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Contributors

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RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT





ANNUAL REPORT

of the

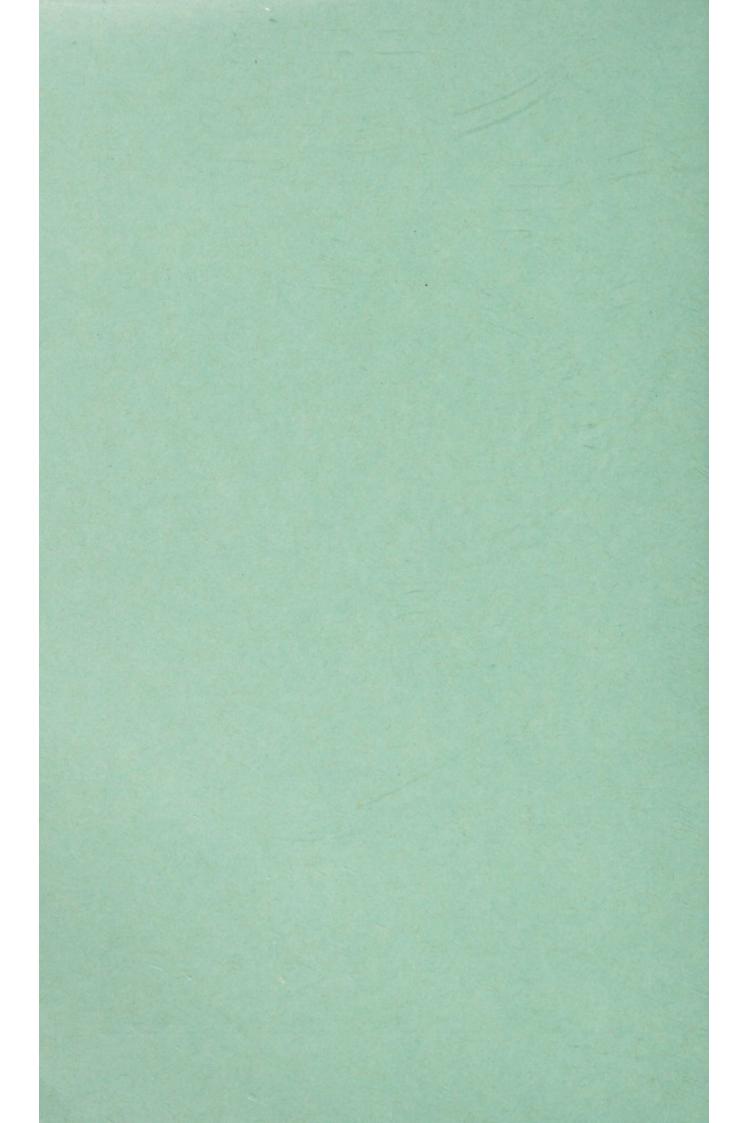
Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1972

*

F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.



RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

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Medical Officer of Health

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Year 1972



F. R. N. LYNCH, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

Rushden Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council: COUNCILLOR A. E. GOULSBRA

Members of the Public Health Committee: COUNCILLOR G. S. OSBORNE, L.D.S. (Chairman)

Councillors:

E. H. CARMICHAEL R. H. MARRIOTT

MRS. E. M. DICKS, J.P., C.C. E. E. NEWELL

C. FREEMAN P. A. ROBINSON

A. E. GOULSBRA J. E. WILLS

H. T. K. GRAHAM

Clerk of the Council:

A. G. CROWDY, F.C.I.S., Barrister-at-Law

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY:

Medical Officer of Health:

F. R. N. Lynch, M.B., B.ch., B.A.O., M.F.C.M., D.P.H.

(Medical Officer of Health Northamptonshire Health Division No. 2

and Kettering M.B.)

Secretary:

MISS M. W. LANGLEY

Chief Public Health Inspector: H. W. Ellis, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector: K. R. RANDLE, M.A.P.H.I.

> Meat Inspector: R. ROWLAND

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The Medical Officer of Health desires to express his thanks to the following for supplying material used in the compilation of this Report:

Dr. W. J. McQuillan, Northamptonshire County Medical Officer of Health.

Kettering and District Hospital Management Committee.

Clerk of the Council.

Engineer & Surveyor to the Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Housing Officer.

Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Northamptonshire County Council.

Manager, Department of Employment.

Honorary Secretary, Rushden Senior Citizens' Goodwill Committee.

Honorary Secretary, Rushden Tuberculosis After Care Committee.

Telephone: Kettering 2473 Area Health Office,
Church Walk,
Kettering.
August, 1973.

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Rushden.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with my statutory duty as your Medical Officer of Health, I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Environmental Health of the Urban District for the year 1972.

This report has been compiled on the instructions set out in the Department of Health and Social Security Circular No. 1/73 which was received on January 5th, 1973.

The Vital Statistics for the District are set out on Page 7 and again illustrate the gradual increase in population of the Urban District which has been taking place over the last few years. In the last twelve months the population has increased by 540.

Another interesting feature of the Vital Statistics is that there have only been three Infant Deaths in the past year compared with nine in the previous year. In addition, only one Stillbirth has been recorded as against six in 1971.

The amount of Infectious Disease notified was low and one case proved fatal. This latter case was the subject of the inquest mentioned on Page 33.

It was necessary to close the Colton Ward at Rushden Hospital to admissions on two occasions during the year, due respectively to an outbreak of Chicken Pox and Bacillary Dysentery.

There were five notifications of Tuberculosis and one death classed to the late effects of Tuberculosis.

On May 26th, information was received that foreign necklaces had been imported, mainly from Africa, the beads of which contained a toxic poison, i.e. Abrin.

A check was accordingly made on Fancy-goods and Toy Shops and Head Teachers were apprised of the situation. Thirty strings of these beads were found in various places throughout Northamptonshire Health Division No. 2 and arrangements were made for their destruction by incineration.

An outbreak of Smallpox occurred in Yugoslavia in March and a circular letter was sent to each General Practitioner in the area advising vaccination against Smallpox for persons travelling to Yugoslavia.

Also in March, I was informed that instances of illegal dumping of Cyanide Waste within the County had recently come to light. This is a dangerous and illegal practice and the Public Health Inspectorate satisfied themselves that no dumping of this kind had taken place on Council or privately owned tips in this County District.

A request from a local Medical Practitioner to invoke compulsory powers for the admission of a patient to hospital was avoided as the patient subsequently agreed to enter hospital on a permanent basis.

I must once again thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year and Mr. Ellis and Miss Langley for their help in preparing this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. N. LYNCH,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Comparative Statistics for the Five Year Period 1968 to 1972

	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Area of the Urban District (acres) Population	3823.2	3823.2	3823.2	3823.2	3823.2
(Registrar General's Estimate)	17,850	18,130	18,570	20,290	20,830
Number of Live Births	358		342	380	396
Legitimate	331	312		358	376
Illegitimate	27	21	16		20
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	20.1	18.4			19.0
Number of Stillbirths	3	7	7	6	1
Legitimate	2	6	5	5	
Illegitimate	1	1	2	1	1
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births	8.4	21.0	20.0	15.5	2.5
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 population	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1
Number of Deaths	233	216	218		252
Death rate per 1,000 population	13.0	11.9	11.7	10.1	12.1
Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth					
and Abortion	_	_	_	_	
Number of Infant Deaths	3	4	4	9	3
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000					
Live Births	8.4	12.0	11.7	23.7	7.6
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000					
Live Births	5.6	6.0	8.8	10.5	2.5
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate		7.7.7			
per 1,000 Live Births	2.7	6.0	8.8	10.5	
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths					
and deaths under one week com-					
bined per 1,000 total Live and					
Stillbirths)	9.1	26.0	28.6	26.0	2.5
Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis					
including late effects		_		2	1
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis		_	_	1	1
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	71	49	51	30	46
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	_		_		
Deaths from Whooping Cough					
(all ages)	_		_	_	_
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea					
under two years of age	_	_	_	_	
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and					
Polioencephalitis	_			_	_
Natural increase in population, i.e.,					
increase of Births over Deaths	125	117	124	175	144

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (acres)							 3823.2
Census Populat	ion 1951						 16,370
	1961						 17,377
	1971						 20,156
Population (Re	gistrar G	enera	al's Mid	-year F	Estimat	e 1972)	 20,830
Number of Inh	abited H	ouses	1951				 5,327
			1961				 6,112
			1971				 7,470
			1972				 7,852
Rateable Value							 £859,773
Product of Pen	ny Rate						 £8,256

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows:

Boot and shoe manufacture and allied trades. Light engineering and the manufacture of prefabricated buildings and caravans are also important.

The social conditions of the District are satisfactory and up to the end of the year the rate of unemployment in the area was 0.76 per cent of the working population. The National Rate was 3.5 per cent.

The density of population is 5.4 persons per acre and the Housing Factor is 2.6.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS, 1972

						Males	Females	Total
Live Births								
Legitimate						174	202	376
Illegitimate						9	11	20
Totals						183	213	396
Crude Birth Ra Adjusted Birth								19.0 18.4
Stillbirths								
Legitimate						_		
Illegitimate						_	1	1
Totals						_	1	1
Rate per 1,000	total bi	rths (li	ve and	still)				2.5
Deaths								
Number re	gistered	all car	ises			127	125	252
Crude death rat Adjusted Death	e per 1	,000 es	timated					12.1 11.5
Deaths from Ma	ternal o	auses						
Maternal Morta				ve and	stillb	irths		
Deaths of Infan	ts (unde	er 1 yea	ar)			1	2	3
Infant Mortality Legitimate								7.6
live bir	rths							8.0
live bir								_
Deaths of Infan	ts (unde	r 4 we	eks)			_	1	1
Neonatal Morta Early Neonatal								2.5
births								_
Perinatal Morta stillbirths (
under 1 we								2.5

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE, 1972

Cause of death Sex Ages 4 weeks Late effects of Respiratory T.B. M. Meningococcal Infection M. Meningococcal Infection M. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases M. Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. F. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach F. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine Malignant Neoplasm, Breast Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate M. Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate M. Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate M. Malignant Neoplasms M. Malignant Neoplasms M. Malignant Neoplasms M. Multiple Sclerosis M. Hypertensive Disease M. F. 1 Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease M. F. 1 M. F. 1 M. F. 1 M. F. 1 M. Multiple Sclerosis M. Multiple Sclerosis M. Multiple Sclerosis M. .	List				All	Under	4 weeks				A	Age in years	ears			
s K M.		cause of death		Sex	Ages	4 weeks	1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54		65-74	
s K K I K I K I K I K I K I K I K I I K I. I K I. I K	B6(1) Late effect	is of Respiratory T.B.		M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-
** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** **				fr.	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
s y etc. y etc. W. H. y	B11 Meningococ			M.	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
8 M y etc. M. 1 M. 1 M. 1 M. 1 M. 2 M. 1 M. 1 				(+)	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	1	1	1
yetc. F. 1 M. 1 M. 2 M. 1	B18 Other Infec	tive and Parasitic Diseases		M	1	1	1	Î	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	1
y etc. N. H.				(v.)	_	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	ı
Pus N. F. M.	B19(1) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity et		M.	1		1	Ī	1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1
May Fig. 1. S. M. May Fig. 1. S. May Fig.				(v.	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	i	I	1
Mass	B19(2) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Oesophagus	::	M.	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Mass				(*)	I	I	1	I	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	I
Hus F. H. Hus F. H. Hus Hu	B19(3) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Stomach	:	M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	I	1
Mass T. W. T				(r.	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	-
hus K. S. S. W. S. S. W. H. S. S. S. W. S. W. S. S. W. S. S. W. S. S. S. W. S.	B19(4) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Intestine	:	M.	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1
Mas Mas Mas				(r)	01	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	67
H. H	B19(6) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus		M.	6	-	-	1	1	-	1	I	-	21	ŧ	7
M M				(r.	3	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	01	1	1	1
H. H	B19(7) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Breast		M.	-	I	1	1	1	1	I	1	1	-	1	1
Heat				(t)	9	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	C1			57
H. H	B19(9) Malignan	t Neoplasm, Prostate	:	M.	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
H. H				(4)	ı	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
H. F. 1 H. M. 2 H. M. 2 H. M. 3 H. M. 3 H. M. 4 H. M. 4 H. M. 4 H. M. 4 H. M. 5 H. M. 5 H. M. 5 H. M. 6 H. M. 7 H. M. 8 H. M. 7 H. M. M. M. 7 H. M. M. 7 H. M. M. M. M. 1 H. M. M. M. M.	B19(10) Leukaer	::	::	M.	1	-	1	İ	1	1	1	1		1	1	Ì
M 10				ír.	1	1	1	1	1	1	i	1	-	I	1	-
H. H	B19(11) Other M	falignant Neoplasms	:	M.	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	67	03
K.				ír.	10	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-1	ee	-	22
F	B21 Diabetes Mc		:	M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
				(r.	en	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
F. H.	B46(1) Other En	docrine, etc. Diseases	:	M.	-	I	-	-	1	1	1	1	I	1	1	-
K. H.				(±)	-	ı	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
F. 1 M. 2 M. 2 M. 1 M. 2 M. 1	B46(4) Multiple	:	:	M.	-	L	I	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1
K				(r.	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
t Disease M. 2	B46(5) Other Di	seases of Nervous System	::	M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
t Disease M. 2				Cr.	-	I	1	1	1	I	1	I	1	1	1	1
M. 2	B26 Chronic Rhe	eumatic Heart Disease	:	M.	67	ĺ	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1
M. 2 F				(1)	21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	1
F. 1 1 -	B27 Hypertensiv		:	M.	67	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	21	1
				Œ.	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	I	I	I	-	1

CLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE, 1972

Ties				411	Thadas	4 weeks				Y	Age in years	ears			
No.	Cause of death		Sex	Ages	4 weeks	1 year	1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over
B28 Ischaemic	B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	:	M.	39	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	9	15	15
			E.	41	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	7	6	24
B29 Other For	B29 Other Forms of Heart Disease	:	M.	10	1	1	1	I	1	1	1	١	1	က	1
			(H	က	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	ec
B30 Cerebrova	B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	:	M.	10	1	1	1	1	1	I	1	1	1	4	5
			Į,	19	1	1	1	I	1	1	-	-	-	7	6
B46(6) Other 1	B46(6) Other Diseases of Circulatory System		M.	20	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3
			Œ.	9	1	1	I	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	2
B31 Influenza	: : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :	:	M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
			E.	-	1		I	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	1
B32 Pneumonia	ia	:	M.	∞	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
			E.	9	1	1	-	1	I	1	1	1	63	1	2
B33(1) Bronch	B33(1) Bronchitis and Emphysema	:	M.	14	1	1	1	1	I	1	1	-	-	00	20
			E.	01	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	1	7	1	1
B46(7) Other	B46(7) Other Diseases of Respiratory System		M.	-	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
			ĮĮ.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
B34 Peptic Ulcer	lcer	:	M.	-	1	I	1	I	1	١	I	-	1	1	1
			Į.	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	5
B46(8) Other	B46(8) Other Diseases of Digestive System	:	M.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
			E.	23	1	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	-	1	1
B38 Nephritis	B38 Nephritis and Nephrosis	:	M.	-	1	1	I	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	1
			Œ,	C1	1	1	١	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	1
B39 Hyperpla	B39 Hyperplasia of Prostate	:	M.	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
			H	1	1	I	1	1	1	١	I	1	1	1	
B46(9) Other	B46(9) Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	п	M.	-	1	1		1	1	I	I	1	I	1	ĺ
			Œ,	67	1	I	1	1	1	١	1	1	-	1	1
B46(11) Disea:	B46(11) Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	:	M.	-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	1
			Œ,	1		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
B42 Congenita	B42 Congenital Anomalies	:	M.	21	1	-	١	1	1	1	١	1	I	1	1
DE 47 16 4	Table 1 and American		£ 2	0	1	1	1	ı	1,	1	1	1	1	I	l
BE4/ Motor /	BE47 Motor venicle Accidents	:	N.	7			I	1	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
100 111 01 114			£;	1 9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
BE48 All Othe	BE48 All Other Accidents	:	M.	· co	1	1	-	1	1	-	-		1	1	1.
RF49 Smicide	RF49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries		. >	1 6	1 1	1 1					-		-	11	-
onioine etaa	and continuous animics	:	T.	1			1	1			1	1	1		
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	CAUSES	:	M.	127	1	1	8	1	1	3	4	10	15	45	45
			Œ.	125	1	1	00	-	1	1	က	7	19	28	62

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS

- Population—The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population 1972, was 20,830. The figure represents an increase in population of 540 since the mid-year estimate for 1971 was made.
- 2. Births—There were 396 live births in 1972, which is an increase of 16 in the number of live births registered in the previous year. This gives a crude birth rate of 19.0 per 1,000 population. The corresponding rate for 1971 was 18.7. This rate, standardised on the basis of the age and sex composition of the population, gives an adjusted rate of 18.4. The adjusted, or corrected birth rate is obtained by multiplying the crude rate by a figure known as the Comparability Factor. This factor is supplied by the Registrar General and its value for Rushden Urban District is 0.97. The adjusted rate of 18.4 compares with the rate of 20.2 for 1971 and the provisional crude rate for England and Wales of 14.8.
- 3. Deaths—There were 252 deaths from all causes in 1972. The figure for last year was 205, and the corresponding crude death rates are 12.1 and 10.1 per 1,000 population. In the same way as described in the case of 2. Births above, the death rate is standardised by the use of a further Comparability Factor. Its value for Rushden Urban District is 0.95 and the adjusted death rate corrected by means of this calculation is found to be 11.5. The current rate for England and Wales as a whole is reckoned by the Registrar General to be 12.1. The chief causes of death are Heart and Circulatory Disease, Cancer and Cerebral Apoplexy, in that order.
- 4. Disposal of the Dead—Of the 252 deaths during the year, 189 bodies were disposed of by cremation at Kettering Borough Crematorium, giving a percentage of 75.0.
- 5. Infant Mortality—There were three deaths of infants under one year of age. The infant mortality rate was 7.6 per 1,000 live births. The rate in 1971 was 23.7. The corresponding infant mortality rate for England and Wales as a whole is 17.0. One of these deaths occurred in the first month of life. This method of expression is referred to as the Neonatal Mortality and the rate for 1972 is 2.5 per 1,000 live births. The current rate for England and Wales is 12.0. I append details of the causes and other particulars concerning the deaths.

Age Sex Cause of Death

7 days F Meningitis. Myelomeningocele. (Autopsy.)

4 weeks M Meningomyelocele. (Spina Bifida.)

4½ months F Virus Pneumonia. (Autopsy.)

6. Stillbirths—There was one Stillbirth registered in the District; there were six in 1971 and the rates are 2.5 and 15.5 respectively. The rate for England and Wales is 12.0. I append particulars of this death.

Sex Cause of Death

F Anencephaly.

Maternal Deaths—There were no deaths classed to pregnancy and childbirth.

DEATH AND BIRTH RATES FOR 1900-1972.

			Births		Dea	ths	
				Uno	ler 1 year	At	all Ages
	Estimated		Rate per		Rate per		Rate per
Year	Mid-Year		1,000		1,000		1,000
1 000	Population	No.	population	No.	Live births	No.	population
	1 opination	140.	population	210.	Live orring	110.	population
1900	14,359	434	30.2	65	149.0	153	10.6
1905	14,089	328	23.2	36	109.7	119	8.4
1910	16,442	278	16.9	20	71.9	128	7.7
	The state of the s						3
1915	13,787	277	19.9	30	108.3	145	10.5
1920	14,402	328	22.7	24	73.1	133	9.2
1925	13,780	211	15.3	13	61.6	138	10.0
1930	14,020	191	13.6	7	36.6	121	8.6
1935	14,550	176	12.1	15	85.2	155	10.7
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		8.73	156	9.51
1954	16,540	229	13.84	2 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	2 5	21.45	162	9.71
1958	16,760	242	14.43	3	12.39	175	10.44
1959	16,990	266	15.65	7	26.31	203	11.94
1960	17,140	269	15.69	4	14.86	191	11.14
1961	17,360	282	16.24	3	10.63	181	10.42
1962	17,470	293	16.77	3 8	27.30	203	11.61
1962	17,540	320	18.25	5	15.62	226	12.82
1964	17,490	319	18.24	6	18.81	199	11.38
1965	17,590	363	20.63	5	13.81	216	12.28
1966	17,680	355	20.08	4	11.27	226	12.78
	17,690	333	18.82	9	27.00	200	11.3
1967		358	20.1	3	8.4	233	13.0
1968	17,850	333		4			
1969	18,130		18.4	4	12.0	216	11.9
1970	18,570	342 380	18.4 18.7	9	11.7	218	11.7
1971	20,290			3	23.7	205	10.1
1972	20,830	396	19.0	3	7.6	252	12.1

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES, 1929-1972. Number and Rate per 1,000 population

Year	Pulm	on- ionary culosis	Tuber or late Puln	nonary culosis effects of nonary culosis	Cas	ncer	Hec	ases of urt and Vessels	Pneu and Respi	chitis, monia other iratory eases
	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 3	0.14	4	0.28	24	1.76	101	7:17	9	0.63
1946		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
1958	-	_	1	0.05	39	2.31	91	5.42	15	0.89
1959	-	_	3	0.17	39	2.29	112	6.59	14	0.82
1960	-	-	1	0.05	41	2.39	94	5.48	23	1.34
1961	-	-	2	0.11	40	2.30	84	4.83	26	1.49
1962	-	-	-	_	43	2.46	98	5.03	24	1.31
1963	_	-		0.00	28	1.71	113	6.44	36	2.05
1964			1	0.06	45	2.57	93	5.32	10	0.57
1965	_	_	-	-	43	2.44	101	5.74	17	0.97
1966	-	_	_	0.00	59	3.34	115	6.50	22	1.24
1967		_	1	0.06	39	2.21	107	6.05	21	1.19
1968	-	_	_		71	3.98	101	5.66	30	1.68
1969	-	_	_	_	49	2.56	94	5.18	30	1.65
1970	-	_	_	0.00	51	2.70	79	4.20	26	1.20
1971	-	-	2	0.09	30	1.47	82	4.04	22	1.07
1972	-		1	0.04	46	2.11	106	5.08	32	1.53

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

In subsequent sections, full details will be found relating to infectious diseases and environmental health within the Urban District, for which the Council is directly responsible.

The present section relates to those health services which concern more the personal health and welfare of the individual rather than public health and the community. The Health Committee of the Northamptonshire County Council is responsible for administration of some of these services under Part III of the National Health Service Act.

Liaison between the County Council services and District Council services is facilitated by the fact that your Medical Officer of Health is also a School Medical Officer and Assistant County Medical Officer.

Laboratory Facilities—The Department of Pathology, Kettering and District General Hospital, is available for the examination of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and control of infectious diseases. Thirty-eight faeces specimens were examined during the year.

Ambulance Service—This is one of the services for which the County Council is responsible, and the area is adequately covered.

Domiciliary Services—These include District Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors, who are all highly trained, qualified nurses on the staff of the County Medical Officer. The Home Help Service, also provided by the County Council, is proving more and more valuable in relieving people of domestic worries during periods of illness or confinement, and in helping old folk to remain in their own homes, so that they can retain their treasured independence.

Immunisation and Vaccination—Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis and vaccination against Smallpox are free services, available either from the family doctor or at the County Child Health Clinics. Certain age groups of children can also be given B.C.G. vaccination to protect against Tuberculosis. This is done through the School Health Service.

A vaccine for the protection of infants against Measles is available and, in accordance with the policy of the County Health Department, a campaign for the control of and, it is hoped, ultimate eradication of this disease, was commenced in the Autumn of 1968.

Hospital Accommodation, Out-patient facilities and clinics

The Oxford Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the following services:

GENERAL HOSPITALS Kettering and Northampton

KETTERING GENERAL HOSPITAL

General Medicine, General Surgery, Gynaecology, Orthopaedic Surgery, Ear, Nose and Throat, Ophthalmology, Paediatrics and Physical Medicine

ROCKINGHAM ROAD HOSPITAL, KETTERING Acute

ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL, KETTERING

Obstetrics, Special Care Babies, Geriatrics and Long Stay

ISEBROOK HOSPITAL, WELLINGBOROUGH

General Medicine, Maternity, Paediatrics, Geriatrics and Long Stay

WELLINGBOROUGH HOSPITAL

Gynaecology

RUSHDEN HOSPITAL Dermatology, Chest Diseases, Mental

Sub-normality (Children)

Out-patient facilities are available at the General Hospitals and also as follows:

RUSHDEN HOSPITAL

Chest (Diagnosis)	Wednesday	1.30 p.m.
Thoracic Surgery	Thursday (once monthly)	1.45 p.m.

RUSHDEN MEMORIAL CLINIC

Dermatology	Thursday	9.30 a.m.
Diabetic	Monday (1st)	2.00 p.m.
Ear, Nose and Throat	Wednesday (alternate)	9.30 a.m.
	Wednesday (alternate)	2.00 p.m.

General Surgery	Tuesday (1st, 2nd,	3rd, 4th)	2.00 p.m.
	Friday (2nd and 4t	h)	9.30 a.m.
	Friday (1st, 3rd an	d 5th)	2.30 p.m.
Geriatric	Friday (2nd, 4th ar	nd 5th)	2.00 p.m.
Gynaecology and Obstetrics	Monday (except las	t of month)	10.00 a.m.
	Tuesday (alternate)		9.00 a.m.
	Wednesday (alterna	ate)	2.00 p.m.
Gynaecology	Thursday		10.00 a.m.
Laboratory Facilities	By arrangement M	onday to Fr	iday
Medical Clinic	Monday (2nd and 4	th)	1.30 p.m.
	Tuesday (alternate)		9.30 a.m.
	Friday (1st, 3rd an	d 5th)	9.00 a.m.
Ophthalmology	Thursday	9.00 a.m.	- 2.00 p.m.
Orthopaedic	Friday (4th)		2.30 p.m.
Paediatrics	Monday		2.00 p m.
	Wednesday		9.00 a.m.
Physical Medicine	Monday		2.00 p.m.
	Friday (alternate)		2.00 p.m.
(Treatment)	Monday	9.00 a.m.	- 5.00 p.m.
	Wednesday	9.00 a.m.	- 5.00 p.m.
	Friday	9.00 a.m.	- 5.00 p.m.
Psychiatry	Thursday		2.00 p.m.

Attendance at all Clinics is by appointment only.

Venereal Disease Clinics

Kettering General Hospital, Out-patient Department:

(Women) Tuesday 4 p.m.-5.30 p.m. (Men) Tuesday 5.30 p.m.-7 p.m.

Northampton General Hospital, Old Out-patient Department

(Women) Monday 5.15 p.m.-6.30 p.m.

Friday 2.15 p.m.-3.30 p.m.

(Men) Wednesday 2 p.m.-3 p.m. Friday 5 p.m.-6.30 p.m.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, Health Clinic, Rectory Road, Rushden

Child Health Clinic Every Monday and Wednesday 2 p.m.

Family Planning Clinic Third Wednesday each month 5.30 p.m.

Relaxation Classes for Expectant Mothers Thursday 3 p.m.

Sale of Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk and Vitamin Preparations)

Monday 2 p.m.-4.30 p.m. Wednesday 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

National Assistance Acts 1948 and 1951, Section 47—These Acts give Local Authorities powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people.

No formal action was taken under this Section of these Acts in 1972.

I was asked to consider application of this Section in one case during the year but it was possible to deal with this by increasing the amount of domestic support. This person was later persuaded to enter County Social Service Accommodation.

Rushden Senior Citizens' Goodwill Committee—This Committee completed another successful year of work on behalf of the Rushden Senior Citizens, the eighteenth since the Committee was established in 1954.

Reference should be made to the importance of the personal contacts of the Street Wardens and other voluntary workers with the Senior Citizens whom they aim to serve. Reports of the Ward Committees show that many visits have been organised to Rushden old people in hospital in addition to keeping an eye on the needs of those in their Wards. They have also provided a list of names of old people to be included in an evening outing in cars, arranged by the Rotary Club, followed by a supper provided by the Inner Wheel.

The "Meals on Wheels" service was continued most effectively and regularly by the W.R.V.S., who have now delivered a total of 68,238 meals since the scheme commenced in 1957, and valuable help was again received from members of the Park Road Baptist Church who cooked and delivered some of the meals on one day each week. A total of 7,739 meals were delivered during the year, to the extent of 148 hot meals each week. The regular service was again supplemented by special Christmas dinner (provided by the children of the Rushden Secondary Schools) and a Christmas Party.

The W.R.V.S. also continued the Kilburn House Day Centre during the year and this enabled fourteen old people to be brought together once each week for a very welcome day away from their homes.

The Chiropody Service treated 322 patients at home or at the clinic, making a total of 1,052 treatments.

Over 1,400 special Christmas Gift Vouchers were distributed through the Ward Committees and many appreciative letters were received as a result.

The work of the Committee was again financed by the annual house-to-house collection (£555) and various donations, including the

annual one from the Town Fete (£200), the Salvation Army Carol Service (£110), a ball and band concert (£90).

Rushden Tuberculosis After-Care Committee—The care of chest patients and their families has been the chief objective of the Committee. Help has been given to sufferers from Tuberculosis, Asthma, Bronchitis, Lung Cancer, Stroke illness etc., and is both financial and social.

On average during the year twenty-four patients have been visited monthly by members of the Visiting Committee and by these contacts it has been possible to assess the help most needed, each case is taken on its merits. Grants have included milk, eggs, grocery vouchers and coal and a cash grant to hospital patients.

At Christmas vouchers to the value of £2.50 were distributed to twenty-four patients and in the summer three patients were sent on holiday to Cliftonville.

In April, thirty patients and their wives were the guests of the Committee to the Operatic Society's annual production, and on 6th July an evening coach ride, with supper at Harpole, was arranged.

In October five members of the Committee joined the staff and scholars of the Alfred Street Junior School for their Harvest Festival. The service was conducted by the children who afterwards packed and distributed Harvest gifts to twenty-five After-Care Patients and to the Hospital.

Many efforts were arranged to raise funds for this worthy cause.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply. The Higham Ferrers and Rushden Water Board is responsible for the water supply to the Urban District. The Board provides a treated water supply and the sources of supply are as follows:

Above Ground Source—Sywell Reservoir, which has a capacity of 236,000,000 gallons, and is situated in the Wellingborough Rural District. The reservoir is dependent upon springs and surface rainwater from the surrounding catchment area, also two small brooks flow into the reservoir. The size of the catchment area is approximately 2,000 acres. Treatment of water at these works consists of slow sand filtration, rapid gravity filtration, followed by chlorination.

Under Ground Source of Supply—(a) Hardwater Crossing, Wollaston. The source of supply here is from wells sunk in the Nene river gravels. Treatment of water consists of mechanical filtration, followed by chlorination.

- (b) Ditchford. Water is extracted from the gravels by porous concrete collector ducts which are laid in the alluvial gravels adjacent to Ditchford lake. Treatment of water consists of rapid gravity filtration, partial softening, aeration, and finally, chlorination.
- (c) Further sources of supply belonging to the Board are a gravel well at Earls Barton and springs at Grendon.

Quality of Water—The chemical analyses of water taken at Ditchford, Sywell and Wollaston Pumping Stations gave the following results:

	Wollaston	Final Water Ditchford	Sywell
	Works	Works	Works
Physical Characters	 Good	Good	Good
Reaction	 pH7.2	7.5	7.3

Chemical Analysis

	Parts per				
	Sywell	Ditchford	Wollaston		
Samples contained	(treated)	(treated)	(treated)		
Chloride	4.0	7.0	5.4		
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	0.0060	nil	nil		
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	0.0076	0.0116	0.0104		
Nitrate	absent	absent	absent		
Nitrite	0.10	0.10	0.55		
Poisonous Metals	absent	absent	absent		
Calcium	8.4	12.6	12.6		
Magnesium	1.14	1.42	1.13		
Alkalinity	13.0	22.5	21.5		
Total Hardness	17.8	32.9	31.4		
Permanent hardness	17.8	15.1	16.0		
Temporary hardness	11.4	17.8	15.4		
Microscopic examination					
of deposit	none	slight	none		
Bacteriological examination	c.o.	c.o.	c.o.		
	absent	absent	absent		

Fluoride Content of the Water Supply-

Sywell Res	ervoir			0.24	parts	of	fluoride		
							per million	parts of	water
Wollaston,	Hardwater	Crossin	ng	0.2	parts	of	fluoride	11	,,
Ditchford				0.18	parts	of	fluoride	,,	,,

Water Samples—521 samples were taken in the area of the Board during the year. All samples of treated water gave satisfactory results with the exception of six which gave slightly unsatisfactory results.

Water Consumption—The following are combined figures for Rushden and Higham Ferrers.

			gallons
Average daily consu	mption	 	 1,000,000
Domestic Use:			
Average per day		 	 825,700
Trade Use:			
Average per day		 	 174,300
Consumpton/Head/Day			
Domestic		 	 33.2
Trade		 	 6.9

Piped Water Supply. New services. Private 470, Council 37. The rainfall over the past 14 years was as follows:

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Rushden	 18.4	31.64	18.90	19.27	21.45	18.22	25.89	28.89
Sywell	 20.5	33.74	20.80	18.91	22.23	16.35	28.98	28.96
	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972		
	20.22	30.43	23.07	22.89	20.51	20.67		
	25.23	28.29	22.13	25.95	23.52	21.64		

Drainage and Sewerage—The foul sewerage system is quite adequate for the existing population, but there are tentative planning proposals for a considerable increase in population which will necessitate the provision of new trunk mains to the sewage works.

The surface water drainage system has been investigated by Consultant Engineers and certain lengths through the centre of the town need to be increased in capacity for the existing development and increased further still to allow for the probable future development.

This matter is still being considered by the Department of the Environment for approval.

Sewage Disposal—Consultant Engineers are in the process of designing extensions to the existing works, which has already received outline approval from the Department of the Environment. Work is expected to start towards the end of 1973. A microstrainer has already been installed in 1972 and the effluent now just complies with the present requirement of the River Board, i.e. suspended solids 35 p.p.m. and B.O.D. 25 p.p.m.

Swimming Baths—A heated open-air swimming pool run by the council is open during the summer months. A daily check on the quality of the baths water is made by the swimming baths manager, and monthly samples are taken by the Health Department for bacteriological examination.

Movable Dwellings—There is one licensed site for caravans. This is situated off the Bedford Road. It is a very well maintained site and the necessary amenities for the caravan dwellers are provided.

Public Cleansing—There is a weekly collection of household refuse and also facilities available for the tipping of trade waste. The tip is situated at Sidegate Lane, Finedon, in the old ironstone workings.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960—The Council is responsible for investigating complaints under this Act, although it is often difficult to find a satisfactory solution to noise nuisance.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

			TYPE OF I	PROPERTY
Propi	ERTIES OTHER THAN SEW	ERS	Non- Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Nu	mber of properties in dis	trict.	9,467	25
2. (a)	Total number of proper premises) inspected follow		97	_
(b)	Number infested by	(i) Rats	35	_
		(ii) Mice	53	-
3. (a)	Total number of proper and mice for reasons of	ties inspected for rats her than notification.	40	2
(b)	Number infested by	(i) Rats	_	_
		(ii) Mice	16	_

Factories Act, 1937 to 1961—There are 152 premises on the register. Further information is given on page 36. The number of outworkers (Part VIII of the Act) in the August list totalled 72 who were concerned with making wearing apparel.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963—During the year the register of premises has been kept up to date by the lapsing of businesses that have closed or no longer employ staff, and the addition of new premises; and 31 general inspections and 106 other visits were carried out.

General compliance with the provisions of the Act has been very good, and only two written and one verbal notice given. These involved six direct contraventions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, of which two related to temperature (including one due to lack of thermometer), one to inadequate lighting, one to floors, stairs and passages, one of inadequate first aid box and one of not displaying an Abstract of the Act. At the end of the year all contraventions had been complied with.

Three accidents were reported during the year, involving two men and one girl.

They were classified as follows:

- 1. Two due to handling of goods.
- 2. One involving a fall.

All were non-fatal and were of such a nature that, although reportable as an accident under the provisions of the Act, no further action was taken in any of the cases.

No exemptions from any of the provisions of the Act were granted in the district during the year, and also no prosecutions were taken against any owner or occupier of registered premises.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The Council's building programme for the year was as follows:

No. of council houses constructed		
No. under construction at the end of the year		49
No. of houses built by the Council since the war		1,083
Private houses constructed during the year		309
Private houses under construction at the end of the	e year	104

Housing Applicants—The situation with regard to applicants for Council houses was as follows:

		In		Engaged	
On	general housing list	Rooms	Tenants	Couples	Total
(a)	Having completed a waiting period of 9 months	10	59	7	76
(b)	Under 9 months (50% of nominal list)	_	_	_	40
(c)	Applicants for bungalows and 1 bedroomed flats.	-	_	_	226*
(d)	Awaiting re-housing from clearance areas and condemned: Prefabs Houses	e			45 5
					392

^{*}Includes 48 Council house tenants

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Premises—In order to maintain satisfactory high standards of food hygiene, frequent inspection of food premises is necessary. During the year 33 samples of milk were taken, all were satisfactory.

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream—93 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. One for bulk, one for cold mix and 91 for prepacked. During the year 28 samples were taken; 27 were Grade One and one was placed in Grade Two.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Samples taken in Rushden Urban District in the Twelve Months ending 31st March, 1973

Milks			 38	Brought	forward	 104
Meat produ	ucts		 41	Jam		 1
Cream			 4	Marzipan		 1
Ice cream			 1	Slimming sugar		 1
Spirits			 13	Sweets		 2
Soft drinks			 3	Luxury trifle		 1
Cereals			 1	Mixed fruit		 1
Cheese			 1	Evaporated milk		 1
Fruit salad	1		 1	Biscuits		 1
Fruit cock			 1	Pizza pie		 1
С	arried	forward	 104	Total		 114

Remarks

Although adverse reports were received on three samples of milk submitted on the same occasion, there was good reason to believe that deficiencies in solids-not-fat resulted from the samples having been affected by delay in transit due to a one-day rail strike. This was confirmed by a comparison with checks made on similar samples tested in the department's own laboratory and also at the dairy from which the milk was supplied. As a precaution the Public Analyst applied a freezing-point test and this confirmed that the solids-not-fat deficiency was not due to the presence of added water. In the circumstances no further action was taken.

Weights and Measures Act 1963

5,094 articles were checked for weight or measure during the year and of these 83 were found to be deficient, whilst 32 were incorrect in other respects. Generally the errors were of a minor nature and call for no particular comment.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 Summary of samples taken for the year ended 31st March 1973

				Total number taken	Examined in Department	Sent to Public Analyst	Reported Against
Milk				588	432	156	5
Channel Islands Milk				124	91	33	2
Milk (tested for antibio	otics)			76		76	
Condensed, Evaporate		immed					
3.5:33				18		18	
C				75	72	3	
Other Milk Products				17		17	
D 44				20		20	1
01				27		27	
C				79		79	1
Meat, Meat Products a				307	235	72	î
Poultry				8	5	3	-
Fish and Fish Product				50	25	25	1
Bread and Flour Confe				23	2	21	1
971				20	-	20	1
C 1				7		7	•
Sugar and Sugar Confe				22		22	1
Jams, Honey, Marmal				38	2	36	
				39	34	5	
	ile			21	0.1	21	1
Margarine, Fats and C				12		12	1
	Deinles		• • •	65	2	63	6
Fruit Juices and Soft				90	48	42	0
Fruit and Vegetables					40		0
				24	105	24	2
				178	165	13	2
Condiments, Sauces, C	hutney,						
0				8		8	1
Spices, Flavourings, et		***		12		12	1
Dressings, including C	ustard			25		25	
9				12		12	
				4		4	
Ready Meals				19	1	18	
			-	2,008	1,114	894	28

The total of 2,008 samples is only marginally less than last year's figure of 2,064, with the decrease being largely due to the reduction in the number of milk samples. This is, of course, a tendency which I have reported in previous years and is the result of the gradual disappearance of small retailers and the ability to control the output of the larger dairies with a smaller number of samples.

Twenty-eight of the samples sent for analysis by the Public Analyst were found to be unsatisfactory and this is a proportion of 3.13 per cent.

This is a return to the more normal level, although there is always some possibility of variation due to the pattern of sampling, as more attention is paid to carefully planned surveys rather than in the more haphazard methods of the past. This is illustrated by the percentages of adverse reports for the previous five years shown in the table below:

1967/68	1968/69	1969/70	1970/71	1971/72
2.13%	2.75%	5.33%	3.02%	5.11%

Milk

This year only 7 of the 265 samples of milk and Channel Islands milk tested by the Public Analyst were found to be unsatisfactory. All those reported against were low in solids-not-fat but in each case the freezing-point test confirmed that the deficiency was not due to the presence of added water. In only one case was the error serious enough to require the farmer to take some steps to improve the quality of the milk.

Of the 523 samples tested in the department's own laboratory, 57 were from supplies to schools and school canteens and all of these were satisfactory. The quality of the milk remains surprisingly consistent, with an average fat content of 3.64 per cent compared with 3.63 per cent for last year and a solids-not-fat figure of 8.75 per cent, exactly the same as last year's result.

Sixty samples of milk were sent for examination to the Public Health Laboratory and once again all those tested for the presence of tubercle bacilli and brucella abortus were found to be satisfactory. The only problems which arose resulted from the failure of several samples to pass the methylene blue test and in these cases reports were made to the local Public Health Departments to permit checks to be made on the reason for the unsatisfactory keeping quality.

Samples other than Milk

The total number of samples taken under this heading during the year was 1,220, of which 629 were submitted to the Public Analyst. Twenty-one of these samples were reported to be unsatisfactory.

Legal proceedings were taken in the case of two of the incorrect samples. One of these resulted from a complaint about the serving at a Kettering restaurant of margarine when butter had been asked for and was clearly stated as being available on the menu. This resulted in a fine of £5 following a plea of guilty. The second case was rather unusual for this County. It followed the report by the Public Analyst that a sample of pork sausage contained only 52.0 per cent of meat instead of the required standard of 65.0 per cent. In addition there was reported the presence of 160.0 parts per million of sulphur dioxide although no

declaration was made about the presence of this preservative. The butcher responsible was fined a total of £30 and ordered to pay £6.55 costs. It should be noted that the average meat content of all such sausage was 68.5 per cent.

The prosecutions of course provide no indication of the amount of time spent on investigations into unsatisfactory labelling and advertising. One of these related to a television advertisement for a proprietary beef and yeast extract which suggested that it was made mainly from beef and was "sustaining". As little more than 50 per cent was derived from meat and the recommended intake would provide less than 10 calories, this advertisement had to be amended. There were also cases of flour deficient in creta, pale ale which was incorrectly labelled, whisky containing washing-up liquid and Italian sparkling wine labelled as "Champagne". In all these full enquiries were necessary and each was dealt with by warning or advice as appropriate.

Enquiries made following complaints have covered the supply of poorer quality apples for Cox's, the purchase of sliced green beans with seeds of an extremely bright green colour and the sale of tins of biscuits bearing an illustration showing milk chocolate coverings instead of the dark plain chocolate found when the tins were opened.

Other complaints have concerned the sale of meat products affected by mould mainly as a result of failure by the manufacturers to provide date markings and of mistakes by the retailer in stock rotation. The report by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food that she was setting up a Steering Group to report on the means by which open date marking of such products could most conveniently be introduced must be welcomed by everyone interested in the sale of food in the freshest possible condition.

With acknowledgement and thanks to the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Northampton.

Meat Inspection—A full time authorised meat inspector is employed at the abattoir, and he is also responsible for keeping records and supervising the hygiene and cruelty aspects of the killing operations, as well as keeping an eye on the frozen meat trade conducted from the depot.

The Divisional Veterinary Surgeon and the Chief Public Health Inspector make an annual inspection and report on conditions found.

PART I

(A) MEAT INSPECTION

Carcases inspected and condem	ned	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed		3,807	3	1	6,686	12,154
Number not inspected		_		_	_	_
All diseases except Tuberculosis Cysticerci	and					
Whole carcases condemned	***	1		-	2	23
Carcases of which some part or		10000000			202	10000000
organ was condemned		1,192	1	_	238	5,422
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned		_	-		-	_
Carcases of which some part or						
organ was condemned		-	-	_	-	19
Cysticerci						
Carcases of which some part or						
organ was condemned					_	_
Carcases submitted to refrigerat	ion		-			_
Generalised and totally condemi						

(B) MEAT SPECIMENS EXAMINED

The number of meat specimens from slaughterhouses submitted to laboratories for examination. One.

How many orders				nd time	of	
slaughtering at any	slaughterhouses	in the c	listrict	•••		None
(D) POULTRY						
1. Number of poul	try slaughtering	establish	ments			None
2. Total estimated	average weekly	through	out			Nil
PART II SLAUG	HTERHOUSES					
Prevention of Cruel	ty Regulations					
Number of (a)	prosecutions					Nil
(b)	convictions					Nil
Hygiene Regulation	15					
(1) PART III EC	QUIPMENT					
Number of (a)	prosecutions					Nil
(b)	convictions					Nil
(2) PART IV HY	GIENIC PRACT	ICES				
Number of (a)	prosecutions					Nil
(15)	convictions					Nil

(F) UNSOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

				7	Cons	Cwts	
1. a. Meat at slaughter				 	16	-	
b. Meat at wholesale		S		 	_	81	
c. Meat at retail sho	ps			 	-	$1\frac{1}{2}$	
				 	16	10	
						Cwts	lb
2. Cooked meat and me	eat produ	icts		 		_	_
3. Canned meats				 		1	11
4. Other canned foods				 		_	_
5. Fish				 		-	
Fruit and vegetables	(fresh)			 		-	60
7. Frozen foods due to	cabinet	breakdo	wn	 		17	14
8. Other foods				 		-	_
Total				 	-	18	85

Amount recovered for Meat Inspection during 1972:

3,810 Cattle at 18p ... 685.801 Calf at 5p ... 0.05 6,686 Sheep at 4p ... 267.44 12,154 Pigs at 5p ... 607.7012,154 Pigs at 12,1560.99

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970—The number of food premises subject to these Regulations is as follows:

Licensed pro	emises		 	 32
Grocers			 	 58
Butchers			 	 17
Cafes and R	estaura	ants	 	 25
Fish Friers			 	 7
Bakehouses			 	 4
Greengrocer	s		 	 10
Sweets and	Confec	tionery	 	 12

Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 18
(Provision of wash-hand basins) 160

Number of premises to which Regulation 21 applies
(Provision of washing facilities for food and
equipment) 141

Number of premises fitted to comply with
Regulation 21 141

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968 Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations Notification of Food Poisoning and Infectious Diseases

The infectious diseases to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health are:

Acute Encephalitis

Acute Meningitis

Acute Poliomyelitis

Anthrax

Cholera

Diphtheria
Dysentery (Amoebic or Bacillary)

Food Poisoning or suspected

Food Poisoning Infective Jaundice

Leprosy

Leptospirosis

Malaria

Measles

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Paratyphoid Fever

Plague

Relapsing Fever

Scarlet Fever

Smallpox

Tetanus

Tuberculosis

Typhoid Fever

Typhus

Whooping Cough

Yellow Fever

Responsibility for notifying a case or suspected case of Food Poisoning or Infectious Disease rests exclusively on the medical practitioner attending the patient unless he believes that another practitioner has already notified the case.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases, other than Tuberculosis, notified during the year was 8, a decrease of 166 on last year's figure.

Measles—One case was notified compared with one hundred and sixty-seven cases in 1971.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus—Routine immunisation of infants under one year of age with Triple Antigen has again shown its efficacy in preventing these diseases.

Immunisation is carried out either by the Family Doctor or at the County Health Department's clinics.

Whooping Cough—One case was reported in October.

Poliomyelitis—This is the fourth disease which is prevented by routine immunisation in infancy. This is again done either by the Family Doctor or at the Health Department's Clinics. No cases occurred.

Scarlet Fever—One case occurred in January.

GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES

Dysentery—A case of Bacillary Dysentery (Shigella Flexner) occurred in an 8-year-old child in the Colton Ward at Rushden Hospital. It necessitated the closure of the ward to visitors and admissions from 28th September to 12th October.

Food Poisoning—There were three notifications of Food Poisoning during the year. The causative organism in two cases was Salmonella Agona contracted outside the district.

The third case of Food Poisoning proved fatal and was due to the organism Clostridium Welchii and was the subject of an inquest in March 1972. A take-away meal bought at a local restaurant was suspected to be the vehicle of the infection. The Coroner recorded a verdict of Accidental Death adding that it had not been proved that the restaurant was the source of the Food Poisoning organism.

Typhoid Fever—During the Summer it was necessary to screen and keep under surveillance two people who were holiday contacts of a case of Typhoid Fever.

Infectious Hepatitis—One case of Infectious Hepatitis was notified during the year. There were two cases last year.

Smallpox—There were no cases.

In three instances it was necessary to keep under surveillance for fourteen days travellers returning from areas in which Smallpox is endemic. Leprosy—The Public Health (Leprosy) Regulations, 1966 came into force on March 1st, 1966.

Under these regulations cases of Leprosy are now notifiable to the District Medical Officer of Health and not as heretofore to the Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health and Social Security.

Tuberculosis—Five new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Five names were removed, being now healed. There was one death from late effects of Respiratory Tuberculosis and two patients died from other causes.

Chicken Pox—Seven cases of Chicken Pox occurred in the Colton Ward at Rushden Hospital and it was necessary to close the Ward for over a month.

Dangerous Necklace Beads

On May 26th, information was received that foreign necklaces had been imported, the beads of which contained an extremely toxic poison, i.e. Abrin.

A check was accordingly made on Fancy-goods and Toy Shops and Head Teachers were apprised of the situation.

The "beads" are really berries of the vine, Abrus Precatorius which is native to Asia, Africa and Mexico. The colour of the beads is red with black spots on the surface giving a "Ladybird" appearance.

Thirty strings of these beads were found in various places throughout the area of Health Division No. 2 and arrangements were made for their destruction by incineration.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis) 1972

Disease		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Infectious Hepatit	is		1	-	-	_	-				_	-	-	1
Measles			_	_	1	_			_	-	-	_		1
Whooping Cough			_	_	27511	_	_	_	_		1	_	_	1
Food Poisoning		3	-	_	_	-		_	-	-	_	-	_	3
Dysentery			_	_		_	_	_	_	_	1	_		1
Scarlet Fever		1	-	-		_	_		_		-	-	-	1
Totals		4	1	_	1	-	_	_	_		2	_		8

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis) 1972

L	Disease		0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Age Unknown
Infectious H	Iepati	tis	_	_	_	_	_	_	1	_	_	_		_	1	_	_	_
Measles			-	-	-	-	1	1575	-	-	-	-	-	_	1	-	_	_
Whooping C	Cough		_	_	-	_	-	1	_	-	_	-		-	1		_	_
Food Poisor	ning		_	_	-	_	-		-	-	-	1	2	_	3	-	1	_
Dysentery .			_	_		_	_	1				-	-	_	1	1	_	
Scarlet Feve	er		_	-		_	1		_	_	_	-	-	-	1	_	_	_
TOTALS .			_	_	_	_	2	2	1	_	_	1	2	_	8	1	1	_

TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1972

		NEW	CASES		DEATHS						
	Respi	iratory	Non-res	piratory	Respi	ratory	Non-respiratory				
Age Periods	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female			
— 1	_	_	_	-	-	_	-	-			
1 4	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	-			
5-14	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_			
15—24	_	-	_	-	_	_	_				
25—34	2	_	_	_	_	_	_	_			
35—44	-	_	_	-	_	_	-	-			
45—54	-	_	_	_		_	_	_			
55-64	1	1	_	_	_	_	-	-			
65+	1	_	_	_	_	1	_	_			
Totals	4	1	_	_	_	1		_			

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961 for the year 1972.

PART I OF THE ACT

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

	Number	Number of						
Premises	on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted				
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Loca! Authorities Factories not included in (i) in which	5	_	_	-				
Authority Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex-	147	-	_	-				
	2			Nil				
	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Loca! Authorities 5 Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 147 Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) 2	Premises Premises Register Inspections Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities 5 Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority 147 Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) 2 —	Premises Number on Register Inspections Written notices				

