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WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

YEAR 1957

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

Together with the Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.



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WELLINGBOROUGH
URBAN DISTRICT



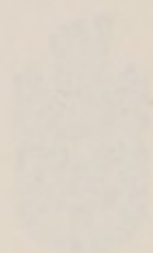
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE
YEAR 1927

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WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1957

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,738
Population, 1951 (census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28,222
Population, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	29,110
Number of separate dwellings occupied, 1931 (census)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5,396
Number of separate dwellings occupied, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9,997
Rateable Value, 1957	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£342,716
Product of a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£1,320

LIVE BIRTHS.					Total	Male	Female	Rate
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	441	232	209	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	21	10	11	
					462	242	220	15.87

STILLBIRTHS.					Total	Male	Female	Rate
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	6	3	3	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	—	1	
					7	3	4	0.24

					Total	Male	Female	Rate
DEATHS (all causes)	..	..	..	..	362	187	175	12.43

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES— rate per 1,000.

Total (Live and Still) Births

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

INFANT MORTALITY—rate for 1,000 live births.

Legitimate	..	..	..	..	9	8	1	
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	—	—	—	
					9	8	1	19.48

Deaths from (a) Cancer (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
„ „ (b) Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
„ „ (c) Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Nil
„ „ (d) Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

Wellingborough Urban District Council

Members of the Public Health and General Purposes Committee :

MESSRS. R. ALDERSON (*Chairman*), MISS E. A. HORN (*Vice-Chairman*),
C. B. BROWN, A. E. DICKS, H. A. HORDEN, B. KIRBY, A. L. LANGHAM,
R. D. PATERSON, E. A. STEELE, G. R. VERNON, H. C. L. WARWICK.

Public Health Officer 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 Public Health Inspector, Meat Inspector, etc. :

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

Additional Public Health Inspector :

D. B. HOPKINS, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Health Department,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.

July, 1958.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my tenth Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the area for the year 1957.

There are eight sections to the report and I should like to refer briefly to matters of interest in each section.

Section A deals with the vital statistics for the year under review and it will be seen that the Birth rate, 15.87 per 1,000 of population showed an increase on the previous year when it was 14.71. The death rate, 12.43 per 1,000 of population was slightly higher than in 1956 when it was 12.00. The highest percentage of deaths was due to diseases of the heart and circulatory system. The number of deaths from cancer showed an increase and was the highest for five years. Lung cancer deaths showed a considerable increase. The infant mortality rate 19.48 per 1,000 live births was lower than the previous year when it was 21.22. Once again it will be seen from Table No. 9 in Section H that eight of the nine deaths were in the Neo-natal period. The death rate for pulmonary tuberculosis continues to decline and the rate for the year .06 per 1,000 of population must be one of the lowest recorded.

In Section B information concerning the Health Services available for the district is given. Although in many respects the area is well served, attention is drawn to the fact that persons attending out-patient departments in certain branches of medicine and surgery have to travel to Northampton, Kettering, or the Hayway Memorial Hospital, Rushden. This involves travelling and a considerable amount of time. This matter should receive further consideration.

An account of the water supply for the area and sewage disposal systems for Wellingborough and Finedon will be found in Section C. The final effluent from the Wellingborough disposal system is satisfactory but the Finedon works are not functioning very satisfactorily and the final effluent does not comply with the standards suggested by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal. The deposit gauges set up in connection with the investigation into atmospheric pollution caused by the Iron Works showed a further fall compared with previous years. The sulphur-dioxide figures however, which are an indication of pollution of the atmosphere, remain similar to other years and show the usual seasonal variations. The domestic chimney and factory chimneys are responsible for this pollution and this remains a problem to be tackled in the future.

Satisfactory building progress was made during the year and as will be seen in Section D the Council built 140 houses and a further 170 were constructed privately giving a total of 310 new houses. The Council continues with its five year Slum Clearance programme, and has re-developed already some of the suitable clearance sites.

The results of samples taken for examination during the year in connection with the Supervision of food supplies will be found in Section E. Also an account of activities associated with meat inspection.

Section F is concerned with the Prevalence of and control over infectious and other diseases. Measles and pneumonia were the two notifiable diseases which showed the biggest increase. There were 499 cases of measles notified compared with 241 in the previous year. There were 43 cases of pneumonia compared with 34 in 1956. The other infectious diseases showed a considerable fall in numbers. Reference is made to an Influenza epidemic which occurred in the last quarter of the year. The vaccination figures for Smallpox must be the highest recorded which is very satisfactory. The immunisation scheme in connection with vaccination against poliomyelitis was continued throughout the year and 857 children received inoculations. As the British vaccine was in short supply, Salk vaccine was introduced. This scheme of vaccination against Poliomyelitis is successful and very large numbers of children have been vaccinated up to the time of writing this report.

Statistical tables will be found in Section H.

In conclusion I should like to thank the other officers of the Council for information supplied for this report and Miss Pearson for her assistance in compiling this data. I should also like to thank Mr. Stroud and Mr. Hopkins for their ever ready assistance throughout the year and finally the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and help throughout the year.

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 8,737 acres. The density of population is 3.3 persons per acre and the housing factor is 2.9 persons per house.

POPULATION.—The Registrar-General gives the population of Wellingborough as 29,110 in his returns for 1957. This shows an increase of 300 on the previous year. The natural increase, that is the number of births over deaths during the year was 100.

DEATHS.—There were 362 deaths during the year which gives a rate of 12.43 per 1,000 of population compared with 12.00 in the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 11.5 for 1957. Once again the chief cause of death was diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System. The following shows the percentage of the total number of deaths caused by certain selected causes :

	1957	1956
Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System ..	52.76%	56.06%
Diseases of the Respiratory System	8.28%	7.51%
Cancer	18.78%	17.91%
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.55%	0.86%

The number of deaths from coronary disease and angina was 55 compared with 59 in the previous year. Cancer deaths showed an increase, 68 compared with 62 in the previous year. The situation with regard to deaths from this cause over the last five years is as follows :

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Cancer Deaths	58	56	45	62	68
Neoplasm lung or bronchus	11	7	4	6	14
		(1 fem.)	(1 fem.)	(1 fem.)	(1 fem.)

BIRTHS.—There were 462 live births recorded during the year. This gives a rate of 15.87 per 1,000 of population. The rate for the previous year was 14.71. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 16.1. In Wellingborough male births outnumbered female by 13.

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS.—There were 21 illegitimate births which gives a rate of 45.45 per 1,000 live births compared with 40.09 in the previous year.

STILLBIRTHS.—Seven stillbirths occurred which is the same number as in the previous year. This gives a rate of 0.24 per 1,000 of population which is the same rate as the previous year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.—No deaths occurred, so for the second year in succession the rate is Nil.

INFANT MORTALITY.—Nine infant deaths occurred which is the same number as in the previous year. The rate per 1,000 live births was

19.48 compared with 21.22 in the previous year. The rate for England and Wales for 1957 was 23.0. 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	1955	1956	1957		
35.62	29.05	23.04	17.5	23.47	12.43	21.22	19.48		

NEONATAL MORTALITY.—This sub-division of the infant mortality rate is concerned with infant deaths within 28 days of independent existence. Eight of the nine deaths were within this period. This gives a rate of 17.31 per 1,000 live births, compared with 16.50 in the previous year. In Section H will be found tables giving statistics and further information concerning this section.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

LABORATORY SERVICES.—The Public Health Laboratory at Northampton and the Laboratory at Kettering General Hospital with branches at the Park Hospital, Wellingborough, and the Hayway, Rushden, serve the area.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.—The County Council are responsible for this service and the H.Q. for the area is at the Church Street Depot. The area is well served.

NURSING IN THE HOME AND HOME HELPS.—These services are also supplied by the County Council. The Home help service is a valuable one and often is the means of helping over a crisis in a family. In the case of old folks it is often the means by which they are able to remain in their own home where otherwise they would in their own interests, have to go to Park Hospital.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.—The following clinics run by the County Council are held at Oxford Street Clinic :

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, 2.00 p.m.
Child Guidance	Alternate Tuesdays 12.30 p.m.
Eye Clinic	Thursdays.

Rock Street Clinic :

Psychiatric Outpatients Every Thursday afternoon 2.15 p.m. to 5.15 p.m.

St. Andrew's Hall, Croyland Estate, Infant Welfare Centre.—Held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month, at 2.00 p.m.

Finedon.—Infant Welfare Centre held on the 1st Thursday of the month at the Co-operative Hall.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION.—The Oxford Regional Hospital Board is the responsible authority and the area is served as follows :

General Hospitals.—Northampton and Kettering.

Wellingborough.—Wellingborough Hospital, Gynæcology and children.

Highfield Hospital.—Acute Medical cases and skins.

Wellingborough Park Hospital.—Chronic sick, the aged and Old Persons in need of care and attention. Further accommodation for such cases is also provided at St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering, and Oundle.

A Maternity block for Midwifery cases from the area is also situated at the Park Hospital.

Tuberculosis.—The Rushden Sanatorium provides accommodation for cases from the area.

OUT PATIENT FACILITIES.—Persons from Wellingborough attending as outpatients have to go to Kettering and Northampton or the Rushden Memorial Hospital. This is rather unfortunate as distances are involved and the time factor may be considerable.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.—Under Section 47 of this Act it was found necessary to remove to the Park Hospital one case during the year. When one considers the number of persons in the older age groups and the considerable number of whom live on their own, it is surprising how little action has to be taken under this Act. Two big problems with old folk living on their own are loneliness and wrong feeding or lack of feeding. Darby and Joan clubs help a lot for those who can get out and wish to join such clubs but there are many who seldom leave their own homes. The problem of feeding is a difficult one. With increasing age and the monotony of cooking for oneself the standard decreases until often it is reduced to a minimum. Often cases removed under this section have reached their low state due to this fact.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER SUPPLY.—Wellingborough receives its water supply from the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board. The main source of supply of this Board is derived from Pitsford reservoir. This reservoir is situated nine miles west of Wellingborough in a valley on a tributary of the Brampton branch of the river Nene. The gathering area for the reservoir is about 19 square miles, consisting mostly of agricultural land. The capacity of the reservoir is about 4,000 million gallons.

TREATMENT.—Water is first softened. It then passes through open rapid gravity filters and from this to the filtered water tank for sterilisation by chlorine. This treated water is then pumped into three trunk mains for distribution.

WATER SAMPLES.—56 water samples were taken in the Wellingborough area during the year and sent for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton. The results of these samples were as follows :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Very Satisfactory</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
56	55	1	Nil

Routine water samples are taken by the Board in the area.

RAINFALL.—The rainfall recorded by gauge at Swanspool gardens for the year was 25.59 inches. In the previous year it was 24.97 inches. The following records the rainfall over the last six years :

<i>1952</i>	<i>1953</i>	<i>1954</i>	<i>1955</i>	<i>1956</i>	<i>1957</i>
25.8	18.77	29.06	19.09	24.97	25.59

The number of houses in the district with a piped water supply is 9,829. The number depending on standpipes is 135 and the number of houses without Town's supply is 33.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—The sewerage system for Wellingborough is mainly a combined system, sewers carrying both rainwater and crude sewage. Some are on the partially separate system with only a small proportion of rainwater while some others are on a completely separate system. There are storm overflows in some of the sewers and these should not give rise to any nuisance as they only come into operation following heavy rainfalls when the brook into which they are discharged is already affected by storm waters. There are two main pumping stations for sewage from the town and sewage is pumped to the Sewage farm at Irthlingborough Grange. Here it enters tanks situated on the highest point of the farm and from these tanks it is run to the particular part of the farm that is in use. It is run in channels over this part of the farm which acts as a filter bed. Under drainage carries the final effluent to outlets and on to the river. The most recent chemical analysis (May, 1958) of the final effluent gave the following results :

Appearance	..	..	..	Clear colourless
Odour	..	..	..	Slightly musty
P.H. Value	..	..	..	6.4

					<i>Parts per million</i>
Total solids dried at 105°	..	..	..	..	—
Suspended solids dried at 105°	..	..	..	..	10
Suspended solids ashed at 600°	..	..	..	..	2
Chlorides as Chlorine	..	..	..	..	86
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	..	..	..	..	111
Free and Saline Ammonia as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.1
Albuminoid Ammonia as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	0.5
Nitrites as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	—
Permanganate Value (4 hours)	..	..	..	..	3.3
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C.	..	..	..	..	1.5

Remarks.—This is a satisfactory final effluent and within the standards suggested by the Royal Commission on Sewage Disposal.

FINEDON.—The sewage disposal works for Finedon has given many years service but there is a definite deterioration in the standard of the final effluent from the works now. It is not surprising when one considers the method adopted for treatment and the area of land involved. This ground must now be thoroughly sewage sick.

The sewers serving Finedon are largely on the combined system and gravitate to the works which are situated south-west of the town. Here the crude sewage is screened and then passes into two settlement tanks. Sludge from these tanks is passed to four sludge drying beds. Effluent from the tanks is run on to land where broad irrigation takes place. The latest chemical analysis of final effluent (June, 1958) from these works gave the following results :

Appearance	..	..	..	Light brown slightly turbid
Odour	..	..	..	Slight sewage
P.H. Value	..	..	..	7.05

					<i>Parts per million</i>
Suspended solids dried at 105°	..	..	..	..	40
Suspended solids ashed at 600°	..	..	..	..	25
Chlorides as Chlorine	..	..	..	..	82
Alkalinity as Calcium Carbonate	..	..	..	..	253
Free and Saline Ammonia as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	16.3
Albuminoid Ammonia as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	3.2
Nitrites as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	—
Nitrates as Nitrogen	..	..	..	..	Trace
Permanganate Value (4 hours)	..	..	..	..	26.5
Biochemical Oxygen Demand in 5 days at 20°C.	..	..	..	..	31

This sample of final effluent was taken following heavy rain in the previous 24 hours and the results are not considered satisfactory.

Sewage disposal at the Weellingborough irrigation farm :

	<i>Average daily flow gallons</i>	<i>Average weekly flow gallons</i>	<i>Total flow gallons</i>
Western area via Cattle Market pumping station	540,742	3,785,194	196,830,000
Eastern area via Irthlingborough Road pumping station	562,284	3,935,988	204,671,520
TOTALS	1,103,026	7,721,182	401,501,520

There are no figures available for the Finedon works. There were no new sewers constructed during the year.

DISINFECTION.—20 premises were disinfected following infectious diseases. 108 articles of clothing, bedding, etc., were steam disinfected at the Rushden Disinfection Station by arrangement with that authority.

SWIMMING BATHS.—Eight samples of water were taken from the swimming pools at Wilby and Overstone for bacteriological examination during the season and all were very satisfactory.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, S.269.—Three licences were granted during the year. Licensed caravan sites in the area were as follows :

Persons engaged in Show business.—Jackson's Lane, Broad Green, John Street (2 sites), London Road Wellingborough; and Church Road, Finedon.

Some of these sites are now permanently used winter and summer. All are well maintained.

Broad Green enclosed land and garden.—Rear of 60, Broad Green used as permanent housing, conditions satisfactory.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—A weekly collection of household refuse is carried out. Two refuse tips were in use during the period.

Gipsy Lane Irchester.—All summer refuse and winter trade refuse.

Northampton Road Clay Pit.—Winter domestic refuse.

Total number of loads delivered to tips	..	..	4,399
Total weight of refuse delivered to tips	..	..	8,420 tons

In addition the Wellingborough Rural District Council use these tips for the disposal of refuse from their area.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AND SMOKE ABATEMENT.—The four deposit gauges situated at Hillside Road, Cooling Tower Finedon Road, Isolation Hospital and Council Depot, were maintained during the year and monthly records kept of deposit. The average monthly deposit given in tons per square mile collected at these four sites over the last five years is as follows :

	<i>Hillside Road</i>	<i>Cooling Tower</i>	<i>Isolation Hospital</i>	<i>Council Depot</i>
1957	17.49	26.77	8.47	10.57
1956	19.69	22.44	11.49	10.74
1955	45.68	32.88	14.29	14.29
1954	56.96	73.13	14.26	11.70
1953	54.29	87.17	14.93	12.66

These figures gave the following averages over the last five years :

1957	..	15.82
1956	..	16.09
1955	..	26.78
1954	..	39.01
1953	..	42.26

From these figures it will be seen that an improvement has been maintained with regard to the pollution caused by the Iron works. The highest readings as expected, were obtained from the two gauges nearest to the works. The gauge at the Council Depot in Cannon Street gives an indication of atmospheric pollution caused by other industries in the town and approximates to that recorded for other similar towns in the country where light industry is carried on.

There are a number of guilty factory chimneys in the area which contribute to atmospheric pollution. These are receiving attention and with the operation of the Clean Air Act which comes into force in this present year, the situation should be improved in the future.

ESTIMATION OF SULPHUR BY LEAD PEROXIDE METHOD.—

Two instruments for recording sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere are sited at Broad Green and St. Andrew's Crescent. The latter is situated on a large housing estate while the Broad Green site is nearer to the industrial concerns of the town.

Although the readings from these two instruments are fairly similar the figures obtained for the St. Andrew's Crescent area are on the whole slightly higher. Pollution is measured as the weight of SO_2 collected in mg/100 sq. cms./day. The figures for the two areas show seasonal variation being lowest in summer and highest in winter when domestic coal fires are in general use. The lowest figures recorded for both areas were in July and were as follows :

		Weight of SO_2 collected mg/100 sq. cms./day	
		<i>Broad Green</i>	<i>St. Andrew's Crescent</i>
July, 1957		0.33	0.38

and the highest figures recorded were :

January, 1958		1.54	1.79
---------------	-------	------	------

This pollution of the atmosphere is mostly attributed to the domestic fire with its incomplete combustion of fuel and giving off of gas.

Until our way of life is changed and the domestic fire is a thing of the past, we can never have truly clean air.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

The housing programme for 1957 was satisfactory and the number of dwellings built during the year was as follows :

	<i>Council</i>	<i>Private</i>	<i>Total</i>
Completed during the year	140	170	310
The figures for the previous year were:	24	152	176

The Post-War Housing progress is as follows :

Completed since the War (including 95 temporary houses)	1,506	660	2,166
--	-------	-----	-------

The number of dwellings under construction at the end of the year were :

Under construction on 31.12.57 ..	118	102	220
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----

FINEDON.—It is pleasing to report the re-development of areas cleared at Finedon following the Council's slum clearance programme. Included in the building programme is a bungalow scheme for old folk displaced with a Warden's house attached. This is an excellent idea.

One of the big problems associated with slum clearance is the number of old folk found living in unfit property. Often at their age they are loath to leave and one hesitates to disturb their roots. Such cases have to be judged on their merits and one must never overlook the fact that other persons adjacent living in similar circumstances may have their health impaired if a row is spared even for a few years. Bad health and unfit houses are closely connected and this is proved beyond doubt by observations made on carrying out slum clearance surveys.

SLUM CLEARANCE.—Official representations were made to the Council during the year concerning properties in the following areas :

Spring Gardens 16-28	13 houses
Gold Street 28 & 30	2 houses
West Street 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 14, 16, 18, 20	9 houses
Oxford Place 1, 2, 3	3 houses

Clearance Orders were confirmed by the Ministry concerning these areas.

The following unfit properties were also dealt with by the Council and site acquired :

Abbott's Row 1 to 6	6 houses
---------------------------	----------

Under Section 11 of the Housing Act the following houses were dealt with and Closing Orders made :

John Street 5, 6, 7	3 houses
---------------------------	----------

Twenty-two houses were demolished during the year. Applicants for Council houses on the Wellingborough and Finedon lists on 31st December, 1957, were as follows :

<i>Applicants Present accommodation</i>	<i>31st December, 1957 Awaiting consideration</i>	<i>Selected but not housed</i>
Class 1 or 2 houses ..	2 (179)	—
Class 3 houses	1 (42)	—
Class 4 houses	5 (4)	1
Houses outside area ..	26 (91)	4
Rooms	184 (337)	40
Clearance Areas	—	14
Various A.P.B.'s	74	—
<i>Totals</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>59</i>

This figure shows a very considerable fall on the previous year when 653 applicants were awaiting consideration and to assist in explaining this reduction I have put in brackets last year's figures for applicants living in the different classes of houses.

The situation at Finedon at the end of the year was as follows :

<i>Applicants Present accommodation</i>	<i>31st December, 1957 awaiting consideration</i>	<i>Selected but not housed</i>
Class 1 or 2 houses ..	— (16)	—
Class 3 houses	— (18)	1
Class 4 houses	1 (2)	—
Houses outside area ..	1 (4)	1
Rooms	20 (38)	11
Clearance Areas	—	25
Various A.P.B.'s	27	—
<i>Totals</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>38</i>

The number of applicants on the list for the previous year was 78. Many inspections of the living conditions of applicants were made where a health factor was involved and reports submitted to the Housing Manager with a request to bring these cases to the notice of the Housing Committee for their consideration.

SECTION E.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

MILK.—70 samples of milk were taken for testing for keeping quality. The results of these samples were as follows :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
70	50	20

The necessary follow-up action was taken with regard to samples which did not pass the test. One sample of sterilised milk was taken and this was satisfactory on examination.

WASHED BOTTLE RINSES.—24 samples of rinses from washed bottles were taken for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows :

<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Fairly Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
23	1	Nil

During the year practically all the milk consumed in the area was either Tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised. The County Council are responsible for the issuing of licences for pasteurisation plants and so the County Health Inspector also takes samples of pasteurised milk in the area.

ICE CREAM.—There are approximately 114 premises registered for the sale of ice cream. The vast majority of ice cream sold in the area is pre-packed. Eleven samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows :

<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
11	8	3	—	—

Six ice lollies were also examined and gave satisfactory results.

In view of the large number of premises registered for the sale of Ice cream it would be desirable if more samples could be taken. It is important that it should be kept under satisfactory conditions before sale.

MEAT INSPECTION.—There are eight licensed slaughterhouses in the district. The majority of these were out of commission for many years and were only brought back into use in 1954. Prior to being licensed again certain repairs and minor improvements had to be carried out. In general the use of these small private slaughterhouses cannot be considered satisfactory but there would appear at present to be no alternative. A summary of the number of meat inspections carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during the year and the results of these inspections is as follows :

<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Calves</i>
502	13,350	2,890	4

The total weight of meat and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption was as follows :

3 tons 4 cwts. 19 lbs.

Tuberculosis was the cause for condemning one whole carcase of one beast, one pig and part of a carcase and organs of 26 beasts and 265 pigs.

Other Causes.—Whole carcase, 2 sheep; 3 pigs.

Five cases of cysterccircus bovis were discovered and treated as necessary. Once again a one hundred per cent. inspection of all animals slaughtered for human consumption was carried out and when one considers the quantity of diseased meat and offal condemned during the course of a year, it will be realised how essential this work is.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

SMALLPOX.—No cases occurred.

VACCINATION.—The following vaccinations were carried out during the year :

	<i>Under 1 yr.</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 yrs. or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary	308	7	21	43	89	468
Re-vaccination	—	—	6	4	113	123
						591

The figures for 1956 were :

Primary	174	4	6	19	31	234
Re-vaccination	—	—	2	9	69	80
						314

As will be seen the figures for 1957 showed a marked increase which is very satisfactory to record, and it is to be hoped that these figures will be maintained at a high level from now on.

SCARLET FEVER.—Eight cases of scarlet fever were notified compared with twenty cases in the previous year. Cases continued to be mild and none were removed to hospital. However, streptococcal infections must always be treated with respect and during the year in the County a number of cases of nephritis occurred amongst children and the organism thought to be responsible was a Type XII hæmolytic Streptococci.

DIPHTHERIA.—It is now six years since the last case of Diphtheria occurred in the area.

DIPHTHERIA PROPHYLAXIS.—The following table shows the number of children in the different age groups who had completed a full course of inoculations against Diphtheria on 31st December, 1957.

Age at 31.12.57 i.e. born in year	<i>Under 1</i>					<i>5 to 9</i>	<i>10 to 14</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>			
	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1948-1952	1943-1947	<i>Under 15</i>
Number Immunised	77	271	268	279	307	1,731	1,478	4,411

An Immunisation Clinic is held at Oxford Street on the second Saturday of the month at 9.30 a.m. The number of immunisations carried out during the year were 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>	<i>Booster</i>
Diphtheria	33	1	10	1	1	27	1	74	152
Combined Diphtheria/Pertussis	227	37	13	4	3	10	1	295	147
Total Diphtheria Immunisation	260	38	23	5	4	37	2	369	299
Whooping Cough only	2	1	—	1	—	2	—	6	

WHOOPIING COUGH.—Two cases of Whooping Cough were notified compared with four in the previous year. One case was removed to hospital.

MEASLES.—499 cases of measles occurred compared with 241 in the previous year. Four cases were removed to hospital. The greatest number of notifications were received in February, the figures dropped in March and were still lower in April, then showed a rise in May and following this figures fell and by August the area was clear.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.—8 cases were notified. 7 cases occurred in the previous year. Cases were spread throughout the months of the year.

PNEUMONIA.—43 cases were notified, one case was removed to hospital and 17 deaths were attributed to this cause. In the previous year there were 34 cases and 8 deaths.

INFLUENZA.—Although this is not a notifiable disease and so no complete record of case numbers exists, an epidemic of large proportions occurred in the area in the last quarter of the year. The approach of this pandemic received much publicity and caused a certain amount of apprehension especially as it was known as an Asian type Influenza. The pattern of the epidemic in the area was similar to that in other parts of the country. School children were affected first and school registers reached a low ebb. This was followed by the adult population being affected. The majority of cases ran a mild course of 4 to 5 days but others were more seriously affected and nine cases of Influenzal Pneumonia were notified. During this same period a number of cases of Lobar Pneumonia also occurred. Four deaths were attributed to Influenza which is the same number as in the previous year.

CEREBRO SPINAL FEVER.—No cases occurred.

ERYSIPELAS.—Three cases occurred. In the previous year there were six cases.

DYSENTERY.—No cases occurred. There were 17 cases in the previous year.

POLIOMYELITIS.—No cases occurred. There was one case in the previous year.

VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS.—Vaccination against Poliomyelitis was continued during the year. British vaccine was in short supply so Salk vaccine was introduced. The following vaccinations were carried out :

<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>
—	—	1	30	59	576	191	857
—	—	6	3	11	63	—	83

The figures for the previous year were :

—	—	6	3	11	63	—	83
---	---	---	---	----	----	---	----

The age range has been extended and now covers age groups from 6 months to 15 years. Expectant mothers are also included in the vaccination scheme. Very large numbers of vaccinations have been carried out this year and it is hoped that by July the majority of children for whom requests for vaccinations were received will have had their inoculations.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—The last notification received was four years ago.

FOOD POISONING.—For the second year in succession no cases of food poisoning were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Fifteen cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year, which is the same number as in the previous year. The fifteen cases were made up as follows :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	8
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	2

Two deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred during the year compared with three in the previous year. The number of cases admitted to the Rushden House Sanatorium from the area during the period was ten and the number discharged eight.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was as follows :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Pulmonary	91	62	153
Non-Pulmonary	22	18	40
			193

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during the last ten years were :

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
11	19	17	23	11	24	16	17	15	15

The following table gives a comparison between the mortality figures for Wellingborough and the County dating back to 1948 :

<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	.12
1955	2	3	5	.17	.09
1956	3	—	3	.14	.09
1957	2	—	2	.06	.06

The Wellingborough After-Care Committee continues to carry out its excellent work in the area.

SECTION G.

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

There are 214 factories on the register for Wellingborough. This is six more than last year. Twenty-two inspections were carried out during the year and two written notices served. Table No. 10 in Section H gives further information concerning factories. No complaints were received concerning factories where mechanical power is not used. The number of Outworkers on the August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) was 472 which is 49 fewer than last year.

SECTION H.

STATISTICAL TABLES, 1957

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
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	1	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	8	6	14
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	1	14
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	5	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	2	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	17	33
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	2	1	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	18	33	51
18. Coronary disease, angina	32	23	55
19. Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	—	2
20. Other heart diseases	23	49	72
21. Other circulatory diseases	5	6	11
22. Influenza	2	2	4
23. Pneumonia	12	5	17
24. Bronchitis	10	3	13
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	4	—	4
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa ..	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and neprosis	5	1	6
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—	—
31. Congenial malformations	1	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	21	14	35
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
34. All other accidents	3	2	5
35. Suicide	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES	187	175	362

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
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
1955	—	—	5	.17	45	1.56	193	6.70	21	.72
1956	—	—	3	.10	62	2.15	194	6.73	26	.90
1957	—	—	2	.06	68	2.33	191	6.56	30	1.03

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	12.98	65.72	1,022
1948	.46	13.63	49.40	1,000
1949	.21	22.93	41.66	1,111
1950	.42	12.34	40.38	1,136
1951	.56	25.04	60.53	1,096
1952	.21	22.93	34.56	1,333
1953	.17	37.29	35.00	1,285
1954	.34	27.71	39.90	1,206
1955	.38	26.63	44.77	1,138
1956	.24	16.00	40.09	972
1957	.24	14.92	45.45	1,100

VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1957 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

TABLE NO. 4

Year	Estimated Population	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
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
1955	28,780	402	13.96	5	12.43	329	11.43
1956	28,810	424	14.71	9	21.22	346	12.00
1957	29,110	462	15.87	9	19.48	362	12.43

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) 1957.

TABLE NO. 5

Disease	-1	-2	-3	-4	-5	-10	-15	-20	-35	-45	-65	65-	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Pneumonia ..	4	3	—	4	—	5	1	3	5	4	11	3	43	1	17
Measles	15	31	49	57	85	255	3	1	2	1	—	—	499	4	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	1	—	—	8	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	19	34	49	62	87	267	4	5	14	7	13	3	564	6	17

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

(Other than Tuberculosis) 1957.

TABLE No. 6

<i>Disease</i>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	1	8
Pneumonia	6	2	3	2	1	5	1	2	4	12	2	3	43
Measles	15	206	99	33	99	39	8	—	—	—	—	—	499
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Erysipelas	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	8
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	23	211	106	35	100	46	12	4	5	14	4	4	564

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH
AGE AND SEX INCIDENCE

TABLE NO. 7.

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Measles</i>		<i>Whooping Cough</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
—6 months	—	2	—	—
—12 months	9	4	—	—
—18 months	7	8	—	—
—2 years	7	9	—	—
—2½ years	21	14	—	—
—3 years	12	2	—	—
—4 years	30	27	—	—
—5 years	44	41	—	—
—10 years	137	118	1	—
—15 years	1	2	—	1
15 years+	2	2	—	—
ALL AGES	270	229	1	1
TOTALS	499		2	

NEW CASES OF, AND DEATHS FROM, TUBERCULOSIS, 1957

TABLE NO. 8

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>New Cases</i>				<i>Deaths</i>			
	<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	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—15	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
—25	—	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
—35	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—65	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	4	8	1	2	2	—	—	—

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR

TABLE NO. 9.

Cause of Death	Age in weeks					
	-1	-2	-3	-4	5-52	Total
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous diseases ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	1	1
Enteritis and Diarrhœa ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	4	—	—	—	—	4
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—
Asphyxia and Atelectasis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility	1	—	—	—	—	1
Hæmolytic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTALS	8	—	—	—	1	9

TABLE NO. 10.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937 and 1948
for the year 1957.

PART I. OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for the 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	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	182	19	2	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	11	2	—	—
TOTAL	214	22	2	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
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	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	3	—	1	—

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 to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel—						
Making, etc.	397	—	—	—	—	—
Cleaning & Washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains & Furniture hangings	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture & Upholstery	2	—	—	—	—	—
Lampshades	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of Buttons, etc.	54	—	—	—	—	—
The making of boxes or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	19	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	472	—	—	—	—	—

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Author		Title		Date	
A. B. C.	1234	The ABC of the Alphabet	1890	10	10
D. E. F.	5678	The DEF of the Alphabet	1891	11	11
G. H. I.	9012	The GHI of the Alphabet	1892	12	12
J. K. L.	1345	The JKL of the Alphabet	1893	13	13
M. N. O.	1678	The MNO of the Alphabet	1894	14	14
P. Q. R.	1901	The PQR of the Alphabet	1895	15	15
S. T. U.	2234	The STU of the Alphabet	1896	16	16
V. W. X.	2567	The VWX of the Alphabet	1897	17	17
Y. Z. A.	2890	The YZA of the Alphabet	1898	18	18

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WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1957

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector's Department

STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector :

A. J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.*

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

Additional Public Health Inspector :

D. B. HOPKINS, M.A.P.H.I.*

Clerk and Chief Public Health Inspector's Secretary :

Miss J. M. JOHNSON

Rodent Operative and Manual Assistant :

L. RICHARDSON

2nd Manual Assistant :

VACANT

* Certified Meat and Food Inspector, Royal Society of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1957.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information and consideration my Eleventh Annual Report for the year 1957.

In the section on Housing, special reference is made to the Rent Act, 1957, which came into force on 6th July. Whether this Act will achieve its main objective from the local authority's point of view, i.e. the securing of the proper repair of rented accommodation, is a matter for some speculation. It depends largely on a considerable part of the rent increase being absorbed in initial repairs and regular maintenance. During the short period it has been in operation it has become clear, that many tenants of controlled houses have either not taken advantage of the provisions for obtaining certificates of disrepair or have inadequately listed the items of disrepair needing attention. It may well be that the greater use will have to be made of the powers contained in the Housing Act, 1955.

Atmospheric pollution again takes a prominent place in the text, which indicates the attention being given to this subject. The full impact of the Clean Air Act, 1956, has not yet been felt as only certain provisions were in force during the year. It is noteworthy that this is the first measure which has brought domestic smoke under legislative control. The value of this will be understood when it is realized that nearly one half of the total quantity of smoke from all sources in Great Britain is emitted from domestic chimneys—about one million tons annually.

Under Milk and Dairies, the declaration of a "specified area" in relation to the sale by retail of milk is a step forward towards securing the consumption of 'safe' milk. The Order however has not materially affected the position in the urban district, as for some years nearly all the milk consumed has either been pasteurised, sterilized or tuberculin tested.

With regard to meat inspection, it will be noted that once again inspection was carried out of all animals slaughtered for food locally. This work which must be regarded as of top priority has now reached considerable proportions and occupies rather more than ten per cent of your inspectors' time. Its importance however cannot be overestimated, in considering the safeguard it provides against the probable consumption of diseased or otherwise unfit meat.

The proposed regulations controlling the construction, layout and equipment of slaughterhouses, are intended to secure, within a reasonable time, a sufficient number of satisfactory slaughterhouses for each district, at the same time giving the private butcher an opportunity, for a limited period, of providing his own premises. The regulations, which set a reasonably high standard, will however materially affect most of the existing slaughterhouses in the urban district which are old and rather out of date.

The year under review was on the whole a busy one. At the same time, it is a matter of some concern and regret that the amount of inspection and

survey work carried out was not as much as one would have wished. While every endeavour is made to deal with the work on a basis of priorities, the daily administration of the department often limits the carrying out of much needed routine inspections, especially is this so in regard to food hygiene where there is scope for considerable activity.

I again tender my thanks to Mr. Hopkins, my additional inspector for his loyal assistance throughout the year, and to the other chief officers and their staffs for help and advice on all possible occasions.

In conclusion I should like to record my appreciation of the continued consideration and support given me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

ALEC J. STROUD, F.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Council Offices,
Swanspool,
Wellingborough.
July, 1957

TABLE A.
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Complaints received	238
Informal Notices served	36
Statutory Notices served	12
Written Communications received	1,318
Written Communications dispatched	1,590

TABLE B.
SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

(a) <i>General Public Health Work :</i>	
Water Supply	12
Drainage and Sewerage	256
Closet Accommodation	7
Refuse—Storage, collection and disposal	3
Common yards and passages	2
Moveable Dwellings	33
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	6
Rivers Pollution	8
Offensive Trades	1
Air Pollution and Smoke Abatement	70
Infectious Disease, Disinfection, etc.	48
Keeping of Animals	6
Offensive Accumulations	6
Vermin and Insect Pests—Investigations	30
Schools	5
(b) <i>Housing :</i>	
Inspection of Dwelling Houses. (Public Health, Housing and Rents Acts.)	541
(c) <i>Shops Act, 1950.</i>	
Sanitary Conditions	9
(d) <i>Factories Act, 1937.</i>	
Inspection of Factories, Workplaces and Outworkers' premises	22
(e) <i>Food Inspection and Control :</i>	
Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses	1,079
Other Food Inspection	86
<i>Hygiene of Food Premises :</i>	
Food Shops	27
Slaughterhouses	10
Market Stalls and Street Food Vendors	15
Food Manufacturing Premises	13
Catering Establishments and licensed Premises	10
Ice Cream Premises	3
Dairies, Milk Shops and Milk Distribution	3
Food Handling and Distribution	29
<i>Sampling :</i>	
Milk, Ice Cream and Other Foods	46

(f) *Other Visits :*

Pet Animals Act	2
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act	1
Rodent Infestation Control (including visits by rodent operative)	1,524
Shops Act-Closing Hours, Sunday Trading, Employment of Young Persons, etc.	39
Nuisances—Unclassified	17
Petroleum Acts	25
Theatre and Cinematograph Acts	12
Interviews	125
(g) <i>Miscellaneous Visits</i>	260
Total Visits and Inspections	4,391

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

General :

Roofs repaired or renewed	9
Chimney Stacks repaired or rebuilt	2
Walls (External) repaired or rebuilt	3
Walls (External) repointed, rendered, etc.	6
E.G.'s and R.W.P.'s cleansed, repaired or renewed ..	11
Yards paved or repaired	2
Walls (Internal) repaired	21
Ceilings repaired or renewed	3
Floors repaired or renewed	2
Windows, etc., repaired or renewed	10
Firegrates and stoves repaired or renewed	1
Sinks provided or renewed	1
Dampness remedied	4
Boundary Walls repaired or rebuilt	2
Doors, etc., repaired or renewed	2
Washing facilities provided to food premises	1
Food preparing premises cleansed or repaired	2
Food stores provided or improved	2

Drainage :

Drains constructed or re-constructed	7
Drains repaired	5
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	2
Gullies provided or renewed	2
Obstructed Drains cleared	1
Old drains abolished	1

Sanitary Conveniences :

Conveniences repaired, reconstructed or improved ..	3
Light and ventilation improved	2
Sanitary conveniences cleansed or limewashed	4

Water Supplies :

Internal mains supply provided	2
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Miscellaneous :

Accumulations removed	3
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SERVICE OF NOTICES

Number outstanding 31st December, 1956	52
Informal Notices to execute work or abate nuisances	36
<i>Statutory Notices—</i>	
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 24—Maintenance of Certain Lengths of Public Sewer	2
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93—Statutory Nuisances	2
Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138—Provision of Domestic Water Supply	2
Housing Act, 1936, Section 9—Repair of Dwelling Houses	6
	12
	100
Number complied with or cancelled	84
	16
Number outstanding 31st December, 1957	

Legal Proceedings—

No legal proceedings were instituted during the year.

HOUSING

The second phase of the five year slum clearance programme involving thirty-six unfit houses, was dealt with during the year as follows :—

(a) Clearance Orders were made in respect of three areas involving 27 houses viz.

(i) *Spring Gardens Clearance Area*

16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27,
and 28 Spring Gardens 13 houses

(ii) *Gold Street (No. 6) Clearance Area*

28 and 30 Gold Street 2 houses

(iii) *West Street (No. 4) Clearance Area*

1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 14, 16, 18, and 20, West Street
and buildings formerly 1, 2 and 3 Oxford
Place 12 houses

No objections were received and the Orders were subsequently confirmed without modification.

(b) (i) *Abbotts Row Clearance Area*

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 Abbotts Row, Hill Street
Property acquired by the Council for
housing re-development.

(ii) *5, 6 and 7, St. John Street*

Closing Orders made under Section 11 of
the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 10 of
the Local Government (Miscellaneous
Provisions) Act, 1953.

Compensation :

During the year the following payments were made in respect of houses vacated as the result of clearance and demolition orders :—

(a) Compensation to owner/occupiers under the Slum Clearance (Compensation) Act, 1956,—five payments amounting to £825 5s. 0d.

- (b) No payments were made under Section 60 of the Housing Act, 1957 in respect of well maintained property.

Rent Act, 1957 :

This Act which came into operation on 6th July, 1957, provides for the decontrol of certain categories of dwelling house, and fixes new rent limits for houses remaining in control. It also provides, that if a house is in a state of disrepair, the tenant may apply to the local authority for a certificate of disrepair, and where a certificate is granted, the rent limit is subject to reduction.

By the end of the year applications for certificates of disrepair were received and dealt with as follows :—

Applications for certificates received	31
Decisions to issue certificates	24
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	16
(b) in respect of all defects	8
Decisions not to issue certificates	—
Applications outstanding (31.12.57)	7
Undertakings given by landlords to remedy defects	5
(a) Undertakings Accepted	5
(b) Undertakings Refused	—
Certificates of Disrepair issued	—

Rehousing :

During the year 37 families (109 persons) displaced from clearance areas, and houses subject to demolition and closing orders were rehoused by the Housing Committee. They were :—

Wellingborough	29 families	—	83 persons
Finedon	8 families	—	26 persons

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1957.

Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses

(i)	Houses inspected for housing defects	300
	Number of inspections made	475
(ii)	<i>Clearance Areas :</i>	
	Number of houses demolished	21
	Number of persons displaced	116
	Number of families displaced	45
(iii)	<i>Remedy of Defects :</i>	
	Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action under the Housing or Public Health 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	—
	(b) Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
	(i) by owners	—
	(ii) by local authority in default of owners	—

(v) *Proceedings under Housing Act, 1957*

(a) *Section 9.*

(i) Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(ii) Houses rendered fit after service of notices—	
(a) by owners	2
(b) by local authority in default of owners ..	6

(b) *Sections 16 and 17*

Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
Houses Demolished	1
Houses in respect of which closing Orders were made ..	5
Parts of buildings closed (Section 18)	—
Number of persons displaced	25
Number of families displaced	7

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

This subject was again given considerable attention by the Health Committee, especially with regard to pollution by dust and grit from the Iron Works. Emission from this source, as shown by the deposit gauges, was approximately the same as last year.

The general trend over the last five years as seen from the following figures shows very much improvement as the result of measures adopted by the company in recent years, and it is hoped that this improvement will be maintained.

Mean Monthly Deposits in tons/sq. mile
(*Finedon Road and Hillside Road Gauges Combined*)

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
71	65	39	21	22

There were however a number of heavy emissions, during the year, due to furnace slips and other abnormal factors at the works, and as it is necessary to take these into account in order to properly assess the position, notification of such occurrences is given by the company to the council. Fourteen slips were notified during the year. Consultation was had with the company's manager on several occasions in order to keep informed of the position.

Two lead peroxide instruments, for estimating the relative concentration of sulphur dioxide were maintained on the same sites, i.e. Broad Green and St. Andrews Crescent. The results, while showing the usual seasonal increases during the winter months, due largely to smoke from domestic sources and arising from the burning of bituminous coal, are however typical for the average town with light industry. Compared with figures for larger towns in built-up areas, which may vary from 2 to 4 mg/100 sq. cms/day, the results may be considered fairly satisfactory.

Copies of the monthly analytical reports were sent to the Fuel Research Station for inclusion in the national records.

The Council were again represented on the Standing Conference of local authorities and other bodies participating in the investigation of atmospheric pollution by the Chairman of the Health Committee and the Chief Public Health Inspector. Two meetings were attended.

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 came into force at the beginning of the year, including those dealing with the installation of new furnaces, height of chimneys, smoke control areas, and building byelaws. Action taken by the Council included the adoption of a byelaw requiring that in new buildings only appliances for heating and cooking as are designed for burning gas, electricity or other approved smokeless fuels may be installed. This measure, will greatly assist in the creation of smokeless conditions in areas of new residential developments, as soon as adequate supplies of solid smokeless fuel are available.

Deposited Matter (tons per square mile per month)
January — December, 1957.

TABLE D.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Hillside Road</i>	<i>Finedon Road (Cooling Tower)</i>	<i>Highfield Hospital</i>	<i>Council Depot</i>
January	25.82	46.93	8.66	11.60
February	13.15	31.50	7.72	8.80
March	13.91	16.43	7.10	9.52
April	37.62	23.04	10.48	13.02
May	21.19	12.72	9.76	12.20
June	24.55	18.68	10.43	13.93
July	14.54	30.61	7.58	9.58
August	13.92	22.54	7.98	9.06
September	14.82	77.44	10.78	14.65
October	12.18	17.00	6.75	6.73
November	8.06	11.18	6.37	7.57
December	10.09	13.18	8.04	10.17
Average per month	17.49	26.77	8.47	10.57

Metecrological Data
Table showing monthly rainfall and wind directions

TABLE E.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Rainfall (Highfield Hospital) Ins.</i>	<i>Recorded wind directions shown in percentages</i>							
		<i>N.</i>	<i>N.E.</i>	<i>E.</i>	<i>S.E.</i>	<i>S.</i>	<i>S.W.</i>	<i>W.</i>	<i>N.W.</i>
Jan.	1.05	16.4	4.9	1.7	4.9	19.7	39.3	9.8	3.3
Feb.	1.80	7.4	—	3.7	9.3	24.1	33.3	14.8	7.4
March	1.82	8.3	3.3	8.4	10.0	20.0	35.0	11.7	3.3
April	0.25	42.8	14.3	7.1	—	5.4	23.2	3.6	3.6
May	1.54	22.4	27.6	3.5	8.6	3.5	15.5	8.6	10.3
June	2.10	31.0	19.0	3.5	3.4	8.6	10.4	13.8	10.3
July	2.75	10.2	15.2	3.4	1.7	16.9	30.5	15.3	6.8
Aug.	2.32	14.0	12.3	5.3	10.5	10.5	14.1	17.5	15.8
Sept.	4.02	12.5	8.9	1.8	7.1	5.4	26.8	21.4	16.1
Oct.	1.67	6.9	3.4	3.5	17.2	17.2	32.8	12.1	6.9
Nov.	1.55	21.6	11.8	5.9	9.8	9.8	27.4	5.9	7.8
Dec.	2.43	—	15.7	2.0	9.8	19.6	29.4	13.7	9.8

Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method

January — December, 1957.

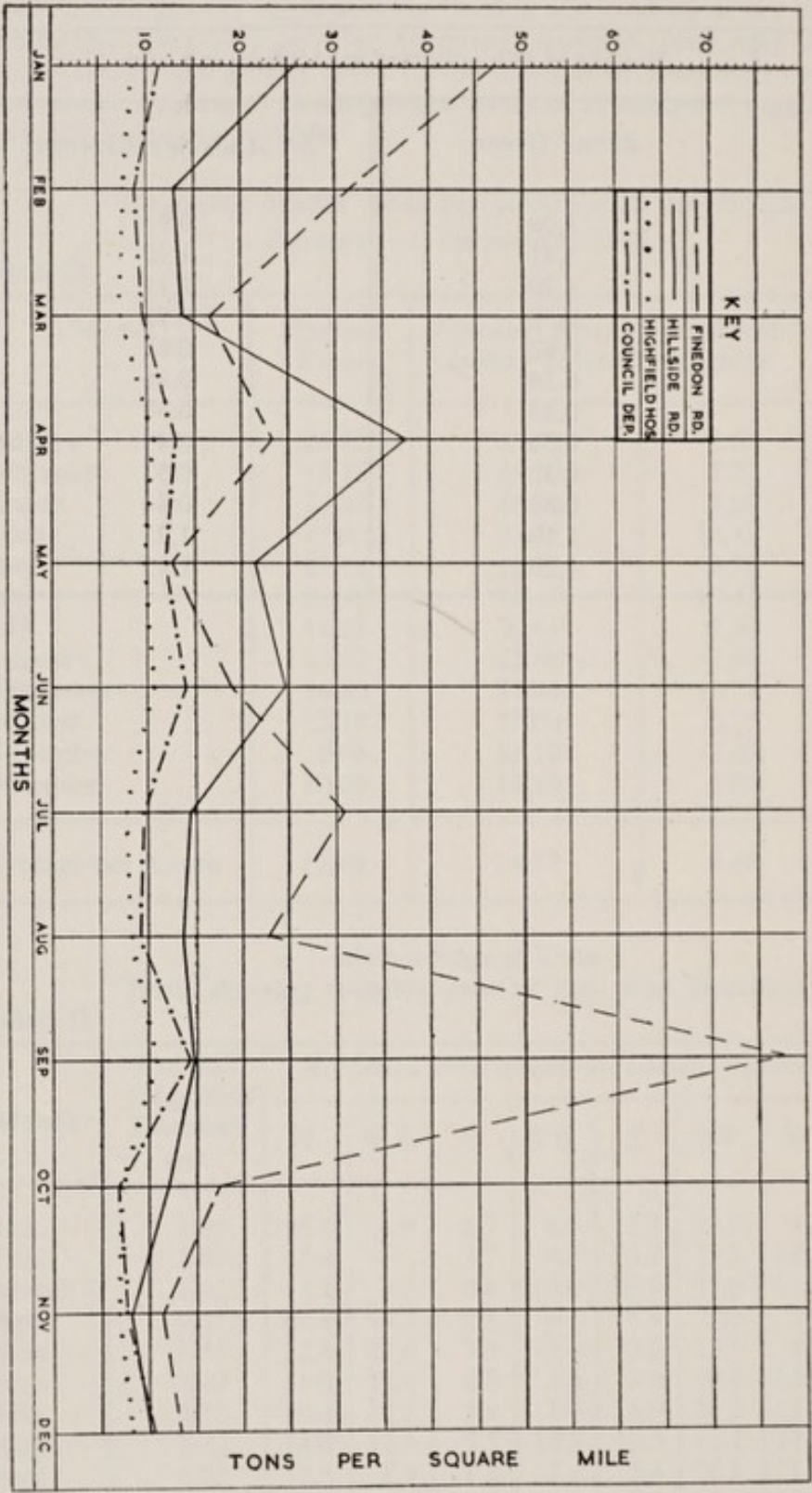
TABLE F.

Month	Weight of SO ₃ collected mg/100 sq. cm/day	
	Broad Green	St. Andrew's Crescent
January	1.09	0.96
February	1.41	1.32
March	1.20	1.11
April	0.58	0.75
May	0.62	0.62
June	0.36	0.44
July	0.33	0.38
August	0.34	0.45
September	0.33	0.57
October	0.83	0.86
November	1.10	1.21
December	1.29	1.45

WELLINGBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT

AIR POLLUTION 1957

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



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK AND DAIRIES :

(a) *Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954.*

These regulations impose on the Council the duty of registering dairies and milk distributors, and of controlling the clean handling and distribution of milk supplies in the urban district. Production of milk at farms, is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

There was no change in the number of dairies (other than dairy farms) and of distributors registered at the end of the year.

They were :—

Dairies	4
Distributors	25

There were no new registrations during the year.

(b) *Sale of Milk under Special Designations.*

Licensing :

Forty licences were granted authorising the sale of milk under the following prescribed designations, viz.

(i) <i>Dealer's Licences</i> — “Tuberculin Tested” ..	11
‘Pasteurised’	10
‘Sterilised’	14

(ii) *Supplementary Licences* — in relation to milk sold by retail in the Urban District from premises outside :

“Tuberculin Tested” ..	2
‘Pasteurised’	2
‘Sterilised’	1

In November the Urban District was included in a “specified area” by an Order made by the Minister of Agriculture Fisheries and Food, and which now covers the whole of the county.

All milk sold by retail must now be either Pasteurised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested in accordance with licences under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations.

(c) *Sampling.*

Seventy-one samples of raw, and treated milk were submitted for testing to the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton. Particulars are given in Table G. 72% of all samples tested were satisfactory, 76% of those relating to designated milk passed the prescribed tests.

Cases relating to three producers, whose milk gave repeatedly unsatisfactory results were referred to the Agricultural Executive Committee for investigation.

(d) *Testing of Washed Bottles.*

For the purpose of checking the efficiency of mechanical bottle washing processes, twenty-four washed bottle samples were submitted for testing for sterility at the Public Health Laboratory.

The results were :—

Satisfactory	23 (mean bottle count of less than 600)
Fairly Satisfactory ..	1 (mean bottle count 600—2,000)

TABLE G.

Class of Milk	No. of Samples Tested	Tests	No. of Samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	2	Phosphatase	2	—
		Methylene Blue	2	—
Sterilised	1	Turbidity	1	—
Tuberculin Tested	34	Methylene Blue	25	9
Raw Undesignated	34	Methylene Blue	23	11

ICE CREAM :

The number of ice-cream premises registered under S.16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, at 31st December was :—

- (a) For Manufacture, Storage and Sale 3
 (b) For Storage and Sale only 115

Sampling.

Seventeen samples of ice-cream and water ices were tested by the Public Health Laboratory Service. The results are shown in Table H

TABLE H.

Class of Mix	Type of Sample	No. of Samples	Laboratory Report			
			Gd. I.	Gd. II.	Gd. III.	Gd. IV.
Pasteurised	Pre-wrapped	9	6	3	—	—
Pasteurised	Unwrapped	1	1	—	—	—
Cold Mix	Pre-wrapped	—	—	—	—	—
Cold Mix	Unwrapped	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS		11	8	3	—	—
Ice Lollies (Water Ices)		6	Satisfactory. B. Coli absent in 1/10 ml., 1 ml. and 10 ml.			

These results are very satisfactory and compare favourably with those of previous years. A high percentage of the ice-cream sold by retail is now pre-wrapped, and of proprietary brands manufactured by a few large firms.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES :

Licences were renewed in respect of the eight private slaughterhouses. Six were regularly used throughout the year.

The total number of animals slaughtered was 16,746, an increase of 5% over 1956 and 17% over 1955. This number includes, 12,127 pigs slaughtered at the local pie and sausage factory.

Draft regulations, prescribing recommended minimum standards of construction, layout and equipment of slaughterhouses, for the purpose of securing hygienic conditions and humane slaughter were published during the year by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food. Early publication was in order to assist local authorities and private traders in their consideration of plans for new slaughterhouses and the improvement of existing ones. Consultation was had with representatives of the local meat traders, on the effect of the new proposals, and the application of the standards to the existing slaughterhouses.

MEAT INSPECTION :

All animals slaughtered for human consumption were subjected to routine post-mortem inspection, 1,079 visits being made for the purpose. Particulars of the meat and offal condemned are given in Tables I, J and K.

The incidence of tuberculosis in adult cattle was 5.4% and in pigs 2.0%, slightly less in each case than last year. These figures may be considered satisfactory.

Owing to the continued irregularity in the times of slaughter, much of the meat inspection had again to be undertaken in the evenings, and at weekends, 777 visits being made outside normal office hours, including visits on 39 Sundays.

The number of cases of *cysticercus bovis* detected in beef carcasses was five, the same as last year. The carcasses and offal of three of the cases, where the cysts were viable, were dealt with by cold storage treatment in accordance with recommended practice.

On the whole the quality of the meat of animals slaughtered in the district was high.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933 to 1954 :

These Acts provide for the humane slaughter of animals in slaughterhouses, and for the annual licensing by the local authority of slaughtermen.

The number of licences granted during the year was 34.

All animals at the time of slaughter, are instantaneously stunned by the use of mechanically operated instruments. These include the captive bolt pistol for cattle, sheep and pigs. The majority of pigs are however stunned by the use of electrical apparatus.

TABLE I.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED
IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows			Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
	Bulls	Steers	Heifers					
Number killed ..	—	278	213	11	4	2,890	13,350	16,746
Number inspected	—	278	213	11	4	2,890	13,350	16,746
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	29	20	2	—	4	438	493
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	—	10.4	9.4	18.1	—	0.2	3.3	2.9
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>								
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	9	17	—	—	—	265	291
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	—	3.2	8.5	—	—	—	2.0	1.7
<i>Cysticercosis</i>								
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	5
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	3
Generalized and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE J.

CARCASSES CONDEMNED AS TOTALLY UNFIT

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Steers</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Emaciation— Pathological	—	—	—	—	—	1
Septicaemia	—	—	—	—	—	1
Swine Erysipelas— Acute	—	—	—	—	2	1
Tuberculosis— Generalized	—	—	1	—	—	1
TOTAL	—	—	1	—	2	4

TABLE K.

TOTAL WEIGHTS OF MEAT AND ORGANS CONDEMNED

	<i>Other Diseases</i>				<i>Tuberculosis</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	7	—	—	—	7	—	23
Organs and Viscera	—	10	1	10	—	19	2	23
TOTAL	1	17	1	10	1	6	3	18

Total Weight Condemned—3 Tons, 4 cwts., 1 qr., 0 lbs.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Number of Animals Infested	5
Sites—External Masseter Muscles ..	3
Internal Masseter Muscles	—
Heart Musculature	2
Other Sites	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 :

(a) *Food Unfit for Human Consumption.*

The quantity of tinned and other foods rejected as unfit for human consumption is given in Table L. Eighty-six visits were made to shops and other premises for the purpose, and 183 certificates of condemnation were issued.

(b) The following cases were investigated following complaint by purchasers of food :—

- (i) Pork Pie — infected by mould.
- (ii) Fruit Loaf — containing a metal screw.
- (iii) Tinned Peas — containing a snail.

In the first case, the article was formally condemned under Section 9 of the Act. The cases were considered by the Health Committee, and written warnings were given to two of the vendors. In the third case a satisfactory explanation of the occurrence was given.

(c) *Compositional quality of Food and Drugs.*

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Urban District and is responsible for the operation of these provisions. No special circumstances arose during the year where it was found necessary to exercise the council's permissive powers under the Act to take samples for compositional analysis.

The following extract from the report of the chief food and drugs inspector (A. E. Waller, Esq.,) giving particulars of samples procured in the urban district has been supplied by the county council..

"Milk	80	<i>Brought forward</i>	103
Condensed Milk	1	Jam	2
Ice-Cream	2	Sweets	1
Butter	2	Lard	2
Margarine	1	Roasted Chicory and Figs ..	1
Cream	1	Vinegar	1
Cream Cheese	1	Wines and Spirits	6
Bread and Butter	1	Soft Drinks	1
Bun and Butter	1	Baking Powder	1
Sausages	4	Curry Powder	1
Meat Products	3	Ground Almonds	1
Fish Products	6	Medicines	3
<i>Carried forward</i>	103	<i>TOTAL</i>	123

Remarks :

One sample of milk had a fat content slightly below presumptive standard but follow-up samples confirmed that it was genuine milk as produced by the cows. The milk improved naturally after the spring flush of milk subsided. All the remaining milks and all the miscellaneous samples were satisfactory in every way."

(d) *Preserved Foods.*

The number of premises registered under Section 16 for the preparation of sausages, preserved food, etc., is 38.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955 :

On the whole a further steady improvement in the standard of hygiene in food premises has been noted, especially in the large establishments, and there have been a number of cases where voluntary improvements have been carried out both to premises and equipment, to this end.

On general survey however, the position in the urban district is not one for complacency. Much needs to be done, and many shopkeepers and occupiers of food premises need to realize that the standards now required by regulation are higher than those which have hitherto obtained.

It is again regretted that more attention to this branch of food administration, which involves much inspection and advisory work has not been possible in view of the many other commitments of the department.

Contraventions .

- (a) During the year seven written warnings were given for offences relating to smoking in food premises and while handling open food on market stalls. Legal proceedings were instituted against two persons to whom previous warnings for similar offences had been given, viz.
 - (i) A Restaurant Chef :— for cigarette smoking while preparing food—fined £2.
 - (ii) A Stall Holder :— for cigarette smoking while handling fruit and vegetables—fined £1.
- (b) Seven written warnings were also given to stall holders for offences relating to the protection of food stuffs and the display of names and addresses.

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

TABLE L.

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Weight lbs.</i>
<i>Tinned Goods :</i>		<i>General Items :</i>	
Fish	11	Bacon	33
Fruit	321	Bath Chaps	3
Ham	92	Cheese	18
Jams and Preserves	8	Coffee	1
Meat (various)	862	Crabs	47
Soups	4	Fish (Cured)	140
Vegetables	27	Fish (Wet)	221
		Fruit (Bottled)	1
		Jams and Preserves	6
		Meat (Chilled)	673
		Pickles	1
		Sandwich Pastes	1
		Vinegar	1

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

During the year 256 visits were made in connection with the inspection supervision and testing of new and existing drainage. 43 cases of obstructed sewers and drains were dealt with.

Rechargeable works relating to the repair and maintenance of sewers serving more than one property were carried out in one case—affecting two properties.

Cesspools, etc.

Cesspools and septic tanks were emptied on request on 55 occasions under standing arrangements with Rushden U.D.C., the work being carried out on a rechargeable basis.

The charges and total cost for the year were as follows :—

Nest Lane — Standard Charge (17/6d.)

Other Property — At Cost (19/- per hour)

TABLE M.

<i>Number Emptied</i>			<i>Hiring Charges</i>	<i>Recharged</i>	<i>% Cost borne by Council</i>
Nest Lane	..	52	£98 16s. 3d.	£46 7s. 6d.	53%
Other Property	..	10	£29 18s. 6d.	£27 11s. 3d.	7.5%
TOTAL	..	62	£128 14s. 9d.	£73 18s. 9d.	42%

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Three licences were granted under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorising the stationing and use of four caravans on three small private sites.

There are six small sites which are occupied each year by travelling showmen, as winter quarters, from October to March. While these are not subject to licensing control under the Public Health Act, frequent inspections are made to ensure the maintenance of satisfactory conditions.

Informal action was taken on three occasions during the year in respect of the siting and occupation of caravans without licences for longer than the statutory period.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION

Twelve visits were made 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 19

(b) on special request (other causes) 1

No. of articles disinfected 108

No. of articles destroyed 33

Where necessary the steam disinfection of articles of bedding and clothing were dealt with by Rushden U.D.C. under standing arrangements.

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

Standards for cleanliness of filling materials are prescribed by regulation. No samples however, were taken for testing during the year.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licenses for the keeping of pet shops were granted during the year. Conditions were found to be satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The total number of registered factories and other premises in the Urban District at the end of the year was 214, an increase of eight during the year.

They were :—

Factories with mechanical power	182
Factories without mechanical power	21
Other registrable works	11

Twenty-two inspections were made during the year and two written notices served requiring the remedy of defects relating to sanitary conveniences. One notification of defects was referred by the factory inspector.

Homework.

Half-yearly lists were received from 32 employers and 2 other authorities notifying the employment of 360 outworkers on specified classes of work in the urban district (August List). Particulars relating to 138 outworkers were also notified to 11 other local authorities.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Rodent Control.

The following data shows the extent of the work carried out under this section. The total number of surface infestations found showed a slight increase over last year, although the number of major cases dealt with was only four—the lowest recorded figure. Regular checks were made of potential sources of infestation and both of the Council's refuse tips have been kept under surveillance and relatively clear.

Two comprehensive treatments of the sewerage systems were carried out in accordance with the Ministry's requirements, in addition to special treatment of certain small areas where infestation was found to persist. The adoption of a system of extended baiting has undoubtedly resulted in a better assessment of the position as a whole.

There was no change in the number and value of servicing agreements during the year. In addition to these, several firms in the urban district employ the services of private disinfestation firms.

The services of the rodent operative were again made available to Raunds and Irthlingborough.

(a) *Surface Infestations.*

(a) Properties Inspected :

(i) As a result of notification	88
(ii) Routine Visit or Survey	210
	298

(b) No. of Infestations found :

(i) Rats—Major	4
(ii) Rats—Minor	102
(iii) Mice only	34
	140

(c) No. of Infested Properties treated by Local Authority :

(i) Private Dwellings	121
(ii) Business and Industrial Premises (including those under servicing agreements) ..	33
(iii) Agricultural Properties	—
(iv) Local Authority Properties	14
	168

(d) Total visits made by Rodent Operative :	1,384
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Annual Servicing Agreements.

Number in force	..	..	..	..	..	12
Total Value	..	..	..	..	..	£147

TABLE N.

(b) *Sewer Maintenance.*

<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Wellingboro'</i>	<i>Finedon</i>
<i>First—(February/March, 1957)</i>		
Number of manholes, etc., baited	95	60
Number showing infestation (bait take)	28 (40%)	23 (38%)
<i>Second—(July/October, 1957)</i>		
Number of manholes, etc., baited	152	59
Number showing infestation (bait take)	85 (56%)	49 (83%)

VERMINOUS DISINFESTATION

Thirty-six cases of infestation were notified and dealt with during the year, including :—

Ants	..	..	6	Fleas	..	..	6
Bugs	..	..	1	Gnats	..	..	1
Cockroaches	..	..	2	Wasps	..	..	13
Earwigs	..	..	5	Other Cases	..	..	2

