five deaths were attributed to this cause compared with 14 in the previous year.

Influenza. Three deaths occurred and these are the first deaths recorded from this cause for four years. It will be remembered, however, that an Influenza epidemic occurred in October. The approach of this epidemic had been well publicised in the Press and the variety was known to be an Asian type Influenza. The epidemic ran a similar course to that in other parts of the County. Schoolchildren were affected first and later adults. The majority of cases ran a mild course of four to five days, but in the more severe cases the onset of complications were sudden, especially in the case of pneumonia, chest symptoms appearing suddenly. The epidemic had passed by the end of the year.

Erysipelas. Five cases were notified compared with two in the previous year.

Poliomyelitis. No cases occurred during the year. There was one case in the previous year.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis. The vaccination scheme against Poliomyelitis was continued throughout the year. As the British vaccine was in short supply Salk vaccine was introduced. The number of children

vaccinated showed a great increase, 596 compared with 59 in 1956. The Poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1957 were :

<i>Under 1</i>	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	<i>Total</i>
—	—	—	39	40	390	127	596

Already this year these figures are well passed and it is hoped that all children will be protected against this disease in the near future.

Tuberculosis. Thirteen new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with six cases (5 Pulmonary, 2 Non-Pulmonary) in the previous year. Ten of the cases were in males and once again it is interesting to note the older age groups were affected. Of the three cases which occurred in females two were in the older age groups. No deaths from Tuberculosis occurred. There was one death in the previous year. The following table shows the number of new cases notified (all forms) over the last seventeen years :

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
21	20	18	17	31	15	18	11	16	18	10	14	12
				1954	1955	1956	1957					
				18	6	6	13					

The mortality rate from Tuberculosis for the same period was :

1941-1957

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tuberculosis—all forms</i>			<i>Rate (crude) per 1,000 of population</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rushden</i>	<i>County</i>
1941	10	4	14	·79	·50
1942	4	4	8	·48	·49
1943	2	3	5	·32	·50
1944	4	7	11	·72	·62
1945	5	1	6	·43	·58
1946	7	3	10	·65	·45
1947	7	2	9	·58	·36
1948	4	2	6	·36	·42
1949	5	4	9	·54	·43
1950	1	2	3	·18	·30
1951	3	1	4	·24	·26
1952	8	2	10	·61	·25
1953	3	—	3	·18	·18
1954	1	—	1	·06	·12
1955	—	—	—	—	·09
1956	1	—	1	·06	·09
1957	—	—	—	—	*

On 31st December, 1957, the number of cases on the Tuberculosis register were as follows :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total Number 119			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	57	32	89
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	15	15	30

A fifth survey was carried out by the Mass Radiography Unit of the area between 22nd January and 22nd February, and six different sites in the area were used.

A summary of the results is as follows :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of Miniature films taken	4,424	3,769	8,193
No. recalled for large films	181	112	293
No. recalled for Clinical examination	38	26	64
No. referred to Chest Clinic	18	4	22
No. previously examined by M.M.R.	3,747	3,055	6,802
No. not previously examined by M.M.R.	677	714	1,391

Results of cases referred to Chest Clinic

Tuberculosis

Active Pulmonary Tuberculosis requiring immediate treatment	7	1	8
These were all newly discovered cases			
4 had positive sputum			
6 had previously satisfactory M.M.R. examinations			
Presumably inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis but requiring close supervision	1	—	1
Presumably inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis but requiring occasional supervision	1	1	2
Inactive Pulmonary Tuberculosis requiring no further action	1	—	1

Non-Tuberculous conditions :

Bronchial carcinoma... ..	3	—	3
Pneumonitis	1	—	1
Pulmonary fibrosis	2	—	2
Diaphragmatic hernia	—	1	1
Secondary malignant metastases	—	1	1
Osteo-chondritis of dorsal spine	1	—	1

The After Care Committee continues to carry out its excellent work in the area.

Food Poisoning. One case was notified during the year. There was also one notified in the previous year.

Dysentery. No cases have been notified for two years, when 14 cases occurred.

Typhoid Fever. No cases occurred. One case was notified in the previous year.

SECTION G.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937 AND 1948

There are 145 factories on the register for the area. This is one less than the previous year. Twenty-two inspections were carried out during the year. Further details concerning this section will be found in Table No. 10.

Factories in which mechanical power is not used, no complaints were received with regard to lack of ventilation, cleanliness or drainage.

152 outworkers were registered in the area on the August list. This is two more than in the previous year.

SECTION H.
STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE NO. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1957.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus... ..	4	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	10	18
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	1	—	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	9	18
18. Coronary disease, angina	15	15	30
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	—	3
20. Other heart disease	8	9	17
21. Other circulatory disease	8	8	16
22. Influenza	2	1	3
23. Pneumonia	4	1	5
24. Bronchitis	7	2	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system... ..	2	—	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	2	1	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	12	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—
34. All other accidents	2	2	4
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
	85	77	162

TABLE No. 2.

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES, 1929-1957.

Year	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Cancer		Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels		Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
1929	—	—	12	0.85	21	1.49	39	2.76	9	0.64
1930	1	0.08	7	0.49	11	0.78	38	2.71	16	1.14
1931	—	—	10	0.70	17	1.18	47	3.29	23	1.61
1932	1	0.07	10	0.70	10	0.70	48	3.37	18	1.26
1933	2	0.13	14	0.97	20	1.39	53	3.69	9	0.62
1934	1	0.07	10	0.69	22	1.52	81	5.62	9	0.62
1935	6	0.41	5	0.34	16	1.09	51	3.50	12	0.82
1936	3	0.20	9	0.61	18	1.22	66	4.47	12	0.81
1937	—	—	4	0.26	21	1.41	68	4.56	10	0.67
1938	—	—	10	0.66	23	1.52	69	4.57	7	0.46
1939	1	0.06	11	0.70	23	1.46	57	3.63	9	0.57
1940	3	0.17	10	0.60	32	1.92	78	4.69	23	1.38
1941	1	0.06	13	0.52	32	1.81	79	4.48	26	1.47
1942	1	0.06	7	0.43	28	1.72	72	4.42	13	0.80
1943	—	—	5	0.32	32	2.00	51	3.29	20	1.29
1944	4	0.26	7	0.46	22	1.45	101	6.66	22	1.45
1945	2	0.14	4	0.28	24	1.76	101	7.17	9	0.63
1946	3	0.19	7	0.46	29	1.90	106	6.31	18	1.18
1947	1	0.06	8	0.51	15	0.97	115	7.44	17	1.10
1948	—	—	6	0.36	30	1.83	95	5.82	16	0.98
1949	2	0.12	7	0.42	31	1.88	123	7.49	23	1.40
1950	—	—	3	0.18	34	2.06	117	7.10	26	1.57
1951	1	0.06	3	0.18	26	1.60	93	5.73	24	1.47
1952	2	0.12	8	0.49	41	2.52	102	6.27	17	1.04
1953	—	—	3	0.18	28	1.70	85	5.18	16	0.97
1954	—	—	1	0.06	29	1.75	110	6.65	19	1.14
1955	—	—	—	—	28	1.69	108	6.52	18	1.08
1956	—	—	1	0.06	25	1.50	133	8.02	23	1.38
1957	—	—	—	—	34	2.03	84	5.03	16	0.95

TABLE NO. 3.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR—1957.

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Age in weeks</i>					<i>Total</i>
	—1	—2	—3	—4	5-52	
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	3	—	—	—	—	3
Premature Birth	1	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia and Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Debility	—	—	—	—	—	—
Maemolytic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	—	—	—	—	5

TABLE No. 4.

DEATH AND BIRTH RATES FOR 1899-1957.

Year	Estimated Population mid-year	Net Births		Net Deaths belonging to District Under 1 year At all Ages			
		No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
1899	12,245	463	37.8	49	105.8	145	11.8
1900	14,359	434	30.2	65	149.0	153	10.6
1901	12,453	424	33.6	46	108.4	123	9.7
1902	12,961	407	31.4	50	122.8	133	10.2
1903	13,337	404	30.2	37	91.5	139	10.4
1904	13,713	387	28.2	46	118.8	162	11.8
1905	14,089	328	23.2	36	109.7	119	8.4
1906	14,190	351	24.7	40	113.9	122	8.5
1907	14,816	315	21.2	25	79.3	131	8.1
1908	15,192	310	20.4	35	112.9	122	8.0
1909	15,817	284	17.9	31	109.1	130	8.2
1910	16,442	278	16.9	20	71.9	128	7.7
1911	13,377	281	21.0	29	103.2	130	9.7
1912	13,658	287	21.0	24	83.6	121	8.8
1913	13,752	237	17.2	19	80.1	118	8.7
1914	13,915	246	17.6	18	73.1	124	8.9
1915	13,787	277	19.9	30	108.3	145	10.5
1916	13,531*	256	17.3	15	58.5	138	10.1
1917	12,315*	200	14.5	12	60.0	123	9.9
	13,728†						
	14,722†						
1918	12,900*	158	12.7	8	43.2	129	10.0
	14,454†						
1919	13,850*	206	14.2	27	131.0	153	11.0
	14,428†						
1920	14,402	328	22.7	24	73.1	133	9.2
1921	13,720	273	19.8	22	80.5	147	10.7
1922	13,740	247	17.9	19	76.9	132	9.6
1923	13,790	243	17.6	12	49.3	131	9.4
1924	13,750	198	14.4	11	55.5	135	9.8
1925	13,780	211	15.3	13	61.6	138	10.0
1926	13,520	208	15.3	6	28.8	131	9.7
1927	13,550	174	12.8	10	57.4	139	10.2
1928	13,650	174	12.0	10	57.4	146	10.6
1929	14,020	174	12.4	9	51.7	127	9.0
1930	14,020	191	13.6	7	36.6	121	8.6
1931	14,280	161	11.3	8	49.7	154	10.8
1932	14,240	170	11.9	10	58.8	142	9.9
1933	14,370	168	11.7	7	47.6	159	11.1
1934	14,410	161	11.2	8	49.7	180	12.5
1935	14,550	176	12.1	15	85.2	155	10.7
1936	14,740	182	12.3	5	27.5	167	11.3
1937	14,890	191	12.9	6	31.4	155	10.4
1938	15,090	192	12.7	6	31.3	160	10.6
1939	15,690*	225	14.2	6	26.7	152	9.7
	15,200†						
1940	16,580	200	12.4	16	77.7	233	14.1
1941	17,600	193	10.9	11	54.1	185	10.5
1942	16,250	251	15.5	6	23.9	163	10.0
1943	15,490	281	18.1	8	28.4	172	11.1
1944	15,140	278	18.4	15	53.9	202	13.3
1945	14,070	282	20.0	14	49.6	176	12.6
1946	15,210	270	17.74	9	33.33	215	14.13
1947	15,440	308	19.94	8	25.97	200	12.95
1948	16,320	283	17.34	9	31.80	184	11.27
1949	16,410	219	13.34	3	13.69	221	13.46
1950	16,460	227	13.79	10	44.05	222	13.48
1951	16,220	199	12.26	1	5.02	218	13.44
1952	16,250	200	12.30	1	5.00	204	12.55
1953	16,390	229	13.97	2	8.73	156	9.51
1954	16,540	229	13.84	7	30.56	187	11.30
1955	16,560	221	13.34	7	31.67	187	11.29
1956	16,580	221	13.32	2	9.04	209	12.60
1957	16,670	233	13.97	5	21.45	162	9.71

(*) Estimated population for calculation of Birth Rates.

(†) Estimated population for calculation of Death Rates.

TABLE No. 5.

**COMPARISON OF STILLBIRTHS, ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS
AND MASCULINITY OF BIRTH.
1934-57.**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Stillbirths per 1,000.</i>		<i>Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births.</i>	<i>Male births per 1,000 live female births.</i>
	<i>Population of all ages.</i>	<i>Total births (live and still).</i>		
1934	0.55	47.32	49.69	1038
1935	0.76	58.83	39.77	934
1936	0.27	21.51	54.94	1166
1937	0.27	20.51	26.18	1010
1938	0.26	20.41	52.30	1087
1939	0.51	34.34	48.89	1008
1940	0.42	33.89	25.00	923
1941	0.51	44.54	56.99	1144
1942	0.31	19.54	75.70	1002
1943	0.89	47.45	53.46	1006
1944	0.55	32.05	133.09	1122
1945	0.21	20.83	95.74	1389
1946	0.39	21.73	55.55	1368
1947	0.38	25.47	32.46	1013
1948	0.61	34.12	42.40	1035
1949	0.12	9.04	36.52	1126
1950	0.30	21.55	30.83	1026
1951	0.18	14.85	35.17	809
1952	0.12	9.90	50.00	1000
1953	0.61	41.84	43.66	1385
1954	0.18	12.93	69.86	1063
1955	0.30	22.12	45.24	1046
1956	0.30	22.12	36.19	1302
1957	0.35	20.92	30.04	1099

TABLE NO. 6.

**MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH.
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE.**

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Measles</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
— 6 months ...	—	—	—	—
—12 " ...	—	—	1	—
—18 " ...	1	1	—	—
— 2 years ...	1	—	—	—
—2½ " ...	1	4	—	—
— 3 " ...	—	1	—	—
— 4 " ...	1	1	—	—
— 5 " ...	2	7	—	—
—10 " ...	4	8	—	2
—15 " ...	—	1	—	—
15 " + ...	2	1	—	—
ALL AGES ...	12	24	1	2
TOTALS ...	36		3	

TABLE No. 7.

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1957.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
— 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
— 5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—45	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 +	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE No. 8.

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

(Other than Tuberculosis). 1957.

Disease	—1	—2	—3	—4	—5	—10	—15	—20	—35	—45	—65	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	1	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	5	7	17	—	5
Measles ...	—	3	6	2	9	12	1	2	1	—	—	—	36	—	—
Whooping cough	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	1	3	7	4	10	19	3	2	3	—	10	7	69	2	5

TABLE No. 9.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

(Other than Tuberculosis). 1957.

DISEASE	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTALS
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	7
Pneumonia ...	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	10	—	—	17
Measles ...	—	7	7	1	11	4	2	4	—	—	—	—	36
Whooping cough	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3
Erysipelas ...	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Typhoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	4	13	7	2	14	5	2	7	—	15	—	—	69

TABLE NO. 10.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act,
1937 and 1948, for the year 1957.

PART I OF THE ACT

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	20	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	138	2	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	145	22	1	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 (S.1)	1	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 against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	—	2	—
TOTAL	5	5	—	2	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel— Making, etc.	152	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags	—	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	152	—	—	—	—	—

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

Year 1957



H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector's Department

STAFF, 1957

Senior Public Health Inspector :
H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :
(*Post vacant—January 1st, 1957, to September 9th, 1957*)
J. WADE, Cert.S.I.J.B.

Student Pupil :
Post Vacant.

Clerk and Shorthand Typist :
Mrs. P. Danczyk.

Outside Staff :
W. West—*Disinfector and General Labourer*
R. Butler—*Rodent Operator*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Public Health Department,
Council Buildings,
Rushden.

July, 1958.

To The Chairman and Councillors of the Urban District of Rushden

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the environmental circumstances for the year 1957.

This report is of necessity much curtailed, due to lack of assistance during the greater part of the year. In these circumstances, not only is it physically impossible to deal with all the work for which the Department is responsible, but it is difficult to put on record the work which has been done.

Meat inspection was given priority and one hundred per cent inspection was achieved by working outside office hours. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food recognised the financial implications of meat exported from one district to another and formulated a scheme of grant aid from which the Council derived a benefit of £200. Four fifths of the meat inspected is exported from the Bedford Road abattoir.

In Part 1 of the report, the main items concern drainage ; a successfully completed scheme for the Caravan Estate and a still unsolved problem of resewering the Wellingborough Road industrial site.

Part 2 records the completed change in the method and character of the milk supply of the town over the past twelve years, and Part 3 (Housing) has been omitted entirely.

I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their support during a difficult year, Dr. P. X. Bermingham for his help and encouragement, and to Mrs. P. Danczyk for her assistance in compiling this report.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. ELLIS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Senior Public Health Inspector.

PART I.

GENERAL SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

1. Drainage and Sanitation.

Following the provision of water services and further extensions to the Wellingborough Road industrial site, the Health Committee again considered the need for sewerage in this area. The many problems associated with the scheme prevented the Committee from finding a satisfactory method of putting it into operation, but the subject is still under review.

Caravan Estate, Bedford Road. The owner of the Caravan Estate readily co-operated when requested to provide a private sewer to serve the forty caravans on his licensed site.

A new six inch sewer laid with pitch fibre pipes was connected to the Council's sewer in Bedford Road and the four cesspools were filled in. This site is now an asset to the town and serves to relieve the housing needs.

The routine work of inspecting and testing drainage work was maintained ; two schemes warranted the submission of plans.

Six combined drainage systems were found defective and the Surveyor was supplied with the necessary details in order to arrange the execution of the work under Section 24 of the Public Health Act 1936.

2. Refuse Collection.

The service was satisfactory and a weekly collection maintained. Litter in the streets is perhaps the biggest problem of refuse collection and demands specific attention. Provision will have to be made for the disposal of street litter, and when this has been done, propaganda and education must be fully employed to drive home the point to both shop-keeper and public.

Dustbin replacement amounted to less than 2% of the total number, and approximately half of the number of dustbins replaced are supplied under the Council's municipal scheme.

3. Disinfestations and Disinfections.

The figures for disinfections increased due to the provision of a regular service for the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. The Rushden House Sanatorium is now used for chest cases other than tuberculosis, and arrangements have been made with the Medical Superintendent to carry out disinfection of bedding and blankets as required.

Disinfection Table

	<i>Rooms</i>	<i>Articles of Bedding</i>	<i>Articles of Clothing</i>	<i>Household Articles</i>
After infectious disease ...	19	6		
Private requests ...	8	3	17	
Wellingborough U.D.C. ...		101	1	
Higham Ferrers B.C. ...		4		19
Irthlingborough U.D.C. ...		8		
Oxford Regional Hospital Board ...		158		
Articles destroyed ...		67	25	
	27	347	43	19

Amount recoverable : £27/4/-

4. Rodent Control.

Apart from the routine work carried out, a concentrated effort was necessarily directed on the Council's tip and sewage works where infestations flared and reached serious proportions. Both sites were brought under control and a regular weekly inspection maintained.

The treatment of the sewers was carried out in three stages and found to be infested in the following areas :

Highfield Road/Tennyson Road.
Windmill Road/Glassbrook Road.
Oakley Road/Moor Road.
Irchester Road Area.

The number of rodents killed is an estimated figure based on the amount of poison devoured, supported by carcasses recovered from the various premises.

The figures for 1957 are set down below.

	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Estimated kill ...	2,845	1,484
Bodies picked up ...	585	100

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The following report for 1956 was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Dwelling Houses</i>	<i>All other (including business premises)</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	28	5,686	1,029	6,743	
II. Number of properties inspected as result of :					
(a) Notification	2	307	16	325	
(b) Survey	6	2,164	73	2,243	
(c) Otherwise		6	2	8	
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections	14	2,715	153	2,882	
IV. Number of properties inspected found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats { Major	3	1		4	
{ Minor		251	30	281	
(b) Mice	1	31	46	78	
V. Number of infested properties treated by L.A.	4	283	76	363	
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments	9	323	156	488	

Number of "block" control schemes carried out—13.

5. Pet Animals Act, 1951.

One licence was issued under the Act for the keeping of a pet shop.

6. Swimming Pool.

Two routine samples of water from the swimming pool were taken during the season. Both were reported satisfactory.

7. Clean Air Act, 1956.

During 1957, a day was appointed for the coming into operation of certain parts of the Act, and these related to the declaration of smoke control areas, heights of chimneys, and bye-laws for approved appliances. The Council approved the adoption of the model bye-laws.

Regulations controlling the emission of dark smoke are expected to be announced in 1958.

Atmospheric Pollution. Instruments for recording the amount of sulphur in the air and the deposit of polluting matter were fixed on the roof of the East Midlands Electricity Authority in West Street, and monthly readings will be made available for the information of the Health Committee.

8. Cesspool Emptying.

The following summary gives an indication of the work carried out during 1957 :

Cesspools emptied within the Urban District ...	216
Cesspools emptied outside the Urban District	<u>26</u>
Total	<u>242</u>

In addition, the machine was loaned to adjoining local authorities for 605½ hours.

PART 2.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

1. Milk and Dairies.

There were six milk purveyors on the register at the end of December, 1957.

On November 25th, 1957, Rushden was included in a Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, and from that date it became illegal for persons to sell by retail milk other than that specified under the Milk Special Designations Orders.

As previously recorded in my 1955 report, this area has been long prepared for such an order and this legislation has made little change in the general pattern of distribution.

There are no producer-retailers on the register, and by the end of the year, no raw milk was being sold, all milk originating from outside sources.

Seven pasteurised, five T.T. and four sterilised licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-49.

Examination of Milk

Fifteen samples were taken for examination by the prescribed tests carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton.

These samples were taken during the winter quarter and all passed the prescribed tests.

Washed Milk Bottles

The closing of the one remaining bottling establishment marked the end of an era in clean milk control, and consequently the sampling of washed bottles.

Two samples taken before the premises were closed were reported free from bacterial contamination.

2. Manufacture and Sale of Ice-cream.

The ice-cream trade showed little change. The state of the register was as follows :

Cold Mix Manufacturers	...	...	...	4
Sellers of bulk ice-cream	...	...	...	1
Sellers of pre-packed ice-cream	...	...	...	62
Manufacturers of ice lollies	...	...	...	1
				<hr/>
		Total	...	68
				<hr/>

Meat and Food Inspection

Although the post of Additional Public Health Inspector was vacant for most of the year, priority was given to the inspection of meat.

The number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the Bedford Road abattoir and Strickland's slaughterhouse was 18,707, approximately 500 less than the previous year.

The practice of Sunday slaughtering is now an accepted fact by the wholesale trade, but one feels that the retail trade could, with little effort, make arrangements which would make week-end work unnecessary. It is hoped that the new Slaughterhouse Bill will provide for the control of slaughtering hours by local authorities.

The percentage of bovine animals affected by tuberculosis increased considerably, and this was reflected in the weight of meat and offals condemned. Pig carcasses also revealed an increase of tuberculosis.

Cysticercus Bovis was diagnosed in fifty-two carcasses which were despatched to cold stores at Kettering for treatment. This disease is on the increase and calls for an intensive campaign to stamp it out at source, e.g., the grazing grounds.

Forty-nine visits were made to shops, warehouses and stores to inspect various foodstuffs, more than one ton of which was declared unfit for human consumption and was destroyed.

The following tables indicate the extent of the work carried out.

UNSOOUND FOOD

Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	69 tins
Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...	181 tins
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	...	169 tins
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	...	86 tins
Baked beans	...	...	...	...	...	...	66 tins
Corned beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	88 tins
Chicken	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Creamed rice	...	...	...	...	...	...	26 tins
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	302 tins
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Ham	...	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.
Tongue	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 lbs.
Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	50 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	64 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	6 tins
Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 lbs.
Sausage	...	...	...	...	...	...	34½ lbs.

The total weight being : 1 ton 3 cwts. 3 qrs. 8 lbs. 4 ozs.

Cysticercus Bovis

<i>No. of animals affected</i>	<i>No. showing head lesions</i>	<i>No. showing heart lesions</i>	<i>No. showing diaphragm lesions</i>	<i>No. affected in other locations</i>
52	52	9	—	—

Number of visits to the Abattoir ... 496

Number of casualties admitted ... 58

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

January to December, 1957

	<i>Bulls</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Steers</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number of animals slaughtered and inspected ...	1	116	1,765	1,897	97	8,088	6,743
TUBERCULOSIS							
1. Whole carcasses condemned ...		1	6	3	1	—	—
2. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...		20	232	202	—	—	164
TOTAL NUMBER OF ANIMALS AFFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS ...		21	238	205	1	—	164
3. Percentage of animals inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...		18.1%	13.5%	10.8%	1.03%	—	2.4%
4. General incidence Adult Bovine							12.3%
OTHER DISEASES							
Specific disease other than T.B. causing condemnation of the whole carcass							
Emaciation ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Fever-Acute ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Immaturity ...	—	—	—	—	12	—	—
Gangrene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Joint Ill ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Mastitis (including septic) ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Moribund ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Peritonitis—septic ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Pericarditis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia—including Gangrene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pyæmia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septæmia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Swine Erysipelas—Acute ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Uraemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metritis—Septic ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Toxaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS ...	—	3	—	—	15	2	10

Total number of animals slaughtered and inspected ... 18,707

Total number of whole carcasses condemned ... 41

Weight of Meat and Offal Condemned

	TUBERCULOSIS				OTHER DISEASES			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Carcass Meat ...	4	7	1	5	2	5	—	27
Offal ...	5	19	2	18	15	8	—	5
	10	6	3	23	17	13	1	4

TOTAL WEIGHT ... 28 Tons — cwt. — qr. 27 lbs.

