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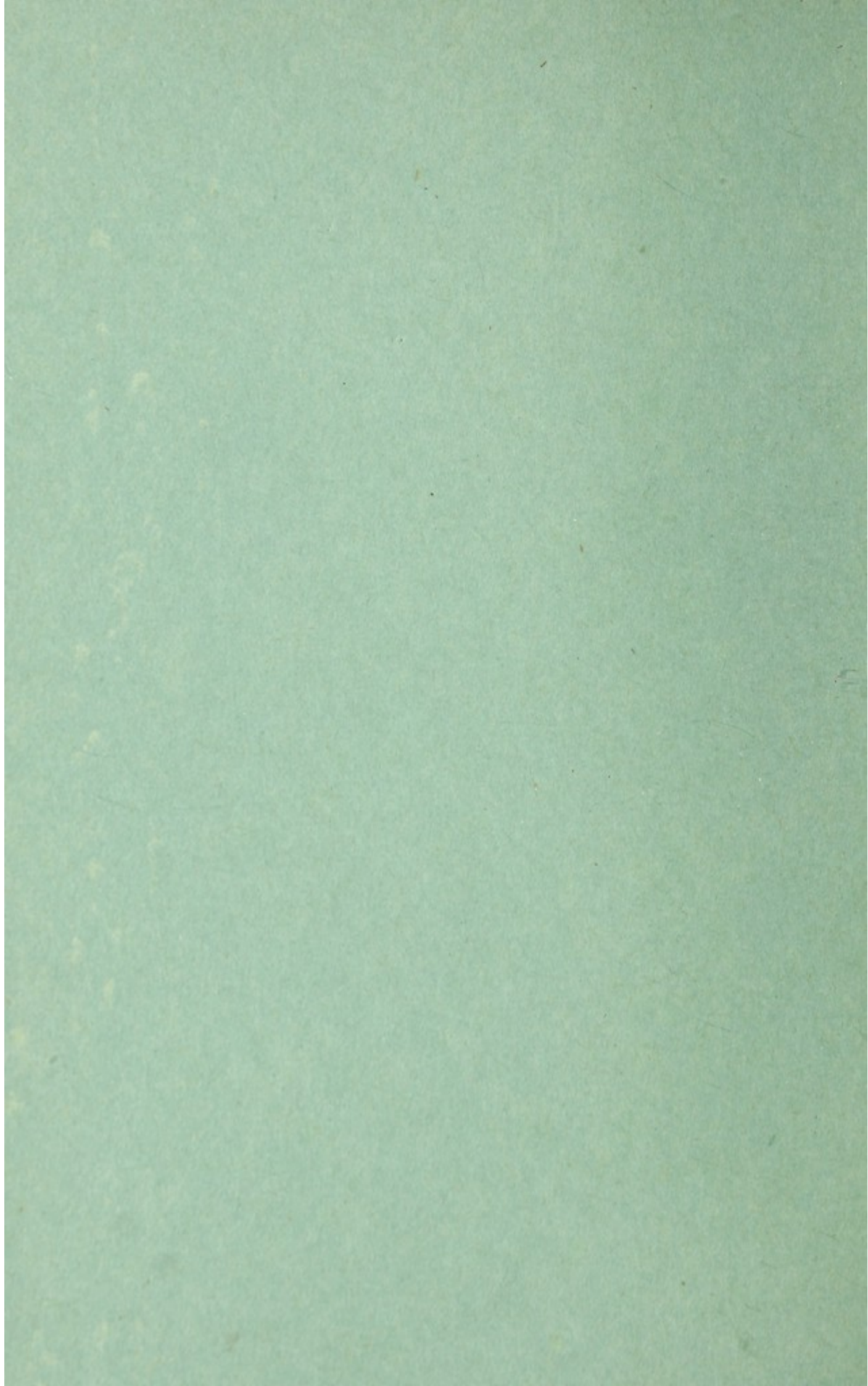


BOROUGH OF BEWDLEY

ANNUAL REPORTS

of

**Medical Officer of Health
and Public Health Inspector
in respect of the year 1963 for the
Borough of Bewdley in the
County of Worcestershire**





BOROUGH OF BEWDLEY

ANNUAL REPORTS

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and Public Health Inspector**

for

1963



BEWDLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

YEAR 1963

Mayor:

Councillor J. H. GARBETT

Chairman of Health Committee:

Alderman Mrs. D. L. LAWRENCE, C.C.

Vice-Chairman of Health Committee:

Alderman R. W. COLES

Health Committee:

Alderman P. W. PALMER

Councillor Mrs. F. S. PRITCHARD

Councillor R. FELLOWS

Councillor A. T. DALLOWAY

Councillor Mrs. N. C. ANSON

Councillor S. K. QUAYLE

Councillor A. M. W. FORBES

Councillor E. J. FINCH

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. R. W. MARKHAM, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

Mr. J. E. SHEEN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Cert.R.S.I. Meat and Other Foods

**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE
BEWDLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1963.

In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health, the Report is divided into the following sections:—

- “A” Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.**
- “B” General Provision of Health Services for the Area.**
- “C” Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**
- “D” Housing.**
- “E” Inspection and Supervision of Food.**
- “F” Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.**

SECTION "A"

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres)	3,681
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid 1963)	5,160
Population (Census 1961)	5,041
Estimated number of inhabited houses and self-contained flats (end of 1963)	1,792
Rateable Value	£128,187
Sum represented by One Penny Rate	£501

Industry within the Borough is on a small scale, the area being mainly residential. The principal source of local employment is a factory processing Animal Feeding Stuffs, Seeds, Fertilisers, etc., where 85 persons were employed during 1963.

Other sources of employment, besides Agricultural, include a Saw Mill and, remaining from the traditional Bewdley industries, a Brass Foundry, Rope Works and Leather Works.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

	1963			1962		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Live Births						
Legitimate	76	41	35	94	50	44
Illegitimate	6	4	2	3	1	2
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	82	45	37	97	51	46
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

The Live Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population of the Borough was: 1963, 15.89 (1962, 18.87).

The Live Birth rate for England and Wales was: 1963, 18.2 (1962, 18.0).

Still Births

	1963			1962		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	1	—	1	2	—	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	1	—	1	2	—	2
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

The Still Birth rate per 1,000 births (Live and Still) was: 1963, 11.9 (1962, 20.2).

The Still Birth rate per 1,000 births for England and Wales was: 1963, 17.3.

The Still Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population in the Borough was: 1963, 0.193 (1962, 0.389).

Deaths

1963			1962		
Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
66	33	33	74	41	33

The death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was: 1963, 12.8 (1962, 14.40).

The death rate for the whole of England and Wales was: 1963, 12.2 (1962, 11.9).

Maternal Mortality

There was 1 death of a mother associated with childbirth during the year.

Death of Infants under 1 year

		1963			1962		
		Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	—	—	—	2	—	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—	—
		—	—	—	—	—	—
		—	—	—	2	—	2
		—	—	—	—	—	—

The Infant Mortality rate was: 1963, 0.0 (1962, 20.20).

The Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales was: 1963, 21.1 (1962, 21.6).

Causes of Death

Ref. No.		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis	—	1
10, 11, 14.	Cancer	6	3
16.	Diabetes	—	1
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	5
18, 19, 20, 21.	Heart Disease	17	14
23.	Pneumonia	—	4
24.	Bronchitis	5	1
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	—	2
34.	All other accidents	2	1
TOTAL		33	33

SECTION "B"

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

Hospitals

The following hospitals administered by the Midland Regional Hospital Board are available:—

1. The Kidderminster General Hospital for general medical and surgical cases.
2. The Blakebrook Hospital.
3. The Hayley Green Isolation Hospital for Infectious Diseases.
4. The Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital at Stourport.
5. The Croft Maternity Home.

Ambulance Service

This is provided by the Worcestershire County Council as Local Health Authority.

A system of radio control, based on Worcester, deals with all applications, including emergency calls. At the same time the station at Kidderminster gives a 24 hour service.

Clinics

An Infant Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly with a doctor in attendance monthly, when diphtheria immunisation and vaccination are carried out.

Separate sessions are arranged for poliomyelitis immunisation for those age groups eligible.

Tuberculosis

- (1) Treatment — A dispensary is held twice weekly at the Kidderminster General Hospital.
- (2) Prevention and After Care — Preventive measures of this disease are the responsibility of the County Council and are carried out under the direction of the County Medical Officer.

An After-Care Sub-Committee administers this service in the district in conjunction with other districts in the Kidderminster Divisional Area.

Venereal Disease

A treatment centre is operated at the Kidderminster General Hospital by the Regional Hospital Board.

Home Nursing and Health Visiting

There are two District Nurses available in the Borough, one each for Bewdley and Wribbenhall. There is also one whole-time Health Visitor.

Section 47, National Assistance Act, 1948

No action has been taken by the Council under this section during the year.

Domestic Help Service

The Home Help Service continues to be administered by the Women's Voluntary Service. At the end of the year 1 full-time and 14 part-time home helps were employed and 72 Chronic and 1 Maternity cases received attention. The majority of Chronic cases were old persons.

SECTION "C"

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area

Water Supply

Water is supplied to the Borough by the North West Worcestershire Water Board.

My department continues to exercise supervision over the bacteriological quality of water supplies within the Borough.

The water is not plumbo-solvent and no action has been necessary for any form of contamination in mains supply.

The number of houses supplied from the public water mains direct to the house is 1,764, and the population served is approximately 5,200. 28 houses are supplied from standpipes and the population served is approximately 70. Four houses obtain water from private sources and the population served is approximately 12.

SECTION "D"

Housing

Slum Clearance

Official Representations were submitted in regard to four dwellings during the year.

Caravan Sites

Four sites are authorised under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. These are at:—

- (1) The Brant Farm, Upper Blackstone.
- (2) Hursts Meadow, Northwood Lane.
- (3) Hillcroft Trailer Park, Cleobury Road.
- (4) Riverside Caravan Park, Dowles Road.

Permits now allow a combined total of 474 caravans.

SECTION "E"

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Bacteriological examinations of samples taken from producers and manufacturers, and all chemical examinations of food, milk and water are carried out by the Worcestershire County Council Laboratory. Bacteriological examinations of consumer samples of milk, water and ice-cream are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory of the Worcester Royal Infirmary, in addition to the routine clinical pathology.

Food Poisoning

No cases of Food Poisoning or Suspected Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

Meat Inspection

Meat Inspection Services and general supervision of Food Premises were carried out by the Public Health Inspector during the year. (See Public Health Inspector's Report).

SECTION "F"

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases

Diphtheria Immunisation

Pre-school Children	....	....	....	....	71
School Children	....	....	....	....	8
Reinforcing Doses	....	....	....	....	96

Smallpox Vaccination

Number Vaccinated	....	....	....	....	19
Number Re-vaccinated	....	....	....	....	10

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number Invited	....	....	....	....	89
Number Accepted	....	....	....	....	85
Percentage Accepted	....	....	....	....	96.5
B.C.G. Negative	....	....	....	....	80
Positive	....	....	....	....	4
Number Absent	....	....	....	....	1
Percentage Positive	....	....	....	....	4.7

Poliomyelitis

Immunisation continues for children and adults.

Notifications

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year are shown in the following table:—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Measles	11	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	3	—	—
Lobar Pneumonia	2	—	—

Tuberculosis

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the area during the year.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	—		—		—		1	
	nil		nil		1		nil	

A total number of 27 T.B. cases on the Borough Register at December 31st, 1963, were as follows:—

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
M.	F.	M.	F.
17	6	1	3

CONCLUSION

I should like to thank the Mayor, members of the Council, and the Council's Staff, for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. W. MARKHAM,

Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Year 1963

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1963.

HOUSING

As reported by the Medical Officer of Health, Official Representations were made in regard to 4 Sub-standard dwellings within the Borough.

Details of housing inspections are contained in the summary of work of the department.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There are 81 food shops and other food-preparing premises within the district. The majority of these premises were visited at least once during the year and others more frequently as required.

Meat Inspection

Four Slaughtermen's licences were renewed during the year. Two Slaughterhouses were re-licensed in July.

A total number of 229 visits made to food premises during the year included visits made to slaughterhouses for meat inspection purposes. These inspections are carried out at the time of slaughtering whenever possible or as soon as practicable afterwards.

Slaughterhouses Report

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations (Appointed Day) (No. 2) Order, 1962 and The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations (Appointed Day) (No. 2) Order, 1962.

The two Slaughterhouses licensed within the District complied with the requirements of these Orders and were re-licensed during the year.

The table set out below indicates the number of carcasses inspected as against the number slaughtered.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned

	Cattle (excluding Cows)			Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
	Cows	Calves			
Number killed	98	Nil	13	1,756	403
Number inspected	68	Nil	10	1,020	279
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	14	Nil	Nil	31	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	14	Nil	Nil	1.7	1.7
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcass condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.7

Condemned Food

The total quantity of meat and offal condemned at slaughterhouses during the year amounted to 3 cwt. 1 qtr. 19 lb.

Method of disposal of condemned food is by incineration, except in the case of meat and offal at slaughterhouses. This is stained green, as recommended, and collection made by authorised dealers.

Factories Act 1961

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

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

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	12	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	22	28	2	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	25	40	2	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases".)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To HM Inspector (4)	Referred By HM Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	Nil

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To HM Inspector (4)	By HM Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	—	—	Nil
Total	2	2	—	—	Nil

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

One hundred and six samples of milk, heat treated within the Borough, were taken by the Food and Drugs Authority (Worcestershire County Council) during the year. Analysis results were as follows:

Phosphatase Test			Methylene Blue Test		
Pass	Fail	Void	Pass	Fail	Void
106	—	—	87	—	15

Note.—Methylene Blue Test void when shade temperature exceeds 65° F.

Ice-Cream

Twenty-four retailers are registered for the sale of Ice-cream, many of whom deal only in pre-packed products.

During the year the following infestations have been dealt with in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:—

RODENT CONTROL

Corporation Property (excluding dwelling houses)	8
Private Dwellings	58
Business Premises	30
Agricultural, etc.	—
Total	96

These figures are taken from the annual return as required by the Ministry and do not indicate the actual number of treatments carried out. The Corporation tip, for example, requires fortnightly attention at least, but is shown only once in this return.

Sewers

Two sewer treatments were carried out during the year in accordance with Ministry requirements.

24 manholes were prebaited in the Bewdley area and 16 in Wribbenhall. All points were twice revisited, but no "takes" were recorded.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND SALVAGE

In addition to house refuse, trade refuse is collected and disposed of by controlled tipping at a site approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from the town centre.

A limited amount of trade refuse is retained for salvage (cartons, containers, etc.), and a total quantity of 8 tons 8 cwt. 1 qr. was collected and sold during the year.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT

A total number of 1,624 visits were distributed as follows:—

Housing defects, overcrowding, etc.	146
Houses let-in-lodgings	2
Corporation Property (defects, etc.)	556
Factories (Part I only)	40
Food Premises (including meat inspections)	229
Water supply	26
Rodent and other Pest Control (excluding operator's visits)	20
Caravan sites	25
Drainage works	221
Refuse complaints, Corporation Tip, etc.	25
Miscellaneous	389
	—
	1,154
Rodent treatments	110
	—
Total	1,624
	—

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES E. SHEEN,

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT

A total number of 1,634 visits were distributed as follows:

146	Housing defects, overcrowding, etc.
256	Corporation Property (defects, etc.)
40	Factories (Part I only)
229	Food Premises (including meat inspections)
26	Water supply
20	Rodent and other Pest Control (excluding operator's visits)
22	Careless sites
221	Drainage works
22	Refuse complaints, Corporation, etc.
1,154	Total
110	Rodent treatments

REUSE OF WASTE AND SALVAGE

The Director of the Department of Health and Sanitation, Mr. J. H. ...
 Your obedient servant,
 JAMES B. ...
 Director of Health and Sanitation

