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Borough of Warwick

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1964

BY

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

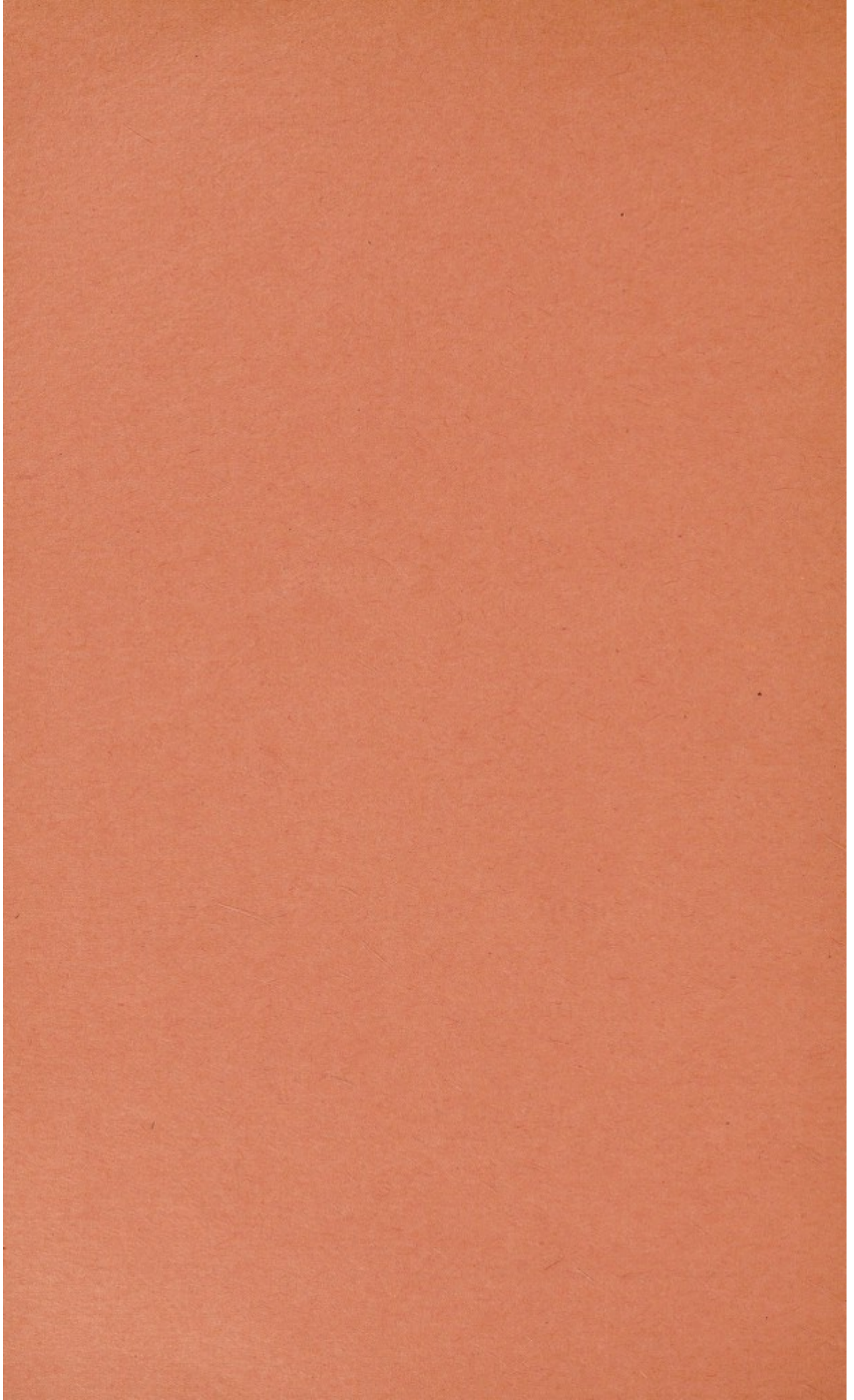
OF THE

Warwickshire Combined Districts

Leamington Spa

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

1965



38, HOLLY WALK,
LEAMINGTON SPA.
9th August, 1965.

TO THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF
WARWICK

Mr. MAYOR, LADIES and GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour once again to present you my annual report upon the health of your district. This one covers the year 1964 and will, it is hoped, be published in better time than some which have preceded it. This has been made possible by the establishment of a post of Additional Public Health Inspector and its filling with the welcome appointment of Mr. Hill from Connah's Quay in North Wales. He has already made his presence felt by the relief of pressure from arrears which had slowly been mounting over the years. One additional Inspector will give valuable help to Mr. Bullock at a time when he must devote extra attention to many matters of detail, requiring local knowledge, which arise from the town centre redevelopment proposals.

There was again a modest population increase but this owed something to immigration into the district as the birth rate was not a high one.

The decision to make a compulsory purchase order for property in or adjacent to the clearance areas in Lakin Road, Vine Lane and Paradise Street marked another step in the march to rid the borough of unfit dwellings. Warwick, by reason of its long history, entered the ten year period appointed for a national slum clearance drive with a burden of older property relatively greater than most of its neighbours. However, resolution in the face of difficulties kept things moving to such good purpose that, on 31st December 1964, when this period ended, 858 out of 898 unfit houses had been the subject of action leaving only the small deficit of 40 or five houses per year.

Mr. Bullock's excellent report, featured elsewhere, discloses that there is much under-occupation of family type houses for which families have a real need. There is, however, an acute shortage of the smaller dwellings which will be needed so that older tenants can be offered transfer from under-occupied property. Your slum clearance activity has happily rid the town of many common yards, outside water standpipes or shared W.C.'s and washhouses and

given to many families a satisfactory standard of housing for the first time. The reverse side of the coin shows the creation of a new type of slum with even worse features. This is the threat which comes from the splitting up of older houses by multiple occupation. This letting of so called flats is an attractive speculation since it avoids both the use of capital resources to bring about a proper conversion into flats and the enhanced rateable assessment which inevitably follows. Owing to a housing shortage in the area rents can be charged to those in need which are as great as, or little less than, those current elsewhere for flats worthy of the name. Warwick, being near the centre of an area of full employment, must maintain vigilance by the frequent inspection of houses let in multiple occupancy and by the use of powers granted by recent housing acts. The Council has also tried to help the upkeep of historic buildings by making loans at special rates to the owners.

Progress has been made, too, in the control of air pollution. Most of the larger steam raising plants within the Borough now are either oil fired or use mechanical stoking of suitable solid fuels. At Potterton's foundry, however, there has been repeated failure of new arrester plant. Work goes on in the hope of overcoming these difficulties. Another small foundry has fitted a grit arrester.

News has come of an early start to work on the new Warwick by-pass road. It is now possible to anticipate an early end of the traffic congestion which was slowly choking the life and trade of the town. The fumes and smoke of vehicles, the constant noise and vibration and hazards to pedestrians have for many years passed reasonable levels of tolerance. Not only the trade but the health of the town should be improved by the opening of this new road.

Finally may I thank the Council for their interest in my work and for their kindness and courtesy at all times? I have also to pay the customary thanks to Mr. Bullock, the Surveyor and many others of your staff who have given me their help.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

D. LIVINGSTONE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Deputy Chief Public Health 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 Water Engineer :

C. E. BROWN, M.I.MUN.E.

Assistant Housing Inspector :

Mr. H. D. NASH.

Housing Assistant :

Mr. D. A. KENT.

Clerical Staff :

Mrs. O. M. JAMES ; Mrs. P. M. NEVILLE.

General Handyman and Rodent Operator :

Mr. T. FIELD.

Public Analysts :

BOSTOCK, HILL and RIGBY, Birmingham.

LOCAL HEALTH SERVICES (WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL)

Infant Welfare Centres.

Cape Road C.W.C.	...	Mondays	2—4 p.m.
		Tuesdays	2—4 p.m.
		Fridays	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 27284).

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

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

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday	...	Afternoons
Thursday, Saturday	...	Mornings

Ambulance.—From the depot in Montague Road, Warwick, a 24-hour service is given to Warwick, Leamington, Kenilworth and district. Superintendent : Mr. Whiting (Tel. Warwick 42387).

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

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

Water Supply.—A satisfactory and efficient supply has been maintained by the South Warwickshire Water Board which provides a piped supply to 5316 houses with a population of 16,825. This leaves only 45 persons living in 14 houses which depend upon wells or standpipes for their water supply. Water is drawn from the former sources and is chlorinated as necessary.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Further Municipal and private housing developments have been connected satisfactorily to the existing main sewerage system. The programme of sewer cleansing by descaling method has continued. Some difficulties of sur-charge are being overcome in the Montague Road area by renovation of pumping plant.

Sewage Disposal.—A satisfactory effluent has been maintained, but overloading of the works is evident.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.—A weekly collection has been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year.

Housing.—Private development in all parts of the town has proceeded which together with the municipal redevelopment proposals has changed the aspect of many parts of the town.

Rivers and Water Courses.—There has been no evidence of flooding in the district through the year, but proposals are on hand for the regrading and cleansing of Gog Brook.

Swimming Baths and Paddling Pool.—Although the seasonal weather was reasonably fine and free from much rain, cold winds tended to restrict attendances at the open air swimming pool. Nevertheless the pool provided an appreciated amenity to the Park. The Paddling Pool was again popular with children. The quality of the water in both pools was of a high standard.

D. HOUSING

Private development has continued to be active and progress has been made with the municipal redevelopment proposals in the West End which will change the character of parts of the town.

The Chief Public Health Inspector will elsewhere report in some detail upon the housing position, so that no more will be said here since some brief reference to points of interest has already been made in the foreword.

E. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 (SECTION 31)

Tuberculosis Milk Investigations.—Nine milk samples were taken by authorised officers of the County Council within the Borough and sent for biological examination in 1964. Results obtained from samples were all negative.

This information has been given by courtesy of the County Medical Officer.

During the Aberdeen Typhoid epidemic it was necessary to visit food shops and caterers in order to trace if any corned beef of a suspect consignment had reached the retail or consumer level. In all, 189 visits by your inspectors were required in order to make all the enquiries necessary at short notice.

Investigation of a food poisoning outbreak in another district threw some suspicion upon lettuces grown in Warwick. These had been spray irrigated with water taken from the river Avon a short distance only below the outfall of your overloaded sewage works. Tests showed that a high bacterial count could be obtained soon after the crop had been irrigated from this source.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Incidence of Major Infectious Diseases since 1957.

	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Pneumonia	Anterior Poliomyelitis	Dysentery
1957 ...	450	54	6	—	20	8	2
1958 ...	13	1	12	—	9	1	6
1959 ...	360	12	28	—	10	—	17
1960 ...	10	33	13	—	5	—	9
1961 ...	317	19	16	—	2	—	—
1962 ...	14	3	1	—	3	—	15
1963 ...	367	33	—	—	4	—	12
1964 ...	66	8	5	—	1	—	8

Reference to Table III will give the age distribution of the notifications for 1964.

After the 1963 epidemic of measles, the figures of notifications dropped but not to so low a level as has been

customary in the previous years which intervened between these epidemics. Whooping Cough notifications were less than in several recent years; in some of these a surprisingly high total of cases was reported. This has for some time been a puzzle in view of the high acceptance rate of prophylaxis against the disease. Recent research suggests that the organism responsible exists in several serotypes (or variant forms), and at least one of these types does not have a corresponding antigen in the British vaccine. Thus it cannot protect satisfactorily against this type. In years when the prevalent strains are those against which the vaccine has active components, there will be few cases whereas the predominance of one of the other strains will hoist the recorded total of cases in that year. This could give a convincing explanation of the partial success of the campaign to date as revealed in the table above. One hopes therefore that an adjustment of the potency of future supplies of Pertussis Vaccine can be made which will allow a fuller control over this infection to be had. Apart from the above incidence, there is a noteworthy lack of entries in the columns for Enteric Fever and poliomyelitis. Freedom from the latter after a number of epidemic years must surely be linked directly with the national campaign for vaccination. There are still, however, too many young folk who have neglected to secure this free protection.

TUBERCULOSIS

Tuberculosis

B.C.G. Vaccination.—The County Scheme invites parents of children in their 13th year to allow them to undergo a skin sensitivity test so that B.C.G. vaccine may be given to those who show no reaction. Positive reactors are not vaccinated but may need investigation if the degree of reaction is very marked.

Number of children given Heaf Tests	... 614
" " " vaccinated	... 497
" " positive reactors	... 98
" investigated by X-Rays	... 33

These figures relate to senior children attending Warwick secondary Schools but not all these reside within the borough.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1964

Age Periods	New Cases				Transfers into District				Deaths			
	Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.		Pul- monary		Non- Pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
35-45	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & upwards	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	3	1	1	3	3	—	—	2	1	—	—

Tuberculosis.—The following table gives the incidence of Tuberculosis for the period 1944-1964—

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Cases ...	38	29	20	31	20	20	21
Deaths ...	11	12	9	8	14	6	6
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Cases ...	22	32	40	24	28	23	27
Deaths ...	8	1	3	3	5	3	1
	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Cases ...	20	22	11	5	5	7	8
Deaths ...	—	—	1	2	2	1	3

8 patients were admitted to Sanatorium and 8 patients discharged during the year. There is no delay in admission to hospital. The annual death rate is now much lower than the average figure some twenty years ago.

**MASS RADIOGRAPHY SERVICE—
ANNUAL REPORT, 1964**

Dr. Gordon Evans, Medical Director of the Miniature Mass Radiography Unit, has submitted his Annual Report for the year 1964 in which he states that the number of persons examined resident in the Borough of Warwick was as follows :—

Organised Groups	...	...	...	56
General Public	...	...	...	13

None of these persons required clinic supervision or treatment on account of tuberculosis or other abnormality of the heart or lungs.

The number is low because no public survey was arranged, one having been undertaken in 1963.

The main unit was closed in May, 1964. There is now one static unit at the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and one mobile caravan unit serving 1.2 million persons. The Caravan Unit has one regular day each month at Leamington Spa where Warwick doctors may refer their patients.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 of this Act provides for Medical Officers of Health to make official representations to their Councils with a view to application being made to the local magistrates' court for an order authorizing the compulsory removal to, and detention in, an institution of persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease. The like action may also be taken in regard to persons who are living in insanitary conditions (being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated) and not having proper care and attention. No such persons came under observation during 1964.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting a report covering the activities of my department for the year ended 31st December, 1964.

HOUSING

SLUM CLEARANCE,

The following summary shows the progress made since 1945 in clearing away unfit houses :—

<i>Houses demolished</i>	<i>From 1945 to 1960 (inc.)</i>	1961	1962	1963	1964	<i>Total</i>
Individual Demolition						
Orders	167	59	62	73	76	437
In Clearance Areas ...	90	62	33	25	13	223
	257	121	95	98	89	660

In addition to the above, 40 temporary bungalows, built immediately after the war and intended to have a life of 10 years, have been demolished. Seven temporary bungalows were still occupied at the end of the year and three were vacated but awaiting demolition. The useful life of these remaining bungalows is past and they are being vacated as quickly as rehousing opportunities permit.

STATUTORY ACTION UNDER THE HOUSING ACT DURING THE YEAR

Forty-five houses were represented for action under the demolition order provisions for individual unfit houses. In respect of these, 35 demolition orders were made, and decisions in respect of the remainder had not been reached at the end of the year.

In addition, 21 demolition orders were made on houses represented in the previous year.

A compulsory purchase order embracing the 33 houses in Lakin Road, Paradise Street and Vine Lane, represented as unfit for habitation in 1963, was confirmed by the Minister, but all except four of the houses remained occupied at the end of 1964.

PROGRESS UNDER THE 1955 SLUM CLEARANCE

PROGRAMME

This programme was approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in 1955. It provided for the demolition of 820 unfit houses in 10 years ending 31st December, 1964. Subsequently the Council approved the addition of 40 prefabricated bungalows considered not worthy of retention (10 others were to remain for extended use), 19 houses at Commercial Buildings (not included in the original programme) and 19 houses at Pickard Row (owned by the Council) making a revised total of 898.

The programme was divided into two five-year periods ; during the first five years 360 were to be demolished, leaving 538 to be demolished in the second period.

Progress at the end of 1964 was as follows :—

Houses demolished during 1964	...	89
Houses demolished since inception of programme, including 40 pre-fab bungalows	... ..	622
Houses vacated and awaiting demolition at the end of the year	... ..	115
Houses already subject to orders (operative demolition orders, confirmed clearance and compulsory purchase orders, or undertakings to demolish) but still occupied	... ..	84
Houses acquired by Council, patched up and retained for occupation for a few more years	... ..	37
		<hr/>
		858
		<hr/>

It will be seen that out of the original programme of 898 houses, the statutory stages for demolition had been taken in respect of 858, leaving only 40 still to be represented for action at the end of the programme period which expired at the end of 1964. The programme was thus substantially fulfilled, although a delay in rehousing from condemned houses still occupied at the end of the period, precluded complete achievement of the programme in the 10 years.

Casual vacancies in existing municipal houses and an increase in the number of new dwellings built assisted in reducing the number of houses still occupied a long time after they had been condemned. Unfortunately the acute shortage of small dwellings, for old people especially, meant that there were many cases where a couple or a single tenant were left in occupation of a house in an otherwise empty row.

On a population basis, the rate of demolition of unfit property in Warwick (over 41 per thousand of the population in 10 years) is by far the best in Warwickshire and few authorities in the country have a better record. Your Medical Officer of Health and I desire to place on record our appreciation of the co-operation we have received from the Council in dealing with a problem which 10 years ago appeared to be of such proportions that, if not tackled with vigour, could drag on indefinitely. As it remains now, we feel that we can see the end of conditions brought about by the retention of small, unfit dwellings, built in the era of the industrial revolution to the poor standard of the early byelaws, and continued in occupation long after their proper life had passed. Many such houses were built before the notable provisions of the Towns Improvement Clauses Act of 1848 were approved by Parliament yet this Act did no more than set out minimum standards in respect of paving, draining, cleansing, lighting and improvement of towns which would be considered grossly inadequate today.

There must be a word of caution introduced here. The "common yard" dwellings with their shared water closets and washhouses, outside standpipes for a water supply near to the inevitable all purpose drainage gully and row of battered dustbins, have almost disappeared and will not again feature among the town's housing problems. But the evils of the common yard are not very different from those that can develop in houses let in multiple occupation. This term is the modern name for houses-let-in-lodgings which thirty years ago were controlled by byelaws that were fairly effective at least in preventing the descent of larger houses into total slums. Houses in multiple occupation, including some so-called "flats," call for vigilance to prevent a re-appearance of conditions which the slum clearance programme set out to banish. The enforcement of recent Housing Act powers should assist in preventing the worst conditions from the point of view of public health, but at the same time wherever possible larger houses retained for multiple occupation should be properly converted into self-contained flats and a positive policy should be followed to ensure that such conversions are to a reasonably high standard. Attempts have been made in recent years to provide out of a single house too many flats of too low a standard. There is a great deal of difference between the results of well designed small flats and flatlets and those which obtain from splitting up the accommodation in a large old dwellinghouse when fundamental considerations of lighting and ventilation and essential external amenities are studied.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS AND LOANS

Demolition of so many totally unfit houses has itself raised the general standard of housing in the town, but this standard has been raised to a further marked degree by the number of houses now improved to a good standard by the provision of modern facilities. Improvement Grants to assist in the provision of bathrooms, hot water supply facilities, proper food stores and in the cure of dampness, have been an important feature of housing policy since 1950.

The number of privately-owned dwellings modernised with the aid of grants since then had reached the impressive figure of 523 at the end of the year. In addition, work was in progress at 61 private houses.

During 1964, 85 properties were considered for improvement or conversion, and were formally approved for improvement grants. Of these 20 were tenanted houses and 65 were owner-occupied. In the year, 63 dwellings were modernised or converted with the aid of grants as compared to 52 in 1963.

Applications for loans to cover the applicants' share of the cost of the improvements and also the cost of repairs are still being received and the Council's continued policy in assisting owners by making such loans is most helpful. Application for loans for repairs where no grant is possible, continued to be received and again favourable consideration by the Council resulted in repair work being undertaken which otherwise may only have been carried out under compulsion. The carrying out of work in default is an unfortunate procedure to follow when an owner is anxious to carry out repairs but is hard pressed for the capital needed.

The figures given above do not include improvement work on older Council houses. The work of modernising sub-standard municipal accommodation continued, 41 being completed during 1964. This brings the total of municipal houses modernised since the inception of the scheme up to 274.

The work at the Lord Leycester Hospital continued to make good progress. The full scheme of adaptation and alteration to provide self-contained units of accommodation was finalised.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES (HISTORIC BUILDINGS) ACT 1962

During 1964, four applications were considered for grants and/or loans under the provisions of this Act towards the cost of repairs or alterations of buildings included on the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. Three of these applications were approved and loans were made at a rate of interest below that normally charged by the Council under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958.

MUNICIPAL HOUSING

The following summary shows in respect of 1964 (a) new houses built by the authority, (b) families rehoused and (c) municipal dwellings owned by the local authority :—

New houses built	83
Families rehoused (including 50 transfers)	172
Houses owned by the local authority (not including unfit houses acquired for demolition)	1,855
Percentage of houses owned to total houses in Borough	33%
Vacancies occurring in existing houses	62
Of the families rehoused there were :—	
From "rooms"	29
From poor and/or over crowded houses not subject to Housing Act Orders	29
From houses subject to demolition orders or closing orders or from Clearance Areas	64
Population rehoused	588
	(or 3.5 per family)
Families from serious medical considerations	6

Included in the above are six cases where the occupiers were old age pensioners, either as couples or living alone (not including old age pensioners rehoused from condemned property).

To promote the fullest use of municipal accommodation 48 transfers and exchanges were arranged.

In the 19 years since the end of 1945, 1,691 families, comprising 6,042 persons have been rehoused, but during the same period there have been 2,535 applications, 78 of these being registered during 1964.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS

One-thousand-four-hundred-and-ninety-one inspections were made for the purposes of the Public Health Act. As in previous years most of the 155 notices issued under the Public Health Act related to dwellinghouse defects of a general nature. In 18 cases it was necessary to serve statutory notices. Three disinfestations were carried out during the year.

DRAINAGE, SANITARY ACCOMMODATION, WASHING ACCOMMODATION AND REFUSE RECEPTACLES

During the period 20 notices requiring choked drains to be cleared or defective drains to be repaired were complied with; 7 notices requiring repairs to water closets received attention; 34 dustbins were provided and 43 accumulations of refuse were removed.

VERMIN INFESTATION

Rats and Mice.—Systematic investigations to ascertain infestations were continued during the year. The department dealt with infestations, principally of a minor character, as follows :—

Dwellinghouses	...	...	...	...	46
Factories and offices	...	...	...	...	16
Shops	...	...	...	...	2
Schools	...	...	...	...	1
Houses and cafes	...	...	...	...	1
Clubs and licensed premises	...	...	...	...	2
Allotments and plots of land	...	...	...	...	109
Streams	...	...	...	...	50

In addition during the year regular visits were made to hospitals in the Borough, and the Council's refuse tip and sewage disposal works were also treated regularly. Eight block treatments were carried out.

The town's sewers were inspected and treated against rats. Although unpoisoned baits were laid in 56 manholes, bait was only taken in seven. In these seven, poison bait was subsequently laid to complete the treatments.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

Routine inspections and observations for the purposes of the Clean Air Act continued during the year. All the larger steam raising plants in the Borough are either oil-fired or fired mechanically if still using solid fuel.

The old boilers at Warwick Hospital are still hand-fired and still offend with emissions of black smoke from time to time.

The cupola plant at the large iron foundry at Emscote was reconstructed during the year and modern grit and dust arrestation equipment was installed. This equipment was designed from American practice and is comparatively unique in this country. It produced exceptional improvements at the outset when a white steam mist plume took the place of the dark and heavy emissions previously observed. This equipment has, however, been prone to repeated failures and efforts are being made to render it more reliable over the whole period when this hot-blast cupola is in operation. Notwithstanding these failures, the installation represents a great improvement over conditions previously obtaining.

At a smaller foundry using a cupola of the cold-blast type, plans were in hand at the end of the year to install a rather larger cupola incorporating a grit arrester in place of old equipment which was causing considerable smoke nuisance.

Costly smoke abatement equipment installed at a large foundry just beyond the boundary, brought great benefit to residents in the eastern part of Warwick.

Considered as a whole, Warwick suffers comparatively little industrial pollution. All the major hotels have now either oil or gas fired heating boilers and no serious nuisance arises from this source.

Prior approval to new plants satisfying the provisions of the Clean Air Act was given in seven cases, viz: heating systems for an old people's home, two for a factory, one for an Oil Company, hostel for sub-normal adults, one for an hotel, one for a public building.

The Percy Estate Smoke Control Order was again observed by the majority of householders, but there were instances of bituminous coal being delivered and burnt.

Smoke Control Orders in respect of Lodgewood Estate and St. John's flats had not been confirmed at the end of the year.

The daily measurement of smoke and acid in the atmosphere was continued throughout the year, as was also the

measurement of deposits and sulphur on a monthly basis. I referred last year to the contrast between the condition of the air generally in the town, where quick dispersal of smoke and the more insidious sulphur takes place over a wide area, and the filth in the atmosphere of High Street and Jury Street due to motor vehicle exhausts. Though this atmospheric filth hardly needs measuring as it can be seen and smelt, daily measurements of deposits and sulphur were commenced so as to compare conditions at the rear of property on the south side of Jury Street with those obtaining in the street itself. If continued until the date by which the town by-pass is constructed and in use, the contribution the by-pass makes towards lessening the pollution will be capable of assessment, though due to the volume of traffic carried by these main streets it will not appear as considerable as would be the case if the by-pass was in operation today. Without the by-pass, air conditions in this area, could become intolerable if pollution from motor vehicles continues to increase at the present rate.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AT PUBLIC HOUSES AND PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The sanitary accommodation at licensed premises generally was found to be of good standard and well maintained. At one licensed premises the accommodation was improved after representations to the owners concerned.

CARAVANS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

A total of 28 inspections during the year was made for the purposes of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. At the end of 1964 six licenses permitting the stationing of caravans were in operation in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

During the year covered by the report additional sanitary accommodation was provided at five factories, and the existing accommodation was improved at seven factories. At the end of 1964 the register included 115 factories, 98 having mechanical power and 17 without mechanical power.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Regular inspections were made of the one premises registered in the Borough.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Inspections and reinspections of shops continued during 1964. The following improvements were made: Sanitary accommodation improved at nine shops; improved washing facilities at 13 shops; improved ventilation at eight shops; structural improvements at 12 shops.

At the end of 1964 certificates of exemption to provide sanitary accommodation were in operation in respect of two shops.

Registration of Premises under the provision of the 1963 Act was commenced.

TERMINAL DISINFECTION

A total of four investigations were made following notifications of infectious disease.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

The following make up the current registers for 1964:—

Milk Distributors	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies other than farms	...	...	...	...	2

INSPECTION OF FOOD AT RETAILERS' SHOPS

Visits made to shops during the year under review were: 267 to retail shops; 84 to premises used for food preparation; 40 to ice-cream premises and vehicles; six to dairies; four to bakehouses; 38 to hotels and restaurants and 27 to market stalls.

During the period of the Royal Show assistance was again given to Warwick Rural District Council in the inspection of food premises.

Regular visits as far as practicable had again been made of all premises in the town concerned with the manufacture, preparation, storage or sale of food.

It was found necessary to draw the attention of the Management of several of the principal hotels in the town to the unsatisfactory condition of the kitchens and food preparation rooms.

Ice-cream vans, market stalls, the Mop and Racecourse again received regular inspections.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926

Shops were again visited, as found necessary, during the year, in connection with the Merchandise Marks Act, 1926, and Orders made thereunder, concerning correct labelling of foods displayed for sale.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954

Six licences to slaughter or stun animals were granted during 1964.

RENT ACT, 1957

During the year, 15 inspections were made for the purposes of the Act. Five certificates of Disrepair previously served were cancelled.

WATER SAMPLING

Thirty-eight samples of water from dwellinghouses served by the public water supply were submitted for examination during the year. Twentyseven of these were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service for bacteriological examination and 11 to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis. Results show that the water from the taps in the town was safe and of good quality.

A sample of effluent discharging from the Borough's Sewage Disposal Works was submitted for chemical analysis when the result showed the effluent to be of only fair quality at the time of sampling.

A sample from a stormwater overflow discharging into Gog Brook was taken and this proved to be fairly satisfactory in view of the weather conditions prevailing.

A sample of the final effluent discharging to the River Avon from the Sewage Disposal Works was considered to be of rather poor quality at the time of sampling. In both cases, however, the samples were affected by stormwater conditions.

A sample of water from the footbath at Aylesford School showed satisfactory conditions following bacteriological examination.

Samples of water were taken from several points at Newburgh School and submitted for bacteriological and chemical examination in an endeavour to find the cause of objectionable odours from taps. Both results showed the water to be pure and wholesome.

Lettuces grown on land irrigated by water from the River Avon were submitted for examination by the Public Analyst purely as a safeguard. Results were noted for future guidance.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

No legal proceedings were taken during the year, but warning letters were sent to various firms contravening Sections 2 or 9 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, following the sale of a loaf of bread containing the cast of a spider in one instance, a loaf of bread containing the body of a spider in another instance, (different firms), a meat pie containing part of a matchstick and in five instances food found on examination to have traces of mould.

CONCLUSION

I again wish to thank the Council for their ready co-operation in seeking to raise the standard of environmental health conditions in the town. My thanks are also due to Chief Officers of other departments for helpful co-operation, and to members of my staff for continued excellent service during another period when the demands upon the office have continued to be heavy.

Your obedient servant,

J. BULLOCK.

Chief Public Health Inspector, Borough of Warwick

TABLE I
BOROUGH OF WARWICK
SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT DURING 1964

	Inspections made and observations		Notices served		Nuisances abated after notice 1964
	1964	1964	Statutory 1964	Informal 1964	
Dwellinghouses and Schools	2	232	40
Lodging Houses	—	8	—
Factories	—	2	1
Licensed Premises	—	—	—
Canal Boats	—	13	7
Water Closets	3	36	28
Drainage	10	—	—
Water Supply	—	2	2
Places of Entertainment	—	4	4
Caravans	—	27	26
Dustbins	—	22	18
Deposits of Refuse	—	—	—
Pigsties	—	7	6
Vermin Infestations	—	44	19
Shops	—	1	1
Animals Improperly Kept	—	37	37
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—
Dairies and Milk Shops	—	—	—
Bakehouses	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses, Butchers' and Other Retail Food Shops	—	4	3
Occasional Slaughter on Private Premises	—	—	—
Premises used for Food Preparation	—	13	7
Ice-cream Premises and Vehicles	—	—	—
Miscellaneous Nuisances	3	57	47
Hotels	—	8	6
Rent Act	—	—	—
	18	517	254
	TOTALS	4,892	1964
Seizures and Surrenders of Unwholesome Food	23
Samples of Milk taken for bacteriological examination	—
Samples of Water taken	38
Lots of Infected Bedding, Disinfected or Destroyed	—
Houses Disinfected after cases of Infectious Disease	—
Houses Disinfested for Vermin	4
Improvement Grant Visits	586

TABLE II.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1964
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
1955	15,670	220	14.0	6	22.2	175	11.2
1956	15,690	245	15.1	2	8.4	153	9.8
1957	15,810	200	12.5	.....	20.3	174	11.0
1958	15,900	233	13.5	2	9.3	161	10.1
1959	15,870	210	13.2	5	23.8	195	12.3
1960	16,010	223	13.9	4	18.0	162	10.1
1961	16,140	261	16.1	5	19.2	196	12.1
1962	16,300	280	17.2	5	17.8	205	12.6
1963	16,260	291	17.5	6	20.6	210	12.6
1964	16,870	294	17.4	5	17.0	196	11.6

VITAL STATISTICS IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1964

ENGLAND AND WALES.

Birth rate, Death rate, and Infant Mortality during the Year 1964.

(Provisional Figures)

Annual Rate per 1,000 Population.

	Live Births.	Still Births per 1,000 Births.	Deaths under one year to 1,000 Births
England and Wales	18.4	16.3	11.3 20.0

TABLE III.

BOROUGH OF WARWICK

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING
THE YEAR 1964

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								
Scarlet Fever	5	1	4					
Typhus Fever								
Enteric Fever								
Typhoid Fever								
Pneumonia	1					1		
Malaria								
Dysentery	8	1	7					
Puerperal Pyrexia								
Meningococcal Infection ...	1					1		
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)								
Whooping Cough	8	2	3	2	1			
Encephalitis Lethargica ...								
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...								
Measles	66	5	39	22				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	6			2		3		1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	2					1	1	
Food Poisoning	1		1					
Totals	98	8	50	31	1	5	2	1

TABLE IV.
BOROUGH OF WARWICK
CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1964.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES
1 Tuberculosis respiratory	2	1
2 Tuberculosis other	—	—
3 Syphilitic disease	—	—
4 Diphtheria	—	—
5 Whooping cough	—	—
6 Meningococcal infections	—	—
7 Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8 Measles	—	—
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	1
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	—
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	9	1
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	3
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	3
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	9	8
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	—
16 Diabetes	—	3
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	6	13
18 Coronary disease, angina	22	6
19 Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	2
20 Other heart disease	8	9
21 Other circulatory disease	6	4
22 Influenza	—	2
23 Pneumonia	9	11
24 Bronchitis	8	4
25 Other disease of respiratory system ...	1	1
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	3
27 Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—
28 Nephritis and nephrosis	—	2
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31 Congenital malformations	3	—
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	8	8
33 Motor vehicle accidents	7	1
34 All other accidents	1	3
35 Suicide	1	1
36 Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—
All Causes	106	90

