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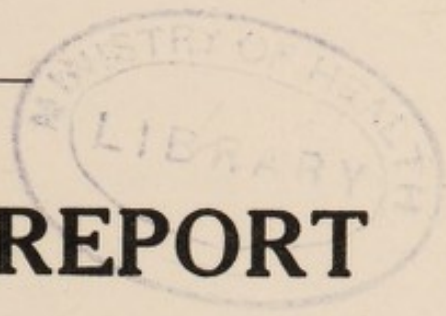
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Borough of Warwick

ANNUAL REPORT



OF THE
HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1954,

BY

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH


OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

A. TOMES LTD., PRINTERS, 46, BEDFORD STREET

1955



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38, HOLLY WALK,

LEAMINGTON SPA.

November 1st, 1955.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
WARWICK.

Mr. MAYOR, Mrs. LEES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my fifth annual report upon the health of the district. The year was a satisfactory one as regards infectious diseases. There was no epidemic except for an extension of the measles incidence of the previous year. Whooping Cough was much reduced and only one case of Poliomyelitis was recorded. The vital statistics are on much the usual levels. Housing remains an obstinate problem. With few new houses coming forward and progress on future programmes running somewhat behind earlier hopes, there has again been an increase in the numbers of families seeking to become tenants of municipally owned property. To add to this pressure will come the first stage of the slum clearance in connection with which the Government has ordered a local survey. In relation to its size, Warwick has a much higher proportion of unfit housing than some local districts but the Council will not be backward in facing this challenge. It is to be hoped that the courageous plans which they are drafting will receive the necessary central support, without which they can hardly be realised before the progressive structural decay of many dwellings brings them to an uninhabitable or even dangerous state. Fortunately much of the worthless and worn out property lies in contiguous blocks so that the loss of many dwellings can be balanced by the chance to redevelop those meaner quarters into a shape more befitting the county town.

Once again it is my pleasure to thank the Council for their unfailing kindness and support and also to acknowledge the willing help which my colleagues in other departments have always been ready to give.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Borough of Warwick.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Population (estimated) Mid-year, 1954	...	...	...	15,620
Area 5,075 Acres.				
Rateable Value, £123,869 (11.4.55)				
Product of 1d. Rate, £528.				
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	...	16.1
" " " (corrected)	...	...	...	15.8
Still Birth Rate—Rate per 1,000 total births	...	...	...	19.4
Death Rate per 1,000 population (Crude)	...	...	...	10.2
" " " (corrected)	...	...	...	10.1
Deaths from Diseases and { From Sepsis	...	...	...	—
Accidents of Pregnancy and { From Other Causes	...	...	...	—
Child-birth				
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	31.7
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	33.3
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	—
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	1

Population.—No change.

Birth Rate.—The figure is below average.

Death Rate.—This is near the average for 7 past years (10.8).

Ten deaths were due to violence, six from motor vehicle accidents, and four from other accidents.

Statistics for the past seven years and also for England and Wales in 1954 will be seen under Table II.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH OF WARWICK

Medical Officer of Health :

D. LIVINGSTONE, M.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

J. BULLOCK,

Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.

Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.

Cert. Institute of Housing.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

S. H. WEST,

Cert. R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. Jt. Board.

Cert. R.S.I. for Inspectors of Meat and Foods.

Cert. R.S.I. for Smoke Inspectors.

Borough Engineer, Surveyor and Waterworks Engineers :

R. WORMELL, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.M.E., A.M.T.P.I.

Public Analysts :

HILL and RIGBY, Birmingham.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN
THE AREA***Laboratory Facilities.*—Bacteriological examinations by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Coventry :—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Diphtheria ... — ...	2	...	2

**LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (WARWICKSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL)***Infant Welfare Centres :*

Lakin Road F.A.P. ... Wednesdays 2—4 p.m.

Fridays 2—4 p.m.

Racecourse ... Thursdays 2—4 p.m.

Local enquiries re Home Help, After-care, Health Visiting, Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery Services to Area Health Office, 38, Holly Walk, Leamington Spa ('Phone 2998 or 2999).

National Welfare Foods are on sale at Child Welfare Sessions or from :—

W. V. S. Office : 3, Jury Street, Warwick.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 2-30—4-30 p.m.

Thursday, Saturdays ... 10—11 a.m.

Mrs. BULL, 51, Stratford Road, Warwick.

Monday 2—3-30 p.m. ; Thursday 5—6-30 p.m.

Ambulance.—The Depot is at Lakin Road F.A.P. (Tel. Warwick 86). 24-hour service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

I am indebted to Mr. H. S. Brown, the Borough Engineer, for much of the following information :—

1. *Water Supply.*

Quantity.—The water consumption continued to rise during 1954 and showed a total consumption of 269,512,300 gallons for the year. This was 11,000,000 gallons in excess of the previous year's consumption. To supplement the main sources of supply at Haseley and Woodloes, supplies were taken in bulk from the Hatton Central Hospital. It was necessary during the summer to issue economy notices to consumers.

Quality.—Samples from the collecting well at Haseley and from the town mains were found to be satisfactory.

2. (a) *Drainage and Sewerage.*—Work on the new low level outfall sewer and ancillary works at the Sewage Disposal Works and at Bridge End were completed.

Sewage Disposal.—The new stormwater treatment tanks were completed and brought into operation at the end of the year.

2. (b) *Rivers and Streams.*—The levels of the River Avon and streams in the Borough kept within normal limits during the year, but Gog Brook overflowed after heavy rainfall and flooding of Hampton Road and part of the Forbes Estate resulted.

3. *Sanitary Accommodation.*—Sanitary fittings were provided during the year at existing buildings as follows:—

Type.		No. of premises concerned.	New W.C's.	Lav. Basins.	Urinals.	Chemical Closets.
Factories	...	2	6	3	8	—
Licensed Houses	...	2	2	1	3	—
Schools	...	1	6	1	6	—
Private Houses	...	2	3	1	—	—

4.—*Public Cleansing.*—A satisfactory collection of refuse was maintained. The tip at the Stratford Road was maintained in a satisfactory condition, although some difficulty was experienced through spontaneous combustion.

5.—*Swimming Baths.*—The baths were open to the public during the summer season. The "Chloramine" process of sterilisation was used in conjunction with a small filter in the continuous flow of water.

HOUSING

During the year 54 houses, 12 flats, and 12 bungalows for old people were completed on the Council's Housing Estates. Ten private houses were erected during the year. The layout plan for the Council's new housing estate off the Coventry Road was prepared and approved and preliminary sewer designs commenced.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1947

		Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1947	...	1	12	—	14	—	1
1948	...	—	10	—	5	—	—
1949	...	—	10	—	3	—	—
1950	...	1	9	1	6	—	—
1951	...	3	4	1	14	1	1
1952	...	—	7	—	3	3	11
1953	...	—	7	—	6	6	10
1954	...	—	7	—	8	1	15

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the cases notified during 1954.

The number of notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia remains high owing to the new statutory definition.

School Closures.—Nil.

Diphtheria.—No cases were notified for the third successive year.

Diphtheria Immunization.—The figures were a little above those for 1953. During 1954 18 school children and 176 children under school age were protected for the first time, and 440 Booster doses were given to maintain the immunity of older children.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.—Only one case was notified.

Measles.—Measles was again prevalent this year and 144 cases were recorded, only five fewer than in the previous year.

Whooping Cough.—25 notifications came in during 1954. Of these 2 were infants under one year. 196 infants were immunised against Whooping Cough, either singly or in combination with Diphtheria prophylaxis.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950. (SECTION 8)

Tuberculosis Milk Investigations.—Routine milk samples were taken by authorised officers of the County Council within the Borough and sent for biological examination. Results were obtained from samples taken as follows:—

<i>Designation of Milk</i>	<i>Total No. of Samples</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>
Pasteurised	4	—
“Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)”	—	—
“Tuberculin Tested”	1	—
“Accredited” and Non-graded ...	2	—

TUBERCULOSIS

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, TUBERCULOSIS.

Age-Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ...	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 ...	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65 ...	—	2	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 & upwards	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	12	10	2	—	3	—	—	—

During the year 24 new cases of Tuberculosis, were notified, 22 being Pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, which is 16 less than in 1953.

22 patients were admitted for treatment at a Sanatorium, and 24 were discharged during the year. Only 3 deaths occurred.

The following table gives the incidence of Tuberculosis for the period 1934-1954 (21 years) :—

<i>Tuberculosis</i>	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940
Cases ...	12	14	24	21	20	32	27
Deaths...	9	5	12	6	7	8	9
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Cases ...	22	12	11	38	29	20	31
Deaths...	13	10	13	11	12	9	8
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Cases ...	20	20	21	22	32	40	24
Deaths...	14	6	6	8	1	3	3

The Coventry Mass Radiography Unit of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board visited Warwick in July, 1954 and operated at the Shire Hall. More opportunity was allowed this year for members of the public to come to open sessions and availability was increased by discontinuing separate sessions for men and women. However the attendance was disappointing having regard to the very convenient central site made available this year through the courtesy of the County Council. The following figures, supplied by Dr. Gordon Evans, relate to Warwick Borough :—

<i>Miniature X-ray examinations</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
General Public ...	185	320	505
Staff of local authorities ...	185	133	318
Doctors' patients ...	13	14	27
	<hr/> 383	<hr/> 467	<hr/> 850
Recalled for large film examination	26	21	47
Recalled for clinical examination ...	13	6	19
<i>Analysis of clinical examinations</i>			
<i>Referred to Chest Clinic</i>			
(a) Suspected active post-primary tuberculosis ...	1	—	1
(b) Inactive post-primary tuberculosis ...	4	2	6

			Male	Female	Total
(c)	Broncho-pneumonia	...	1	1	2
(d)	Consolidation of unknown				
	cause	... ..	1	1	2
	Miscellaneous chest conditions		1	—	1
			—	—	—
			8	4	12
			—	—	—
2.	<i>Referred to own doctor :</i>				
(a)	Inactive post-primary				
	tuberculosis	... ..	—	1	1
(b)	Cardio-vascular lesion	...	1	—	1
(c)	Miscellaneous chest con-				
	ditions	... ..	1	—	1
			—	—	—
			2	1	3
			—	—	—
3.	<i>No further action considered necessary :</i>				
(a)	Inactive post-primary				
	tuberculosis	... ..	—	1	1
(b)	Inactive primary tuber-				
	culosis	... ..	1	—	1
(c)	Chronic bronchitis and				
	emphysema	... ..	1	—	1
(d)	Cardio-vascular lesion	...	1	—	1
			—	—	—
			3	1	4
			—	—	—
	Total clinical examinations	...	13	6	19

The findings are considered to be satisfactory as regards the health of persons examined but the response from the general public was disappointingly small bearing in mind the convenience of the central site chosen and the number of public sessions (11) spread over a whole week.

Of recent years B.C.G. vaccine has been offered to children in contact with Tuberculosis who react negatively to skin sensitivity tests and are therefore presumed to be vulnerable to infection. This year 15 persons under fifteen years of age received these injections under the supervision of the Chest Physicians. Segregation after injection is no longer practised except for the boarding out of infants where this proves necessary.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 of this Act provides that where persons—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated are living in insanitary conditions and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention, and the Medical Officer of Health gives a written certificate in the prescribed form, the local authority may apply to a court, having jurisdiction for an order to remove the person to a suitable and convenient place e.g. hospital. Seven days clear notice must be given of the intended application and it must also be given to the person managing the premises. The order, if granted, may authorize a person's detention for a period not exceeding three months.

One case was investigated during the year as the result of reports received from the doctor and a health visitor. This was an elderly spinster living alone and unable to care fully for herself. Neighbours had helped her voluntarily but difficulties arose when they desired to be away for holidays. These were resolved by temporary assistance through the Home Help Service.

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

To the Council of the Borough of Warwick

Mr. MAYOR, Mrs. LEES and GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

Inspections and re-inspections of all classes totalled 4,839 compared with 4,884 in 1953 and 4,903 in 1952.

It will be seen from Table I that the high annual figure for inspections of dwellinghouses was maintained and that work in connection with food hygiene, pest destruction and Shops Act administration was continued on the intensified scale adopted during the last few years.

As in previous years, housing inspections for the Selection of Tenants Sub-committee again occupied a great deal of time, but as these are closely related to other statutory housing duties with which the department is concerned they were readily combined with normal housing work.

HOUSING

Sixteen houses which had become dangerously dilapidated were represented under the provisions of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, as unfit for human habitation. Demolition orders were made in respect of fifteen of these houses and in one case an undertaking to reconstruct the premises for business purposes only was accepted. Twelve houses were demolished under the terms of demolition orders made in earlier years. Fifteen families were rehoused by the local authority from houses subject to demolition orders and seven families from the West End Clearance Area were also rehoused.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, came into operation towards the end of the year and under its provisions the Council were required within one year to submit to the Minister of Housing and Local Government proposals for dealing with houses which appear to the authority to be unfit for habitation *and with other houses which in the opinion of the authority ought to be included in clearance areas*. The importance of proposals to deal with clearance areas cannot be stressed too much. The question of deciding the proportion of new accommodation to be made available to enable slum clearance to proceed, the problems to which the repeated re-occupation of unfit houses gives rise, the opportunities for good redevelopment of sites if cleared on a large enough scale, the advantages of public acquisition of blighted areas not capable of complete demolition within the first few years of the programme, were all discussed in last year's report. So much misunderstanding has arisen, however, as to the local authority's powers and duties in relation to clearance areas that it seems necessary to repeat that it is the duty of the authority to formulate proposals for clearing areas where there is a preponderance of unfit houses and that when it is not possible to deal with all such areas within five years then the authority should purchase areas not capable of being cleared within that period, patch the houses to allow further occupation for a limited life, and then proceed to demolition and redevelopment as soon as local conditions permit. Although this implies the temporary ownership of many unfit houses by the local authority it means that the authority can control future occupation and development. Only in this way can the unnecessary burden of rehousing successive families from the same unfit houses, many of them new residents to the town, be avoided and the town's overall housing problem, undeniably worse than that of most towns, be tackled on an adequate scale and within the resources of the local authority.

The Sub-committee appointed to prepare the proposals required by the Minister began its work at the end of 1954 and had the benefit of detailed surveys carried out by two earlier Sub-committees at a time when there was no statutory obligation to prepare a programme.

HOUSING REPAIRS

In view of their high cost, repairs to old obsolescent property continued to be limited to urgent work. Even though in most cases the defects made the subject of notices were of an urgent nature, the difficulty experienced in getting the repairs carried out increased due to insufficient labour force engaged on repair work in the town. Quite often a period of several months now elapses from the date an owner has been persuaded to place an order with a builder and that on which the work is completed.

In the case of better class property and houses capable of providing good accommodation for many years to come, efforts continued to avoid extensive disrepair. Intimation notices forwarded to owners gave particulars of defects calling for urgent remedy and in addition drew attention to work necessary in the interests of timely maintenance. In a large number of cases a general overhaul was carried out.

Towards the end of the year the first applications for improvement grants to modernise dwellings were being received; the Council decided in principle to make grants available for suitable properties.

HOUSING INSPECTIONS

Apart from inspections made under sections 11 and 25 (provisions relating to unfit houses not capable of being rendered fit) and of section 58 (overcrowding), 282 houses were inspected under the Housing Act. Of these 37 were of the self-contained terrace-type property. One hundred and two notices were served during the year and 60 were complied with. Since the recommencement of house-to-house inspections in the Borough, a total of 224 have so far been inspected and of these 193 have been brought up to a satisfactory state of repair. A substantial portion of the outstanding notices have been partly complied with. In all, a total of 486 inspections were made under the Housing Act, during the year.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING.

Fifty-four new houses, 12 flats and 12 bungalows for aged persons were occupied during the year. The flats and the bungalows completed the Forbes Estate; the 54 houses were of the Cornish Unit type and were built on the former Saltisford Common. Fourteen casual vacancies in existing houses occurred. At the end of the year the local authority owned 1,116 houses (including 50 prefabricated bungalows), 64 flats, and 12 bungalows, or in total 25 per cent. of the dwellings in the Borough. In all, 92 families, with a population of 294, were rehoused during the year.

Fifty-four of these families were rehoused from rooms, 22 from houses subject to demolition or clearance orders, and 16 from poor and/or overcrowded dwellings not subject to demolition orders. Three families were rehoused on the grounds of tuberculosis. As in previous years quite a number of transfers were arranged to make better use of municipal accommodation and several of the prefabricated bungalows figured in this process.

In the nine years since the end of 1945, 692 families, comprising 2,593 persons, have been rehoused, but during the same period there have been 1,668 applications, 127 of these being registered during 1954. Though quite a number of applications are cancelled, either at the request of the applicants or upon instructions from the Selection of Tenants Sub-committee, the majority are found to be genuinely made and experience shows that three out of every four have eventually to be satisfied. The rate of new applications continued to fall but was still far in excess of the rate of building and the average waiting period lengthened slightly. It will be seen that new building during 1954 again fell very much short of the annual requirement.

At the 31st December, there were 790 applications outstanding, 421 being in rooms or otherwise without a house and 369 in houses. Most of the latter were occupying overcrowded and/or unfit dwellings. Of the 421 applications from homeless people, 177 were from childless couples, 158 from applicants with one child, 64 from those with two children, 16 from applicants with three children and six from applicants with four or more children. Of the homeless, the average waiting period since marriage was six years and considerably longer in the case of applicants occupying houses unsuitable for their needs.

As has been stated in previous reports, the number of housing applicants falls far short of the total of new houses needed, as the figure includes only a small proportion of the tenants of houses which

must be demolished to bring about a substantial improvement in the general standard of houses in the town. Numerous cases of overcrowding, too, do not figure in the register of applicants.

There are numerous cases of overcrowding still to be found in the small sub-standard privately owned houses and few of the tenants of these houses are housing applicants. Reluctance on the part of these people to apply for other accommodation is invariably due to the seemingly high rent of municipal houses compared with the low controlled rents of the old obsolescent dwellings. In sharp contrast there are others in very similar circumstances who display eagerness to transfer to a new municipal house and to make real sacrifices to secure the benefits of a modern house. The proportions of rent to total income which applicants appear willing to expend varies very widely.

A questionnaire addressed to all housing applicants likely to be interested in the purchase of plots for private building or purchasing if houses were built by the Council and offered for sale, brought only a moderate response and indicated that the register of applicants for houses to let would not be reduced very substantially by this means. As, however, enquiries were only of a tentative nature, it is possible that the results will prove more helpful to the general problem when the authority is in a position to offer the plots. The need to make more land available for private building is becoming more and more urgent if the number of houses owned by the local authority is to be kept in reasonable proportion to the number of houses as a whole. Without the balancing effect of a large number of new houses under private ownership, the building of sufficient additional municipally owned houses may prove too great a burden for the town.

The question as to how far the authority should go in providing accommodation for all claimants occupied the attention of the Public Health and Housing Committee on many occasions during the year and the unpalatable decision to restrict the register of applicants to those having genuine claims of a long-standing nature was arrived at only after a realistic appraisal of the situation. This took into account the backlog of unsatisfied applications as well as the large replacement programme which must take place as clearance of unfit houses progresses. The most serious aspect of the situation is that from now onwards people attracted to the town by prosperous industrial conditions cannot expect to be offered municipal accommodation inside ten years unless they have strong claims based on earlier residence here. This is a matter that should be borne in mind by employers seeking to increase their labour force.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

Three thousand, eight hundred and six inspections were made for the purposes of the Public Health Act. As in previous years, most of the 623 Public Health Act notices issued related to dwelling house defects of a general nature and were limited to urgent matters. In 84 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, WASHING ACCOMMODATION AND REFUSE RECEPTACLES

Seventy-two notices requiring choked drains to be cleared or defective drains to be repaired were complied with ; 23 notices requiring repairs to water-closets received attention ; 7 washhouses were rebuilt

or repaired in compliance with notices ; 6 dustbins required by notice were provided, and 49 accumulations of refuse were removed following notices.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is only one common lodging house in use. The return of lodgers sleeping in the town during the year is as follows :—

Adults :	Males	...	...	7,280
	Females	...	...	364
	Total	...	...	7,644
Under 10 years	...	...	...	Nil

VERMIN INFESTATIONS

Rats and Mice.—Systematic investigations to ascertain infestations were continued. During the year, the Department dealt with infestations, principally of a minor character, at 82 dwelling-houses, 16 factories, 5 shops, 4 clubs and licensed premises, 8 schools, 4 hotels and cafes, 15 allotments and plots of land and 15 streams. In addition, 5 visits were made to hospitals and 10 visits to places of entertainment.

The Council's refuse tip and sewage disposal works were treated regularly and one treatment, covering 21 points, of the sewers was carried out. Four large blocks of properties were surveyed and 15 visits were made to other properties belonging to the Corporation, concerning infestations.

Bed Bugs.—Complaints of bed bugs were again fewer than usual a few years ago, although infestations still persist in certain blocks of old and unfit property. Apart from issuing insecticide to applicants, the Department treated 21 houses successfully. Thorough precautions to prevent infestations of new houses and flats were adopted in all cases where tenants of infested houses were rehoused in municipal accommodation.

Smoke Nuisances.—Observations of industrial chimneys increased and fifteen notices were served when excessive atmospheric pollution was observed. Managements have been interviewed and firing methods discussed with both them and stokers concerned.

It was found necessary to take action concerning a serious and persistent smoke nuisance arising from the chimney of premises under the control of a public body. At the end of the year, steps were being taken to reduce the nuisance and arrangements were being made for the installation of a special door to the furnace of the boiler.

Sanitary Accommodation at Public Houses and Places of Public Entertainment.—The sanitary accommodation at the cinema and at licensed premises generally was found to be of a good standard and well maintained, although at four licensed premises, the accommodation was improved after representations to the owners concerned.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Thirteen inspections for the purposes of sections 268 and 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 were made. Nine notices requiring owners to discontinue the use of unlicensed sites for caravan purposes were issued and in one instance a statutory notice was subsequently served. Six licenses permitting the stationing of caravans are now in operation in the borough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Additional sanitary accommodation was provided at one factory and the existing accommodation was improved at three factories. Washing facilities were improved at two factories. The Register now includes 127 factories, 97 having mechanical power, (at which local authority's duties are limited to the enforcement of section 7 of the Factories Act, 1937), 21 without mechanical power and 9 other premises to which the Factories Act applies.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

One business in the Borough has been registered as required by the above Act, and regular inspections are made of the premises.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Systematic inspections and re-inspections of shops continued. The following improvements were made at shops during the year under review: sanitary accommodation improved at 13 shops; improved washing facilities at 3 shops; improved ventilation at 15 shops; additional seats for staff at 2 shops. Other contraventions were remedied at 29 shops. Certificates of exemption from the necessity to provide sanitary accommodation are now in operation at four shops.

TERMINAL DISINFECTION

Nine houses were disinfected following removal of patients to hospital or at the request of occupiers, and ten lots of bedding were disinfected or destroyed. Thirteen investigations were made following the notifications of infectious diseases.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Registers.—The following make up the current registers:—

Milk distributors	19
Dairies other than farms	6

DAIRIES

All dairies were inspected regularly during the year and were maintained at a good standard.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following licences were in operation during the year:—

Dealers' Licences to use the designation:—

"Tuberculin Tested" ...	12
"Pasteurised" ...	14
"Sterilised" ...	2

Supplementary Licences to use the designation:—

"Tuberculin Tested" ...	3
"Pasteurised" ...	3
"Sterilised" ...	1

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS

ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED FOR "SELF SUPPLIERS" OF MEAT

Two pigs were inspected.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AT RETAILERS' SHOPS

Five hundred and sixty-nine visits were made to retail food shops and similar premises, 180 were made to premises used for food preparation, 46 to ice-cream premises and vehicles and 20 to hotels. Food found to be unfit for human consumption weighed 7 cwt. 12 lbs., being a considerable reduction on the amount condemned last year.

The enforcement of sections 13 and 14 of the Food and Drugs Act and of Byelaws made under section 15 of that Act, all of which concern the suitability of premises for food preparation and of personal hygiene in relation to the handling of food, continued to receive full attention. Attention was directed to the need for stricter cleanliness at food premises and in 11 instances, conditions were improved. Four traders were required to provide protection for food displayed in the open air.

Improvements have been effected at many premises and particular attention was given to the provision of a constant supply of hot water. In all, 85 notices were issued, and at the end of the year, 109 including some from the previous year, had been complied with. One cafe, considered unsuitable, was closed.

The following is a summary of the principal improvements made during the year:—

Restaurants, Cafes, Canteens and Snack Bars.—New washing facilities provided at two; redecorations at 5; structural improvements at one.

Butchers', Bakers' and Confectioners' Shops.—Five shops redecorated; improved washing facilities at five.

Greengrocers' Shops.—New washing facilities at 5; three shops redecorated; structural improvements at one.

West Fish and Fried Fish Shops.—Improved washing facilities at 3; redecoration at three.

Sugar Confectionary Shops.—New washing facilities at 3; three shops redecorated.

Hotels and Boarding Houses.—Improved washing facilities at one; redecorations at one; structural improvements at one.

Grocers' Shops and General Shops Retailing Grocery.—Improved washing facilities at two.

Market Stalls and Mobile Canteens.—These were inspected regularly, particular attention being given to the protection of foodstuffs. Canteens and food stalls at Warwick Mop and the Racecourse were inspected. Vehicles and stalls are approved and, if necessary, enquires are made to other local authorities concerning registrations, before any Food Vendor is allowed to attend the Mop.

Ice-Cream Premises and Vehicles.—Seven premises from which ice-cream is sold were registered during the year; there are now 69 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream. Forty-six inspections were made, and improvements of a general nature were carried out at 9 premises. The vehicles and equipments of mobile vendors were subject to inspection and in two instances ice-cream sales were discontinued from unsatisfactory vehicles.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Twelve butchers' shops were visited during the year in connection with the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926 and Orders made thereunder, concerning correct labelling of meat on display for sale. In each instance a notice was served reminding the butcher of his obligations under this Act, and in each case the necessary action was taken by the retailer to comply with the provisions of the Act.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Fourteen licences to slaughter or stun animals were granted.

CONCLUSION

I wish to thank the members of the Council for their ready co-operation in seeking to raise the standard of environmental conditions with which I am concerned. I desire also to thank chief officers of other departments for helpful co-operation and members of my staff for willingness to meet the increased demands upon the office and for excellent services throughout the year.

Your obedient servant,

J. BULLOCK,
Senior Sanitary Inspector, Borough of Warwick

TABLE I

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S
DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, 1954

	Inspections and observations made.	Notices served.		Nuisances abated after notice.
		Statu- tory.	In- formal.	
Dwelling Houses and Schools ...	2347	33	283	245
Lodging Houses	8	—	1	—
Factories	50	—	6	13
Licensed Premises	10	—	5	4
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Water-closets	130	8	51	23
Drainage	101	32	66	72
Water Supply	49	—	12	15
Places of Entertainment ...	7	—	2	2
Caravans	13	1	8	8
Dustbins	91	—	13	6
Deposits of Refuse	60	2	50	49
Pigsties	25	—	1	1
Vermin Infestations	870	2	8	8
Shops	124	—	8	39
Animals improperly kept ...	33	—	3	6
Smoke Nuisances	43	—	15	12
Dairies and Milk Shops ...	17	—	—	—
Bakehouses	8	—	2	4
Slaughter Houses, Butchers' and other Retail Food Shops ...	569	—	41	46
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises	2	—	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation	180	—	25	30
Ice-Cream Premises and Vehicles	46	—	10	11
Miscellaneous Nuisances ...	36	6	28	19
Hotels	20	—	3	2
TOTALS	4839	84	641	615

	No.
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	34
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	—
Lots of Infected Bedding, Disinfected or Destroyed	10
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	9
„ Disinfested for Vermin	21
New houses and flats treated with insecticide as a precautionary measure	83

J. BULLOCK, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE II.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Nett.		Under 1 Year of age.		At all Ages.	
		Number.	Crude Rate.	Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1947	14,470	304	21.0	11	36	157	10.9
1948	15,550	281	18.1	7	25	144	9.3
1949	15,170	244	16.1	4	16	152	10.0
1950	15,360	241	15.7	5	20.8	176	11.5
1951	15,550	235	15.1	3	12.8	189	12.2
1952	15,510	270	17.4	6	22.2	166	10.7
1953	15,620	238	15.2	3	12.6	171	10.9
1954	15,620	252	16.1	8	31.7	160	10.2

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1954.

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Infantile Mortality during the Year 1954.

(Provisional Figures).

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.				Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births.	
	Live Births	Still Births.	Births to Deaths.		
England and Wales	15.2	23.4	11.3
				25.5	

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR
1954.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Number of Cases notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox									
Plague									
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous Croup)									
Erysipelas	2				1		1		
Scarlet Fever	7		2	5					
Typhus Fever									
Enteric Fever									
Pneumonia	8			2		4	2		
Malaria									
Dysentery	7		1	6				6	
Puerperal Pyrexia	15				13	2		14	
Meningococcal Infection	2				1	1		2	
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	1			1				1	
Whooping Cough	25	2	20	3					
Encephalitis Lethargica									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum									
Measles	144	2	53	87		2			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	22		1		5	9	5	2	
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2				2				
Food Poisoning									
Totals	235	4	77	104	21	15	9	5	23

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK.
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1954

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES.	FEMALES.
1 Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—
2 Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease... ..	1	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	—	3
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	4	1
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	2	7
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
16 Diabetes	—	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	13
18 Coronary disease, angina	15	9
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	4
20 Other heart disease	8	9
21 Other circulatory disease	6	5
22 Influenza	—	—
23 Pneumonia	4	3
24 Bronchitis... ..	7	—
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	2	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	—
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	3	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	2	1
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	4
33 Motor vehicle accidents	6	—
34 All other accidents	1	3
35 Suicide	—	—
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All causes	88	72

