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WELLINGBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1954

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

Together with the Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

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



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WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1954.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,738
Population 1951 (census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,222
Population, 1954	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,670
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1931 (census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,396
Number of separate dwellings occupied 1954 (census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,429
Rateable value, 1954	..	..	..	..	..	..	£166,902
Product of a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£644

LIVE BIRTHS.					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	409	222	187	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	17	11	6	
					426	233	193	14.85

STILLBIRTHS.					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	9	4	5	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	1	—	
					10	5	5	0.34

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Rate</i>
DEATHS (all causes)	..	..	..	..	349	185	164	12.10

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES— rate per 1,000.

Total (Live and Still) Births								
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	
Other puerperal causes	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	

INFANT MORTALITY—rate for 1,000 live births.

Legitimate	..	..	..	..	10	6	4	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	
					10	6	4	23.47

Deaths from (a) Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	56
„ „ (b) Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
„ „ (c) Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
„ „ (d) Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Wellingborough Urban District Council

Members of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee:

MESSRS. H. C. L. WARWICK, (*Chairman*), R. ALDERSON (*Vice-Chairman*), H. S. COLLIER, A. E. DICKS, C. A. HEARN, H. A. HORDEN, MISS E. A. HORN, MESSRS. A. L. LANGHAM, A. J. MAYES, R. D. PATERSON, E. A. STEELE.

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.

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,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.

June, 1955.

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 seventh Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the area for the year 1954.

The chief Vital Statistics for the area during the period were as follows: death rate 12.10 per 1,000 of population, showing a fall on the previous year when it was 13.60. The birth rate 14.85 was slightly higher than 1953 when it was 14.02. No deaths from maternal causes were recorded. There was one in the previous year. The infant mortality rate of 23.47 per 1,000 live births was higher than the previous year when it was 17.5. It will be remembered, however, that this was the lowest rate recorded for many years. The rate, nevertheless, was lower than the rate for England and Wales for 1954 which was 25.5 and which is the lowest ever recorded in the country.

Health Services for the area are given in Section B. and are unchanged.

Section C. deals with the Sanitary circumstances of the area and the results of routine samples of water are given. These results were of a satisfactory nature. An account of the activities of the Council during the year with regard to Atmospheric Pollution is also given. The condition with regard to the local Iron Works has been improved by the installation by the firm of two further cyclones to furnaces. As these were installed only in August, the time has been rather short to make observations, but the total deposits measured by gauges shows a fall on the whole year as compared with 1953. The sulphur dioxide figures were similar to the previous year and as before, a rise was noted in the Winter months. The recording instruments are to be removed to a residential part of the town and it will be interesting to note future figures.

An account of the housing programme and slum clearance will be found in Section D. 171 houses were dealt with during the year, 161 at Finedon and 10 at Wellingborough. One area at Finedon was withdrawn and two still await the decision of the Minister. All other areas were confirmed. Long delays by the Ministry in coming to a decision is not in the best interests of persons living in the areas under consideration and may cause hardship.

One of the chief items of interest in Section E., which is devoted to the supervision of Food, is the de-control of meat and livestock which came into force on the 5th July, 1954. This led to many requests to open up Private Slaughterhouses. No statutory standards were laid down by the Ministry but the requirements of Section 13 of the Food & Drugs Act had to be fulfilled before licences could be granted. All slaughterhouses were inspected and following the necessary works being carried out, eight licences were granted.

Section F. deals with the prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases. The number of infants vaccinated showed an increase on the previous year but there is room for further improvement as the figures are still too low. The response by parents to having their children immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough is satisfactory and no case of Diphtheria has occurred in the area for three years. The number of cases of Whooping Cough showed a fall on the previous year. Measles showed a considerable fall, Scarlet Fever a slight increase, but the number of cases of Pneumonia notified showed a remarkable increase and is the highest number recorded over the last ten years. Undoubtedly the lack of sun in the Summer of 1954 and the cold wet year must have contributed considerably to the lowering of the resistance of the community. The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis showed a fall and the death rate from this disease continues to decline.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and encouragement throughout the year, and the Surveyor, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Manager for information supplied for this report. I appreciate the assistance I have received from Mr. Stroud throughout what has been a very busy year and finally, would like to thank my secretary Miss Pearson for her very able assistance in compiling 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 area of the Urban District of Wellingborough, which includes the town of Finedon, is 8,738 acres. The density of population is 3.2 persons per acre, and the housing factor 3.04 persons per house.

POPULATION.—The Registrar General has estimated the resident population for the mid-year 1954 to have been 28,670. This shows an increase of 150 over the previous year. Births outnumbered deaths by 77 during the year.

DEATHS.—The total number of deaths in the district, after adjustment for inward and outward transferable deaths, was 349. This gives a death rate for the year of 12.10 compared with 13.60 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1954 was 11.7 per 1,000 of population. Table No. 1 page 25 gives a classification of the Causes of Death and is in accordance with the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. Table No. 2 page 26 gives further statistics concerning deaths from selected causes. Following are the percentages of deaths from certain causes together with percentages for 1953 :

	1954	1953
Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System ..	57.30%	59.0%
Diseases of the Respiratory System	9.74%	9.7%
Cancer	16.04%	14.9%
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1.14%	1.8%

In 1954 56 deaths from Cancer were recorded (28 Male and 28 Female) and out of this number 7 cases (6 Males and 1 Female) were due to Cancer of the Lung or Bronchus. Last year there were 11 male deaths due to this cause.

BIRTHS.—The number of live births recorded was 426, giving a rate of 14.85 per 1,000 of the population. The rate for the previous year was 14.02. The rate for England and Wales for 1954 was 15.2. Male births outnumbered females by 40.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.—17 illegitimate births were recorded. This gives a rate of 39.90 per 1,000 live births. The rate for 1953 was 35.

STILLBIRTHS.—Ten stillbirths were registered. This gives a rate of 0.34 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.17 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1954 was 0.36.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.—No deaths were recorded. In the previous year one death occurred under this heading.

INFANT MORTALITY.—The number of infants who died before attaining their first birthday was 10, giving a rate of 23.47 compared with 17.5 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 25.5. The following table shows the Infant Mortality Rate for Wellingborough 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	1952	1953	1954					
35.62	29.05	23.04	17.5	23.47					

NEONATAL MORTALITY.—This sub-division of the Infant Mortality Rate includes all infants who die within 28 days of independent existence. Seven of the ten deaths occurred in this period. The Neonatal Mortality Rate was 16.43 per thousand live births. The rate for the previous year was 12.5. Table No. 9, page 31, gives further information concerning Infant deaths.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

LABORATORY SERVICES.—The Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the Laboratory at Kettering General Hospital continued to assist with regard to specimens from Infectious Disease cases occurring in the area. Water samples, milk, ice-cream, are sent to the Northampton Laboratory.

Assistance was also received from Dr. Voss in connection with diseased meat.

The co-operation of Dr. Hoyle and Dr. Voss through the year was much appreciated.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.—The incidence of Diphtheria continues to fall. No requests for Anti-toxin were received. It is interesting to note the dramatic fall in this disease brought about by preventive measures. The figures for 1945 and 1954 give a clear picture of the situation. They were as follows :

Year	Deaths	Corrected Notifications
1945	722	18,596
1954	9 (provisional)	182 (provisional)

The deaths include 'late effects', i.e., those occurring more than a year after the acute episode.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.—This service comes under the County Council and the area was served by the St. John Ambulance Brigade acting for the County Council. The H.Q. of this Brigade is at Church Street, Wellingborough, with three ambulances, and a second division with one ambulance is at Finedon.

The County Council provide an efficient service and the area is well covered.

A section of the Northampton Brigade acting for the County Council and attached to the Harborough Road Hospital at Northampton, deal with cases of Infectious Diseases requiring removal to hospital.

NURSING IN THE HOME AND HOME HELPS.—These services come under the County Council and details concerning the area will be found in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health. The Home Help service, in my opinion, is a very valuable one, and every effort is made by the County Medical Officer to provide such help in deserving cases. Advice concerning the service has been given to persons enquiring at these offices.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.—The Health Clinic at Oxford Street comes under the County Council. The following Clinics are held at these premises :

Ante-natal	}	Every Monday afternoon 1.30 p.m.
and Post-natal		Every Thursday morning 9.30 a.m.
Child Welfare		Every Tuesday, 2nd and 4th Monday 2 p.m.
Child Guidance		Alternate Tuesdays 12.30 p.m.

An Infant Welfare Centre is held at St. Andrew's Hall on the Croyland Estate to facilitate mothers living in this area. This centre is held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m.

FINEDON.—An Infant Welfare Centre is held at the Co-operative Hall on the first Thursday of each week.

ROCK STREET CLINIC	Tuberculosis	Every Monday 10 a.m. Every Wednesday 10 a.m.
	U.V.R.	Every Friday 2 p.m.
ROCK STREET CLINIC	Orthopaedic	Every Wednesday 2 p.m.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—The Oxford Regional Hospital Board covers the area and Hospital Accommodation is as follows:—

General Hospitals.—Northampton and Kettering.

Wellingborough.—Wellingborough Hospital and Highfield Hospital provide accommodation for certain cases.

Wellingborough Park Hospital.—Chronic sick, the aged,, and old persons in need of care and attention. Similar accommodation is provided at Oundle and St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering.

Rushden.—The Rushden House Sanatorium provides accommodation for cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The Rushden Memorial Hospital (Out-patients) at the Hayway, Rushden, runs Out-patient Clinics and is visited by Consultants from Northampton and Kettering.

Northampton.—The Harborough Road Hospital provides accommodation for cases of Infectious Diseases from the area requiring isolation and hospital treatment.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.—No cases were removed under Section 47 of this Act during the year. Many old folk living on their own were visited during the period and helped in many ways. If they are in need of hospital treatment or Part III Accommodation, with the assistance of their own medical adviser, reluctant cases are usually persuaded to enter hospital, and only as a last resort is the above Act used.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.—The Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board is responsible for the supply to the Town. There has been no alteration in the sources of supply which are as follows :

Impounding Reservoir at Hardwick; boreholes with collecting tank and deep well at Orlingbury; wells at Bushfield and a supply of treated water from Corby. Work continues on the new reservoirs at Pitsford and eventually Wellingborough will receive its water supply from this source.

TREATMENT.—Softening, filtration and chlorination of water is carried out at Bushfield.

WATER SAMPLES.—103 samples of water for Bacteriological examination were taken during the year. The results were as follows :

	Very Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Wellingborough	53	3	4	—
Finedon	34	3	3	3
Total	87	6	7	3

These results show an improvement on the previous year when 21 Suspicious and 10 Unsatisfactory results were obtained.

The Board is notified of any suspicious or unsatisfactory result so that the necessary action can be taken.

RAINFALL.—29.06 inches of rain was recorded for the year by the rain gauge kept at Swanspool. The average rainfall over the last five years was as follows :

1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
25.0	29.11	25.8	18.77	29.06

WATER CONSUMPTION.—The Engineer & Manager of the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board states that the water consumption figures for 1954 were approximately the same as for the previous year. These were as follows :

Total consumption 1954—365,365,000 gallons.
Average Daily Consumption—1,001,000 gallons.
Average consumption per head per day—34 gallons.

Further information concerning water supply :—

Total number of houses with a piped supply—9182
Number of houses dependent upon standpipes—197
Number of houses without Town supply—38.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—

Wellingborough.—The method of sewage disposal remains the same. The land on the Wellingborough Sewage Farm has been demineralised and so acts as a huge filter bed. Portions of the farm are used alternatively and sewage is allowed to run on to these prepared areas and filter through. The

effluent is collected by a series of sub-soil drains which carry it to a stream and so to the River Nene. Chemical Analyses of final effluent have always been very satisfactory and the result of a sample taken on the 24th February, 1954, are as follows :

Suspended Matter	practically nil.
Biological Oxygen Demand	0.7 parts per 100,000
(5 days test)	

Remarks.—It will be seen therefore that this effluent complies with the standards laid down by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal.

These standards are as follows :

Suspended Matter	3 parts per 100,000
Biological Oxygen Demand	2 parts per 100,000
(5 days test)	

The successful working of this method is brought about by using alternative sites and thus the ground is never allowed to become sewage sick. There is sufficient area for this to be carried out on the farm and areas can be rested for long periods. The drawback to this method of sewage disposal is the fact that excreta which may contain dangerous bacteria or viruses is exposed to the elements over a large area. Such sites also attract flies and it is wasteful of land.

Finedon.—Land treatment is the method adopted at these works also. The area is rather limited and the ground must be well impregnated with sewage yet three samples taken during the year gave the following results :

No. 1. Taken on 24th February, 1954:

Suspended Matter	0.6 parts per 100,000
Biological Oxygen Demand	1.4 parts per 100,000
(5 days test)	

Remarks—It will be seen that this effluent complies with both the suggested limits.

No. 2. Taken on 10th March, 1954:

Suspended Matter	1.2 parts per 100,000
Biological Oxygen Demand	3.0 parts per 100,000

Remarks—It will be seen that this effluent is satisfactory with regard to the suspended matter, but exceeds the suggested limit for B.O.D. test.

No. 3. Taken on 11th March, 1954:

Suspended Matter	1.6 parts per 100,000
Biological Oxygen Demand	2 parts per 100,000
(5 days test)	

Remarks—It will be seen that this effluent is satisfactory with regard to the Suspended Matter but slightly exceeds the suggested limits for B.O.D. test.

In view of the length of time the land at these works has been used for sewage disposal, the results are remarkably good. The final effluent goes into the lse and so to the Nene.

The rainfall during the year was high and both the Wellingborough Sewage Farm and Finedon Disposal Works had to deal with greater flows of sewage, which both accommodated satisfactorily.

During the year a 664-yard length of 9-inch sewer was laid near the Wilby boundary. This is to serve the proposed Northampton Road Development Scheme.

Figures for Sewage pumped during the year were as follows:

Sewage pumping Station, Irthlingborough Road	..	206,491,080
Cattle Market	.. .. .	224,440,000
Average Daily Total	.. .. .	1,180,633

DISINFECTION.—Following the notification of certain infectious diseases arrangements are made for the disinfection of premises and articles of clothing, bedding, etc., associated with the case. During the year 35 premises were disinfected and 257 articles. Liquid and gaseous disinfectants are used for houses and steam disinfection for clothing, bedding, etc.

Five premises were disinfected on special request (Non-infectious diseases) and many articles dealt with by the Health Department.

SWIMMING BATHS.—The nearest public swimming baths are at Wilby, Rushden and Overstone. Routine samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from these pools during the season. The results were of a satisfactory nature. The water in these pools is treated by filtration and chlorination with frequent change-over of water.

Samples of water from the River Nene in the vicinity of the old swimming baths were taken during the Summer months and were found to be unsatisfactory with evidence of heavy faecal pollution. The paddling pool on the river embankment was filled and used during the month of August. This pool is supplied by water pumped from near-by gravel wells. The water is also chlorinated. This is necessary because young children cannot be prevented from bathing in the pool in the process of paddling.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. S. 269.—No licences were granted during the year for the parking of caravans. There are a number of sites in the area for caravans associated with persons in the Show business. No serious problem was encountered in connected with them. Usually the standard maintained by these persons is satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—Three refuse tips were in use at different times during the year:

1. Gipsy Lane No. 1 Tip. This is now filled up and only covering over is taking place.
2. Gipsy Lane No. 2 Tip. Here refuse has been tipped to form an entrance to the quarry bottom.
3. Croyland Park, where tipping has taken place near to the Croyland Road in order to fill up and level out a portion of rough land. This eventually will be sealed over and sewn with grass seed.

Controlled tipping was the method adopted at the three sites and the Surveyor is to be congratulated on the way this was carried out at the Croyland Park site. This site is near to houses and could have caused some nuisance, but every effort was made to prevent this.

In September it was reported to me that Irchester was experiencing an invasion of flies. On investigation, fly breeding on a large scale was taking place in the vicinity of Gipsy Lane, No. 2 Tipping Site. Immediate action

was taken to deal with this, and also arrangements made with the Sanitary Inspector for the Rural area to spray the houses affected. The nuisance was quickly abated. Routine spraying of tips in the fly season is carried out and also the sites are kept under observation and treated when necessary by the Rodent Operator.

The Council maintains six vehicles, and 4,570 loads weighing 8,150 tons were deposited during the year on the three tips.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.—

During the year the Council continued its investigations with regard to atmospheric pollution caused by the local Iron Works. Collections of deposits from these works were made by four gauges situated at Hillside Road, Cooling Tower, Old Isolation Hospital and the Council Depot in Cannon Street. Two lead peroxide instruments for measuring sulphur-dioxide in the atmosphere were sited at Hillside Road and the Council Depot. Once again, due to the heavy nature of the deposit given off in the smoke and fumes from the works the gauges nearest to the works gave the highest readings. These readings are given in tons per square mile. The average monthly deposit recorded at the four stations were as follows :

	Hillside Road	Cooling Tower	Isolation Hospital	Council Depot
1954	56.96	73.13	14.26	11.70
1953	54.29	87.17	14.93	12.66

The average for the two years were :

1954	..	..	..	..	39.01
1953	..	..	..	..	42.26

In 1953 the Company installed one cyclone to one of the furnaces in an endeavour to abate the dust and grit nuisance. They estimated that the cyclone collected an average of 35 tons of dust per week. Two further cyclones were installed during 1954 and came into operation about August of this year. In perusing the figures for the four gauges for the months following the installation of these cyclones, there is a fall in the amounts recorded and as will be seen from the above yearly averages, a fall was noted.

The records of Sulphurdioxide in the atmosphere, once again showed heavier pollution in the region of Cannon Street than at Hillside Road. This, once again, points to the main source of atmospheric pollution by Sulphurdioxide being the Domestic chimney. Gases from the incomplete combustion of coal are harmful and if there is a high concentration of these fumes in the atmosphere they embarrass respiration. Respiratory and Cardiac cases suffer most, and it is interesting to note that respiratory death figures were highest during the months of the years when the S.O.₂ figures, as recorded, were at their maximum.

Some authorities throughout the country have made a start on the problem of atmospheric pollution, and have declared smokeless zones. New houses on the Council Estates are provided with grates in which smokeless fuel can be used. This should be useful if the Council, at some future date, decides to take action with regard to pollution caused by domestic fires.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The situation with regard to applicants for Council houses at Wellingborough on the 31st December, 1954, was as follows:

Applicants present accommodation	30th November, 1954		31st December, 1954.	
	Awaiting Consideration	Selected but not housed	Awaiting Consideration	Selected but not housed
Class 1 or 2 houses	144	2	126	—
Class 3 houses	39	4	44	2
Class 4 houses	15	1	12	1
House outside area	86	4	66	2
Rooms	488	17	409	19
Totals	772	28	657	24

The total figure was 681 compared with 608 at the end of the previous year.

The application list for Council houses at Finedon at the end of the year was as follows:

Applicants present accommodation	30th November, 1954		31st December, 1954.	
	Awaiting Consideration	Selected but not housed	Awaiting Consideration	Selected but not housed
Class 1 or 2 house	10	1	1	—
Class 3 house	18	1	16	2
Class 4 house	17	16	16	9
House outside area	3	—	3	—
Rooms	59	10	50	7
Totals	107	28	92	18

The total figure for Finedon for the end of the year was 110 compared with 123 at the end of the previous year.

The housing programme for 1954 was as follows:

Croyland Hall Farm Estate	..	120 houses constructed
Hayden Avenue, Finedon	..	12 houses constructed
Tower Site, Finedon	.. ..	28 houses constructed
Total		160

Contracts were let for 8 flats in Gold Street, 12 shops with 8 maisonettes and 15 flats on the Croyland Farm Estate, during the period. At the time of writing this report the 8 flats in Gold Street are completed.

During the year surveys and preparation work was carried out on the Northampton Road Development Scheme, for approximately 350 houses. 49 Private houses were built in 1954 which gives a total of 209 houses built in Wellingborough area. In 1953, 294 houses were constructed.

The Post War Housing Progress up to 31st December, 1954, is as follows: :

	<i>Council</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
Completed during the year ..	160	49	209
Completed since the war (including 95 temporary houses)	1,195	278	1,473
Under Construction on 31/12/54	124	32	156

The Council Estates are well laid out with plenty of open spaces. The siting is satisfactory from a Health point of view and the housing development should play a big part in the health of the future generations.

SLUM CLEARANCE.—The Council were very active during the year in this field and 21 areas in Finedon and one in Wellingborough were dealt with. The area dealt with in Wellingborough had been deferred from the previous year in order that the properties could be de-requisitioned.

The number of Official Representations made by me to the Council during the year was 22, twenty-one in connection with Finedon and one for Wellingborough.

Details concerning the areas were as follows:

FINEDON AREA

NUMBER OF HOUSES

<i>Description of Area</i>	<i>Occupied</i>	<i>Unoccupied</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Results of Inquiry</i>
Church Street and Box Hedge Place Clearance Area	10	9	19	Confirmed by Ministry
Regent Street Clearance Area	7	3	10	Confirmed
Regent Street and Affleck Bridge Clearance Area	1	3	4	Confirmed
Regent Street and Alexandre Terrace Clearance Area	7	1	8	Confirmed
Dolben Square Clearance Area	3	1	4	Confirmed
Ivy Lane Clearance Area	5	—	5	Confirmed
Wright's Yard Clearance Area	5	—	5	Awaiting decision by Ministry
Parker's Yard Clearance Area	2	1	3	Confirmed
Orchard Road Clearance Area	3	—	3	Confirmed
Plackett's Yard Clearance Area	15	—	15	Confirmed
Orchard Terrace Clearance Area	12	—	12	Confirmed
High Street and Well Street Clearance Area	22	3	25	Awaiting decision by Ministry
Well Street Finedon (No. 1) Clearance Area	2	—	2	Withdrawn at Inquiry

Well Street and Wellingborough Rd. Clearance Area	7	1	8	Confirmed
Wellingborough Rd. Clearance Area	1	1	2	Confirmed
Well Street Finedon (No. 2) Clearance Area	2	—	2	Confirmed
Eady's Yard, Finedon Clearance Area	2	—	2	Confirmed
Well Street Finedon (No. 3) Clearance Area	3	—	3	Confirmed
Barker's Square, High Street and Well Street Clearance Area	19	6	25	Confirmed
High Street, Finedon Clearance Area	1	1	2	Confirmed
Mashes Entry	1	1	2	Confirmed

The total number of houses dealt with at Finedon was 161. Sixty-seven of these houses were the subject of Clearance Orders confirmed in December, 1938, but held up on account of the war. Well Street, Finedon No. 1 Clearance Area, which concerned two houses standing on their own, was withdrawn on an undertaking from the owner that considerable work would be carried out and the two houses converted into one.

WELLINGBOROUGH.—St. George's Terrace Clearance Area comprising 10 houses was confirmed by the Ministry.

SINGLE UNFIT HOUSES, SECTION 11 OF HOUSING ACT.—Four houses were dealt with under this section of the Act during the year. Further details concerning housing repair notices served, etc., will be found in the second section of this report.

Many visits were made during the year to inspect the conditions under which applicants for Council houses were living. Reports were furnished to the Housing Manager to bring to the notice of the Housing Committee for consideration. Once again I should like to express my appreciation for the help and co-operation received from the Housing Manager and Committee with regard to cases where some health factor was involved.

SECTION E.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

MILK.—The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is responsible for the control and supervision of Milk production. The County Council, as Food and Drugs Authority, is responsible for the issue of licences to pasteurise milk. This Authority is responsible for the supervision of the distribution side and in connection with this many samples of milk and washed bottle rinses were taken during the year.

There are three pasteurisation plants in the town and the majority of milk consumed in the area is pasteurised milk. There were 60 milk samples taken during the year and 43 passed the test for keeping qualities and 17 failed. The necessary action was taken with regard to samples that failed to pass the tests.

WASHED BOTTLE RINSES.—60 bottles were examined and bacteriological counts carried out on rinses. The results were as follows:

<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Fairly Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
56	2	2

It is very satisfactory to note the high standard maintained in the area with regard to milk bottles, as shown by the above results.

ICE-CREAM.—Most ice-cream sold in the area is pre-packed and only a small amount is manufactured locally. Representatives of the big firms are very careful of the reputation of their products and supervise the areas they supply. 19 samples were taken during the season and the results were as follows:

<i>Provisional Grade</i>			
1	2	3	4
15	2	2	nil.

The majority of results were in Grades 1 and 2 which is satisfactory.

ICE LOLLIES.—Four samples were taken and all gave satisfactory results.

The number of samples taken shows a fall on previous years. This is due to activity in other fields of Public Health. 1954 was a busy year. Much work was carried out on Slum Clearance and the de-control of slaughtering meant much extra work.

LIVESTOCK (RESTRICTION ON SLAUGHTERING) ORDER, 1940—Up to the 5th July, 1954, the area was supplied by the Rushden Abattoir where beasts for human consumption were slaughtered. The Slaughterhouse Act received the Royal Assent on 5th July, 1954, and came into operation forthwith. Following the de-control of meat and livestock, it was the duty of the Local Authority to see that adequate slaughtering facilities were available in their areas.

When the Government announced its decision to de-control meat it re-affirmed its intention to bring about a moderate concentration of slaughtering facilities throughout the country. In the interim period as the Act provides that it is the duty of local authorities to review the slaughtering requirements and the licensing of private slaughterhouses remains with the local authority, a survey of the area was carried out.

No statutory standards relating to structure, design or facilities to be provided were laid down by the Ministry but it was stated that local authorities should have regard to the requirements of section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, when granting a licence to a private slaughterhouse. Also any Byelaws relating to sanitary conditions and, of course, the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, for the prevention of cruelty, should be enforced.

The results of the survey of the area showed that two premises were considered suitable for re-licensing and that six further premises could only be re-licensed if certain repairs and improvements were carried out. Eight other slaughterhouses were considered to be totally unsuitable. The necessary repairs and improvements were carried out and eight slaughterhouses in the area were licensed.

Under Section 57 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Wellingborough Master Butchers' Association appealed on behalf of six of the Butchers who had been refused licences. The appeal was heard at the local Court, but the Court upheld the decision of the Local Authority.

Prior to the coming into force of the de-control of meat a conference was held at which members of the local authority met representatives of the Master Butchers' Association, the N.F.U., and local butchers, to discuss the problem. No scheme was put forward, but the general feeling was to open as many private slaughterhouses as possible.

Since de-control many visits have been made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection, by the Sanitary Inspectors, and a hundred per cent. inspection of meat killed for human consumption is being carried out. Details of the results of meat inspection will be found in the second section of this report.

SECTION F.

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

SMALLPOX.—No cases occurred in the area.

VACCINATION.—The vaccination figures for 1954 were as follows:

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 years or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	150	4	18	13	27	212
Re-vaccination	—	—	1	4	28	33
						245

For comparison purposes the figures for 1953 were:

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1-4</i>	<i>4-15</i>	<i>15 years or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	118	22	13	26	179
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	23	23
					202

It is pleasing to note from the above that the number of vaccinations carried out during 1954 showed an increase on the figures for 1953, particularly in the number of primary vaccinations. Even so there can be no cause for complacency when one realises that a little over one third of the children born in 1954 were vaccinated. Every effort should be made to have as many infants vaccinated as possible, and the third month of life is the best time for primary vaccination.

SCARLET FEVER.—37 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. This is five more than in the previous year. Two cases were removed to hospital. Tables Nos. 6 & 7 show the age and monthly incidence and from this it will be seen that the ten year group was the one most affected. Also that the cases were spread throughout the first six months of the year. Scarlet Fever continued to be of a mild variety.

DIPHTHERIA.—No cases occurred. This is the third year that the area has been free of the disease. One case occurred in 1951 and prior to this no case had occurred for four years.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.—The following table shows the number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the 31st December, 1954:

Age at 31.12.54 i.e. born in year	<i>Under</i>					<i>5 to 9 1945-1949</i>	<i>10 to 14 1940-1944</i>	<i>Total under 15</i>
	<i>1 1954</i>	<i>1 1953</i>	<i>2 1952</i>	<i>3 1951</i>	<i>4 1950</i>			
Number Immunised	37	237	307	276	304	1,639	1,396	4,196

The following number of children were immunised at the Wellingborough Welfare Centres during the year:

<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5-9</i>	<i>10-14</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Booster</i>
147	49	18	7	4	43	3	261	276

The above does not include children immunised by private arrangements.

Diphtheria is still a killer and parents must constantly be reminded of this fact. A generation of parents is growing up that has never seen a case of Diphtheria and it is more than ever necessary to stress the value of immunisation. A combined inoculation against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough is now used and this should help in increasing the figures. The number of combined inoculations carried out during the year was as follows:

	<i>Under 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5-9</i>	<i>10-14</i>	<i>Total</i>
Combined								
Diphtheria/Pertussis	132	39	18	6	2	5	—	202
Whooping Cough only	17	7	4	2	—	—	—	30

The combined Diphtheria-Pertussis figures are included in the figure for Diphtheria Immunisation.

WHOOPING COUGH.—52 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year compared with 79 in the previous year. From Table No. 6 it will be seen that with the exception of April and August cases were spread throughout the months of the year, the majority of cases occurring in December. Table No. 7 gives the age incidence and from this it will be seen that more than 50% of the cases were in children of school age.

MEASLES.—Nine cases of Measles were notified compared with 95 cases in the previous year. Seven of these cases were notified in July. Further details will be found in Tables Nos. 5, 6, and 7. No deaths occurred from measles.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—16 cases were notified compared with 12 in the previous year. Not all of these cases were from Wellingborough as the majority of notifications were received from the Park Maternity Home, which serves a large area.

PNEUMONIA.—62 cases of Pneumonia were notified. In the previous year there were 34 cases. This is the highest number notified in ten years. 12 deaths from this cause were recorded compared with 11 in the previous year.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.—No cases occurred. There were no cases in the previous year.

ERYSIPELAS.—Four cases were notified. In the previous year there were 8 cases.

INFLUENZA.—One death was recorded from this cause. In the previous year there were 8 deaths.

DYSENTERY.—One case was notified. In the previous year there were no cases.

POLIOMYELITIS.—No cases were notified. There were three cases in the previous year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—No case was notified. One case occurred in the previous year.

FOOD POISONING.—No cases were notified. In the previous year there were seven cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.—16 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year compared with 24 in the previous year. 15 cases were of Respiratory Tuberculosis (3 males and 12 females) and one case (1 female) of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis.

During the year 19 cases from Wellingborough were admitted to the Rushden House Sanatorium and 18 discharged. Four deaths were recorded from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. There were no deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year. The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the end of the year was as follows:

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary	..	..	..	86	57	143
Non-Pulmonary	..	..	..	23	17	40
						183

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

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
22	11	19	17	23	11	24	16

The mortality figures for Wellingborough and the County for the same period were as follows:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Tuberculosis—All forms</i>			<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Wellingboro'</i>	<i>County</i>
1948	4	6	10	.35	.42
1949	5	3	8	.28	.43
1950	7	—	7	.24	.30
1951	7	4	11	.38	.26
1952	3	3	6	.21	.25
1953	5	2	7	.24	.18
1954	2	2	4	.13	

The Wellingborough After-Care Committee continued its excellent work in the town for sufferers from Tuberculosis.

SECTION G.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Table No. 10 page 32 gives form 572 (Revised) abridged, and from it will be seen that there are 211 factories on the register. Fifty-eight inspections were carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and 13 written notices served. Thirteen cases where defects were found were referred by the Factory Inspector. Action was taken as necessary.

With regard to factories where mechanical power is not used, no serious complaints were received concerning cleanliness, number employed, temperature, ventilation or drainage of floors. The number of outworkers on the list for 1954 was 624 compared with 518 in the previous year.

Further details concerning this chapter will be found in the second part of this report.

SECTION H.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1954.

TABLE No. 1.

CAUSES OF DEATH

<i>Causes of Death</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	2	4
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	5	6	11
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	1	7
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	17	14	31
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	31	27	58
18. Coronary disease, angina	24	23	47
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	6	4	10
20. Other heart diseases	38	36	74
21. Other circulatory disease	8	3	11
22. Influenza	1	—	1
23. Pneumonia	4	8	12
24. Bronchitis	12	9	21
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	1	—	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	2	—	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	14	23
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1
34. All other accidents	6	4	10
35. Suicide	4	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	185	164	349

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
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
1952	—	—	6	.21	53	1.87	199	7.04	28	.99
1953	1	.03	6	.21	58	2.03	229	8.02	30	1.05
1954	—	—	4	.13	56	1.95	200	6.97	34	1.18

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.		
1947	.53	12.98	65.72	1022
1948	.46	13.63	49.40	1000
1949	.21	22.93	41.66	1111
1950	.42	12.34	40.38	1136
1951	.56	25.04	60.53	1096
1952	.21	22.93	34.56	1333
1953	.17	37.29	35.	1285
1954	.34	27.71	39.90	1206

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

TABLE No. 4.

Year	Estimated Population	Deaths					
		Births		Under 1 year		All ages	
		No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000	No.	Rate per 1,000
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
1952	28,250	434	15.36	10	23.04	334	11.82
1953	28,520	400	14.02	7	17.5	388	13.60
1954	28,670	426	14.85	10	23.47	349	12.10

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
(Other than Tuberculosis) 1954.

TABLE No. 5.

<i>Disease</i>	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	65-	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	2	3	5	24	1	1	1	—	—	—	37	2	—
Pneumonia	2	2	—	8	6	8	5	3	2	6	16	4	62	1	12
Measles	—	1	1	1	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	9	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	4	5	5	11	16	3	—	—	—	—	—	52	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	4	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	13	—	—	—	16	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	10	7	8	17	22	53	9	10	16	6	17	6	181	3	12

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis) 1954.

TABLE No. 6.

<i>Disease</i>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	3	—	8	12	8	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	37
Pneumonia	4	16	8	8	6	2	3	2	2	2	7	2	62
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	—	9
Whooping Cough	5	6	3	—	2	2	3	—	4	4	9	14	52
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	1	3	—	—	3	1	—	1	3	1	16
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	15	23	21	23	46	6	20	4	8	8	20	17	181

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE.

TABLE No. 7.

<i>Age Periods</i>	Measles		Whooping Cough	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
—6 months	—	—	3	2
—12 months	—	—	—	1
—18 months	—	—	2	1
—2 years	1	—	—	1
—2½ years	1	—	—	3
—3 years	—	—	1	1
—4 years	1	—	3	2
—5 years	—	—	5	6
—10 years	3	2	8	10
—15 years	—	—	2	1
15 years+	1	—	—	—
ALL AGES	7	2	24	28
TOTALS	9		52	

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1954.

TABLE No. 8.

<i>Age Periods</i>	New Cases				Deaths			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-respiratory</i>	
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Fe- male</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Fe- male</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Fe- male</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Fe- male</i>
—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
—25	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
—35	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
—45	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
—55	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65+	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	3	12	—	1	2	2	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATH OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR

TABLE No. 9.

Cause of Death	Age in weeks					Total
	-1	-2	-3	-4	5-52	
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	2	3
Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	—	1	—	1	—	2
Premature Birth	4	—	—	—	—	4
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia and Atelectasis ..	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congenital Debility ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Haemolytic Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	1	—	1	3	10

TABLE No. 10.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 and 1948
for the year 1954.

PART I. OF THE ACT.

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

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	186	52	13	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	4	4	—	—
TOTAL	211	58	13	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>No. of cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation S.4.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
(a) Insufficient	1	—	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	26	18	—	12	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	27	18	—	13	—

TABLE No. 10—continued.

PART VIII. OF THE ACT—OUTWORK.

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 110</i>			<i>Section 111</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in un-whole-some premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Making, etc	348	—	—	—	—	—
Wearing apparel—						
Cleaning & washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains & Furniture hangings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture & Upholstery	1	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc. ..	271	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	4	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	624	—	—	—	—	—

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

YEAR 1954

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

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department

STAFF, 1954.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

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

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

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

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

Clerk and Chief Sanitary Inspector's Secretary :

MISS E. M. BROTHERTON.†

Pest Control Operative :

C. LAWRENCE.

General Assistant (Manual) :

J. W. STEVENS.

(Appointed 8.3.54). (Resigned 30.10.54).

* Certified Meat and Food Inspector, R.S.I.

† Certificate in Commercial Education, London Chamber of Commerce.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1954.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, MISS HORN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present my Eighth Annual Report for the year 1954.

As in previous years the report is compiled in accordance with Ministry of Health requirements and gives statistical data and other information with regard to the sanitary circumstances of the Urban District and of the work carried out by the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year in the field of environmental hygiene.

The main outstanding change was the de-control of meat supplies in July and the consequent freeing of restriction on private slaughtering after fifteen years of control. The provision of adequate slaughtering accommodation for the district necessitated the re-opening of eight slaughterhouses, this being a matter which was given close and detailed consideration, especially as most of the premises were regarded as unsuitable.

The additional responsibility placed upon your Inspectors in regard to meat inspection duties has made considerable extra work, necessitating regular visits to slaughterhouses, largely outside normal hours of duty in order to maintain a 100% inspection service. The quality of meat slaughtered in the Urban District has on the whole been high.

Special reference is made to the comprehensive slum clearance scheme at Finedon which marked a big step forward in the necessary redevelopment of the central part of this area. The detailed inspection and administrative work carried out by the department in connection with it, however, materially restricted activity in other important fields.

While every effort has been made to cover one's statutory and other responsibilities as evenly and effectively as possible, I am nevertheless conscious of the several matters which materially lack the attention which in my opinion they deserve, due to the volume of day-to-day work and added responsibilities.

As the report is confined to matters connected with hygiene and sanitation, particulars relative to my duties outside this field are not included.

In conclusion, I take the opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Health and General Purposes Committee for their consideration and continued support, and to my staff for the valued assistance given me during the year. I also record my thanks to Dr. Bermingham and the other Chief Officers and their staffs for their advice and helpful co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Miss Horn and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALEC J. STROUD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Council Offices,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.

June, 1955.

SANITARY INSPECTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA

TABLE A.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Total Inspections and Visits	..	..	..	..	..	3,527
Complaints received	..	..	..	..	..	261
Preliminary Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	52
Secondary Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	9
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	27
Letters, etc., received	..	..	..	..	..	1,373
Letters, etc., despatched	..	..	..	..	..	1,387
Interview with Property Owners, Agents and Builders	..	..	..	..	..	186

TABLE B.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

(a) General Sanitary Work—

Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	15
Drainage and Sewerage	..	..	..	..	..	402
Closet Accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	12
Refuse—Storage, collection and disposal	..	..	..	..	..	10
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	8
Houses—Let in Lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	—
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	..	..	..	..	..	20
Rivers Pollution	..	..	..	..	..	11
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	..	..	2
Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement	..	..	..	..	..	24
Infectious Disease, Disinfection, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	58
Keeping of Animals	..	..	..	..	..	2
Pet Shops	..	..	..	..	..	2
Offensive accumulations	..	..	..	..	..	20
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	1
Rodent Infestation Control, including visits by rodent operative	..	..	..	..	..	865
Vermin and Insect Pests—Investigations	..	..	..	..	..	35

(b) Housing—

Inspection of Dwelling Houses under Public Health and Housing Acts	..	..	..	..	..	769
--	----	----	----	----	----	-----

(c) Shops Act, 1950—

Sanitary Conditions	..	..	..	..	..	38
---------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----

(d) Factories—

Inspection of Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers' Premises	..	..	..	..	..	64
--	----	----	----	----	----	----

(e) Food and Drugs Act, 1938—

Meat and Food Inspection (including visits to Slaughter-houses)	..	..	..	..	..	781
General Food Shops	..	..	..	..	..	72
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	79
Market Stalls and Street Food Vendors	..	..	..	..	..	23
Food Manufacturing Premises	..	..	..	..	..	37
Catering Establishments and Licensed Premises	..	..	..	..	..	20
Ice Cream Premises	..	..	..	..	..	22
Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Distribution	..	..	..	..	..	24
Sampling—Milk, Ice Cream and Other Foods	..	..	..	..	..	78

(f) Miscellaneous Visits—

33

TABLE C.
FOLLOWING SERVICE OF NOTICE
SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS AND DEFECTS REMEDIED

General—

Roofs repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	20
Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	..	..	..	..	10
Walls (External) repaired or rebuilt	..	..	..	..	5
Walls (External) repointed, rendered, etc.	..	..	..	..	12
E.G.'s and R.W.P.'s cleansed, repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	19
Yards paved or repaired	..	..	..	..	7
Houses cleansed, limewashed or decorated	..	..	..	..	1
Walls (Internal) repaired	..	..	..	..	43
Ceilings repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	14
Floors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	8
Stairs repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Handrails fixed to staircases	..	..	..	..	—
Doors, etc., repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	5
Windows, etc., repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	18
Firegrates and stoves repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	2
Sinks provided or renewed	..	..	..	..	10
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	19
Ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	1
Washing boilers repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	2

Drainage—

Drains constructed or reconstructed	..	..	..	..	7
Drains repaired	..	..	..	..	9
Obstructed drains cleared	..	..	..	..	5
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	..	..	..	..	6
Soil and Vent. pipes provided or renewed	..	..	..	..	1
Gullies provided or renewed	..	..	..	..	4
Old drains abolished	..	..	..	..	2
Waste pipes provided, renewed or repaired	..	..	..	..	1
Drains disconnected from sewer	..	..	..	..	—

Sanitary Conveniences—

New conveniences provided	..	..	..	..	1
Conveniences repaired reconstructed or improved	..	..	..	..	11
Conveniences cleansed or limewashed	..	..	..	..	2
Defective conveniences abolished	..	..	..	..	1
Light and ventilation improved	..	..	..	..	1
Pedestal washdown W.C. basins fixed	..	..	..	..	7
Flushing apparatus provided	..	..	..	..	—
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	2

Water Supplies—

Internal water supply provided	..	..	..	..	—
Mains supply provided	..	..	..	..	—
Wells abolished	..	..	..	..	—
Water services repaired	..	..	..	..	—

Miscellaneous—

Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	2
Offensive accumulations removed	..	..	..	..	1
Animals—Nuisance abated	..	..	..	..	—
Rats and Mice—Premises treated	..	..	..	..	96
Smoke nuisances abated	..	..	..	..	3

SERVICE OF NOTICES

Number outstanding 31 December, 1953	.. .. .	78
Informal Notices to execute work or abate nuisances	.. .. .	52
<i>Statutory Notices—</i>		
Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 24—Maintenance of Certain Lengths of Public Sewer	.. .. .	16
Public Health Act, 1936, Sec. 93 — Statutory Nuisances	.. .. .	6
Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9—Repair of Dwelling Houses	.. .. .	5
	—	27
		157
Number complied with	.. .. .	87
		87
Number outstanding 31st December, 1954	.. .. .	70

Legal Proceedings—

Proceedings were instituted in one case of non-compliance with an Abatement Notice under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of an accumulation of leather dust in a workplace. A Nuisance Order was made against the defendant with costs, and further proceedings were instituted for non-compliance when a fine of £3 was imposed.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

The supervision of drainage and plumbing works resulted in 212 visits being made to properties for the purpose of inspection and advice. During the year 68 hydraulic, smoke or other tests were applied to new and existing drainage systems. 88 obstructed drains were also cleared.

Repair or reconstruction work was carried out to 4 combined drainage systems involving 20 separate properties, under Section 24 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Cesspools were emptied on request on 69 occasions by the mechanical emptier which is hired from Rushden U.D.C. under standing arrangements monthly. Most of the properties involved were in the Nest Lane area where there is no public sewer.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

41 visits were made to premises in connection with the investigation of cases of infectious diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health.

No. of houses or parts of houses disinfected :

(a) Following Infectious Disease	.. .. .	35
(b) On special request (other causes)	.. .. .	5

No. of articles disinfected | 257 |

No. of articles destroyed | 112 |

Articles of bedding and clothing requiring steam disinfection were dealt with by Rushden U.D.C.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Two licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were in force during the year in respect of individual caravans used for temporary housing accommodation.

The various small sites occupied by travelling showmen as winter quarters were periodically inspected. These consist of small pieces of waste land in various parts of the town, each accommodating three or four vans. Although some of these have been used for a number of years, and have, as far as possible, been reasonably well maintained, they are not prepared sites, and cannot be regarded as entirely suitable. As the occupation of these sites is outside the licensing provisions of the Public Health Act, and being used for continuous periods of at least six months each year, it is felt that consideration should be given to the availability of alternative sites which are more suitable as regards location and amenities.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Premises registered for the use of filling materials	..	..	Nil
Premises licensed for (a) Manufacture of rag flock	..	..	Nil
(b) Storage only	..	..	1

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two licences for the keeping of pet shops were granted during the year. Conditions were satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of registered factories in the Urban District at 31st December, was 211, i.e. with mechanical power, 186; without mechanical power, 21; other premises, 7; a decrease of 10 during the twelve months.

58 inspections were made and 13 written notices served requiring defects to be remedied. These were :

Sanitary Conveniences	Insufficient	Found	1	Remedied	—
	Unsuitable or				
	Defective	„	26	„	18

Thirteen notifications of infringements were received from H.M. Inspector.

Outwork.

Half-yearly lists were received from 37 employers and 3 outside authorities notifying the employment of 624 outworkers in the Urban District. (August List). Most of these were employed in connection with the making, etc., of boots and shoes, clothing, and in the carding of buttons.

Particulars relating to 152 outworkers were also notified to other authorities during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

1. *Rodent Infestation Control.*

Statistics relating to the work of this section are given in the following tables. These show a small increase in the number of notifications received over 1953—most of the infestations found being treated by the local authority. The general state of the district may be regarded as fairly satisfactory, no widespread infestations being encountered. Careful attention was given to the Council's two refuse tips during the year, these being maintained relatively clear of infestation.

The Council continued to assist the Urban Councils of Raunds and Irthlingborough with the services of the rodent operative. The arrangements worked satisfactorily.

Surface Infestation.

(a) Premises inspected:					
(i) As result of notification	..	..		106	
(ii) Routine Visit or Survey	..	..		83	
				—	189
(b) No. of Properties found to be infested:					
Rats—Major	..	..	..	19	
Rats—Minor	..	..	..	77	
Mice only	..	..	..	32	
				—	128
(c) No. of Infested Properties treated by local authority:					
Private Dwellings	..	..	..	52	
Business and Industrial Premises (including those under Servicing Agreements)	..			35	
Agricultural Properties	..	..	..	—	
Local Authority Properties	..	..		9	
				—	96
(d) Total Visits made by Rodent Operative	..	..			815

Annual Servicing Agreements.

Number in force 31.12.54	..	..	..	..	15
Total Value	..	..	..	..	£212

Sewer Maintenance.

The usual two maintenance treatments and test baiting as required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries were carried out—details of which are summarised below. As the second treatment continued to show a fairly high degree of infestation it was followed towards the end of the year by a full treatment of all sections of the sewerage system, with good results. The position has since considerably improved.

Total number of sewer manholes in the Urban District .. 567

TABLE D.

<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Wellingborough</i>	<i>Finedon</i>
<i>First—(March, 1954)</i>		
Number of manholes baited	112	77
Number showing infestation (bait take)	86 (77%)	7 (9%)
Number of manholes test-baited in conjunction with treatment	78	—
Number of tested manholes showing infestation	9	—
<i>Test-Baiting—(June, 1954)</i>		
Number of manholes baited	86	—
Number showing infestation	52	—
<i>Second—(Sept./Oct., 1954)</i>		
Number of manholes baited	92	37
Number showing infestation	67 (72%)	11 (30%)
Poisons used—Zinc Phosphide and Arsenious Oxide.		

2. *Verminous Disinfestation.*

28 cases of verminous infestation were reported during the year; these included :

Ants	4	Flies	1
Bugs	4	Moths	2
Earwigs	3	Wasps	10
Fleas	4		

The use of vermicides containing D.D.T. or B.H.C. proved effective in most cases. Wasps were dealt with by cyanide treatment.

A serious fly nuisance occurred on the Gypsy Lane refuse tip during the last week of September, following the extinguishing of a fire. The sudden mass-breeding of flies of the common domestic species was undoubtedly due to the heat and moisture in the tip, coupled with favourable weather conditions at the time. Effective measures were taken at once to deal with the matter, involving the thorough disinfestation of the whole of the tip.

HOUSING

Clearance Areas.

Considerable strides were made during the year in implementing the Council's slum clearance scheme in Finedon. Twenty-one clearance orders were made relating to 161 houses.

A public inquiry was held by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government on 24th August, 1954, with regard to twelve of the Orders, which were the subject of objections. With three exceptions, two awaiting confirmation, and one which was withdrawn upon the submission of a satisfactory scheme for conversion and reconditioning, all the Orders were subsequently confirmed without modification.

This scheme will materially affect the congested central part of Finedon where, within an area of approximately nine acres, some 100 houses will be cleared. A comprehensive scheme for redeveloping this area is, however, already under consideration by the Council.

The St. George's Terrace Clearance Order relating to ten houses was the subject of an inquiry earlier in the year and was confirmed without modification.

Rehousing.

During the year 94 persons displaced from Clearance Areas and houses subject to Demolition or Closing Orders were re-housed by the Housing Committee.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, came into operation on 30th August, 1954. While its main provisions enable landlords to apply a 'repairs increase' to the rents of controlled houses which are in good condition, experience during the first few months of its operation has shown that owners are very reluctant to take advantage of these provisions, mainly because of the considerable initial outlay required to put their property into a satisfactory condition in relation to the small financial return.

Two applications for certificates of disrepair were received from tenants where rent increase had been claimed by the landlord under the new Act. Both were approved.

Twenty-four applications for improvement grants were received and dealt with by the Housing Committee. It is interesting to note that with one exception all related to owner-occupier houses, the majority being for the provision of such amenities as new bathrooms. These applications are dealt with initially by the Engineer and Surveyor, but in certain cases particulars are supplied of additional works required to conform to the standard of amenity and fitness which is a condition of grant.

Clearance Areas, Finedon.

Church Street and Box Hedge Place Clearance Area.

1, 2 and 3 Chapman's Yard; 37, 39, 41, 43 and 45 Church Street; 1 Henfrey's Yard;
1, 2, 3, and 4 Manning's Yard; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Box Hedge Place. (19 houses).

Regent Street, Finedon, Clearance Area.

26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40/42 and 42a Regent Street. (10 houses).

Regent Street and Affleck Bridge Clearance Area.

1 Affleck Bridge; 2, 4 and 6 Regent Street. (4 houses).

Regent Street and Alexander Terrace Clearance Area.

12 and 14 Regent Street; 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 Alexander Terrace. (8 houses).

Dolben Square Clearance Area.

4, 5, 6 and 7 Dolben Square. (4 houses).

Ivy Lane Clearance Area.

9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 Ivy Lane. (5 houses).

Wright's Yard Clearance Area.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Wright's Yard. (5 houses).

Parker's Yard Clearance Area.

18 and 20 Church Street, and house adjoining No. 20. (3 houses).

Orchard Road Clearance Area.

1, 3 and 5 Orchard Road. (3 houses).

Plackett's Yard Clearance Area.

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 Plackett's Yard. (15 houses).

Orchard Terrace, Finedon, Clearance Area.

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 Orchard Terrace. (12 houses).

High Street and Well Street Clearance Area.

98/100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128 and
130 High Street; 77, 79, 81, 83, 85, 87, 89, 91 and 93 Well Street. (25 houses).

Well Street, Finedon (No. 1) Clearance Area.

46 and 48 Well Street. (2 houses).

Well Street and Wellingborough Road Clearance Area.

36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 Well Street; 54, 55 and 56 Wellingborough Road. (8 houses).

Wellingborough Road Clearance Area.

52 and 53 Wellingborough Road. (2 houses).

Well Street, Finedon (No. 2) Clearance Area.

30 and 32 Well Street. (2 houses).

Eady's Yard Clearance Area.

1 and 2 Eady's Yard. (2 houses).

Well Street, Finedon (No. 3) Clearance Area.

1, 3 and 5 Well Street. (3 houses).

Barker's Square, High Street and Well Street Clearance Area.

1/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 Barker's Square; 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and
32 High Street; 27, 29, 31, 33, 35 and 37 Well Street. (25 houses).

High Street, Finedon, Clearance Area.

25 and 27 High Street. (2 houses).

Mashes Entry Clearance Area.

1 and 2 Mashes Entry. (2 houses).

Housing Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

(i)	Houses inspected for housing defects	213
	Number of inspections made	440
(ii)	<i>Clearance Areas.</i>	
	Number of houses demolished	19
	Number of persons displaced	44
(iii)	<i>Remedy of Defects.</i>	
	Unfit or defective houses rendered fit as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts	16
(iv)	<i>Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936.</i>	
(a)	Houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	5
(b)	Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
	(i) by owners	4
	(ii) by local authority in default of owners	—
(v)	<i>Proceedings under Housing Act, 1936.</i>	
(a)	<i>Section 9.</i>	
	(i) Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	5
	(ii) Houses rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	(a) by owners	—
	(b) by local authority in default of owners	—
(b)	<i>Sections 11—13.</i>	
	Demolition Orders Made	2
	Houses demolished	2
	Undertakings accepted not to re-occupy	1
	Number of houses rendered fit	—
	Closing orders made (parts of buildings)	—

AIR POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Attention was again focussed on the dust problem arising from the local iron works. As the result of representations by the Council during recent years the Company completed the installation of two further cyclones to the operating blast furnaces, and by the latter part of the year these were in full operation. While the whole installation had not been in use sufficiently

long by the end of the year to properly assess its effect, an indication may be given by the fact that the first of the cyclones, during the first nine months of operation collected an average of 150 tons of dust a month. It is, therefore, anticipated that with the completed installation there will be evidence of a material reduction in the amount emitted during the next year.

The four deposit gauges were in use throughout the year at the same sites. The figures show a slight reduction in the total deposited matter compared with 1953. Details are given in Table E. and the general position indicated on the accompanying graph.

Two lead peroxide instruments were operated during the year at Hillside Road and the Council Depot respectively. These provide a simple and ready method for estimating the extent of atmospheric sulphur dioxide over periods of a month at a time. As the emission of sulphur dioxide results largely from the burning of raw bituminous coal, it is natural that there is a greater degree of pollution from this source during winter periods when more domestic fires are in use. This will be seen from the results shown in Table G.

For the purpose of comparison it should be noted that figures of from 2 to 4 mg/100 sq. cm./day are common in densely populated industrial areas, while in cleaner urban and rural areas they are often as low as 0.5.

Chemical analyses were undertaken by the following:—

Deposit Gauges—Stewarts & Lloyds, Ltd., Corby.

Lead Peroxide Instruments—Messrs. John Evans (A. H. Allen & Partners), Analytical Chemists, Sheffield.

The results of analyses were forwarded monthly to the Fuel Research Station of the D.S.I.R. for inclusion in the national records.

TABLE E.

Deposited Matter (tons per sq. mile per month)
January—December, 1954.

	<i>Hillside Rd.</i>	<i>Finedon Rd.</i> (Cooling Tower)	<i>Isolation Hospital</i>	<i>Council Depot</i>
January	73.59	53.43	14.91	11.02
February	53.01	60.58	17.51	14.94
March	89.00	100.43	16.55	12.62
April	104.07	63.40	17.05	11.52
May	120.71	75.50	26.18	20.52
June	93.85	109.49	20.58	14.81
July	19.37	96.07	10.80	8.17
August	52.60	77.81	10.49	8.26
September	10.63	63.36	5.13	7.25
October	20.20	55.84	8.02	7.93
November	30.80	58.65	14.53	13.05
December	15.77	63.04	9.38	10.37
Average per month	56.96	73.13	14.26	11.70

TABLE F.

Meteorological Data
Table showing monthly rainfall and wind directions.

Month	Rainfall (Isolation Hosp.) ins.	Recorded wind directions shown in percentages								
		N.	N.E.	E.	S.E.	S.	S.W.	W.	N.W.	Wind No
Jan.	0.77	11.5	23.1	5.8	3.9	23.1	9.6	11.5	11.5	—
Feb	1.79	11.4	22.7	—	6.8	27.2	11.4	11.4	9.1	—
Mar.	1.95	10.0	24.0	8.0	—	14.0	16.0	12.0	8.0	8.0
April	0.18	20.5	18.2	—	—	6.8	13.6	20.5	13.6	6.8
May	2.92	22.2	5.6	5.6	5.6	7.4	26.0	3.7	20.4	5.6
June	2.46	12.2	14.3	4.2	—	24.5	26.5	6.1	12.2	—
July	2.68	14.3	—	—	—	5.3	23.2	34.0	23.2	—
August	3.55	14.2	5.4	—	5.4	19.6	21.4	10.8	17.8	5.4
Sept.	1.96	2.0	—	—	4.0	18.4	50.0	18.4	12.2	—
Oct.	1.87	9.2	—	—	1.8	20.0	45.4	18.2	5.4	—
Nov.	4.55	9.3	3.7	—	3.7	33.3	22.2	18.5	9.3	—
Dec.	2.24	5.5	—	1.9	3.7	20.4	24.0	35.2	9.3	—

TABLE G.

Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method
January—December, 1954.

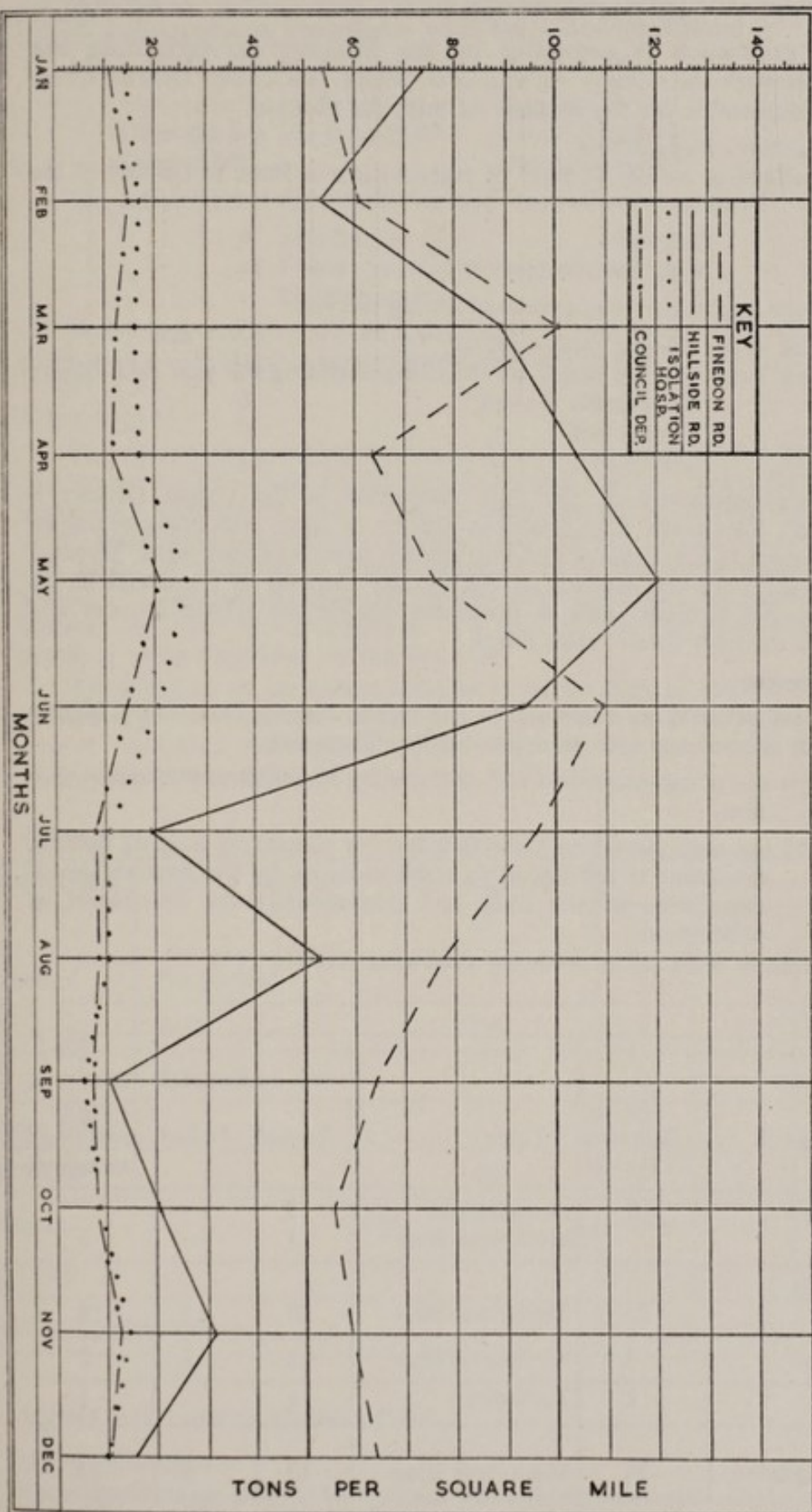
Months	Weight of SO ₃ collected mg/100 sq. cm./day	
	Council Depot	Hillside Road
January	3.04	1.68
February	2.28	1.39
March	2.35	1.26
April	1.59	0.96
May	1.32	0.98
June	0.67	0.53
July	0.64	0.42
August	0.60	0.43
September	0.95	0.57
October	1.38	0.66
November	5.52*	1.43
December	3.76	1.45

* Faulty result.

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

AIR POLLUTION 1954

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



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

Milk production is controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries through the County Agricultural Officer, the Urban District Council being responsible for the hygiene of milk distribution.

Milk and Dairies Regulations.

The following are the number of registrations in force at the end of the year:

Dairies	8
Milk Distributors	24

One new application was approved during the year.

Sale of Milk under Special Designations.

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

"Tuberculin Tested"	8
"Pasteurised"	6
"Sterilised"	11

A high percentage of the milk consumed in the Urban District is pasteurised. There are 3 pasteurising dairies, a large one being equipped with a modern H.T.S.T. plant and two smaller ones equipped with "Holder" type plants. These are licensed by the County Council as Food and Drugs Authority. All sterilised milk is processed outside the Urban District and distributed through small retail shops.

Milk Sampling.

Samples of milk are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton, in accordance with prescribed tests. These are:

- (a) the phosphatase test for determining the efficiency of pasteurisation.
- and (b) the methylene blue reduction test for measuring keeping quality, the latter is influenced in some measure by the bacteriological cleanliness of the milk and consequently the conditions of production.

60 samples were tested with the following results:

TABLE H.

Class of Milk	No. of Samples Tested	Tests	No. of Samples		No. conforming to prescribed standards
			Passed	Failed	
Pasteurised	3	Phosphatase Methylene Blue	3 3	— —	3
Tuberculin Tested	25	Methylene Blue	18	7	18
Accredited	3	Methylene Blue	2	1	2
Sterilised	1	Turbidity	1	—	1
Raw Undesignated	28	Methylene Blue	19	9	19

71.7% of samples satisfied the prescribed standards.

Testing of Washed Milk Bottles.

Samples of washed milk bottles are tested for sterility at the Public Health Laboratory in accordance with the following standard:

Mean Bottle Count, reckoned as per pint bottle:

Not more than 600	Satisfactory
Over 600 but less than 2,000	Fairly Satisfactory
Over 2,000	Unsatisfactory

The following are the results obtained from 60 bottle samples:

Satisfactory	56
Fairly Satisfactory	2
Unsatisfactory	2

From these results it will be seen that 93% were found to be satisfactory, which was a considerable improvement over the previous year.

ICE CREAM.

The manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream is controlled by registration under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1949. The ice cream trade has, during the last few years, undergone considerable change, the majority of the ice cream now sold being of proprietary brands supplied by a few large manufacturing firms. The number of retail shops and other premises registered for the storage and sale of ice cream at the end of the year was 108, 3 new premises being registered during the year.

Examination of ice cream samples is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton. 20 samples of ice cream and 3 samples of water ices or ice lollies were submitted for examination, the results which are tabulated below being on the whole very satisfactory.

TABLE I.

Class of Mix	Type of Sample	No. of Samples	Provisional Grade			
			I	II	III	IV
Pasteurised	Pre-packed	9	9	—	—	—
Cold	Bulk	6	4	2	—	—
Cold	Pre-packed	4	2	—	2	—
Ice lollie cream		1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS		20	16	2	2	—
Percentages	1954		80%	10%	10%	—
Percentages	1953		57.7%	23.1%	15.3%	3.9%
Ice lollies (Water Ices)—		3	All satisfactory. B. Coli absent.			

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

(a) *Slaughterhouses.*

Considerable developments took place during the year consequent upon the decontrol of the marketing of meat in July, and the responsibility placed

upon the Council of securing the provision of adequate slaughtering facilities for its area, by licensing private slaughterhouses, during the interim period until the implementation of the Government's policy of moderate concentration.

Until 1940 there were sixteen private slaughterhouses in use in the Urban District. With the exception to one belonging to the local bacon and pie factory, all were of the "back-yard" type—most being sited at the rear of butchers' shops and originally intended to serve the needs of the occupier alone. The premises were on the whole structurally very poor or dilapidated, with restricted space, limited lairage, and no separate accommodation for the hanging and cooling of dressed carcasses, and in close proximity to adjoining residential property.

Discussion took place with representatives of the local butchers and farmers, following which the Health Committee approved the application of minimum standards in respect of the existing slaughterhouses, and licensed eight premises following the carrying out of specified repairs and improvements, the remaining eight, being considered totally unsuitable. Appeals by five butchers against the decision of the Council not to grant licences were rejected by the Petty Sessional Court.

(b) Meat Inspection.

With the re-opening of eight slaughterhouses considerable additional responsibility has been placed upon the department, in the carrying out of meat inspection duties. It has long been recognised to be an important function of the Sanitary Inspector for safeguarding the public against the consumption of diseased or otherwise unfit meat. It is a duty which involves the detailed post mortem examination of carcasses and viscera of animals at the time of slaughter in accordance with the recommendations contained in Memo 3 (Meat) on the Methods and Criteria of Meat Inspection.

It will be appreciated that to be fully effective, 100% of animals slaughtered must be inspected. So far this has been maintained.

As regards ante mortem inspection, although it is recommended that animals should be inspected on their arrival at slaughterhouses, under present conditions, and having regard to the number of slaughterhouses, it has not generally been possible to make special visits for this purpose.

Table J. indicates the extent of the work carried out during the five months ended 31st December, 1954.

(c) Tinned and other foods.

72 visits were made to shops and other premises in connection with the inspection of foodstuffs and 207 condemnation certificates were issued. Details are given in Table K.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 TO 1954.

Number of licensed slaughtermen on the register at 31.12.54	42
Number of new or renewal licences granted during the year	31

TABLE J.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

Number of animals slaughtered and inspected		Bulls —	Cows 2	Steers 189	Heifers 110	Calves 18	Sheep 1644	Pigs 4184
<i>Tuberculosis.</i>								
1. Whole carcasses condemned		—	—	1	2	—	—	—
2. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned		—	—	12	9	—	—	112
Total Number of Animals affected with Tuberculosis		—	—	13	11	—	—	112
3. Percentage of animals inspected affected with T.B.		—	—	6.8	10	—	—	2.7
4. General incidence Adult bovine	8%							
<i>Other Diseases</i>								
Specific diseases other than T.B. causing condemnation of the whole carcass.								
Emaciation		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fever—Acute		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Immaturity		—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Gangrene		—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Joint Ill		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis (incl. Septic)		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Moribund		—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Peritonitis—Septic		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia—Acute Septic		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pyæmia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicæmia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Swine Erysipelas—Acute		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uraemia		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metritis—Septic		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		—	—	—	—	—	1	3

Total number of animals slaughtered and inspected 6147

Total number of whole carcasses condemned 7

Weight of Meat and Offal condemned :

	<i>Tuberculosis</i>				<i>Other Diseases</i>			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Carcase Meat	1	6	3	24	—	4	3	9
Offal	—	12	—	20	—	10	1	17
	1	19	—	16	—	15	—	26

Total Weight :— 2 Tons, 14 cwts., 1 qrs., 14 lbs.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

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

Number of visits to slaughterhouses 709

Number of casualties admitted 7

FOOD PREMISES.

A number of improvements was effected to food shops and other premises, both voluntary and as the result of action by the department, during the year. By arrangement with the Engineer and Surveyor, plans relating to new premises and extensions or alterations to existing premises are examined to ensure that the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act are satisfied.

There has been a steady improvement in the standard of hygiene and equipment in many shops. The small mixed shop does, however, often present a problem, owing to the variety of goods kept and the limited space available for display and storage.

TABLE K.

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

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>
<i>Tinned Goods</i>		<i>General Items</i>	
Fish	41	Bacon	5
Fruit	1899	Butter	1
Ham	82	Cheese	160
Jams and Preserves	9	Coconut	204
Meat (Various)	900	Coffee (Bottled)	1
Milk (Evaporated)	56	Dates	15
Puddings	2	Egg Powder	4
Soups	46	Fish (Smoked)	140
Vegetables	341	Fish (Wet)	413
		Fruit (Dried)	45
<i>Cereals</i>		Fruit (Bottled)	1
Biscuits	26	Fruit Juices	107
Cake Flour	6	Icing Sugar	18
Cereals	2	Jams and Preserves	1
Flour	6	Liver (Imported)	25
Rice	19	Pork	22
		Sandwich Spread	2
		Sauces	16
		Sausages	24
		Soup Powder	112
		Sponge Puddings	30
		Pickles	7

Total Weight—2 tons, 2 cwts., 3 qtrs.

