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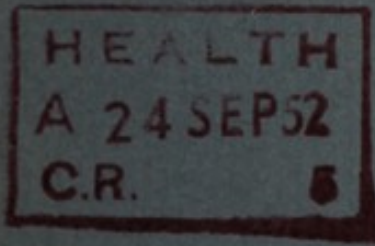
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REPORT

ON THE

Public Health Services

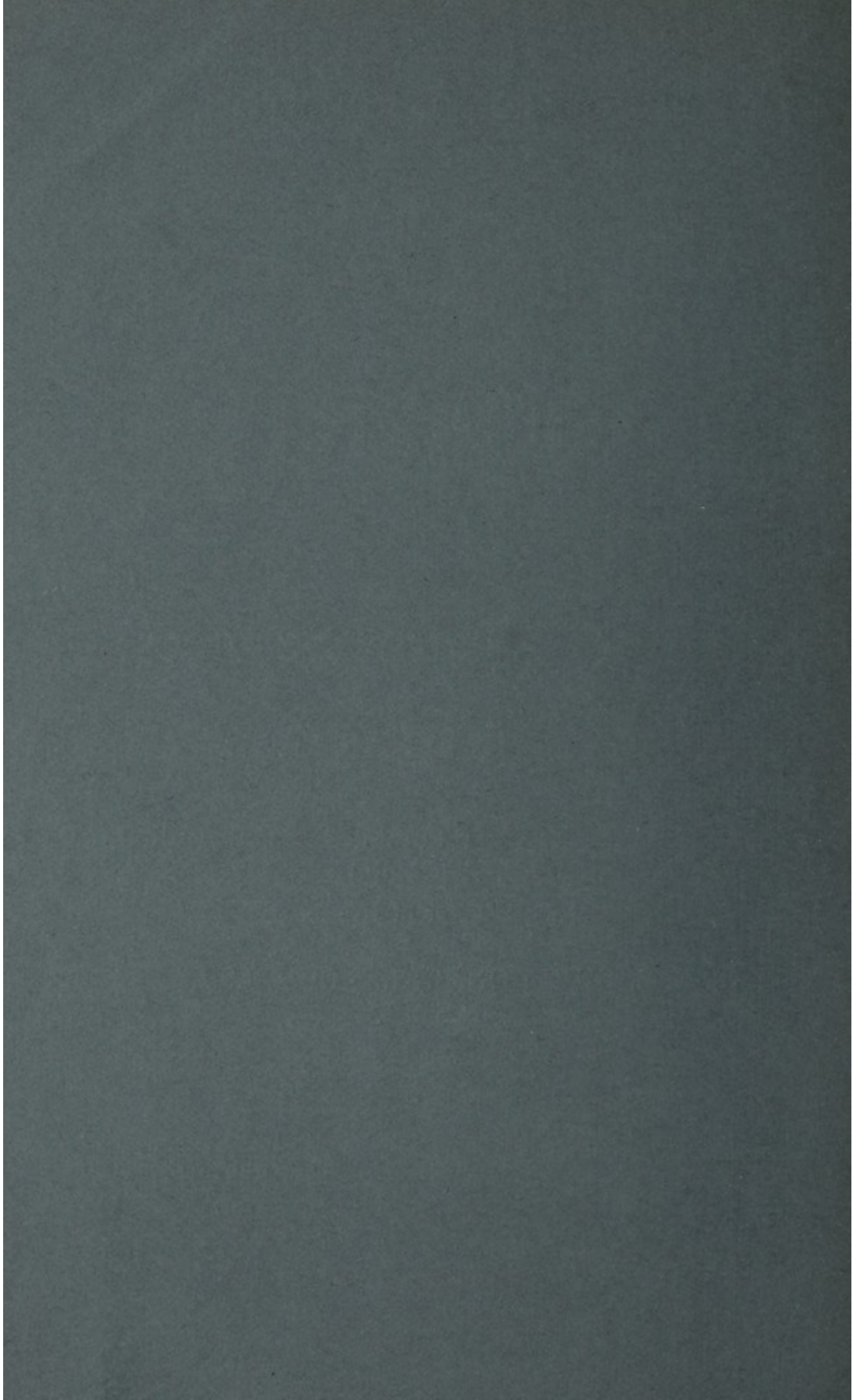
FOR THE YEAR 1951.

B. C. HALLER, M.A. (Cantab.), L.R.C.P. (Edin.),
D.P.H. (Camb.),
Medical Officer of Health.

G. E. S. SHELDON, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.,
M.R.San.I.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Public Health Department,
23, Wellington Road,
Bilston, Staffs.

September, 1952.



**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Bilston.**

MR. MAYOR, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1951.

There was an increase in the number of cases of Diphtheria during the year. The actual number of confirmed cases was 22 as against 44 notified. The majority of the cases occurred during the months of November and December. The organisms found in the actual cases were of a virulent strain, so it was fortunate that there were only three deaths. The deaths were of school children who had not been fully protected by immunization.

The only method of value in the control of the disease is immunisation on a sufficiently large scale. Children should be immunized in infancy and at least once during their school life. A re-inforcing (or booster) dose should be given at about 5 years of age. Page 11 gives more details of the cases.

Another matter of interest was that action had to be taken under the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951. This is the first time such action has been taken. Page 12 gives particulars on the matter.

I take this opportunity of thanking you, Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen for your support during the year.

I wish to express my thanks to my colleagues for their co-operation, and to my Staff for their loyal service.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

B. C. HALLER,

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF
OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Whole Time Officers

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

*B. C. HALLER, M.A., (Cantab.), L.R.C.P.E., L.R.C.S.E.,
D.T.H. (Camb.)

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND
CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT :

*G. E. S. SHELDON, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Certificated Meat and Food Inspector.
Certificated Smoke Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :

*H. T. HODGSON, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Certificated Meat and Food Inspector
Certificated Smoke Inspector.
(Resigned November 1951)

*J. R. TART, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Certificated Meat and Food Inspector.

*J. W. BARBER, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

*J. RICHARDS, Cert. S.I.B.

CLERICAL STAFF

HEALTH :

Miss R. P. Sheffield.
Mrs. J. A. Bright.
Miss V. E. Mason (Resigned December 1950).
Miss M. Fellows (Commenced January 1951).
C. J. Pearce.
N. Edwards (H.M. Forces)

CLEANSING :

L. R. Littlewood.
E. R. Whittingham.

* Officer whose salary is contributed to under Public Health or
Exchequer Grants.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1951
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area	1,871 acres
Population : 1951 Census	33,464
Estimated Population for Year	33,420
Estimated number of inhabited houses for the year	8,816
Rateable Value at the 31st December, 1951	£147,536

Extracts from Vital Statistics :

	TOTAL	MALES	FEMALES	
Live Births	592	301	291	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 17.70
(Legitimate)	577	292	285	
(Illegitimate)	15	9	6	
Still Births	18	8	10	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still)Births 29.50

	TOTAL	MALES	FEMALES	
Deaths	374	183	191	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 11.19

Comparability Factors : Births 0.97
 Deaths 1.30

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :

(Headings 29 and 30) of the Registrar General's short lists).

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :

All Infants per 1,000 live births	35.47
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	34.66
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	66.67
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	56
„ Measles (all ages)	—
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	3
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	2

Details of the Births in each Ward are given in Table 1, and particulars of the last five years in Table 2.

TABLE 1.

Ward	Males	Females	Total
New Town	31	36	67
High Town	38	33	71
Town Hall	64	76	140
Bradley	44	40	84
Ettingshall	44	39	83
Out of District	80	67	147
Total	301	291	592

TABLE 2.

Year	Males	Females	Total	Birth Rate per 1,000
1951	301	291	592	17.70
1950	317	321	638	19.10
1949	333	294	627	19.01
1948	321	353	674	20.60
1947	445	442	887	27.97

Table 3 shows the number of deaths in each Ward ; Table 4 gives the details for the last five years ; and Table 5 the ages at which death occurred.

TABLE 3.

Ward	Males	Females	Total
New Town	21	31	52
High Town	17	24	41
Town Hall	34	36	70
Bradley	14	17	31
Ettingshall	25	32	57
Transferable Deaths	72	51	123
Total	183	191	374

TABLE 4.

Year	Deaths			Death Rate per 1,000
	Males	Females	Total	
1951	183	191	374	11.19
1950	190	174	364	10.91
1949	174	162	336	10.18
1948	145	139	284	8.68
1947	226	149	375	11.82

TABLE 5.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	12	9	21
1 and under 2 years	1	—	1
2 and under 5 years	2	2	4
5 and under 15 years	2	4	6
15 and under 25 years	4	4	8
25 and under 45 years	16	13	29
45 and under 65 years	56	44	100
65 and under 80 years	71	85	156
80 years and upwards	19	30	49
Total	183	191	374

The following table shows the causes of death and gives particulars of the number of males and females dying from various diseases :—

TABLE 6

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FE- MALES	TOTAL
Tuberculosis Respiratory	14	4	18
Tuberculosis Other	1	4	5
Syphilitic Diseases	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	3	3
Whooping Cough	—	3	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	4	4	8
Malignant Neoplasm (Lung, Bronchus)	13	1	14
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	—	6	6
Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	—	3	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	13	12	25
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	1	1
Diabetes	—	2	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	14	17	31
Coronary Disease, Angina	14	5	19
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	12	14
Other Heart Disease	22	50	72
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	4	7
Influenza	11	10	21
Pneumonia	8	6	14
Bronchitis	19	9	28
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	—	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	3	5
Hyperplasia of Prostrate	3	—	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	—	1	1
Congenital Malformation	—	—	—
Other defined and Ill-defined Diseases	28	27	55
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	3	1	4
Homicide and Operation of War	—	—	—
TOTAL	183	191	374

TABLE 7.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, and Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain infectious diseases in the Year 1951. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	BILSTON
Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
Births :				
Live Births	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.70
Still Births	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.54
Deaths :				
All Causes	12.5	13.4	12.5	11.19
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.09
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.09
Tuberculosis	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.69
Influenza	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.63
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.03
Pneumonia	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.42
Notifications (Corrected)				
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.12
Meningococcal Infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.11	1.20	1.20	0.99
Whooping Cough	3.87	3.62	4.00	2.63
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.63
Erysipelas	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	14.07	13.93	14.82	6.55
Pneumonia	0.99	1.04	0.96	1.94
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00
Paralytic	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.00
Non-Paralytic	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.00
Deaths :	Rates per 1,000 Live Births			
All causes under 1 year of age	29.6(a)	33.9	27.6	35.47
Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	3.38
Notifications (Corrected)	Rates per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births			
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	10.66	13.77	8.08	0.00

(a) per 1,000 related live births

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water

The water supply in the area is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

During the year 17 samples of water were taken, 9 of which were Chemically Analysed and 8 were Bacteriologically tested.

Of the 8 bacteriologically tested 2 were taken from the Bratch ; 2 from Tom Hill ; 2 from Coton Road reservoir and 2 from private dwellings in Bilston.

Of the 9 samples chemically analysed, 2 were taken from the Bratch ; 3 from Tom Hill ; and 4 from private dwellings in Bilston.

The following are typical examples of chemical analyses undertaken :—

TABLE 8.

	BRATCH	TOM HILL.
	Parts per 1,000,000	Parts per 1,000,000
ph Value	7.3	6.4
Total Solid Matter dried at 212° F.	34.0	20.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil
Albuminoid	0.0004	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen	0.70	0.80
Chlorine present as Chloride	2.2	2.0
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	0.008	0.008
Appearance	Clear	Practically Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination	Nil	None
Total Hardness	17.4°	7.5°
Present Hardness	8.4°	6.2°
Temporary Hardness	9.0°	1.3°
Free Chlorine	—	0.02 Parts per million

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality.

Housing Clearance Areas and Overcrowding.

Referred to in Joint Housing Report.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The work of food inspection is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and details are given in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

Milk Supply and Food Adulteration.

The work under this heading is controlled by the County Council whose officers carry out the necessary work of sampling.

Details are included in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Table 9 shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, cases admitted to Hospital and the known deaths.

TABLE 9.

	Total Cases Notified	Total Cases Confirmed	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	34	33	15	—
Whooping Cough	88	88	6	3
Poliomyelitis	1	—	1	1
Measles	220	219	4	—
Diphtheria	44	22	44	3
Pneumonia	68	65	3	14
Dysentery	7	6	1	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	—	—
Chickenpox	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	5	5	1	—
Paratyphoid	4	4	4	—

Diphtheria.

There were 44 cases notified and of these 22 were confirmed as being diphtheria. The following table gives particulars as to when the cases occurred and the age of the patient. All the cases were removed to and treated at Moxley Isolation Hospital.

TABLE 10

	No. of Cases	Age	Confirmed
JANUARY —Week ended 28th.	1	7	No
MAY —Week ended 27th.	1	8	Yes
JULY —Week ended 29th.	4	15 mth.	No
		10	Yes *
		5	Yes
		3	Yes
AUGUST —Week ended 5th.	1	8	Yes
SEPTEMBER —Week ended 22nd.	2	13	No
		6	No
NOVEMBER —Week ended 11th.	4	13	Yes
		12	Yes
		8	Yes *
		4	Yes
Week ended 18th.	6	8	Yes
		20	No
		5	Yes
		10	Yes
		8	Yes
		18	Yes
Week ended 25th.	4	51	No
		23	No
		2½	Yes
		24	No
DECEMBER —Week ended 2nd.	7	11	No
		19	No
		32	No
		6½	Yes
		8	Yes
		11 mth.	Yes
		15	No
Week ended 9th.	4	12	No
		33	No
		12	No
		24	No
Week ended 16th.	4	22	No
		14	No
		11	No
		13	No
Week ended 23rd.	5	8	Yes *
		2½	No
		11	Yes
		10	Yes
		3	No
Week ended 30th.	—	—	—
31st December	1	4	Yes

* Died.

National Assistance Acts—1948 and 1951.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was reported that a male aged 83 years was living alone at 10, Lord Street, Bradley and although helped by a neighbour was not receiving proper care and attention. The case was investigated by me and I was informed that the man had refused to go to hospital although strongly advised to do so by his own doctor, who had made all arrangements for his removal. I consulted the Medical practitioner in charge of the case and we decided that the patient being aged and incapable of looking after himself should be removed from the premises in which he was residing without delay. A certificate to this effect was signed by the Medical Practitioner and myself and given to the Town Clerk.

Application was made under Section 1 of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, to a Justice of the Peace for the County of Staffordshire on the 16th October, 1951 for the authority to remove the man to a hospital. A certificate signed jointly by the Medical Practitioner in charge of the case and myself stating the essential facts was submitted at the same time. An order was made by the Justice of the Peace for the man to be removed to Burton Road Hospital, Dudley for his detention and maintenance therein for a period not exceeding three weeks, the Superintendent of the Hospital having signified in writing his willingness to accommodate the patient therein. The patient was removed to the Hospital that evening and died in the institution on the 2nd November, 1951, that is within three weeks of his admission. The Certified cause of death was Senility.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

There was no outbreak of food poisoning during 1951.

**JOINT HOUSING REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH AND THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1951**

The number of occupied houses or flats at the 31st December, 1951 was estimated to be 8,982 of which 3,834 have been built or adapted for living accommodation by the Council. Included in this figure are 100 prefabricated Arcon bungalows and 31 premises requisitioned or acquired which have been converted or adapted as flats by the Corporation.

The main sites for the construction of houses during the year were Stowlawn, George Street and Rough Hills, Etingshall, and the central redevelopment area in Temple Street. In these areas 189 houses or flats were completed and 203 were in the course of erection.

The site for private enterprise is Mountford Lane Estate and house building has proceeded satisfactorily during the year. 41 houses have been completed in twelve months.

This information is obtained from the reports of the Borough Architect.

General Housing.

The housing needs of the Borough can be assessed by reference to Table 11 which gives the outstanding recommendations at the 31st December, 1951.

This is the last occasion on which these details will be given from information available in the Health Department. A new system is now operating wholly administrated by the Housing Manager. The Health Department will be consulted on Medical grounds, overcrowding and structural condition of the applicants' present houses.

The policy of dealing with unfit houses by the making of Demolition Orders or the acceptance of undertakings to convert back to back houses into through houses, and to undertake the necessary work in order to make the houses conform to the temporary standard approved by the Corporation, has been continued during the year.

Inspections have been made of all houses which were thought likely to come in this category. Representations have been made to the Corporation in every case where the house should not be relet, or where work should be done in the form of an undertaking. During the year 17 houses have been represented for action under the Housing Acts and Demolition Order procedure agreed upon. In

9 cases Demolition Orders were made, in 3 cases Closing Orders were made, and in 5 cases undertakings to execute works were accepted. In addition, 51 houses in the ownership of the Corporation were classified as unfit to be relet and were either bricked up or demolished. In 5 cases houses were voluntarily closed by the agents or owners concerned, as being unfit for reletting.

It is interesting to report that a total of 64 houses were demolished during the year. The majority of these were in the ownership of the Corporation.

A summary of the action taken under the Housing Act is as follows :—

TABLE 10.

Total number of houses represented since 1946	.....		381
			177
Demolition Orders made	.....	
Houses demolished	.....	47	
Houses boarded or bricked up, demolition not possible	.....	51	
Houses void	.....	14	
Demolition Orders in abeyance, Houses relet	.....	28	
Demolition Orders in abeyance			
Tenants not rehoused	.....	36	
Houses occupied by squatters	.....	1	
Procedure withdrawn	.....		8
Corporation properties agreed for demolition	.....		130
Corporation properties demolished	.....	49	—
Corporation properties boarded or bricked up	.....	52	
Corporation properties tenants not rehoused	.....	29	
Closing Orders made	.....		10
Operative	.....	7	
Tenants not yet rehoused	.....	3	
Undertakings accepted	.....		56
Undertakings completed	.....	44	
Undertakings in abeyance—tenants not rehoused	.....	7	
Undertakings not yet completed	.....	2	
Undertakings in abeyance—houses relet	.....	3	
Houses still under consideration	.....		—
Houses demolished without procedure	.....		2
Houses emptied and bricked up without procedure	.....		7

Clearance Areas.

It is still impossible to deal with slum clearance areas under the Housing Acts and, therefore, the 9 areas declared in 1945 and accepted by the Corporation for such action have not been dealt with.

TABLE 11

Group	Bedrooms				2	Bedrooms				3	Bedrooms				SA	Bedrooms				4	Bedrooms				5	Bedrooms				6	Bedrooms				7	Bedrooms				Total	Bedrooms												
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4					
A	107	6	37	25	32	4	1	83	4	25	46	12	4	438	56	276	189	12	1	11	5	6	288	76	166	19	2	5	801	91	343	64	3	24	8	8	8	10	5	2	1342	249	718	297	64	12	3						
B	35	4	14	8	6	3	7	3	2	2	94	14	35	33	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	83	28	56	9	1	82	15	51	18	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	7	5	1	1	—	—	299	42	136	87	12	1				
C	142	10	32	33	34	7	3	92	4	28	42	16	4	322	50	283	175	14	1	11	3	4	351	98	216	28	3	2	843	108	294	77	4	25	8	8	9	—	—	17	8	4	3	—	—	1641	312	874	364	72	14	3	
D	35	2	15	11	5	2	—	17	—	1	8	5	—	93	15	36	36	2	—	—	—	1	1	69	15	46	6	1	1	66	14	44	8	—	4	2	2	—	—	3	1	1	1	—	—	288	46	162	64	15	3		
E	105	8	38	22	33	5	1	75	4	34	36	19	4	429	58	213	143	12	5	1	10	4	6	282	84	170	22	2	1	847	94	256	69	4	21	6	4	9	—	—	14	7	1	2	—	—	1331	240	712	336	56	11	3

Details of families rehoused or removed from register of recommended applicants.

TABLE 12.

Year and Total	BY BELSTON CORPORATION INTO																BY TENANTS THEMSELVES INTO																MOVED OUT OF THE EMERGENCY	MOVED TO AN UNKNOWN ADDRESS	CANCELLATIONS								Families Without Recommendations issued by Belston Corporation into:		
	NEW CORPORATION HOUSES				PRE-FABRICATED HOUSES				RE-LET CORPORATION HOUSES				NEW CORPORATION HOUSES				PRE-FABRICATED HOUSES				RE-LET CORPORATION HOUSES				PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSES				THROUGH DEATH	OTHER CAUSES					New Houses	Private by Other Houses									
	Total	1	2	3A	Total	1	2	3A	Total	1	2	3A	Total	1	2	3A	Total	1	2	3A	Total	1	2	3A	Total	1	2	3A		Total	1	2					3A	Total	1	2	3A				
1945 7	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1946 21	6	—	3	1	2	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	7	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1947 47	16	—	2	7	5	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	1	3	8	3	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1948 74	34	4	1	16	4	6	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	1	16	1	3	—	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1949 47	22	2	2	10	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	2	5	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	—
1950 77	34	8	4	11	4	7	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	12	4	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	4	1
1951 26	11	2	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	60	10	—
Total 246	123	17	11	34	26	25	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	20	4	4	—	1	1	—	—	21	3	4	—	14	2	2	10	11	14	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	105	21	3	

Year	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Population	1,000,000	1,050,000	1,100,000	1,150,000	1,200,000	1,250,000	1,300,000	1,350,000	1,400,000	1,450,000	1,500,000	1,550,000	1,600,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	1,750,000	1,800,000	1,850,000	1,900,000	1,950,000
Area (sq. miles)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Population Density	10,000	10,500	11,000	11,500	12,000	12,500	13,000	13,500	14,000	14,500	15,000	15,500	16,000	16,500	17,000	17,500	18,000	18,500	19,000	19,500

BY HILTON CORLETT INTO

Year	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930
Population	1,000,000	1,050,000	1,100,000	1,150,000	1,200,000	1,250,000	1,300,000	1,350,000	1,400,000	1,450,000	1,500,000	1,550,000	1,600,000	1,650,000	1,700,000	1,750,000	1,800,000	1,850,000	1,900,000	1,950,000
Area (sq. miles)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Population Density	10,000	10,500	11,000	11,500	12,000	12,500	13,000	13,500	14,000	14,500	15,000	15,500	16,000	16,500	17,000	17,500	18,000	18,500	19,000	19,500

As will be noted from the previous Table 10, action has been taken in the case of as many unfit houses as possible under Section 11 of the Housing Act.

The Rough Hills Clearance Area has now been dealt with. The Corporation acquired the land by compulsory purchase. To carry out the rebuilding of houses on this area, the tenants have been rehoused, the land properly levelled and modern layouts prepared and approved.

The redevelopment of the central area of the town, that is Temple Street, is proceeding on satisfactory lines and all houses on the odd number side of Temple Street have been purchased by the Corporation. The tenants of these houses which are all unfit for habitation, are being rehoused, and demolition will be effected as soon as possible in predetermined areas of Temple Street which will allow of the replanning of that area and the building of new houses in accordance with the approved plans of the Corporation.

The redevelopment of the old parts of Bradley, particularly the Salop Street area, is not proceeding with the same speed as the redevelopment of the old areas in Bilston, but plans have been approved for the building of the first lot of houses on the land in St. Martin's Terrace.

The development of land at the corner of Mill Street, Wolverhampton Street, Bridge Street and Fraser Street has been completed by the building of blocks of flats on each site.

Overcrowding.

Details of recommendations made for rehousing due to overcrowding, etc., are given in Table 11.

General Housing Repairs.

As in previous years it has been found more expeditious to obtain repairs by the service of notices where necessary, under the Public Health Acts.

The exception to this is the work undertaken by undertakings accepted as a result of procedure under Section 11 of the Housing Act.

Details of work executed and improvements effected are given in Table III of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1951

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Bilston.

MR. MAYOR, MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report upon the Sanitary and Cleansing Services of the Borough for the year. This is my fifth Annual Report.

The report is divided as usual into two sections, the first dealing with the Sanitary Services covering the twelve months ending the 31st December, 1951, and the second which deals with Public Cleansing covering the twelve months ending the 31st March, 1952.

Sanitary Services.

Details of inspections and visits made are given in Table 1. The total number of visits is 14,696. A slight increase upon the previous year.

I have to report once again that of the staff of five Inspectors including myself, there are only two actually living in the Borough, and this makes it extremely difficult in emergencies and when holiday duties are arranged to enable an Inspector to be available when required. In addition, there has been no replacement for Mr. H. T. Hodgson who acted as my deputy and who resigned in November in order to take up an appointment as a Health Officer in Southern Rhodesia.

The lack of the normal strength of Inspectors has placed an additional burden upon the remainder, especially in connection with meat inspection at Downs and Warrens where two Inspectors are needed, one full time each day and one half days, in order to cope with the number of pigs now killed and requiring inspection at the slaughterhouses.

It can be seen by the number of visits to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection that there is increased work in this direction, the importance of which cannot be over emphasized. The number of animals inspected has increased due to increased slaughtering, and it has become necessary for the Inspector when on duty at Downs to be present at 7 a.m. in the morning in order to keep up with the inspection of the pigs as they are slaughtered.

It will be noted that once again considerable activity has been maintained in the removal of caravans and gypsies from various sites in the Borough, and some permanent solution other than attempting to stop all means of access to land is still necessary.

The inspection and supervision of all premises handling, storing or dealing in the transport of food has received careful attention during the year.

Details of improvements and repairs executed are given in Table III.

During the year, 4,352 improvements have been made to houses and other premises. 2,950 of these were improvements obtained without the service of notices. The majority of these improvements are the cleansing of drains, the treatment of premises affected by rodents, the supply of ashbins and the disinfection of verminous premises.

It is pleasing to note the amount of work that has been done, despite the increased cost to owners or agents, and this work does in some measure point to the necessity for permitted rent increases.

Details of work done in the varied branches of our work are given under the various headings of the Report.

Public Cleansing.

The work executed during the year has once again been one of meeting and surmounting continuous difficulties. These are to be expected in these days and the main ones have again been high sickness and absence rates of the workmen and the difficulty in obtaining suitable men.

Refuse Collection.

The constant endeavour is to keep costs down, but when wages increase and the cost of materials increase, then these are bound to be reflected in the total cost of the work done. The weekly collection of refuse is maintained and this has become a normally accepted practice. It is only when the ashbin is not emptied regularly on the appointed day that many people realise the service provided and the regularity and frequency given to it.

A certain number of men and machines are necessary to achieve this, which in turn costs a specified amount. The one remaining method to reduce costs would appear to be to reduce the frequency of

collection to say once every fortnight. By this means less men and vehicles would be necessary to cover the same area, but this to my mind would be a retrograde step despite the economy that could be achieved.

Details of refuse collected are given in Table XI.

Refuse Disposal.

The purchase of an angledozer during the year for work on the tip has been a marked success. The area of land now levelled is extensive and is rapidly increasing week by week, particularly as all industrialists are now disposing of their refuse on the tip and their transport contractors show no hesitation in bringing their vehicles on to the tip to discharge the refuse. The reason for this is the consolidation that has been achieved by the use of the angledozer and, of course, there is now no necessity to use tip plates on which the vehicles had to reverse, neither is it necessary for vehicles to back to the tip edge in order to discharge their load of refuse.

The refuse can easily be discharged towards the edge of the tip and is then levelled by the angledozer. At the same time it is a great advantage to store certain industrial refuse in the nature of fine ash to use at a later stage as covering for house refuse, particularly during the summer time when the ash content of house refuse is very low.

It has also been possible to reduce the number of men working on the tip to one.

Salvage.

Systematic and regular collections of paper and kitchen waste have continued during the year on the lines indicated in my report for the previous year.

Small quantities of scrap metal have been salvaged, but the shortage of scrap is well known and its value has increased to such an extent that most people obviously prefer to sell scrap rather than hand it to the Council collectors for which they receive no remuneration.

The shortage of paper has caused fantastic increases in price which in consequence has caused shopkeepers, factories, etc. to sell their paper, and, of course, private collectors have found it profitable to collect, with the result that our normal collections have tended to decrease.

The collection of kitchen waste has remained regular through the year and shows no marked tendency to increase or decrease. It has been noted that private collectors are on the increase and it is extremely difficult to stop these unauthorised collectors. Such collectors have to obtain a licence from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and such a licence only permits them to collect from premises specified in the licence. Despite this it is certain that persons are collecting without any licence and such does reduce the ultimate total collection by the Council.

Collection and Disposal Costs.

Details are given in Table XIV of the cost of collection and disposal of refuse, together with other relevant statistics.

Conclusion.

To you Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen, I tender my sincere thanks for the support you have given me during the year.

I wish to thank all the officials of the Corporation for their help and co-operation during the year.

To the Health and Cleansing Department staffs, I offer sincere thanks for their loyal and wholehearted support. One must of necessity make many demands and it is gratifying to realise the readiness with which they respond. It is pleasing to note the real spirit of comradeship and team work that exists in the department.

I wish to record my thanks to all employees of both departments for their help and co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. ERIC S. SHELDON,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent.*

SANITARY SERVICES

TABLE I.

Details of inspections made during the year are as follows:—

VISITS	Inspections	Re-inspections	Total
Dwelling Houses			
Routine	550	1,013	1,563
Complaints	645	396	1,041
Overcrowding	543	300	843
Dirty Condition	23	20	43
Disinfected	92	62	154
Disinfested	67	67	134
Rodent Control	1,031	2,334	3,365
Infectious Diseases*	203	33	236
Disinfestation—Visits	170	—	170
Removals	221	—	221
Other Premises			
Licensed Premises	10	—	10
Street Food Vendors	4	—	4
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Sites	224	257	481
Common Lodging Houses	2	—	2
Factories (with Mechanical Power)	25	2	27
Workplaces	10	—	10
Bakehouses	27	1	28
Premises—Bottled Milk	7	—	7
Ice-cream Manufacturers	6	—	6
Retailers	111	9	120
Samples	81	—	81
Slaughterhouses	831	22	853
Private or emergency slaughter of animals	10	1	11
Offensive Trades—Fried Fish Shops	10	2	12
Food preparing premises	112	1	113
Ice Stores	12	—	12
Market—Visits	54	—	54
Meat Stalls	79	—	79
Other Food Stalls	91	2	93
Shops re Meat and Food	191	—	191
Others	128	—	128
Rodent Control	15	—	15
Warehouses	6	—	6
Public Conveniences	22	—	22
Stables	12	—	12
Premises re Swine, Fowl, etc.	119	—	119
Premises re Offensive Accumulations	19	—	19
Drains Tested, Inspected and Cleansed	1,620	28	1,648
Sewers—Inspected	43	—	43
Street Gullies Inspected	10	—	10
Rodent Control	250	480	730
Smoke Observations—General	616	10	626
Cafes and Restaurants	5	—	5
Works Canteens	6	—	6
Water Samples—Bacteriological	15	—	15
Chemical	8	—	8
Milk—Informal Bacteriological	5	—	5
Cleansing and Salvage Visits	506	—	506
Miscellaneous Visits	702	7	709

The number of inspections of all kinds made was 9,541 and the number of re-inspections 5,147, giving a grand total of 14,696 inspections and visits during the year.

Complaints.

The number of complaints received during the year was 1,442 221 of which were in respect of alleged nuisances or sanitary defects and 1,221 in respect of choked drains and water closets.

The complaints made in respect of sanitary defects are 18 less than the previous year, and those in respect of drains and water closets 32 less than the previous year.

All complaints were visited and the necessary action taken to secure abatement of nuisances where necessary.

Defects Found and Notices Served.

As a result of inspections made a total of 3,381 defects or nuisances were found, 3,032 of which were affecting 1,818 houses and 349 affecting 201 other premises.

To remedy these defects or nuisances found, a total of 483 notices were served, made up as follows:—

Informal Notices	.....	349
Statutory Notices	.....	134

Of these, 477 were served upon owners or agents and 6 upon occupiers of premises.

Details of Statutory Notices served are as follows:—

TABLE II.

	Issued	Complied by Owner	Complied by Council	Justices Order	Not Complied
Sec. 92-93 Public Health Act, 1936	134	77	—	—	57

As reported in the last Annual Report, the repair of properties particularly by the service of notices is extremely difficult, and owners or agents of property are bearing a very heavy responsibility

in undertaking works of repair of any description to properties in their ownership or control. The cost of labour and materials has risen and continues to rise, with the result that the cost of any work executed upon property is very expensive and the owners or agents cannot expect any satisfactory return from the properties for many years after expensive repairs have been carried out.

It is to be expected, therefore, that there is genuine reluctance to undertake any repairs voluntarily unless compelled to do so by the service of notices from this department.

Sanitary Improvements Made and Defects Remedied.

The total number of improvements made in compliance with notices served was 1,402. 1,092 were in connection with houses and 310 in connection with other premises. The number of improvements made without the service of notices, which were either undertaken by employees of the department (the provision of ashbins and the cleansing of drains) or work which was supervised by Inspectors of the department was 2,950. 2,861 of these improvements were in connection with houses and 89 in connection with other premises.

Details of improvements are as follows :—

TABLE III.

DWELLING HOUSES

	By Notice	Without Notice	Total
Internal.			
Ventilation improved	5	1	6
New windows provided	3	1	4
Window cords renewed	85	10	95
Dampness in walls remedied	43	9	52
Plaster of walls repaired	100	37	137
Plaster of ceilings repaired	69	21	90
Floors repaired	46	11	57
New fireplaces provided	7	6	13
Old fireplaces repaired	16	5	21
Doors repaired	22	3	25
Old windows repaired	60	13	73
Staircases			
Steps repaired or provided	16	—	16
Guard rails repaired	2	—	2
Plaster of walls repaired	4	1	5
Plaster of ceilings repaired	2	—	2

	By Notice	Without Notice	Total
Sculleries and Wash-houses.			
New windows provided	2	—	2
Windows repaired	1	—	1
Plaster of walls repaired	—	1	1
Plaster of ceilings repaired	4	—	4
New sinks provided	4	2	6
Ventilation improved	1	—	1
Old sinks repaired	3	—	3
Waste pipes trapped	3	—	3
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	14	3	17
Wash coppers provided	—	3	3
Wash coppers repaired	15	1	16
Doors repaired	3	1	4
Brickwork repaired	—	1	1
Floors repaired	4	—	4
Roofs repaired	—	1	1
Cellars			
Floors repaired	2	1	3
Drainage provided or repaired	2	—	2
Doors repaired	3	—	3
Arches strutted	1	—	1
Water removed	—	1	1
External			
Roofs repaired	136	32	168
Eaves spouts provided or repaired	39	35	74
Down spouts provided or repaired	28	11	39
Walls repaired and/or repointed	76	33	109
Chimney stacks repaired and/or repointed	45	4	49
Doors repaired	11	1	12
Downspouts disconnected from drain	2	1	3
General			
Washbasin provided	—	1	1
Yard paving or surfaces repaired	6	—	6
Yard drainage installed or repaired	1	1	2
Houses cleansed	1	—	1
Houses converted into through	1	—	1
Baths installed	—	2	2
Boundary walls repaired	1	—	1
Hot water system provided	—	1	1
OUTBUILDINGS.			
Water Closets			
Roofs repaired	12	2	14
Downspouts provided and/or repaired	1	—	1
Walls repaired or repointed	9	3	12
Doors repaired	3	1	4
New cisterns fixed or repaired	28	1	29
New pedestals and seats provided or repaired	27	4	31
Lighting and ventilation improved	1	—	1
Cleansed and/or limewashed	4	—	4
Soilpipes repaired	4	1	5
Water Supply provided	2	—	2
Provided in substitution for other conveniences	1	—	1
Additional water closets provided	2	—	2
Floors repaired	3	—	3

	By Notice	Without Notice	Total
Coal Stores			
Walls repaired	2	1	3
Doors repaired	1	—	1
Roofs repaired	1	1	2
Sewers			
Cleansed	—	5	5
Repaired	1	1	2
Ashbins			
Renewals	—	555	555
Provided for new houses	—	220	220
Provided for other premises	—	32	32
Privies			
Repaired	1	—	1
Pail/Chemical Closets			
Converted or abolished	1	—	1
Drains			
Repaired or relaid	50	13	63
Cleansed	9	1,448	1,457
Disconnected from sewer	4	—	4
Inspection chambers built or repaired	24	4	28
Self cleansing gullies provided	9	1	10
Under house abolished	2	—	2
Public Conveniences			
Repaired	1	—	1
Urinal provided	1	—	1
Infested Premises			
Freed from vermin	1	54	55
Freed from rats	—	148	148
Freed from mice	—	111	111
Offensive Accumulations			
Removed	12	7	19
Animals so kept as a Nuisance.			
Nuisances abated	3	—	3
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Sites			
Removed	159	3	162
Sites improved	2	—	2
Factories (Mechanical Power)			
Conveniences—cleaned and/or limewashed	3	2	5
Other improvements	4	2	6

	By Notice	Without Notice	Total
Shops			
Cleansed	2	1	3
Notices fixed	9	—	9
Heating water provided	1	—	1
Drainage improved	1	—	1
Floors repaired	1	—	1
Ventilation improved	3	22	25
Other improvements	31	—	31
Food Preparing Premises			
Cleansed and/or limewashed	11	7	18
Other improvements	7	5	12
Hot and cold water provided	—	1	1
Offensive Trades			
Cleansed/limewashed	—	2	2
Food Shops			
Improvements under Food and Drugs Act	15	8	23
Stables			
Cleansed	1	—	1
Canteens			
Cleanliness improved	13	—	13
Atmospheric Pollution			
Nuisances abated	2	1	3
Additions to plant and improvements	5	—	5
Schools			
Sanitary accommodation provided/improved	1	1	2
Workplaces			
Cleansed/limewashed	2	1	3
Houses Let in Lodgings			
Other improvements	—	2	2
Licensed Premises			
Urinals improved	—	1	1
Food Vans, Cart and Stalls			
Improvements	4	—	4

	By Notice	Without Notice	Total
Bakehouses			
Cleansed or limewashed	2	2	4
Other improvements	—	1	1
Common Lodging Houses			
Nuisances abated	—	4	4
Ice-Cream Manufacturers			
Discontinued	—	1	1
Other Improvements	3	—	3
Slaughterhouses			
Cleansed or limewashed	—	1	1
Walls repaired	—	1	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	—	1	1
Drainage improved	1	—	1
Floors repaired/relaid	—	1	1
Fried Fish Shops			
Cleansed and/or limewashed	4	1	5
Storage receptacles provided	1	—	1
Other improvements	5	10	15
Total Defects Remedied or Improvements Made	4,352		
In connection with houses	1,092	2,861	3,953
In connection with other premises	310	89	399
	<u>1,402</u>	<u>2,950</u>	<u>4,352</u>

Sanitary Accommodation and Sewerage.

The connection of works drainage at Messrs. Thompson Bros., Great Bridge Road to the sewer and the elimination of cesspools, is proceeding very slowly. There are still two large cesspools in operation at the works which require the service of a cesspool emptying machine on three days in every week. A promise has been given that these cesspools will be eliminated and the new sewer connection made by the end of October, 1952.

For the time being, therefore, the service of a cesspool emptying machine has to continue and is provided without charge to the firm concerned.

The question of making some charge for this work has been considered by the Corporation, but no charge has been decided upon and the total expenditure for this work remains a charge upon the rates.

Drains and Water Closets.

During the year 1,440 choked drains and water closets were cleansed by the employees of the Health Department. Of these, 1,221 were the subject of complaints to the Health Department by the occupants of the houses concerned, and 219 were found by the Health Department employees in the course of their normal duties and were cleansed by them.

It is pleasing to note that the number of drains and water closets attended to is slightly less than for the previous year, although the number attended to is far too many and points to negligence on behalf of the tenants of many of the houses at which stoppages occur.

There is no direct incentive to a householder to take care in the use of drains, when it is known that when any stoppage occurs, a report to the Health Department will bring the workmen along with the minimum delay to release the same if at all possible.

Indeed some tenants are very irate when informed that a drain reported late on Saturday morning cannot be attended to until the Monday.

Whilst the employment of men to do this work has many advantages, the most important of which is that stoppages are attended to with the minimum delay, I still feel that as suggested in my previous Annual Reports a nominal charge should be made for this service.

Public Conveniences.

The conveniences at the junction of Wolverhampton Street and Millfields Road have been completed and put into service, and the new convenience in Queen Street adjoining the Football Ground is practically completed.

Preparatory work has been done on the site for the convenience in Bradley and consideration has been given during the year to a new convenience in Vine Street, which is without doubt the most urgently needed. Certain difficulties have arisen which has delayed the actual commencement in Vine Street, but it cannot be over emphasised how urgent is the need in this area due to the hopelessly inadequate convenience which at present exists. Despite daily cleansing a great deal of damage is done from time to time in this convenience and many complaints are received regarding its condition.

It is also agreed that an additional convenience shall be installed in Great Bridge Road in the area adjoining the Playing Field as soon as possible.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year 203 visits have been made to investigate certain cases of notified infectious disease, notably Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Dysentery and Tuberculosis. 33 re-inspections have been made of these cases for various purposes.

Disinfection.

The number of houses disinfected after infectious disease was 92 and 62 re-inspections were made in these cases.

Disinfestation.

During the year 67 houses were disinfested and 67 re-inspections were made in these cases.

Treatment was by fumigant smoke or insecticide sprays in each case.

The removal of all tenants' furniture and effects, and treatment by HCN gas, before taking up occupation of a Council house has continued during the year.

All bedding has been treated in the steam disinfector at the Cleansing Depot.

221 such treatments were undertaken during the year in respect of tenants occupying Council houses in Bilston, and 4 removals and HCN treatments were undertaken for the Willenhall Urban District Council during the same period. Charges were made for these latter disinfestations.

Shops Act.

In addition to the 191 visits to food shops, 128 visits have been made to other shops in connection with the operation of the Shops Acts.

Rag Flock Acts.

The new act entitled The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act 1951, is due to come into operation on the 1st January 1952, and in preparation for the licensing of premises under this act, inspections were in progress by the end of the year of all premises which were thought likely to come under the provisions of this new act.

Canal Boats.

As reported in previous years, no specific visits have been made for the purpose of canal boat inspection, but observations are kept upon all boats seen in the area as Inspectors are visiting other premises in the course of their duties. No actual registered boat has been seen on the wharves of the various premises which use boats for transport of materials in conjunction with their works in the town.

The only types noted have been as on previous years, lighters carrying coal, etc., and these have no living or sleeping accommodation.

Common Lodging Houses.

Only 1 common lodging house remains in Bilston. The house is old but well maintained and inspections have revealed no contraventions of the Act.

The inhabitants are in the main permanent residents.

Caravans and Moveable Dwellings.

During the year 481 visits have been made to various sites in the Borough for the express purpose of moving caravans occupied by gypsies.

The sites available are slowly being eliminated and are now confined to three pieces of land where gypsies find it possible to draw on their caravans. These are Stowheath Lane, Loxdale Estate (adjoining the new industrial establishments recently erected), and the rear of the Dudley Street Tip which is no longer used for the disposal of refuse.

As can be judged from the number of visits that have been made, the removal of gypsies has had greater attention than in previous years and the problem of finding a satisfactory solution to this matter is far more acute than ever before.

Consideration has been given from time to time, to the provision of suitable fencing which will prevent gypsies drawing on to open land in the area, but it has been found to be exceedingly expensive to do this and, therefore, no provisions have been made for enclosing the remaining areas of open land upon which gypsies can park their caravans.

Various means have been explored in an endeavour to dissuade such people from coming into Bilston. The latest of which is a display of the available resources in the form of men and vehicles, in order to

tow off any vans where the owners do not make efforts themselves to move, but whilst such methods eventually prove successful, the gypsies will move to other sites and when moved from there, which they inevitably are, they return once again to the original side from which they were moved.

It is debatable as to whether the expenditure incurred in the process of moving gypsies from site after site is not in total more than the cost of a suitable fence to prevent them gaining access at any time.

There is no doubt that with a depleted staff of Inspectors, the routine work of the department which includes the essential work of meat inspection, is suffering considerably as a result of the ever-increasing time devoted to moving gypsies.

Rodent Control.

The number of complaints received during the year was 98, this being a decrease of 41 as compared with the previous year.

The number of inspections and re-inspections made for the purpose of treatment was 3,365 for domestic premises and 30 for shop and business premises. In addition to these inspections, 730 visits and inspections were made in the course of the twice yearly treatment of sewers in the town.

The work of treatment of sewers was carried out according to the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, as the work of rodent control ranks for grant aid.

The results of the two treatments of sewers are as follows :—

TABLE IV.

	1st	2nd	TEST BAIT
Number of manholes in system	797		
" " " treated	45	76	129
" " " showing infestation	24	41	—
" " " showing complete pre-bait take	—	—	—
Actual bodies seen	21	27	—
Estimated kill	200	100	—
Dates of treatments	March	Sept.	—

Once again the sewer infestations show according to the amount of pre-bait eaten, the amount of poison bait eaten and the actual dead rats seen, a decrease in the rat population in certain sections of the sewers in the town. Again it is the old sewers which are showing the greatest infestation of rats.

The Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is very satisfied with the methods adopted for the extermination of rats in this Borough.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Meat and Food Inspection.

The number of carcasses and organs of animals slaughtered and intended for human consumption during the year was 40,465. Of these 38,590 were slaughtered for the Ministry of Food and 1,875 were for Private Pigkeepers.

All these animals were pigs and no other types were slaughtered in this Borough.

Out of the total number of pigs slaughtered 7 were slaughtered and inspected on private pigkeepers premises with the permission of the local office of the Ministry of Food. The remainder were slaughtered at the three slaughterhouses approved by the Ministry of Food and ourselves for this purpose.

Very close liaison is kept with the local office of the Ministry of Food in this work, so that we are kept informed of all pigs slaughtered on private premises.

All carcasses and organs have been inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors employed in this department and the necessary condemnations have been made of unsound or diseased meat.

No specialisation by an individual Inspector is made or indeed possible, as the services of one Inspector full time is necessary at Downs slaughterhouse and another Inspector is necessary for inspection purposes on most afternoons in the week at Warren's slaughterhouse. The third slaughterhouse approved for the slaughter of pigs only requires the services of a Sanitary Inspector at occasional times on various days in the week according to the number of pigs that are detailed for slaughter at the premises.

The loss of one Inspector in November has made a great difference in the department, in that in order to make the necessary inspections at slaughterhouses the other essential work in the department has suffered during the latter months of the year and will show more so during the coming twelve months if an additional Inspector is not appointed.

It is interesting to note that the condemnations as shown in Table V are less than for the previous year, whilst the total number of animals killed and inspected has increased. The total number of carcasses condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis is 24 and the carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned for diseases other than Tuberculosis is 3,269, giving a total percentage of carcasses affected as 8.14. This is a reduction of practically 2% as compared with the previous year.

The total number of carcasses condemned for Tuberculosis is 50 and the carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned for Tuberculosis is 2,632 giving a total percentage of 6.63 which is again a reduction of approximately 6% upon the figure for the previous year.

Despite the increased number of animals killed and inspected, there is a welcome reduction over the whole year of the total carcasses condemned and of parts of carcasses which have been condemned either for Tuberculosis or for other diseases or conditions.

The total number of visits made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection was 853 and the number of visits and inspections made to shops, market stalls and other premises for the purpose of meat inspection was 270.

Details of carcasses inspected and of which the whole or some part was condemned are given as follows :—

TABLE V.

Carcases Inspected and Condemnations

	Cattle, excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	—	—	—	—	40465
Number Inspected	—	—	—	—	40465
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	24
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	3269
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	8.14
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	50
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	663
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	2.632

All condemned carcasses and portions of carcasses are placed in specially marked bins at the respective slaughterhouses and a daily collection when necessary is made by transport from the Cleansing Department. The meat is taken to Wolverhampton Abattoir and passed through their digester plant.

The diseases or conditions causing the condemnation of fresh meat or organs are given as follows :—

TABLE VI.

Diseases or conditions causing fresh meat and/or organs to be condemned as unfit for food (cwt. lbs.)

	PIGS										BEEF	TOTAL	
	Carcass and Organs	Heads and Collars	Lungs	Heart	Stomach and Intestines	Kidney	Liver	Spleen	Omentum	Udder			Parts of Carcass
Acute Swine Erysipelas	5 24												5 24
Abscesses		3			17		5				1 29½	10	2 50
Angioma							4						4
Ascaris Lumbricoides							4						4 52
Bacterial Necrosis							6						6
Blood Aspiration			1 107										1 107
Bruising											65		69½
Chronic Nephritis						8							8
Cirrhosis							5 91½						5 91½
Congestion			6										6
Cystic													11½
Cysticercus Tenicollis										3½			11½
Distomatosis							8						6
Echinococci							6						6 8½
Endocarditis			2½				6 3	1		1			6 8½
Fatty Degeneration				1									1
Fatty Infiltration							23						23
Haematoma							11½						11½
Hydronephrosis													21½
Infarcts						40½		2½					40½
Jaundice								9½					9½
Laceration													2 5
Lobar Pneumonia			1 13 90½										1 13 90½
Melanosis													4½

TABLE VI—continued

	PIGS											BEEF	TOTAL		
	Carcass and Organs	Heads and Collars	Lungs	Heart	Stomach and Intestines	Kidney	Liver	Spleen	Omentum	Udder	Parts of Carcass				
Moribund	1 8 76						13								1 8 76
Necrosis															13
Oesophagostomum Columbianum					14										14
Osteomyelitis				1 21½	2 47	½	5 20½	14			10				10
Pericarditis											25½				1 21½
Peritonitis															7 107
Petechiae															½
Pleurisy			4 30½				2								4 32½
Pyæmia	97														97
Pyelo Nephritis						14½									14½
Septicæmia	1 68														1 68
Strongylus Paradoxus			3 32												3 32
Torsion										2					2
T.B. Generalised	4 2 54														4 2 54
T.B. Localised		11 6 16	15 76		4 - 18½	3½	1 9 86	28½	12	25½	9 41				18 2 0½
Urticaria															1 57
Urticarial Erysipelas	1 30														1 30
	6 2 18	11 6 19	2 19 8½	1 22½	4 2 96½	68½	2 11 111½	58	16½	30	13 4½				10 27 18 15½

CARCASS AND ORGANS

Generalised T.B.	50
Acute Swine Erysipelas	3
Jaundice	1
Moribund	17
Pyæmia	1
Septicæmia	1
Urticarial Erysipelas	1
	74

All types of premises where food is sold, stored or prepared for sale have received careful supervision during the year and details of the inspections made of these different types of premises are shown in Table I.

With few exceptions, all premises have maintained a satisfactory standard.

Details of food examined, found to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered for destruction, are as follows:—

TABLE VII.

FOOD	Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.	REASON FOR CONDEMNATION
Biscuits			36½	Damaged in transit.
Beef Cubes			2	Damage by fire.
Bottled Goods			52	Unsaleable and excessive mould.
Cake			2	Mould.
			6	Damage by fire.
Cereals			40	" "
Cheese			56	Excessive mould.
Chitterlings		3	78½	Unsound.
Chocolate and Sugar			15	Damage by moisture.
Confectionery			3½	Rodent Contamination.
			2½	Damaged in transit.
			76	Damage by fire.
Cocoa			1½	" "
Dehydrated Onions			¼	" "
Dried Fruit			84	" "
Eggs			12	Broken.
Fish		2	28	Decomposition.
Flour			18	Damage by fire.
Fruit		5	—	Over ripe and unsound.
Ham			16	Decomposition.
Jelly			½	Rodent Contamination.
Pearl Barley			4	Damage by fire.
Sage & Onion Stuffing			2½	" "
Salt			16	" "
Sausage			12	Contamination.
Sugar			28	Damage by fire.
Tea			7	" "
Tinned Goods		18	78	Blown.
Whelks			70	Unsound.
	1	14	75¾	
Fresh Meat	27	18	15¾	See Table VI.
TOTAL	29	12	91½	

It has not been necessary to resort to the seizure of any food found to be unfit for human consumption, as all food found so unfit has been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed. All such unsound food is collected by special transport from the Cleansing Department and disposed of by the department.

It is pleasing to again report that tradespeople are aware of the danger of selling any food which is unfit or suspiciously so and they are anxious and very willing to seek the advice and opinions of an Inspector, should any food on their premises be in an unfit or suspicious condition.

The persons concerned readily accept the opinion of the Inspector and voluntarily surrender the food for destruction.

Slaughterhouses.

The slaughter of animals (pigs only) for human consumptions is still confined to the three slaughterhouses in the Borough, namely :—

J. E. Downs & Sons, Broad Street.
W. D. Warren, High Street.
Allman & Son, Oxford Street.

The centralising of the slaughter of pigs at three slaughterhouses does undoubtedly assist the work of meat inspection and enables 100% examination of all animals slaughtered to be maintained.

This was impossible before centralised slaughtering, particularly when there were fifteen slaughterhouses situated in various parts of the town all killing animals at the same time.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933.

16 slaughtermen have renewed their licences under the Act for the year.

Street Food Vendors.

Only five of the applicants for licences under the Bilston Corporation Act have vans which conform to our requirements and are, therefore, the only ones approved and licensed under the Act. Many of the remainder have commenced making the necessary improvements, but have not completed their vehicles during the year, despite advice and guidance from the Inspectors in the department.

Very great concern is felt with the two street vendors of wet fish, who regularly stand in certain streets adjoining the main shopping centre. No effort has been made by either of these men to bring their flat handcarts in conformity with the requirements under the Byelaws, despite repeated requests and warnings from the Health Department.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The main control of cowsheds and dairies still remains with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Milk Production Officers and processing plants are supervised by the County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority. No attempt has been made by the one processing plant in the Borough to conform to the requirements laid down by the County Sanitary Officer and, therefore, milk processing has not been carried on at these premises during the year. All milk sold by them has been purchased from approved dairies or cowsheds. There has been a slight improvement in the one cowshed in the Borough controlled by the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but the premises leave very much to be desired. We as a Local Authority are mainly concerned with the supervision of shops and retailers of milk, together with the issue of licences for this purpose, and the inspections made of such premises during the year have shown that a satisfactory standard has been maintained throughout.

The details of licences issued by this Local Authority are as follows :—

140 Dealers Licences (Sterilised).

8 Supplementary Dealers Licences, for Sterilised and Pasteurised Milk.

3 Dealers Licences (Tuberculin Tested).

7 Supplementary Dealers Licences for Tuberculin Tested Milk.

Ice-Cream.

There are 73 premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture or sale of ice-cream in the Borough. 69 of these premises retail ice-cream obtained from other producers.

Inspections of these premises during the year show that quite a few only sell ice-cream during the summer months and that during the year 7 have discontinued the sale of ice-cream altogether.

Of the 4 premises retailing ice-cream produced thereon, 3 use the cold mix method and the other which is a factory producing large amounts of ice-cream uses the heat treatment method.

During the year adequate supervision has been given to these premises, particularly the four producers, and 126 inspections have been made for this purpose.

A total of 79 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for examination to the Laboratory at Stafford.

A summary of the results is as follows :—

Bacteriological

Grade 1	.....	48
Grade 2	.....	23
Grade 3	.....	7
Grade 4	.....	1
		—
		79
		—

Fat Content

2 Samples Satisfactory

The results are very satisfactory and show that the ice-cream retailers are using on the whole great care in the handling and storage of this popular product.

Only 8 samples out of the 79 were unsatisfactory and in each case investigations were made into the cause of the unsatisfactory ice-cream, and by advice and warnings where necessary, each retailer had following up samples which proved satisfactory. It has been found that one of the many causes of Grade 3 or 4 samples is due to the proprietors switching off their refrigerators instead of allowing the thermostatic control to function and, therefore, keep the temperature at 28° F. or less are required by the Heat Treatment Regulations. The temptation for the proprietors in these cases that this is unnecessary during winter time is very strong, but it has been proved that refrigerators should be kept on continuously and allowed to function as they are intended by the use of the thermostatic control which is part of the refrigerator.

In addition to the samples of ice-cream taken by us, we have received copies of results of samples taken by adjoining Authorities from the large producer in Bilston who supplies retailers in other areas. All the results of samples so taken by other Authorities have been satisfactory.

Bakehouses, Fried Fish Shops, Food Preparing Premises, etc.

Regular and routine inspections of all types of food premises have been maintained during the year.

28 visits were made to bakehouses, and it must be stated that some of these premises are old and the proprietors have difficulty in maintaining satisfactory standards therein.

Once again it can be reported that more and more bakers are selling wrapped bread which is untouched by hand and proves much more hygienic than the normal unwrapped bread. It has also been found that many of the larger bakeries in addition to wrapping loaves also slice them before the bread is wrapped. This practice is a great convenience to householders and is a great time saving factor in houses where the husband and wife are both at work. In addition, the slicing of loaves in this manner does prevent a great deal of waste.

There are obviously mixed opinions still prevalent about the advantages of wrapped bread, but in my opinion the disadvantages, if any, are very small and are greatly outweighed by the many advantages from such a commodity, and the slight extra cost is well worth while.

The standard maintained in the other food preparing premises such as catering establishments, fried fish shops and etc., has been satisfactory, and 130 inspections of these premises have been made during the year.

The Market has been visited regularly and particular attention has been given to the food stalls therein. I can only repeat that many of the stalls used for the sale of food leave much to be desired, and extensive alterations to such stalls are long overdue.

This matter has been considered by the Corporation but as yet nothing definite has transpired.

Food Sampling.

The sampling of milk and food under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, is undertaken by the Sampling Officer of the County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority under the Act.

The following details of samples taken during the year in Bilston were supplied by Dr. G. Ramage, County Medical Officer of Health.

Milk

T.T. Certified Milk	.....	.....	.....	6
T.T. Pasteurised Milk	.....	.....	.....	10
Pasteurised Milk	.....	.....	.....	14
Sterilised Milk	.....	.....	.....	20
				—
		TOTAL	.....	50 All Genuine.
				—

General Foods

Number of Samples taken	.....	.....	18
Number of Samples Genuine	.....	.....	15
Number of Samples Adulterated	.....	.....	3

Classification of General Foods.

Tomato Ketchup (2 samples).	Processed Cheese.
Soft Process Cheese Spread.	Coffee and Chicory Essence.
Cod Roes.	Luncheon Meat.
Malt Vinegar.	Tea Cake, Sweetened Mixture.
Beans in Tomato Sauce (2 samples).	Beef Sausage.
Cakeoma	Pork Sausage.
Pilchards in Tomato Sauce.	Bananas in light syrup.
Lobster.	Dutch Cheese.

Particulars of Adulterated Samples.

Tomato Ketchup (Formal Sample) Contains an undeclared preservative. Foreign produce. No action possible.

Soft Process Cheese Spread (Formal Sample) Contains 23.5% excess moisture and is 2.9% deficient in fat. Taken up with Ministry of Food.

Pork Sausage (Formal Sample) 13.7% deficient of its proper proportion of meat. Repeat samples (3) all genuine.

The sampling of milk under the Milk and Dairies Act is also undertaken by the Sampling Officer of the County Health Department, and the following is a summary of the samples taken by that Officer during the year, giving details of the various tests required under the Act and the results thereof.

	No. of Samples Taken	Phosphatase		Turbidity		Phenol Phthalein		Methylene Blue	
		Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
T.T.	7	2	-	-	-	-	-	4	1
Certified	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
T.T. Pasteurised	6	6	-	-	-	6	-	5	1
Sterilised	10	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised	7	7	-	-	-	7	-	7	-
	32	15	-	10	-	13	-	18	2

Factories Act 1937.

The following tables give details of inspections made and action taken in connection with the Factories Act 1937.

TABLE VIII.

Part 1 of the Act

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	10	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	147	27	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	19	3	—	—
TOTAL	182	40	3	—

TABLE IX.

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	4	4	—	1	—
TOTAL	9	9	—	3	—

TABLE X.

Part VIII of the Act

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110				Section 111	
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel { Making, etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen { Cleaning and washing						
Lace, lace curtains and nets						
Curtains and furniture hangings						
Furniture and upholstery						
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel anchors and grapnels						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						

TABLE X.—*continued.*

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	7	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	8	—	—	—	—	—

Atmospheric Pollution.

All instruments as listed in the Annual Report for 1951 for the measurement of atmospheric pollution have been in operation throughout the year.

The results are submitted to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research for collation by them as we co-operate with them in this work.

A further Deposit Gauge for the measurement of all forms of deposited matter from the atmosphere has been ordered, but due to difficulties in the supply position has not yet been received.

The preparation of materials and the analyses necessary for submission to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research has again been carried out by Mr. L. Starbuck and his staff with the permission of Messrs. Stewarts & Lloyds Ltd.

Records of atmospheric pollution by these approved methods have now been taken in Bilston since 1944 and a sufficient length of time has elapsed to enable some judgment as to the increase or decrease of pollution to be made.

The records show that there is a definite tendency towards a reduction in the amount of pollution that is discharged into the atmosphere from all sources.

Whether this is due to improved methods of burning fuel, improved fuel burning appliances, increased interest amongst the general public in the elimination of atmospheric pollution or whether it is a general shortage of fuel which has caused this reduction it is difficult to state. Personally, I feel that all the suggestions made are responsible in some measure for this reduction.

There is no doubt that industrialists as a whole are keen to eliminate waste in the form of fuel and to them smoking chimneys no longer mean prosperity. The old adage 'where there's muck there's money' is now a thing of the past and it is understood that a smoking chimney means wasted money and efforts are made to eliminate this waste in the interests of economy.

In the process of eliminating this waste the atmosphere is also benefiting by the reduced discharge in the form of smoke, soot and other impurities.

Whilst, therefore, industrialists are not solely concerned with the elimination of pollution for pollutions sake, they are undoubtedly contributing to that end by eliminating waste in the form of smoke that in the past issued so freely from their chimneys.

Whether or not the domestic output of smoke is being similarly reduced it is difficult to assess.

All newly built Council houses in Bilston are fitted with fuel burning appliances which are known to burn smokeless fuel efficiently, but it is doubtful as to whether occupants burn smokeless fuels in these grates. It is true that one of the chief difficulties is their inability to obtain satisfactory supplies of such fuel and there is an undoubted need for the production of more of this fuel.

The number of Authorities operating instruments for the measurement of pollution in collaboration with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research is repeatedly increasing year by year and this proves the increasing interest of Local Authorities in this problem and their intentions to eliminate wherever possible this great nuisance.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The work covered by this section is for the financial year 1st April 1951 to the 31st March 1952.

The public cleansing services have been maintained with difficulty during this period.

The reasons for this difficulty are once again absence of employees due to illness and a general difficulty to engage men who will stay in the department for any continuous period.

Refuse Collection.

The transport used for the collection of refuse is the same as given in the Annual Report for the previous year.

We have not taken delivery of the third of the 11 cubic yard Shelvoke and Drury Refuse Collection Vehicles ordered some years ago, as a new type 16/18 cubic yard Fore and Aft Tipper manufactured by the same firm was to be demonstrated with a view to having this new type in lieu of the old side loading vehicles.

One horse and cart has still been retained, principally because it has been well nigh impossible to empty certain receptacles in the nature of cesspools and privy middens attached to remote properties in the town which cannot be reached by mechanical transport. Certain of these premises are being eliminated by slum clearance, and the horse and cart engaged in the emptying of the remainder is also used on street sweeping in various parts of the town.

The weight of refuse has increased during this past year, and it has been noted that although fuel restriction still applies, many householders are using other types of un-rationed fuel, the residue from which is extremely heavy and accounts in part for the extra refuse collected this last year.

At the same time it has been noted that whilst the number of premises according to the rate books is approximately 8,700, the bin checks taken twice yearly show that the actual number of bins emptied from these premises is in the region of 9,400 and, therefore, shows that in many cases there is more than one bin at each house. In addition to this there is an additional amount of refuse which has to be collected week by week in excess of the amount stored in the ashbin. To remove this refuse the bin man must return with the empty bin when unloaded into the vehicle and shovel the extra refuse into the bin and then empty that into the refuse vehicle.

In addition to the extra refuse, this means a longer time taken in the actual collection of refuse. This type of refuse is termed a 'pick up' and it has been found that the number of 'pick ups' dealt with on an average each week is in the region of 500.

This will also account for the increased refuse that has been collected.

TABLE XI.

Details of Refuse Collection.

HOUSE REFUSE—DRY

	Receptacles Emptied	Loads Removed	Estimated Tonnage
Motors	426,040	4,421	9,558
Carts	17,050	822	609
	443,090	5,243	10,167

HOUSE REFUSE—WET

Motors	60	2	3
Carts	2,884	166	125
TOTALS	446,034	5,411	10,295

MISCELLANEOUS REFUSE REMOVED

	Covering for Tips		Trade Refuse		Cess- pools		Waste Paper		Kitchen Waste		Condem- ned Food		Total	
	Lds.	Tns.	Lds.	Tns.	Lds.	Tns.	Lds.	Tns.	Lds.	Tns.	Lds.	Tns.	Lds.	Tns.
Motors	58	96	16	13	1437	4311	1096	177	254	281	141	33	3002	5911

STREET CLEANSING

Street Gullies

	Cleansed	Loads	Tons
Mechanical	4,160	129	387

Street Sweeping

	Mileage	Loads	Tonnage	Water Used (Galls.)
Mechanical	3,505 (Actual)	547	416	27,460
Manual—Team with Cart	3,016 (Estimated)	568	428	
Street Orderlies	3,909 (Estimated)	4,276	298	
TOTALS	9,430	5,391	1,142	27,460

Street Cleansing.

Once again it has to be reported that the strength of the men engaged on this work is grossly inadequate. A further street orderly has left the department due to inability to continue work owing to age, and this has left a total of five street orderlies now in operation, together with a horse and cart with four labourers, and a Mechanical Sweeper.

It still has been impossible to recruit suitable labour to do this work.

Whilst it is obviously impossible to cope with the present mileages of streets in the Borough efficiently with the labour force available, every effort has been made to deal with all streets as efficiently as possible under the circumstances.

Gully Cleansing and Cesspool Emptying.

The Shelvoke and Drury Gully Emptier has been in service in the emptying and cleansing of street gullies during the year, except for certain periods when due to illness of the driver of the Dennis Gully Emptier engaged in cesspool emptying, it has been necessary to transfer the Shelvoke and Drury machine on to that work.

Every street gully has received systematic cleansing and every gully has worked efficiently as proved during heavy rainstorms when roads have been flooded.

The Dennis Gully Emptier has been engaged in the emptying of cesspools and consideration was given during the year to the remaining cesspools which have to be emptied so regularly week by week at Thompson Brothers, Great Bridge Road. An undertaking was received from this firm to the effect that the remaining cesspools would be abolished by October 1952.

Salvage.

The direction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to collect kitchen waste has remained in force during the year.

The collection of waste paper of all descriptions has continued and despite a further reduction in the amount actually collected, the income therefrom shows a considerable increase.

This increase was brought about by the extreme shortage of paper at the mills. In order to encourage Local Authorities to collect paper, the prices paid for the various grades increased fantastically. This resulted in all types of organisations commencing collection as it was so profitable to collect paper and sell it in order to raise funds.

Once stocks of paper at the mills have improved to such an extent that prices once again fall to more normal levels, such private collectors will once again cease and the Local Authority will then be requested to undertake collection.

The system of collection has remained as it was during the previous year.

Details of the amounts collected and the income therefrom are shown in Table XII.

The collection of kitchen waste has continued throughout the year and each new Council house occupied has been supplied with a covered bucket for the reception and storage of kitchen waste.

Separate collections of this material are maintained and it will be noted that there is a slight increase in the amount collected during the year.

We have been experiencing considerable difficulty from time to time during the year with the number of unauthorised collectors of kitchen waste in the Borough.

TABLE XII.

MATERIALS	1951-52			1950-51			1949-50			1948-49			1947-48		
	WEIGHT		VALUE	WEIGHT		VALUE	WEIGHT		VALUE	WEIGHT		VALUE	WEIGHT		VALUE
	Tons	Cwts.	£	Tons	Cwts.	£	Tons	Cwts.	£	Tons	Cwts.	£	Tons	Cwts.	£
Paper	176	9	2,740	182	2	1,289	202	—	1,185	155	—	1,040	129	—	874
Kitchen Waste	281	6	927	277	11	857	284	—	869	263	—	624	255	—	566
Metals	1	13	4	1	6	11	2	10	9	10	—	33	8	—	18
Bottles, Jars and Cullet	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34	—	277	20	—	131
Textiles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	13	5	—	26	—	—	—
Bones	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	12	3
			3,671			2,157			2,076			2,001			1,582

Refuse Disposal.

Disposal is by controlled tipping carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Health requirements, and it is pleasing to report that since the angledozer was purchased and put into operation on the tip, the disposal of refuse has been considerably improved, in that industrial refuse of a suitable nature has been used as covering to the ordinary house and trade refuse. The angledozer has been able to cope with both house and industrial refuse very easily and efficiently on the tip and the use of industrial refuse as covering and the consolidation of the tip by the movement of the angledozer in the process of levelling has been of great value.

It has been possible to dispense with tipping plates and allow the vehicles to discharge their loads near to the tip edge on a solid foundation of refuse and thence to be quickly and easily levelled by the angledozer.

As a result of renewed appeals to industrialists and a drive to prevent indiscriminate tipping, it has been noted that all such industrialists who engage transport contractors to remove their refuse are now using the tip without trouble to the vehicles, and are readily delivering their refuse for proper disposal.

As much of this material as possible is used for covering the house and trade refuse, and in consequence of the additional industrial refuse dealt with a considerable area of land has been reclaimed on the Loxdale Estate during the year.

With the use of this new machine it has been possible to reduce the number of employees engaged on the tip to two, including the driver of the machine, and it is anticipated that in the near future it will be possible to reduce this further so that the driver of the machine is the only employee engaged on the work of refuse disposal.

Details of Refuse disposed of are as follows :—

TABLE XIII.

LUNT AND LOXDALE TIP (ESTIMATED WEIGHTS)

	Cleansing Department		Tradespeople and Others		Total	
	Loads	Tons	Loads	Tons	Loads	Tons
House Refuse—Dry	5,243	10,167	—	—	5,243	10,167
Trade Refuse	16	13	172	86	188	99
Coverings & Sweepings	3,595	1,081	—	—	3,595	1,091
Gully Sludge	129	387	—	—	129	387
Industrial Refuse	—	—	1,963	8,775	1,963	8,775
Miscellaneous	—	—	605	605	605	605
TOTALS	8,983	11,648	2,740	9,466	11,723	21,114

OTHER TIPS—DUDLEY STREET

Sweepings (Street Orderlies)	713	49
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CLEANSING DEPOT

Sweepings (Mechanical Sweeper and Orderly)	547	416
	713	49
TOTALS	1,260	465

SEWAGE WORKS—SEWER INLET

Cesspools	1,325	4,515
Wet Refuse	147	118
TOTALS	1,472	4,633

GRAND TOTAL—REFUSE DISPOSED

Cleansing Department	12,428	16,795
Others	2,740	9,466
	15,168	26,261

TABLE XIV.

Refuse Collection and Disposal Costs.

House and Trade Refuse

	COLLECTION	DISPOSAL	TOTAL
	£	£	£
Gross Expenditure	12,221	2,475	14,696
Gross Income	173	32	205
Net Cost	12,048	2,443	14,491
Unit Costs.	s. d.	s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross Expenditure per ton	23 8.9	4 8.9	28 5.8
Gross Income per ton	4.0	0.7	4.7
Net Cost per ton	23 4.9	4 8.2	28 1.1
Net Cost per 1,000 population	£ s. d. 360 1 5	£ s. d. 73 2 10	£ s. d. 433 4 3
Net Cost per 1,000 premises from which refuse is collected	£ s. d. 1348 9 11	£ s. d. 280 16 1	£ s. d. 1665 6 0
Rate Poundage.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Net Cost equivalent rate in the £	1 9.1	4.3	2 1.4
Percentage of above to total rates in the £	8.8%	1.8%	10.6%

Total Refuse Collected (tons) estimated on test weighings	10,295
Population—estimated	33,420
Number of houses and premises from which refuse is collected	8,727
Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day	16.3
Rateable Value—31st December, 1951	£149,264
Product of 1d. Rate	£590
Total Rates in the £	20/-d.
Method of Collection :	
Horse Drawn Vehicles	1
Motor Vehicles (petrol)	4
Method of Disposal :	
Controlled Tipping	100%
Average length of travel to point of disposal	2 miles
Number of employees (other than Clerical)	
	<i>Collection</i> <i>Disposal</i>
Foreman	1
Inspector	1
Others	26 2
Frequency of Collections	Weekly

Cleansing Depot.

The modernisation of the depot as reported last year is completed except for the re-laying of the front yard and for the making of an access road to the yard at the rear.

On the whole, the employees appreciate the facilities provided for them, and although criticisms have been made of the expense of maintaining such a department, it is felt that the employees are entitled to such facilities as they now enjoy.

The Corporation, as good employers of labour, should provide reasonably good facilities for their employees as an example to others, and indeed the type of work which the employees have to undertake in the department makes it doubly necessary that they should have proper facilities in the nature of a canteen, washing and clothes storage accommodation available to them.

Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance Depot.

The repair and maintenance of vehicles has continued during the year although not as efficiently as possible due to lack of co-operation in various ways.

Consideration has been given to instituting a more definite form of maintenance routine for all vehicles, so that the mechanics can have greater control over all the vehicles of the Corporation, and at the same time guarantee that the vehicles themselves are in as good a condition and as roadworthy as it is possible to make them.

This scheme had not been put into operation at the end of the year, but considerable preparatory work had been done on this project.



