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WELLINGBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1951

with the annual report of

A. J. STROUD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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



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Wellingborough Urban District.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1951.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area (in acres) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,738 |
| Population, 1931 (census) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25,321 |
| „ 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28,380 |
| Number of separate dwellings occupied 1931 (census) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,396 |
| „ „ „ „ 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8,512 |
| Rateable value, 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £160,491 |
| Product of a penny rate | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £618 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Live Births. | | | | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 388 | 203 | 185 | |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 25 | 13 | 12 | |
| | | | | | 413 | 216 | 197 | 14.55 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Stillbirths. | | | | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 | 5 | 9 | |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 1 | 1 | |
| | | | | | 16 | 6 | 10 | 0.56 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | | | | <i>Total</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Rate</i> |
| Deaths (all causes) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 361 | 186 | 175 | 12.72 |

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—rate per 1,000.

Total (Live and Still) Births

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis | — | — | Nil | |
| Other puerperal causes | ... | ... | 1 | 2.33 |

Infant Mortality—rate per 1,000 live births.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|---|---|-------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 | 6 | 5 | 28.35 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | 1 | 40 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | 6 | 6 | 29.05 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Deaths from | (a) Cancer (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54 |
| „ | (b) Measles (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| „ | (c) Whooping Cough (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| „ | (d) Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

Wellingborough Urban District Council

Members of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee :

MESSRS. H. C. L. WARWICK, C.C. (*Chairman*), R. D. PATERSON, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman*), C. A. HEARN, E. H. HEARNDEN, C.C., MISS E. A. HORN, MESSRS. P. S. JAMES, A. L. LANGHAM, J. LEA, J.P., C.A. (died 8.3.52), A. J. MAYES, F. MUNDAY, H. S. TEESDALE.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

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

also holds appointments of

Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Higham Ferrers.

Medical Officer of Health, Rushden Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Irthlingborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Wellingborough Rural District Council.

Assistant School Medical Officer.

Secretary :

MISS J. PEARSON.

Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector, etc. :

A. J. STROUD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

D. B. HOPKINS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
SWANSPPOOL,
WELLINGBOROUGH.
July, 1952

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS HORN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my fourth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District of Wellingborough for the year 1951.

Before proceeding with my report I should like to say that it was with deep regret that I learned of the death of Councillor John Lea on the 8th of March of this year. The town is well aware of the public services rendered by him for so many years. He was a member of the Health Committee since my appointment in February, 1949, and I have benefited from his sympathetic interest and advice on many occasions.

Throughout the text of this report a comparison between the Vital Statistics for Wellingborough and England and Wales is shown. From Table No. 5, page 22, a comparison also will be seen between the vital statistics for Wellingborough and 148 similar small towns throughout the country. From this it will be seen that the vital statistics for Wellingborough are similar to those for other small towns.

The Birth Rate for 1951 was 14.55 and in the previous year it was 14.88. Although the decline in the number of births continues, the Rate was only slightly lower than that for the previous year, and it would appear that the post-war decline is coming to an end.

The Death Rate for the period was 12.72 compared with 13.46 for 1950. The Infant Mortality Rate of 29.05 showed a satisfactory fall on that of the previous year, when it was 35.62. The number of deaths from Cancer showed a considerable fall on that recorded for the previous year. The number of deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis showed an increase of 4 on that recorded for the previous year.

From Section F, which deals with Infectious Diseases, it will be seen that the number of cases of the Commoner Infectious Diseases showed an increase on those for the previous year. The greatest increase occurred with regard to Whooping Cough, when 124 cases were notified, compared with 54 in the previous year. Scarlet Fever also showed an increase of 19 cases over the previous year. Measles, once again, was the commonest infectious disease, and 353 cases were notified compared with 343 in the previous year. In this chapter also an account will be found of an outbreak of Bornholm's Disease, which occurred in July. One case of Diphtheria was notified, and this is the first case that has occurred in the area for the past 4 years. The immunisation figures for the area are

satisfactory and undoubtedly this is the reason why the area has had such a good record over the past 4 years with regard to cases of Diphtheria. The causal organism is still present amongst our community, but cases are not occurring on account of the protection the young community has by immunisation. A number of cases of Food Poisoning occurred at the end of the year, notifications for which are brought forward to the following year. These cases were caused by Salmonella Minnesota, which is a germ new to this area. A small number of cases occurred in the area which were associated with an outbreak in another part of the County. Prompt action with regard to diagnosis and the finding of the causal organism led to the article of food involved being quickly discovered and seized, thus preventing further cases. Although the Vaccination figures show an improvement on those for the previous year, they still leave much to be desired.

In Section C, which deals with the Sanitary Circumstances of the area, it will be seen that a considerable number of water samples were taken during the year, and as a result of this it was found necessary for action to be taken on a number of occasions.

The building programme carried out by the Council during the year maintains a satisfactory level, and 590 houses have been completed since the war. It is satisfactory to note that, included in this post-war scheme, houses for old folk have been built. The time would now appear opportune for dealing with unfit houses in the area. This is a considerable problem, especially with regard to Finedon, but is one that has to be tackled, and as it cannot be dealt with on a short term policy, the sooner a start is made the better. This problem, possibly, could be dealt with best by phasing, so that the most unsatisfactory areas could be cleared up first.

The year has been a busy one, but my work has been made easier by the co-operation and assistance of the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, whose interests in Public Health matters have always been a stimulant. I should like to thank the Surveyor, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager for information supplied for this Report, and to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation for the ever-ready assistance that I have received from Mr. Stroud during the year. Before concluding, I should like also to thank Miss Pearson for her able assistance in the production of this Report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

P. X. BERMINGHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area.—The Urban District of Wellingborough covers an area of 8,738 acres, and comprises the towns of Wellingborough and Finedon. The density of population is 3.2 persons per acre and the housing factor 3.4 persons per house.

Population.—The Population for the Urban District of Wellingborough is 28,380, according to the Registrar General's Returns. This shows an increase of 90 on the figures given for 1950. The natural increase for the year was 52, births outnumbering deaths by this figure.

Deaths.—361 deaths were recorded during the period. This figure was given by the Registrar General after necessary adjustments for inward and outward transferable deaths were made. The Death Rate for the year was 12.72 per thousand of the population and shows a fall on the Rate for the previous year, which was 13.46. The Death Rate for England and Wales for 1951 was 12.5. Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System caused 36% of the total number of deaths, Cancer 15%, Diseases of the Respiratory System 12%, and Tuberculosis 3% of the total.

The Causes of Death, in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948, will be found in Table No. 1, page 20. Table No. 2, page 21 gives further information concerning Deaths from selected causes.

Births.—413 births were recorded during the year. This gives a Birth Rate of 14.55 per thousand of the population. This shows a slight fall on the Rate for the previous year, which was 14.88. The Rate for England and Wales for the same period was 15.5.

Stillbirths.—16 Stillbirths occurred during the year. This gives a rate of 0.56 per thousand of the population. The Rate for the previous year was 0.42. The Rate for England and Wales for 1951 was 0.36.

Illegitimate Births.—25 Illegitimate Births were registered in 1951 and gave a Rate for the year of 60.53 per thousand live births. The rate for 1950 was 58.82.

Maternal Mortality.—One death occurred under this heading, and gives a Rate of 2.33 per thousand total (live and still) births. This is the first death recorded under this heading for a period of two years.

Infant Mortality.—12 Infant Deaths were recorded during the year. This gives a Rate of 29.05 per thousand live births. The Rate for the previous year was 35.62, when 15 deaths occurred. The Rate for England and Wales for 1951 was 29.6. The following Table shows the Rate over a number of years:—

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|------|------|------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | War years | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 |
| 65 | 64.3 | 38.8 | 22.6 | 46.6 | | 28.16 | 35.99 | 29.64 | 32.89 |
| 1950 | 1951 | | | | | | | | |
| 35.62 | 29.05 | | | | | | | | |

Neonatal Mortality.—This is a sub-division of the Infant Mortality Rate and concerns Infant Deaths which occurred within 28 days of independent existence. Six of the deaths occurred within this period, and this gives a Rate of 14.52 per thousand live births. In the previous year the Rate was 23.75. The causes of Infant Deaths under one year are given in Table No. 10, page 27.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Services.—The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service at Northampton General Hospital, which comes under Dr. Hoyle, assisted with regard to providing facilities for the examination of specimens taken in the area in connection with Infectious Diseases. Samples of water, milk and ice cream are also sent to this laboratory for examination. The co-operation of Dr. Hoyle during the year was much appreciated.

Diphtheria Antitoxin.—Supplies of Antitoxin are now kept at the following places:

Wellingborough Hospital.
Northampton General Hospital.
Rushden House Sanatorium.
Rockingham Road Kettering.

Ambulance Services.—Arrangements for this service are made by the County Council with the S. John's Ambulance Brigade. This Brigade has two Divisions, one in Wellingborough and one in Finedon. Three Ambulances are kept in Wellingborough and one in Finedon, and these serve both the Urban and Rural areas. Cases of Infectious Diseases are removed by the Northampton S. John's Ambulance Brigade by arrangement also with the County Council.

Nursing in the Home.—This service also comes under the County Council. Details of the work carried out by the Nurses during the year are not available. A request was made to the County for this information, as it was felt it would be of considerable interest to the Local Councillors.

Home Helps.—The provision of this service comes under the County Council. A considerable number of persons contacted my office during the year with regard to the provision of such help. These cases were all referred to the County Medical Officer of Health. Such a scheme, in my opinion, could advantageously be run locally.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.—The County Council Health Department run the following Clinics and Welfare Centres at Rock Street:

Child Welfare—Tuesday afternoon.

Ante-natal—Morning of first Thursday of each month.

Post-natal—Afternoon of first Thursday of each month.

Sunlight Clinic—Friday afternoons.

Tuberculosis—Monday and Wednesday mornings.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Morning of first Saturday of each month.

The Manfield Orthopaedic Hospital holds an Out-patient Clinic at Rock Street School on each Wednesday afternoon.

A Schools Minor Ailment Clinic is held at Park Street School on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, and at Croyland Road School on Wednesday afternoons.

An Infant Welfare Centre is held at Finedon on the fourth Thursday of each month.

An Infant Welfare Centre is also held at S. Andrews Hall on the Croyland Estate to facilitate persons living on the estate.

Plans for the new Health Clinic in Wellingborough were completed and work on this clinic has commenced. When this new Clinic is completed it should be of considerable advantage to the people of Wellingborough, as at present the majority of Clinics have to be held at Rock Street.

Hospital Accommodation.—There are two hospitals in Wellingborough: namely, the Park Hospital, with accommodation for old persons in need of care and attention, and the chronic sick. This hospital also has a Maternity Block.

The Wellingborough Hospital also deals with the area and has beds for adults and children.

Further accommodation for the chronic sick and old persons in need of care and attention is provided at Oundle and S. Mary's Hospital, Kettering.

The Northampton General Hospital and Kettering Hospital also serve the area.

National Assistance Act, 1948.—Persons in need of Care and Attention. Under Section 47 of this Act the Council is responsible for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of Care and Attention. This Act deals with persons suffering from chronic diseases or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, living under insanitary conditions, are unable to devote to themselves or receive from persons with whom they reside proper care and attention. Such removals can only be made for a prescribed period. No action was found necessary under this Act during the year. It is endeavoured not to make use of this Act, but, in suitable cases, by persuasion, to get the persons to go into such hospitals voluntarily.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.—The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board is responsible for the supply to the Wellingborough area. The main sources are as follows:

- (1) Impounding Reservoir Hardwick, waters drawn from the Bluestone strata.
- (2) Orlingbury—deep well—source Ironstone strata.
- (3) Wellingborough Road, Finedon—deep well in the middle Lias Clay. This supply was discontinued during the year.
- (4) Bushfields—5 wells—tap water from the Great Oolite Northampton beds.
- (5) Corby supply—Corby Reservoir. Filtered and Chlorinated water.

At Bushfields treatment of water from the following sources is carried out—Hardwick, Orlingbury and Bushfields—water here softened by means of the Lime Process (Haynes and Potters System), filtered and chlorinated.

Water Samples.—99 samples of water were taken in the Wellingborough area and sent for bacteriological examination. The results of these samples were as follows:

| | Very Satisfactory | Satisfactory | Suspicious | Unsatisfactory |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|----------------|
| Wellingborough | 43 | 13 | 6 | Nil |
| Finedon | 29 | — | 4 | 4 |

The unsatisfactory samples were obtained in the early part of the year when the Wellingborough Road, Finedon, deep well was in use. Water from this source was not filtered, but only chlorinated. Pollution was found to be concerned with this well. This well is not now used and Finedon receives a filtered and chlorinated water supply from Bushfields. In the latter part of the year all samples taken were Very Satisfactory.

During the year this Department continued to carry out its own Water Sampling and the Board was notified when unsatisfactory samples were found. This method has been adopted as in my opinion a population of the size of Wellingborough should have its water supplies constantly under review. The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board do not supply copies of results of samples taken and I have no knowledge of how frequently samples are taken. It has been found, however, that when suspicious or unsatisfactory samples were taken and notified by me to the Board action was taken immediately.

The Rainfall recorded at Rushden and Sywell during the year was as follows:

Rushden—27.80 inches.

Sywell—26.94 inches.

The number of houses with a piped supply—8,238.

The number of houses dependent upon standpipes—233.

The number of houses without town's supply—41.

Sewage Disposal, Drainage and Sewerage.—Wellingborough—Full details adopted for the disposal of sewage for Wellingborough was given in last year's Annual Report. The Sewage Farm is run in a very satisfactory manner and alternative areas for land irrigation are used consecutively. The final effluent has always been of a satisfactory nature and gives rise to no particular problem. The method of adoption of Broad Irrigation has its dangers, as large quantities of sewage are exposed to the elements and may possibly constitute a danger. Flies, birds, vermin, are attracted by such effluent and it is difficult to estimate what part they may play in the spread of diseases associated with excreta.

During the year good progress was made on the Swanspool Valley Sewer and at the end of the period this was nearing completion. This sewer includes a length up to the Wilby boundary, which eventually is to be continued on to take sewage from the village of Wilby.

New sewers were constructed on the Croyland Hall Farm estate for dealing with the site for 264 houses. Contracts were let for a new pumping station and rising main in the Doddington Road to take the place of the existing ejectors in order to deal with the extra load of sewage from the Croyland Hall Farm Housing Estate.

Finedon.—The method of disposal of sewage is by broad irrigation. The area of land used is now thoroughly sewage sick. Samples of final effluent taken over a period of years have not come up to standard and in the future an alternative method of dealing with the sewage at Finedon should be gone into.

Disinfection.—Concurrent and terminal disinfection in connection with Infectious Diseases was carried out as required by liquid and gaseous disinfectants.

It was hoped that a Disinfection Station for the area would be set up, but unfortunately the cost involved was considered too high and alternative arrangements had to be made. An agreement with the Rushden Urban District Council to carry out Steam Disinfection of articles associated with Infectious Diseases was considered as an alternative, and this matter is to be pursued.

Details concerning the work carried out will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Swimming Baths.—The Wilby pool is the nearest public swimming baths to the town. Other pools at Overstone and Rushden are also used by inhabitants of Wellingborough. Schoolchildren in the area use the Wilby pool in conducted parties. Many samples of water from the swimming pool were taken during the year and these all proved to be very satisfactory. The water in the pool is filtered and chlorinated and there is a three- to four-hour turnover. Free chlorine was present in .4 parts per million in samples examined. The paddling pool also has a filtered and chlorinated water supply.

Complaints were received from time to time concerning the dressing accommodation and sanitary conveniences. Inspections were made and reports presented to the owner, who at all times has been very co-operative in the carrying out of suggestions made.

Samples of water from Overstone and Rushden swimming pools were also satisfactory.

River Nene.—Water samples taken from the river in the vicinity of the old bathing place during the year all proved very unsatisfactory and showed evidence of faecal pollution. On these grounds it was felt that the baths once situated here could not be opened.

Swanspool Brook.—Samples were taken along the course of this brook at intervals during the year, and were found to be unsatisfactory, with high bacteriological counts. In view of the fact that the sewage from Wilby village is in future to be taken into the Wellingborough sewers, it is hoped that this will help considerably with regard to the pollution of the brook.

Movable Dwellings, Public Health Act, 1936. S. 269.—The site used at Leighton's Yard, High Street, for movable dwellings is now almost clear. There were few requests for licences for movable dwellings during the year and so at the moment there would not appear to be a case for

the setting up of a caravan site. There are such sites at Rushden and Wilby, and possibly these cater for the area.

Public Cleansing.—During the year an additional mechanical road sweeper was delivered and put into use. The Council maintains five vehicles for the collection of refuse and a weekly collection is made. Tipping is carried out at Gipsy Lane, Irchester, which is the Council's official tip. On arrangement the Rural Council also tip here. Controlled tipping is the method adopted and the area is maintained in a satisfactory manner. 4,220 loads of refuse, weighing 8,034 tons, were collected and deposited at this tip during the year.

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement.—Once again the Northern and Eastern parts of the town were areas most affected with regard to Atmospheric Pollution. This is caused by the local Iron Works situated in the area. This gives an emission of dust and grit, which causes considerable inconvenience to persons living in the area. The situation is under monthly review by the Health Committee and four deposit gauges are maintained. Although efforts have been made by the Management to abate this nuisance by the installation of a dust collector, so far no appreciable improvement has been noted. Some cases of smoke nuisances were reported during the year and the necessary action taken, further details of which will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

On the 31st December, 1951, the number of applicants for Council houses in the Wellingborough Urban District was 824, made up as follows:

| | | |
|----------------|----|------------|
| Wellingborough | .. | 707 |
| Finedon | .. | 117 |
| Total | .. | <u>824</u> |

This number shows a fall of 109 on the number of applicants for the previous year.

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

| | <i>Council</i> | <i>Private</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Completed during the year .. | 95 | 6 | 101 |
| Completed since the war (including 95 temporary) | 590 | 135 | 725 |
| Under construction on 31st December, 1951 | 203 | 21 | 224 |

From this it will be seen that much activity is taking place with regard to the construction of houses for persons in the area and the number of houses under construction at the end of the year was quite considerable and should give rise to a certain amount of satisfaction. Wellingborough is, undoubtedly, making every effort to deal with its housing problem. The time now would appear opportune to consider taking action with regard to some unfit houses, and it is hoped that in the near future certain areas will be dealt with. One cannot over-stress the bad effect upon health of unfit houses. Sixteen bungalows for old folks were constructed on the Croyland Estate and the keys handed over during the period. It gives me great pleasure to report this fact, as the housing of our old people, in my opinion, is of paramount importance. The old idea that unfit property was good enough for an old couple is wrong. If such property will have an adverse effect upon the health of the young, it will also have the same effect upon the old. The community should consider not alone the health of the young, but also that of the old folk, especially now that the numbers of persons in the older age groups are larger than ever before.

Many visits were made during the year to inspect the living conditions of applicants for Council houses and reports were submitted to the Housing Manager to bring to the notice of the Housing Committee. Once again I should like to express my appreciation of the consideration given by the Housing Committee to cases which presented health factors.

Further details concerning this section will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Milk Samples—During the year the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department took 98 samples. The results of these were as follows:

| <i>Good</i> | <i>Bad</i> |
|-------------|------------|
| 70 | 28 |

The interpretation of the results is now divided into these two categories whereas formerly it was Good, Moderate and Bad, so of the 28 unsatisfactory samples, some, possibly, fell into the previous Moderate category. The percentage of Good samples, which is almost 70%, is satisfactory. Notwithstanding the fact that officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries take samples of milk, it is in the interest of the local authority to take their own samples, otherwise there is little or no information concerning the situation. Ministry officials sample only from the producer and the County Council from pasteurisation plants. There are three pasteurisation plants in the town. This number has been reduced by one since the previous year. It is estimated that about 85% of milk consumed in the area is pasteurised milk.

Rinsings from washed bottles—89 samples were taken during the period, 57 were Good, 6 Moderate and 26 Unsatisfactory. In all cases where unsatisfactory samples were obtained a follow-up was made. A considerable improvement has been noted with regard to this matter.

Ice-Cream—38 samples were taken during the year, and the results recorded fell into the following Grades :

| Grade I | Grade II | Grade III | Grade IV. |
|---------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 24 | 8 | 4 | 2 |

From this it will be seen that 84% of samples were in Grade I or II and this is in accordance with the Ministry instructions which state 80% should fall within the first two Grades. There are approximately 80 retailers of Ice Cream in Wellingborough and the majority sell pre-packed or wrapped ice-cream. Only four have plant for producing their own ice-cream.

From the results of samples taken it will be seen that the standard of ice-cream sold in the area is satisfactory.

Livestock (Restriction on Slaughtering) Order, 1940.—The area is served by the Rushden Abattoir where all meat is inspected before distribution for human consumption.

Carcases of local killings under licence are inspected by the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Meat Distribution—Methods adopted and practices in use are not altogether satisfactory and this matter requires constant supervision.

Clean Food Guild—In connection with this Guild between 50 and 60 shops were inspected and ones which reached the required standard were supplied with a Certificate. A number of lectures on Food Poisoning were given in the area during the year and arrangements made for films to be shown, followed by a lecture, at Food Manufacturing premises. Notices with regard to the prohibition of Dogs in Food Shops were distributed. Further details concerning this will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

SECTION F.

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

Smallpox—No cases were notified.

Vaccination—The vaccination figures for the year were as follows :

| | Under 1 | 1—4 | 5—14 | 15 or over | Total |
|--------------------|---------|-----|------|------------|-------|
| Primary | 107 | 30 | 23 | 25 | 185 |
| Re-vaccination ... | — | — | 9 | 40 | 49 |
| | 107 | 30 | 32 | 65 | 234 |

The figures for 1950 were as follows :

| | Under 1 | 1—4 | 5—14 | 15 or over | Total |
|--------------------|---------|-----|------|------------|-------|
| Primary | 49 | 27 | 14 | 35 | 125 |
| Re-vaccination ... | — | 2 | 6 | 59 | 67 |
| | 49 | 29 | 20 | 94 | 192 |

From the above it will be seen that the vaccination figures for the year show a considerable improvement, especially in the number of infants.

This figure was increased by 58 compared with 1950. Unfortunately the vaccination state is too low, and when one considers that there were 413 live births in 1951 and only 107 of these were vaccinated, it will be seen that the situation is still not satisfactory.

During the year contacts of cases of Smallpox came into the area and in one instance the person concerned was a close contact. This person had to be kept under surveillance and all associates vaccinated. The situation was such that if all precautions had not been taken in this particular instance it would have been possible for an outbreak to have occurred in the area. Once again I should like to appeal to parents to have their children vaccinated.

Scarlet Fever—28 cases were notified compared with 9 in the previous year. Six cases were removed to hospital, but in the majority of cases the reason was lack of satisfactory means of isolation at home, and not severity of the disease, as Scarlet Fever continues to be mild.

Diphtheria—One case of Diphtheria occurred. This case was in an adult and the circumstances were such that immediate action had to be taken with regard to prevention of spread. Fortunately no further cases occurred. This is the first case that has occurred in Wellingborough for a period of 4 years.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis—The following table shows the number of children who had completed a course of immunisation against Diphtheria on the 31st December, 1951.

| Immunisation in Relation to Child Population. | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|------|------|------|------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Number of children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1951. | | | | | | | | |
| Age at 31.12.51 i.e. Born in Year ... | <i>Under</i> | | | | | 5 to 9 | 10 to 14 | Total |
| | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 to 9 | 10 to 14 | Total |
| | 1951 | 1950 | 1949 | 1948 | 1947 | 1942-1946 | 1935-1941 | under 15 |
| Number Immunised | 24 | 253 | 305 | 343 | 282 | 1,403 | 1,419 | 4,029 |
| Estimated mid-year population 1951 | 2,445 | | | | | 3,888 | | |

During the year the following immunisations were carried out :

| | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Under 5 years | 5—14 years. | Booster doses |
| 352 | 58 | 398 |

The above table does not include children immunised by private arrangements.

The necessity for keeping up our immunisation figures is apparent from the fact that one case of Diphtheria occurred. It brings to mind the fact that the Diphtheria Bacillus still exists amongst the community, but that cases are kept in check by the immunisation state of the child population.

Measles—353 cases of measles were notified compared with 343 in the previous year. Two cases were removed to hospital. No deaths occurred. One death due to this cause was notified in the previous year.

Whooping Cough—124 cases were notified compared with 54 in the previous year. Six cases were removed to hospital. One death occurred from this cause. This disease is most dangerous in the very young infant. Diphtheria immunisation is carried out at the 9th month as the infant inherits a certain protection from its parent. This is not so with Whooping Cough and so immunisation against Whooping Cough can, with advantage, be carried out at an earlier date. Recently at the Wellingborough Clinic a start has been made on this scheme.

Puerperal Pyrexia—Ten cases were notified compared with 3 in the previous year. With regard to this increase it must be noted that we have a hospital in the area and that cases are sent from surrounding areas to this hospital.

Pneumonia—32 notifications were received compared with 45 in the previous year. Six deaths were recorded from this cause.

Cerebro Spinal Fever—No cases were notified.

Erysipelas—Four cases occurred compared with 12 in the previous year.

Influenza—Nine deaths were recorded from this cause. This disease is not notifiable, but during the early months of the year there was an epidemic. In the Urban and Rural Districts of Wellingborough and Irthlingborough, in the first week of the epidemic there were approximately 160 cases which increased to the maximum in the fourth week of 397 cases.

The decline commenced in the fifth week with 346 cases and in subsequent weeks this decline was continued until the epidemic abated.

Dysentery—One case was notified. No cases occurred in the previous year.

Poliomyelitis—One case was notified and removed to hospital.

Bornholm's Disease.—In July, 1951, it came to my notice that the Urban District of Wellingborough was having a visitation from some unspecified and unwelcome disease. For the want of a proper name it was being called 'Wellingborough Two Day Summer 'Flu'. On the 12th July, on request I saw a case in consultation with a medical practitioner in the town and this case appeared to be a case of Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis, and as such it was removed to hospital. It appeared that previously a sister of this case had been ill. The course of her illness lasted a week during which time she had headache and some abdominal pain, which cleared up and left no ill effects. At the same time it appeared that other persons in the neighbourhood had been ill, but only for short periods of about 2 days, some not being confined to bed. With the same medical practitioner I saw a further case of a boy aged 5 years. The parents gave a history of both having had this twoday illness. Their symptoms consisted of headache, abdominal pain, and, at the time of my visit, the father had a blister on his lip, which denoted the possibility of a virus infection in the household. The boy was hot and flushed, temperature 102°, no neck rigidity, all reflexes present, complained of some abdominal pain

in the region of umbilicus. A baby in the same household was also unwell and it was reported that it had been cross and cranky and very irritable for a period of two days. All cases appeared to be due to a virus infection and were kept at rest and observed. The children made an uneventful recovery in the course of a few days. At the Health Committee Meeting on the 16th July, 1951, I reported on the Wellingborough Two Day Summer Flu, and from information gathered there appeared to be a number of cases in the area.

On the 19th July, in consultation with another medical practitioner in the town, a case of Acute Poliomyelitis was seen and removed to hospital. The diagnosis was confirmed, and this complicated the picture to a certain extent, as one feared the possibility of an outbreak of Poliomyelitis. A further suspected case of Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis was sent to hospital, which was a case seen with a third medical practitioner. It was reported by another medical practitioner that he had seen a considerable number of similar cases. A typical case was picked out and sent to hospital for investigation and observation. A typical case presenting all the symptoms of Bornholm's occurred in my own household at this time. From information gathered at the end of the outbreak the typical symptoms of the true Bornholm's (Devil's Grip) were as follows: headache; drowsiness; some vomiting occasionally at the beginning of attack; temperature about 102° (noted a rise in temperature in evenings, with a fall in mornings); abdominal pain, at first in region of umbilicus and later more diaphragmatic; shallow breathing, rather rapid but no symptoms in chest; urine N.A.D.

In a number of cases the predominant feature was abdominal pain which confused the issue as some cases assimilated an early appendix. Other cases showed more meningeal symptoms and could have been confused either with an encephalitis or an acute poliomyelitis.

This epidemic commenced early in July and finished about mid-August. It was dramatic in its appearance and dramatic in the suddenness of its departure. No cases proved fatal and, on the whole, could be described as fairly mild. The majority of cases showed abdominal symptoms with some involvement of the diaphragm, but others showed meningeal symptoms. The course of the illness ran from about two to five days when the cases recovered and no further ill effects were noted. The illness lasted longer in persons who endeavoured to put it over on their feet and usually, eventually, had to go to bed for a period as long as two weeks. The association between the different virus diseases, at present, is not clear. Poliomyelitis and Coxsackie viruses appear to have some association, but Coxsackie infection would not appear to protect against the Poliomyelitis virus. Whether the virus of Bornholm's is associated in any way with these two, it is difficult to say, but, personally, from the experience of this outbreak it would appear not, but possibly the same conditions with regard to temperature, dry periods, are suitable for the spread of any of these three.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—No cases were notified. One case occurred in the previous year.

Food Poisoning—From Table No. 6 page 23 it will be seen that two cases of Food Poisoning were removed to hospital. Actually the circumstances were as follows: At the end of the year there was an outbreak of Food Poisoning in another area. The infected article of food was,

to a small extent, sold in the Wellingborough area. The cause was quickly established and from examinations of stools, poisoning was found to be due to Salmonella Minnesota. On investigation this germ was found in the suspected article of food. This small outbreak was carried on into the early part of 1952, in which year notifications of the cases were received. Actually the area was affected only to a very small extent, because, as a result of quick action, all incriminating articles of food were destroyed.

Tuberculosis—23 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year. Of these cases 21 (14 male and 7 female) were all Respiratory Tuberculosis and two cases (1 male and 1 female) of Non-respiratory Tuberculosis. In the previous year 17 new cases were notified. 21 cases from Wellingborough were admitted to the Rushden House Sanatorium and 15 discharged during the year. Eleven deaths were recorded from Tuberculosis, ten from Pulmonary infections and one from Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. The number of cases on the Tuberculosis register at the end of the year was made up as follows :

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|----|---------|----|-------|-----|
| Pulmonary | —Males | 75 | Females | 53 | Total | 128 |
| Non-Pulmonary | —Males | 28 | Females | 17 | Total | 45 |
| | | | | | | 173 |

The number of new cases (all forms) notified during the past five years was as follows :

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
| 22 | 11 | 19 | 17 | 23 |

The Mortality figures and those for the County during the corresponding period were :

| Year | Tuberculosis—All forms | | | Rate per 1,000 population | |
|------|------------------------|--------|-------|---------------------------|--------|
| | Male | Female | Total | Wellingborough | County |
| 1947 | 4 | 4 | 8 | .27 | .36 |
| 1948 | 4 | 6 | 10 | .35 | .42 |
| 1949 | 5 | 3 | 8 | .28 | .43 |
| 1950 | 7 | — | 7 | .24 | .30 |
| 1951 | 7 | 4 | 11 | .38 | .26 |

The Wellingborough After Care Committee continued its activities during the year and as usual carried out some excellent work.

SECTION G.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

There are 235 factories on the register and 566 names on the Out-workers List. Details concerning the number of defects found during the year and the action taken will be seen in Table No. 11 pages 28 and 29.

On the whole the sanitary conveniences in factories in the area are satisfactorily maintained. Factories in which mechanical power is not used, no serious complaint was received concerning cleanliness, numbers employed, temperature, ventilation or drainage of floors.

Further details concerning this section will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

SECTION H.
STATISTICAL TABLES, 1951.

TABLE NO. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

| <i>Causes of Death.</i> | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other | — | 1 | 1 |
| 3. Syphilitic disease | — | — | — |
| 4. Diphtheria | — | — | — |
| 5. Whooping Cough | 1 | — | 1 |
| 6. Meningococcal infections | — | — | — |
| 7. Acute poliomyelitis | — | — | — |
| 8. Measles | — | — | — |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | 1 | — | 1 |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast | — | 2 | 2 |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus | — | — | — |
| 14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms | 19 | 16 | 35 |
| 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia | — | — | — |
| 16. Diabetes | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system | 29 | 42 | 71 |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina | 27 | 18 | 45 |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease | 4 | — | 4 |
| 20. Other heart disease | 30 | 48 | 78 |
| 21. Other circulatory disease | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 22. Influenza | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| 23. Pneumonia | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 24. Bronchitis | 20 | 8 | 28 |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system | 1 | — | 1 |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | 1 | — | 1 |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis | 2 | — | 2 |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate | 3 | — | 3 |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | — | 1 | 1 |
| 31. Congenital malformations | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 8 | 13 | 21 |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents | 3 | — | 3 |
| 34. All other accidents | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 35. Suicide | — | 1 | 1 |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war | — | — | — |
| ALL CAUSES | 186 | 175 | 361 |

DEATHS FROM SELECTED CAUSES.

TABLE No. 2.

| Year | Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis | | Pulmonary Tuberculosis | | Cancer | | Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels | | Bronchitis Pneumonia and other Respiratory Diseases | |
|------|----------------------------|------|------------------------|------|--------|------|-------------------------------------|------|---|------|
| | No. | Rate | No. | Rate | No. | Rate | No. | Rate | No. | Rate |
| 1946 | 2 | ·07 | 6 | ·21 | 66 | 2·38 | 149 | 5·37 | 25 | ·90 |
| 1947 | 1 | ·03 | 7 | ·24 | 53 | 1·88 | 173 | 6·14 | 24 | ·85 |
| 1948 | 1 | ·03 | 9 | ·31 | 50 | 1·77 | 166 | 5·87 | 35 | 1·23 |
| 1949 | 1 | ·03 | 7 | ·24 | 61 | 2·16 | 183 | 6·48 | 32 | 1·13 |
| 1950 | — | — | 7 | ·24 | 68 | 2·40 | 204 | 7·21 | 33 | 1·16 |
| 1951 | 1 | ·03 | 10 | ·35 | 54 | 1·90 | 133 | 4·69 | 35 | 1·23 |

COMPARISON OF STILLBIRTHS, ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS AND MASCULINITY OF BIRTH.

TABLE No. 3.

| Year | Stillbirths per 1,000 | | Illegitimate births per 1,000 live births | Male births per 1,000 live female births |
|------|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| | Population of all ages | Total births (live and still) | | |
| 1946 | ·54 | 29·29 | 62·37 | 1,004 |
| 1947 | ·53 | 22·93 | 65·72 | 1,022 |
| 1948 | ·46 | 25·04 | 49·40 | 1,000 |
| 1949 | ·21 | 12·98 | 41·66 | 1,111 |
| 1950 | ·42 | 27·71 | 40·38 | 1,136 |
| 1951 | ·56 | 37·29 | 60·53 | 1,096 |

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1951 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

TABLE No. 4.

| Year | Estimated Population mid-year | Births | | Deaths | | | |
|------|-------------------------------|--------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------|----------------|
| | | | | Under 1 year | | All ages | |
| | | No. | Rate per 1,000 | No. | Rate per 1,000 | No. | Rate per 1,000 |
| 1946 | 27,740 | 497 | 17·91 | 14 | 28·16 | 345 | 12·43 |
| 1947 | 28,170 | 639 | 22·68 | 23 | 35·99 | 346 | 12·28 |
| 1948 | 28,240 | 506 | 17·91 | 15 | 29·64 | 335 | 11·86 |
| 1949 | 28,200 | 456 | 16·20 | 15 | 32·89 | 366 | 12·97 |
| 1950 | 28,290 | 421 | 14·88 | 15 | 35·62 | 381 | 13·46 |
| 1951 | 28,380 | 413 | 14·55 | 12 | 29·05 | 361 | 12·72 |

BIRTH RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES FOR WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT AND 148 SMALLER TOWNS AND ENGLAND AND WALES, 1951.

TABLE NO. 5.

| | England and Wales <i>Rates per</i> | 148 Smaller Towns(Resident Population 25,000-50,000 1931 Census) <i>1,000 Home Population</i> | Wellingborough |
|---|---|--|----------------|
| Live Births | 15.5 | 16.7 | 14.55 |
| Stillbirths | 0.36 | 0.38 | 0.56 |
| Deaths | | | |
| All causes | 12.5 | 12.5 | 12.72 |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid | 0.00 | 0.00 | .00 |
| Whooping Cough | 0.01 | 0.01 | .03 |
| Diphtheria | 0.00 | 0.00 | .00 |
| Tuberculosis | 0.31 | 0.31 | .38 |
| Influenza | 0.38 | 0.38 | .31 |
| Smallpox | 0.00 | 0.00 | .00 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis | .00 | 0.01 | .00 |
| Pneumonia | 0.61 | 0.63 | .21 |
| Notifications | | | |
| Typhoid | 0.00 | 0.00 | .00 |
| Paratyphoid | 0.02 | 0.02 | .00 |
| Meningococcal Infection | 0.03 | 0.03 | .00 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1.11 | 1.20 | .98 |
| Whooping Cough | 3.87 | 4.00 | 4.36 |
| Diphtheria | 0.02 | 0.03 | .03 |
| Erysipelas | 0.14 | 0.12 | .14 |
| Smallpox | 0.00 | 0.00 | .00 |
| Measles | 14.07 | 14.82 | 12.43 |
| Pneumonia | 0.99 | 0.96 | 1.12 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis) | | | |
| Paralytic... .. | 0.03 | 0.03 | .03 |
| Non-Paralytic | 0.02 | 0.03 | .00 |
| Food Poisoning | 0.13 | 0.08 | .00 |
| Deaths | <i>Rates per</i> | <i>1,000 Live Births</i> | |
| All causes under 1 year of age | 29.6 | 27.6 | 29.05 |
| Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age | 1.4 | 1.0 | .00 |

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1951.

Table No. 6.

| Disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | -1 | -2 | -3 | -4 | -5 | -10 | -15 | -20 | -35 | -45 | -65 | 65- | All Ages | Removed to Hospital | Deaths |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|---------------------|--------|
| Scarlet Fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | | | | 10 | 12 | 2 | | 2 | 1 | | | 28 | 6 | |
| Pneumonia | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 32 | | |
| Measles | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7 | 38 | 41 | 56 | 63 | 147 | 1 | | | | | | 353 | 2 | |
| Whooping Cough | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 | 14 | 10 | 25 | 34 | 33 | | | | | | | 124 | 6 | 1 |
| Erysipelas | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | | 2 | | 2 | | 4 | | |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | 3 | 6 | 1 | | | 10 | | |
| Diphtheria | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Dysentery | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| Food Poisoning | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poliomyelitis | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | .. | .. | .. | .. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17 | 55 | 54 | 82 | 107 | 195 | 6 | 4 | 12 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 554 | 18 | 1 |

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1951.

Table No. 7.

| Disease | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|-------|
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | 3 | 2 | | | 1 | | | 1 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 28 |
| Pneumonia | 10 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | 3 | 32 |
| Measles | 5 | 20 | 134 | 35 | 70 | 76 | 10 | 2 | | | | 1 | 353 |
| Whooping Cough | 37 | 12 | 17 | 17 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 124 |
| Erysipelas | 1 | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | 1 | 4 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 |
| Diphtheria | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Dysentery | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cerebro-spinal fever | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Poliomyelitis | | | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 56 | 40 | 158 | 56 | 79 | 85 | 15 | 12 | 6 | 10 | 11 | 26 | 554 |

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE.

Table No. 8.

| Age Periods | Measles | | Whooping Cough. | |
|-------------|---------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| | Males | Females | Males | Females |
| —6 months | | | | |
| —12 months | 6 | 1 | 7 | 1 |
| —18 months | 7 | 9 | 3 | 5 |
| —2 years | 12 | 10 | 3 | 3 |
| —2½ years | 17 | 12 | 3 | 5 |
| —3 years | 5 | 7 | 1 | 1 |
| —4 years | 21 | 35 | 10 | 15 |
| —5 years | 28 | 35 | 15 | 19 |
| —10 years | 65 | 82 | 15 | 18 |
| —15 years | | 1 | | |
| 15 years + | | | | |
| ALL AGES | 161 | 192 | 57 | 67 |
| TOTALS .. | 353 | | 124 | |

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1951.

Table No. 9.

| Age Periods | New Cases | | | | Deaths. | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| | Respiratory | | Non- respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non- respiratory | |
| | Male | Fe- male | Male | Fe- male | Male | Fe- male | Male | Fe- male |
| —1 | | | | | | | | |
| —5 | | | | 1 | | | | |
| —15 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | |
| —25 | 4 | 3 | 1 | | | 1 | | 1 |
| —35 | 3 | 2 | | | 1 | | | |
| —45 | 3 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| —55 | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | | |
| —65 | | 1 | | | 3 | | | |
| 65+ | 1 | | | | | | | |
| TOTALS | 14 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 3 | | 1 |
| Assigned by Registrar General | | | | | 1 | | | |
| GRAND TOTAL | 14 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | | 1 |

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR.

TABLE NO. 10.

| <i>Causes of Death.</i> | <i>Age in Weeks</i> | | | | | <i>Total</i> |
|---|---------------------|----|----|----|------|--------------|
| | -1 | -2 | -3 | -4 | 5-52 | |
| 1. Congenital malformations .. | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 2. Diseases of Early Infancy Congenital debility and icterus | | 1 | | | | 1 |
| Premature Birth ... | 3 | | | | | 3 |
| Injury at Birth .. | | | | | | |
| Atelectasis .. | | | | | | |
| Others | | | | | | |
| 3. Diseases of Respiratory System | 1 | | | | 4 | 5 |
| 4. Diseases of Digestive System | | | | | | |
| 5. Diseases of Nervous System | | | | | | |
| 6. Tuberculosis Diseases .. | | | | | | |
| 7. Infectious Diseases .. | | | | | | |
| 8. Syphilis | | | | | | |
| 9. Overlaying | | | | | | |
| 10. Other Violence .. | | | | | | |
| 11. All Other Causes | 1 | | | | 1 | 2 |
| TOTALS | 5 | 1 | | | 6 | 12 |

TABLE NO. 11.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.
For the Year 1951.

PART I OF THE ACT

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

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 27 | 25 | 7 | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 207 | 60 | 3 | — |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | 1 | — | — | — |
| TOTAL ... | 235 | 85 | 10 | — |

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|----------|----------------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 3 | 3 | | 1 | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | | | | | |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | | | | | |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | 2 | 1 | | 2 | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | | | | | |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) insufficient | 2 | 1 | | 1 | |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 11 | 7 | | 3 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) | | | | | — |
| TOTAL ... | 20 | 14 | | 7 | — |

TABLE No. 11—continued

PART VIII OF THE ACT—OUTWORK

| Nature of Work | Section 110 | | | Section 111 | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|----------------|--------------|
| | No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises | Notices served | Prosecutions |
| Wearing apparel | | | | | | |
| Making, etc. ... | 353 | | | | | |
| Cleaning and washing ... | | | | | | |
| Furniture & Upholstery | 50 | | | | | |
| Brass and brass articles ... | 1 | | | | | |
| The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper ... | 8 | | | | | |
| Brush making ... | | | | | | |
| Carding, etc. of Buttons, etc | 24 | | | | | |
| TOTAL .. | 436 | | | | | |

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1951.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of
Wellingborough.**

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year 1951.

In accordance with the requirements of the several Government departments, particulars of inspections carried out, together with information on the work of the department will be found in the text of the report.

Continued progress was made with regard to the installation of internal domestic water supplies. Considerable improvements in the sanitary condition of properties were also effected, both voluntarily and through the action of the department.

The inspection of housing conditions is still an important function. While no great difficulty was experienced with regard to labour for carrying out housing repairs, excessive costs make it extremely difficult and in some cases prohibitive, for owners to maintain their properties in a reasonable state of repair. The position is likely to continue as long as the law of rent restriction remains as it is.

Although the Minister of Housing and Local Government has not yet given a direction with regard to the general resumption of slum clearance work, the need for dealing at an early stage with some of the more grossly insanitary properties and areas in the Urban District is very apparent, and it is hoped that some progress will be made, though on a limited scale, in the near future.

The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, came into operation in October. While many traders deal in these commodities, only one was found to come under the licensing provisions of the Act.

Measurements of atmospheric pollution continued to be taken, and the results were forwarded each month to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for inclusion in the national records.

The quality of the town's milk supply was satisfactorily maintained. Well over 85% of all milk consumed in the Urban District is heat-treated, i.e., either pasteurised or sterilized. There is little consumption of un-designated raw milk.

The Statutory control of the manufacture and sale of ice cream, since the war, has been largely responsible for the great improvement in the hygienic quality of this commodity. The "old fashioned" mode of manufacture is now a thing of the past, there being an increasing tendency towards the sale of ice-cream in a pre-packed condition. In the Urban District approximately 90% is sold in this way.

In conclusion I should like to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Council for their consideration and support, and to my staff for their valued assistance during the year. I also express my appreciation to the other chief officers and their staffs for their willing co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. J. STROUD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Council Offices,
Wellingborough.

August, 1952.

STAFF.

(CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT, 1951)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

A. J. STROUD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Certified Inspector of Meat and Foods.

Authorised Officer under the Petroleum, Shops, Theatres and Cinematograph Acts.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

D. B. HOPKINS, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Certified Inspector of Meat and Foods.

Clerk and Chief Sanitary Inspector's Secretary :

Miss E. M. BROTHERTON.

Rodent Control :—Operator :

G. HOWELL.

General Assistant : (Manual)

R. CLEE.

SANITARY INSPECTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA.

TABLE A.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Total Inspections and Visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,432 |
| Complaints received | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 294 |
| Preliminary Notices served | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 114 |
| Secondary Notices served | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Statutory Notices served | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 55 |
| Letters etc. received | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,435 |
| Letters etc., dispatched | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,805 |
| Interviews with Property Owners, Agents and Builders | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 692 |

TABLE B.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

(a) General Sanitary Work—

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Water Supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 230 |
| Drainage and Sewerage | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 340 |
| Closet Accommodation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |
| Refuse—storage, collection and disposal | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |
| Moveable Dwellings | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Houses, let in Lodgings | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Theatres and Places of Entertainment | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Rivers Pollution | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Offensive Trades | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30 |
| Infectious Disease, Disinfection, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40 |
| Keeping of Animals | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Offensive Accumulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Schools | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Rodent Infestation Control including visits by rodent; operator | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,865 |
| Vermin and Insect Pests—Investigations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 56 |

(b) Housing—

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Inspection of Dwelling Houses under Public Health and Housing Acts | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 667 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

(c) Shops Act, 1950—

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Sanitary Conditions | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 86 |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|

(d) Factories—

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Inspection of Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers' Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 93 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|

TABLE B—continued

(e) Food and Drugs Act, 1938—

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Meat and Food Inspection | ... | ... | ... | ... | 185 |
| General Food Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 90 |
| Market Stalls and Street Food Vendors | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Food Manufacturing Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34 |
| Catering Establishments and Licensed Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |
| Ice Cream Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 |
| Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Distribution | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32 |
| Sampling—Milk, Ice Cream and Other Foods | ... | ... | ... | ... | 131 |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (f) Miscellaneous Visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 341 |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

TABLE C.

**SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND DEFECTS REMEDIED
FOLLOWING SERVICE OF NOTICE.**

General—

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Roofs repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Walls (External) repaired or rebuilt | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Walls (External) repointed, rendered, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 |
| E.G's & R.W.P's cleansed, repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| Yards paved or repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Houses cleansed, limewashed or decorated | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Walls (Internal) repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 164 |
| Ceilings repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61 |
| Floors repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29 |
| Stairs repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13 |
| Handrails fixed to staircases | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Doors, etc. repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Windows etc., repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| Firegrates and stoves repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Sinks provided or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 60 |
| Dampness remedied | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Ventilation improved | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Washing boilers repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Lighting improved | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Hot water systems repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Soft water tanks repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Boundary walls repaired or rebuilt | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Derelect buildings demolished | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Water courses cleared | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Drainage—

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Drains constructed or reconstructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57 |
| Drains repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Obstructed drains cleared | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Inspection chambers provided or repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Soil and Vent. pipes provided or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Gullies provided or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | 54 |
| Old drains abolished | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| Waste pipes provided, renewed or repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | 67 |
| Drains disconnected from sewer | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

TABLE C—continued

Water Closets—

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| New W.C.'s provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| W.C.'s repaired or reconstructed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| W.C.'s cleansed or limewashed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| Light and ventilation improved | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 |
| Pedestal washdown W.C. basins fixed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Flushing Apparatus provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Flushing Apparatus repaired or renewed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Water Supplies—

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Internal water supply provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 74 |
| Mains supply provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Wells abolished | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Water services repaired | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |

Miscellaneous—

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Dustbins provided | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Offensive accumulations removed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Animals—Nuisances abated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Rats and Mice—Premises cleared | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 227 |
| Smoke nuisances abated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |

SERVICE OF NOTICES—

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number outstanding 31st December, 1950 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 138 |
| Informal Notices to execute work or abate nuisances | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 114 |
| Secondary Notices | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |

Statutory Notices—

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 39—Drainage of Existing Buildings | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 44—Buildings having Insufficient Closet Accommodation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 56—Paving and Drainage of Yards and Passages | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 89—Provision of Sanitary Conveniences at Inns, Refreshment Houses, etc. | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 93—Statutory Nuisances | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 138—Water Supply | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29 |
| Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 287—Notice of Intention to Enter Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9—Repair of Dwelling Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| | | | | | — | 55 |

| | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | | 335 |
| Number complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 292 |
| Number outstanding 31st December, 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |

Works were carried out in default in six instances in respect of non-compliance with Notices under Sections 39 and 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

No legal proceedings were otherwise instituted.

WATER SUPPLY—

Main Domestic Supplies—

Further progress was made during the year by action under the Public Health Act in securing the provision of internal water supplies to 74 houses dependent on external standposts. In addition to this number, several properties were dealt with voluntarily by the owners.

At the end of the year the number of houses in the Urban District served by standposts was 233, i.e. :

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Wellingborough Area | 43 |
| Finedon Area | 190 |

Although the majority of these houses are of a very low grade, the provision of internal supplies is being enforced in appropriate cases.

Private Wells

The number of houses dependent on private wells is 41 serving a population of approximately 100. Most of these are in the outlying districts where main water is not available.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION—

260 inspections were made during the year for the purpose of supervising the repair, reconstruction and improvement of drainage systems in conjunction with which 82 water or other tests were applied. The drainage of 55 premises was found to be insufficient or otherwise defective 23 obstructed drains were cleared by the department.

Conjointly with the provision of internal water supplies, domestic sinks and proper waste water drainage were provided at 60 houses.

Closet Accommodation—

In those parts of the Urban District where no public sewer is available houses are served by pail closets or cesspools. No special arrangements exist for the emptying of pail closets, as these are few in number and widely scattered.

Cesspools are emptied on request, as and when required by mechanical plant, under arrangements with Rushden Urban Council. This was done on 66 occasions during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS—

As the result of voluntary action by the owner, the caravan site at Leighton Yard was almost cleared during the year.

An application for a licence under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 to station and occupy a caravan for temporary housing accommodation was refused by the Council. As the result of continued occupation without a licence, legal proceedings were instituted. In this instance the Court authorised the issue of a temporary licence for a period of six months.

The small caravan sites used periodically by showmen have been satisfactorily maintained.

OFFENSIVE TRADES—

There has been no change in the number or classes of offensive trades carried on in the Urban District. These are Rag and Bone Dealers 2, Gut Scraper and Fat Melter 1.

Informal action was taken with regard to the gut scraper's premises, as the result of which some improvement was made.

RIVERS AND STREAMS—

With effect from the 1st April, 1952 the statutory control of rivers and streams for the prevention of pollution comes under the Nene River Board as the result of the operation of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951.

These are also kept under observation by the Department.

Further investigations were carried out following the continued intermittent discharge of waste oil into the Swanspool Brook. The source of pollution was located and suitable steps have been taken to secure the prevention of further pollution.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION—

40 visits were made in connection with the investigation of cases of notifiable infectious disease. 54 houses were disinfected, 46 following infectious disease. 93 articles of clothing and bedding were destroyed.

In the absence of its own disinfecting station, the Council considered the advisability of setting up a suitable centre. The matter has, however, been deferred for the present on financial grounds. In the meantime cases requiring essential steam disinfection are dealt with by arrangement with Rushden Urban District Council.

VERMINOUS DISINFESTATION—

37 cases of verminous infestation were reported and effectively dealt with, viz :—

| | | | |
|---------|----|-------------|---|
| Ants | 2 | Cockroaches | 5 |
| Beetles | 5 | Fleas | 9 |
| Bugs | 12 | Wasps | 4 |

Bugs were eradicated from 6 Council houses.

Treatment is carried out by the use of D.D.T. residual insecticides, and Gammexane.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS—

The Act controlling by registration or licence, premises in which these materials are manufactured, stored or used came into operation on 1st November. One premise was licensed for the storage of rag flock.

FACTORIES ACT 1937—

The number of registered factories in the Urban District at 31st December was 235, a decrease of 12 during the year. 85 inspections were made. 7 notifications of infringements were received from H.M. Inspector, and 10 written notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.

Remedy of Defects—

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Cleanliness | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Inadequate Ventilation | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Sanitary Conveniences—Insufficient | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| „ „ —Unsuitable or | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| Defective | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| „ „ —Not Separate for | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Sexes | ... | ... | ... | ... | |

Homework—

Half-yearly lists received from 34 employers and 5 outside authorities show that there were 566 outworkers residing in the Urban District, approximately the same number as the previous year.

No action was found necessary in respect of outwork being carried on in unwholesome premises.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949—

Rodent Infestation Control—

Satisfactory progress was maintained in the work of this section, which is summarised as follows :—

Surface Infestations—

- (a) Notifications of rat or mice infestations received 124
- (b) Visits made by Rodent Operator ... 1812
- (c) Number of properties found to be infested :—

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Rats Major | ... | 32 | } | ... | ... | ... | 267 |
| Rats Minor | ... | 180 | | | | | |
| Mice only | ... | 55 | | | | | |

- (d) Number of infested properties treated :—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|
| Private Dwellings | ... | ... | 121 | } | ... | 227 |
| Business & Industrial Properties | ... | ... | 87 | | | |
| Agricultural Properties | ... | ... | 12 | | | |
| Local Authority Properties | ... | ... | 7 | | | |

Total quantity of bait laid ... 17½ cwt.

There has been a marked improvement in the degree of infestation throughout the Urban District compared with two or three years ago. Infestations have been rather scattered, the number of major infestations being 32, compared with 58 the previous year.

Refuse Tips—

Throughout the year special attention was directed to the Council's refuse tip at Irchester. During the early part of December this tip suddenly became infested to a serious degree as the result of an influx of rats from the surrounding area. In this instance prompt measures were taken in conjunction with action by the Pests Officer of the N.A.E.C., with satisfactory results.

Annual Agreements—

The number of business and industrial premises under servicing agreements with the Council at the end of the year was 14, an increase of one during the year. The value of these amounted to £194.

Sewer Maintenance—

Maintenance treatments were carried out twice during the year in accordance with the Ministry's requirements, with the following results :—

| <i>Treatment</i> | <i>Manholes Baited</i> | <i>Number showing Infestation</i> |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1st | 276 | 153 (55.4%) |
| 2nd | 317 | 105 (33.1%) |

HOUSING—

The following is a summary of action taken under the Public Health and Housing Acts during the year.

| | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (i) Houses inspected for housing defects | ... | ... | ... | 342 |
| Number of inspections made | ... | ... | ... | 667 |
| (ii) Remedy of Defects. | | | | |
| Informal Action—Houses in respect of which defects were remedied | ... | ... | ... | 92 |
| (iii) Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936. | | | | |
| (a) Houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | ... | ... | ... | 39 |
| (b) Houses in respect of which defects were remedied after service of formal notices | ... | ... | ... | 63 |
| (iv) Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936. | | | | |
| (a) Section 9. | | | | |
| (i) Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| (ii) Houses rendered fit after service of formal notices | | | | 1 |
| (b) Sections 11-13. | | | | |
| Demolition Orders made | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Houses demolished | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Undertakings accepted | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Number of houses rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Closing Orders made (parts of buildings) | ... | ... | ... | — |

Although the provision of new houses is proceeding satisfactorily existing houses still present a problem of considerable magnitude, both as regards questions of overcrowding and unfitness.

The Department is directly concerned with both these aspects, as is evidenced by the number of complaints and enquiries received, to many of which there is no immediate solution. During 1951 no less than 30% of all complaints were in respect of housing conditions.

From a general survey of housing conditions in the Urban District, it is abundantly clear that a very great number of houses are unfit, in accordance with accepted standards. While many of these were before the war repairable at reasonable expense, they are, as the result of deterioration, the increased cost of repairs and the control of rents at pre-war level, now incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense. It is also very evident that many owners are not able to satisfactorily maintain this lower grade type of property by the number of houses being disposed of to sitting tenants.

Properties of this type are particularly difficult to deal with, for, while they are outside the scope of Section 9 of the Act for the purpose of repairs, it is not opportune at present to deal with them by demolition procedure. In consequence, most housing defects in this type of property have had to be dealt with by informal action or by notice under Section 93 of the Public Health Act as statutory nuisances.

The central area of Finedon presents a particularly formidable problem by reason, not only of the unfit condition of so many of the houses, but also of the very congested character of the area as a whole and the dilapidated condition of "other buildings". As previously reported, following a survey made in 1948, no less than 21% of all houses in Finedon are considered to be of such a low grade as to require replacement. It is a problem which needs to be tackled, by comprehensive clearance and redevelopment, as soon as circumstances permit.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT—

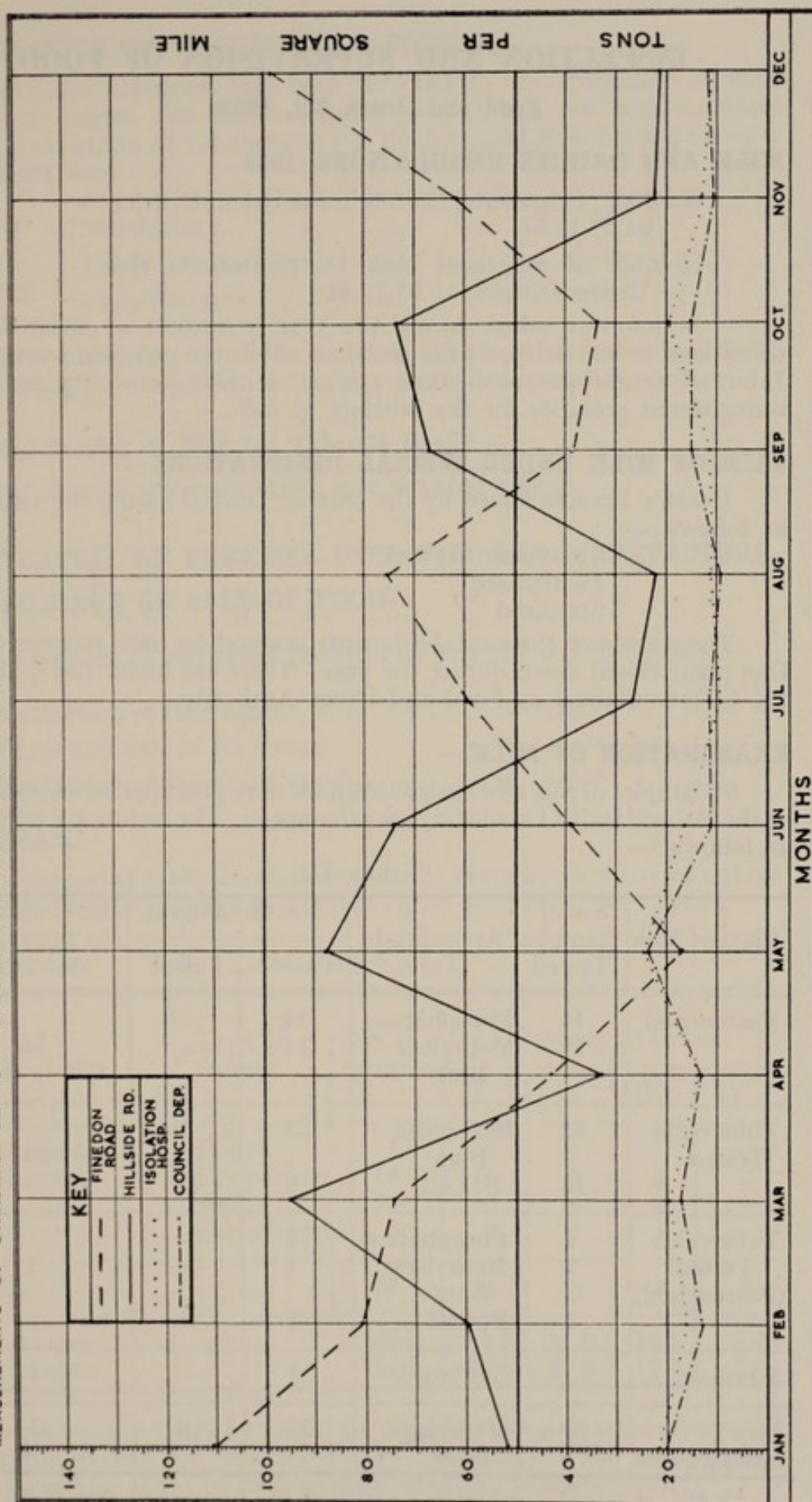
Excessive smoke emission from two industrial chimneys was the subject of a series of complaints during one period of the year. Eleven "timed" observations were made and recorded, and the nuisances were satisfactorily dealt with by informal action. In one instance, the poor quality fuel was found to be largely responsible, and following representations to the firm, this was changed, with resultant improvement.

The emission of dust from the local iron works' furnaces continues to be a matter of great concern, there having been no material improvement in the position. Measurement of deposited matter was continued with the four standard deposit gauges which are sited in approved positions, at Finedon Road, Hillside Road, the former Isolation Hospital and the Council Depot respectively. The results obtained during the year are shown in the following graph. An analysis of the results show that the average monthly deposit over the area covered by the gauges was 36.2 tons per square mile.

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION 1951

MEASUREMENTS BY STANDARD DEPOSIT GAUGES SHOWING TOTAL DEPOSITED MATTER IN TONS PER SQUARE MILE



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949—

Number of registered Dairies in the Urban District
at 31.12.51 6

Number of registered Milk Distributors in the
Urban District at 31.12.51 22

Action was taken during the year in respect of unsatisfactory conditions at one dairy, as the result of which the premises were closed. Informal action was also taken against a milk distributor for using unregistered premises for the bottling of milk.

SALE OF MILK UNDER SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS—

Dealers' licences issued by the District Council during the year were as follows :—

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| " Tuberculin Tested " | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| " Pasteurised " | ... | ... | ... | 5 |
| " Sterilized " | ... | ... | ... | 12 |

There are now three establishments licensed for milk pasteurisation. One plant closed down during the year. These are under the control of the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority.

EXAMINATION OF MILK—

98 samples of raw and designated milk were procured for examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton. The results are tabulated as follows :—

TABLE D.

| Class of Milk | No. of Samples Tested | Appropriate Tests | No. of Samples | | No. conforming to prescribed standards |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------|--|
| | | | Passed | Failed | |
| Pasteurised | 14 | Phosphatase Methylene Blue | 14 | — | 14 |
| | 14 | | 14 | — | |
| Tuberculin Tested | 32 | Methylene Blue B. Coli | 23 | 9 | 23 |
| | 19 | | 8 | 11 | |
| Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) | 1 | Phosphatase | 1 | — | 1 |
| | 1 | Methylene Blue | 1 | — | |
| | 1 | B. Coli | 1 | — | |
| Sterilised | 1 | Turbidity | 1 | — | 1 |
| Raw Undesignated | 50 | Methylene Blue | 31 | 19 | 31 |

71.6% of samples submitted satisfied the prescribed standards.

EXAMINATION OF WASHED MILK BOTTLES—

Particular attention has been directed to the cleansing of milk bottles at dairies. 89 bottle samples were taken for bacteriological examination at the Area Laboratory of the National Milk Testing Service. The results were :—

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Satisfactory | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57 |
| Fairly satisfactory | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Unsatisfactory | ... | ... | ... | ... | 26 |

Where unsatisfactory results occurred, the plant and methods adopted were thoroughly examined, and advice given in appropriate cases.

Biological Testing of Milk for Tubercle Bacilli—

Four samples were submitted, with negative results.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES USED FOR THE MANUFACTURE, STORAGE OR SALE OF FOOD—

The number of registered premises at 31.12.51 was as follows :—

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|----|-------|-----|-----|
| Manufacture of Ice Cream | ... | ... | 17 | (1950 | ... | 18) |
| Storage and Sale of Ice Cream | ... | ... | 79 | (1950 | ... | 71) |
| Manufacture of Preserved Food | ... | ... | 48 | (1950 | ... | 48) |

ICE CREAM—

The following table shows the results of examinations carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service on 38 samples of Ice Cream.

TABLE E.

| Class of Mix. | Type of Sample | No. of Samples | Provisional Grade | | | |
|---------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|------|------|-----|
| | | | I | II | III | IV |
| Pasteurised | Bulk | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Pasteurised | Pre-packed | 18 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Cold | Bulk | 14 | 9 | 4 | 1 | — |
| Cold | Pre-packed | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Totals | | 38 | 24 | 8 | 4 | 2 |
| Percentages | | 1951 | 63.2 | 21.0 | 10.5 | 5.3 |
| Percentages | | 1950 | 56.4 | 17.9 | 17.9 | 7.8 |

As provisional Grades 1 and 2 are regarded as being satisfactory, the overall results can be considered very favourable. The comparative percentages also show an improvement over the previous year.

**PARTICULARS OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS EXAMINED AND
REJECTED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION**

TABLE F.

| <i>Commodity</i> | <i>Weight lbs.</i> | <i>Commodity</i> | <i>Weight lbs.</i> |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Tinned Goods | | General Items (continued) | |
| Coffee | 4 | Coffee | 3 |
| Crab Paste | 21 | Confectionery | 2 |
| Fish | 9 | Cooking Fat | 1 |
| Fruit | 939 | Crabs | 70 |
| Fruit Juices | 57 | Dried Fruit | 2 |
| Ham | 2235 | Fish Cakes | 5 |
| Meat (various) | 440 | Fish Paste | 1 |
| Meat and Vegetables | 5 | Fruit (Bottled) | 15 |
| Milk | 106 | Fruit Juices | 3 |
| Mustard | 3 | Fruit Pies | 16 |
| Sausages | 2 | Fruit Salad (Bottled) | 10 |
| Soup | 2 | Ginger Wine | 1 |
| Vegetables | 73 | Ham | 9 |
| | | Hearts (frozen) | 44 |
| Flour and Cereals | | Ice Cream | 45 |
| Bread | 14 | Jams and Preserves | 64 |
| Cake Flour | 1 | Meat | 10 |
| Cereals | 1 | Meat Paste | 1 |
| Chocolate Roll | 1 | Pickles | 7 |
| Confectionery | 16 | Pigs' Feet | 112 |
| Corn | 1 | Pork Pies | 58 |
| Flour | 27 | Prawns | 48 |
| Pancake Mixtures | 10 | Preserved Fish | 28 |
| Rice | 59 | Rabbits | 42 |
| Rusks | 1 | Sauces | 22 |
| | | Soups | 2 |
| General Items | | Soup Powders | 7 |
| Bacon | 94 | Steak and Kidney Pies | 6 |
| Bottled Fruit | 152 | Suet | 2 |
| Cheese | 126 | Vegetable Sausages | 87 |
| | | Wet Fish | 121 |

Total Weight—2 tons 6 cwts. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

The amount of imported canned ham condemned as the result of unsoundness during the year was very considerable, and the matter was referred to the Ministry of Food, who reported the condemnations to the overseas countries concerned. Very large quantities of this ham were being imported and distributed in this country by private traders, but the Ministry were concerned, as it was imported under cover of an "official certificate" for the purposes of the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations. It was, however, pointed out that although it had been found that some fault lay with the manufacturers, much of the trouble was due to bad storage and ill-treatment in this country.

MEAT INSPECTION AT SLAUGHTERHOUSES—

The slaughterhouse at the local bacon and pork pie factory is used to a limited extent for the slaughter of pigs in addition to which eight private slaughterhouses are occasionally used in connection with the self-suppliers' pigs scheme. Visits are made for meat inspection purposes as often as is necessary.

Slaughtering for the area continued to be done at Rushden abattoir under Ministry of Food control, meat inspection being carried out under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector of Rushden U.D.C.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933—

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of licensed slaughtermen on the register | |
| at 31.12.51 | 35 |
| Number of new or renewal licences granted during | |
| the year | 23 |

FOOD HYGIENE—

Survey of food premises continued during the year as far as was possible. Altogether 109 premises were inspected including 52 in connection with applications for trade membership of the Clean Food Guild, to which the Medical Officer of Health and myself act in an advisory capacity.

There is evidence of a steady improvement in the standard of hygiene in the handling and distribution of food generally, but there is still a long way to go before the position can be regarded with satisfaction. A number of traders carried out voluntary improvements to their premises, including the provision of proper washing facilities with hot water supply.

In order to encourage the prohibition of dogs in food shops, by the voluntary co-operation of the public and following the issue of a circular from the Minister of Food on the matter, notices suitable for display in shops were issued to all food traders in the Urban District. One is pleased to report the full co-operation of the trade in advancing hygiene in this way.

CONTAMINATION OF FOOD—

Investigations were carried out with regard to three cases of contaminated food, i.e.—

- (a) A portion of cake containing a nail.
- (b) A portion of currant loaf containing a nail.
- (c) A loaf containing the stub of a cigarette.

The first case was dealt with informally with the issue of a severe warning.

Legal proceedings were taken under Section 3 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, against the bakery firm concerned in the last two cases. Convictions were obtained, and fines of £5 were imposed in each case.







