

[Report 1950] / Medical Officer of Health, Brierley Hill U.D.C.

Contributors

Brierley Hill (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1950

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REPORT

on the Works of the

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for 1950.

J. H. DONNELLY,
Medical Officer of Health.

H. J. PARKER,
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BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council :

Councillor T. Wells, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor S. Woodhouse.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

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Vice-Chairman : Councillor S. Wood.

Councillors G. I. Batten.

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„ W. Homer.

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„ A. Tipper.

„ J. A. Tipton.

„ T. Wells, J.P. (ex-officio).

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health :

J. H. Donnelly, T.D., L.R.C.S.(Ed.), L.R.C.P.(Ed.), L.R.F.P. & S.(Glas.),
D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

* H. J. Parker, M.S.I.A., Cert.R.S.I., M.Inst.P.C.

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector :

* C. H. Crawford, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

* R. F. M. Saunders, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

* J. A. Clifford, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

* H. P. Grayshon, M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B., M.R.S.I.

Veterinary Surgeons :

D. J. Anthony, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., F.R.Sn.I.

D. Howie, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

Analyst :

A. Houlbrooke, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., County Buildings, Stafford.

Clerical Staff :

F. L. Bills, Chief Clerk ; L. Evans ; F. Hickman ; Mrs. J. Davies ; Miss
L. Smith.

* Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.

BRIERLEY HILL URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
For the year 1950.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BRIERLEY HILL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for 1950, which while reflecting on the work of your Public Health Department, gives a statistical review of the various diseases encountered during the period.

Housing.

In my report of 1949 I referred to the shortage of houses, and to the trials and tribulations daily endured by many families in this District. Some progress has been made, and as a result many people have had better home conditions provided.

The policy of the Council is to allocate houses on a points system in order to relieve the worst cases and ensure that they have suitable accommodation, and in this respect I find the greatest difficulty in assessing some of the cases which come to my notice for allocation of extra points on medical grounds, as, in many of these, the conditions reported are capable of amelioration and do not, in themselves, warrant rehousing. It is often the case, however, that the known disease in a member of the family is of much less importance than the disquiet inflicted on the household by the bickering of in-laws.

Rehousing from unfit houses is essential and must be carried out to capacity, while the rehousing of those tuberculous cases where isolation cannot be effected will continue to absorb many of the available new houses.

There is much leeway to be made up as is evidenced by the number of long standing applications for rehousing outside the above-mentioned categories, and in common with all parts of the country the need is houses, and more houses.

Tuberculosis.

55 notifications were received as compared with 63 in 1949, and deaths were 21 as against 41 in 1949. There is evidence that with modern treatment complete recovery of some tubercular patients can be expected. Mass radiography and scientific tests have been carried out on a large scale and by this means early symptoms of the disease are recognised in people who previously had no clinical signs of the disease. The use of specific medication on a much greater scale, combined with early recognition and isolation, will pay substantial dividends. Results are gratifying, but never-the-less much remains to be done to stay the spread of this disease.

It is true that sanatoria treatment should be available to the person likely to recover rather than the longstanding case in whom recovery is unlikely, but it must be borne in mind that the latter is the one, in these days of housing problems, which is causing the great problem by the potential risks of infecting others.

Poliomyelitis.

Poliomyelitis, because of its dramatic onset and its permanent crippling sequelae, has aroused the interest of medical research in all parts of the World and disturbed the public conscience.

Medical research in Experimental Transmission of this disease to lower animals has revealed that protective substances are produced in the blood which offer some degree of protection. Much research is going on, and it is hoped to produce a method of protection akin to those practised for diphtheria and typhoid, by inoculation or vaccination. This may be a safeguard against the crippling effect that this disease is capable of producing.

The practicable difficulties associated with Poliomyelitis, both in diagnosis and treatment, are many. The family doctor is the first to face the problem, and invariably refers his patient to hospital immediately, as in many cases it may be several days before a final diagnosis can be made. The doctor is acting in the best interests of the community by his action even if his suspicions are not confirmed.

The large number of "missed" cases, that is, those suffering from the disease and showing no evidence but capable of infecting others; the free mobility on all types of transport causing transfer of the disease from one part of the country to another; the long incubation period, *i.e.*, the time from when the infection is transmitted until signs and symptoms appear, which may be from six to twenty days, making the tracing of contacts and the investigation of all cases protracted and sometimes an impossible task.

At the moment continual vigilance and hospital isolation of all suspected cases, tracing of all contacts and referring them to their own doctors for supervision, is carried out as first-line defence in the control of this disease.

Infantile Mortality.

The death rate of children under one year falls below that of the whole country for the second time since the formation of your present District. 19 infant deaths occurred as against 34 the previous year and 49 for 1948.

It would appear that the higher standard of education and the acceptance of facilities available for expectant mothers is reducing the invalidism of the very young and increasing their prospects of survival.

Clean Food.

The model Bye-Laws of the Ministry of Food in relation to the handling, wrapping and care of food, were hailed at first by the trades concerned as another source of unnecessary interference. Gradually, however, those engaged in the processing and the handling of food realised the importance of these enactments, so much so, that the Department took stall space at the Exhibition organised by the Brierley Hill Manufacturers and Traders Association to

display the common sources of food contamination. Much interest was taken by the Public at large, and from the number of questions asked and enquiries made it was evident that the Public were eager to accept more up-to-date methods, and the scientific advances in the preparation, storage, and handling of food.

I am convinced that such displays have a great value in making the Public conscious of this important aspect of the care of food in all its stages of preparation, storage, and distribution. There is no doubt that the Public get only what they demand, and if they demand clean food, then the Traders and others will be put on their metal, and those responsible for the handling of food will steadily improve their methods. The result will be rapidly broadcast and in time the elimination of food poisoning will be ensured.

To members of the Council, Mr. Parker, Officers, and the Staff of the Department I wish to express appreciation for their willing co-operation.

J. H. DONNELLY,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics.

Registrar-General's estimate of population (mid 1950)	...	...	48,900
Area (in acres)	...	...	5,932
Rateable Value (1st April, 1950)	...	...	£190,383
Sum represented by a Penny Rate 1950/51	...	...	£746

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1950.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Live Births :	Legitimate ...	757	367	390
	Illegitimate	12	10	2
	Total ...	769	377	392

Birth Rate per 1,000 population : 15.72.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Still Births :	Legitimate ...	16	10	6
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
	Total ...	16	10	6

Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births : 20.38.

Area Comparability Factor : 0.97.

Standardised Birth Rate : 19.76.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Deaths	...	570	328	242

Death Rate per 1,000 population : 11.65.

Area Comparability Factor : 1.14.

Standardised Death Rate : 13.28.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	19	24.71
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate Births	...	19	25.09
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate Births	...	Nil	00.00

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	89
Deaths from Tuberculosis	...	...	...	21

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS.**Births.**

The Birth Rate of 15.72 compares with that of 16.58 for 1949. It is lower than the rates for England and Wales and the 148 towns of a comparable size whose rates are 15.8 and 16.7 respectively.

Deaths.

The Death Rate of 11.65 is higher than that of 11.61 for 1949, there being seven more deaths. The rate compares with 11.6 both for the whole country and for the smaller towns.

The most frequent causes of death were Heart Disease, Cancer, Intracranial Vascular Lesions, Bronchitis and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. These categories included 372 deaths.

Natural Increase of Population.

The number of Births exceeded the number of Deaths by 199.

Infantile Mortality.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 24.71 per 1,000 live births compares with 29.0 for England and Wales and 29.4 for the towns of comparable size. As the rate for 1949 was 42.28 a notable and very welcome decrease is recorded.

Maternal Mortality.

The following is a Table representing the Maternal Mortality for the years 1941 to 1950 :—

Rate per 1,000 live births :

1941	...	3.91	1946	...	1.04
1942	...	5.66	1947	...	Nil
1943	...	4.28	1948	...	2.16
1944	...	2.21	1949	...	2.59
1945	...	2.26	1950	...	Nil

It will be seen that there has been a steady decline in Maternal Mortality the decrease is more marked in the second five-year period. This is brought about by increased ante-natal care, more specific remedies for the various infections, and better hospital services.

**CAUSES OF DEATH.
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S RETURN.**

TABLE II.

Diseases.	1950.		Total.
	Male.	Female.	
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	9	8	17
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	3	4
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	1	3
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	1
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	—	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	4	12
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	12	—	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	8	9
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	38	18	56
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	3
Diabetes	3	4	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system	36	42	78
Coronary disease, angina	24	9	33
Hypertension with heart disease	5	4	9
Other heart disease	41	36	77
Other circulatory disease	10	7	17
Influenza	10	5	15
Pneumonia	9	7	16
Bronchitis	34	14	48
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	2	5
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	—	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	4	2	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	43	57	100
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	1	8
All other accidents	9	5	14
Suicide	3	3	6
Homicide and operations of War	1	—	1
All causes	328	242	570

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1950. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

TABLE III.

	England and Wales.	126 C.B's. and great towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000—50,000 1931 Census	London Adm. County.	Brierley Hill.
	Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.				
Births.					
Live Births ...	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	15.72
Still Births ...	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.33
Deaths.					
All causes ...	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	11.65
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.06
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ...	0.36	0.42	0.33	0.39	0.43
Influenza ...	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.31
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis including Polioencephalitis	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Pneumonia ...	0.46	0.49	0.45	0.48	0.33

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1950. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

TABLE III—*continued.*

*(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

	England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s. and great towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000—50,000 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.	Brierley Hill.
Notifications (Corrected)					
Typhoid Fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal infection ...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	1.50	1.56	1.61	1.23	0.65
Whooping Cough	3.60	3.97	3.15	3.21	4.46
Diphtheria ...	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.04
Erysipelas ...	0.17	0.19	0.16	0.17	0.10
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Measles ...	8.39	8.76	8.36	6.57	2.09
Pneumonia ...	0.70	0.77	0.61	0.50	0.40
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic... ...	0.13	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.20
Non-paralytic ...	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.18
Food Poisoning	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.25	0.00
Deaths.	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
All causes under 1 year of age ...	*29.8(a)	33.8	29.4	26.3	24.71
Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	1.9	2.2	1.6	1.0	1.3
Notifications (Corrected)	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births).				
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ...	5.81	7.43	4.33	6.03	0.00

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1950. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

TABLE III—*continued.***Maternal Mortality.**

International List No. and Cause.	England and Wales.		Brierley Hill.
	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.	Rates per million women aged 15-44.	
651. Abortion with sepsis	0.09	7	0.00
650, 652. Other Abortion	0.05	4	0.00
640-649, 670-678. Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0.54	—	—
681. Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0.03	—	0.00
680, 682-689. Other complications of the puerperium	0.15	—	0.00

SECTION B.**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.**

The County Council through its Area Medical Officer is responsible for the administration of the following health services:—

- Health Centres.
- Care of Mothers and young children.
- Midwifery.
- Health Visiting.
- Home Nursing.
- Prevention of illness, care and after care.
- Domestic Help.
- Vaccination and Immunisation.
- Ambulance Service.
- Mental Health Service.

The close liaison between this Department and the Area Health Office was maintained.

Hospitals.

Administration of Hospitals and Specialist Services is the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

The Hospitals serving the district are as follows :—

Wordsley Hospital, Brierley Hill.
 Guest Hospital, Dudley.
 Corbett Hospital, Amblecote.

Other hospitals within easy reach are those of Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

Cases of infectious disease are referred to Isolation Hospitals, *i.e.*, Moxley Hospital Wednesbury, and Stallings Lane Hospital, Kingswinford.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

There are no Nursing Homes in the area. Maternity cases are admitted to Wordsley Hospital, and to the Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home at Dudley.

Tuberculosis.

Sanatoria are provided at Kinver, Groundslow, Prestwood and Himley. Cases of surgical Tuberculosis are treated at Standon Hall and The Woodlands. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton.

Post Mortem Room.

Twenty-two bodies were admitted to the Post Mortem Room during the year. The causes of death were as follows :—

Natural Causes	...	...	16
Misadventure	...	...	1
Suicide	.....	...	2
Accident	...	...	3

Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service continues to deal with the pathological and bacteriological specimens sent for this area.

The chemical analysis of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the County Analyst who acts for the Urban District.

Ambulance Services.

Facilities for the transport of sick and accident cases from the district are provided by the County Council's Ambulance Station situated within the Urban District. The service is adequate for the needs of the district. The approximate number of residents conveyed to and from hospitals was 11,855; this represents patient-journeys as distinct from individual patients.

National Assistance Act.

No action was required under Section 47 of this act which provides for compulsory removal to hospital of those unable to look after themselves.

SECTION C.
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The District is served by two Companies. The Stourbridge and District Water Board supply 2,070 houses at Wordsley, while the rest of the area is served by the South Staffordshire Water Board. In both cases the supply comes from deep wells and bore holes in the New Red Sandstone to depths varying from 200 to 500 feet. The water is examined regularly and has continued to be of a high standard of purity.

The following are typical analyses :—

THE SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATER BOARD.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after 48 hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent.	... ..	Nil per 100 M.L.
<i>Analysis.</i>		<i>Parts per 100,00.</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212 deg. F.	... ..	27.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	... ..	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	... ..	Nil.
Nitric Nitrogen	... ..	0.31
Chlorine	... ..	3.7
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	... ..	Nil.
Appearance	... ..	Clear.
Metallic Contamination	... ..	Extremely minute trace of Iron.
pH Value	... ..	7.2
Hardness before boiling	... ..	12.2 deg.
Hardness after boiling	... ..	6.6 deg.
Temporary Hardness	... ..	5.6 deg.

STOURBRIDGE AND DISTRICT WATER BOARD.

Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive coli) after 48 hours incubation at 37 deg. Cent.	... ..	Nil per 100 M.L.
<i>Analysis.</i>		<i>Parts per 100,00.</i>
Total Solid Matter dried at 212 deg. F.	... ..	29.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	... ..	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	... ..	0.0024
Nitric Nitrogen	... ..	0.71
Chlorine	... ..	2.8
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	... ..	0.004
Appearance	... ..	Extremely minute trace of suspended matter.
Injurious Metallic Contamination	... ..	None.
pH Value	... ..	7.4
Hardness before boiling	... ..	14.6 deg.
Hardness after boiling	... ..	8.6 deg.
Temporary Hardness	... ..	6.0 deg.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The Surveyor states that no developments of note have occurred during the year.

Public Cleansing.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also the Cleansing Superintendent. A report on the work will be found in his report.

SECTION D.**HOUSING.**

The Architect and Housing Director has kindly supplied the following information for the year ended 30th April, 1951 :—

During the year, the national programme of building works has again been reduced owing to curtailment of national expenditure, and this has been reflected in housing allocations generally.

192 permanent traditional dwellings have been completed during the year, and the total of post-war dwellings completed is now as follows :—

- 848 permanent traditional.
- 40 permanent non-traditional.
- 124 temporary non-traditional.

During the period 45 families have been re-housed from unfit houses. On the Housing Management side of the Department, there have been :

- 195 New dwellings tenanted.
- 88 Houses vacated and re-occupied.
- 146 Transfers of Tenancy.
- 79 Tenants transferred to more suitable accommodation.
- 45 Mutual Exchange of Tenancy.

SECTION E.**INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.****Milk and Other Foodstuffs.**

Sampling was undertaken throughout the year by the Sanitary Inspectors. Particulars of results will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Meat.

Meat inspection occupied a great deal of the time of the Inspectors. Details are given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Two Veterinary Officers are employed by the Council to inspect meat at a large meat factory in the area.

The Chief Veterinary Officer reports as follows :—

I have the honour to present this Report of the work of the veterinary surgeons for the year 1950.

There has been a slight decrease in the number of sheep slaughtered, as compared with the year 1949, but cattle, calves, and pigs all show an increase, thus making a substantial rise in the total number of animals dealt with, and comparing very favourably with any pre-war year. The tables and lists following show the diseases found in the various animals examined, their percentage in order of regularity, as well as other information.

The high incidence of tuberculosis found in the cattle slaughtered is due largely to the proportion of aged cows providing the lower grades of beef. Animal parasites still are the main cause of the condemnations of livers and organs in both cattle and sheep, whilst pneumonia with pleurisy heads the list of diseases found in pigs. Warmth and freedom from draught is essential for the healthy rearing of the pig, and that fact is not appreciated as it ought to be in this country. Other animals have a comparatively warmer covering of hair over their bodies, apart from any subcutaneous fat to assist the body-heat mechanism.

The following tables illustrate the work done :—

MEAT SEIZED.

PIGS.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads.	Lungs.	Hearts.	Livers.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys	Intestines.	Other parts.
Tuberculosis ...	182	6018	3247	3247	3247	1027	499	374	5765	281 Forequarters 1 Hindquarter
Strongylosis ...	—	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, &c. ...	11	11	21888	11	11	11	11	22	11	12 Forequarters
Pericarditis... ..	—	—	—	2671	—	—	—	—	—	—
Endocarditis ...	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis ...	—	—	—	—	3863	—	—	—	—	—
Hepatitis ...	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration ...	—	—	—	—	1608	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangiomata ...	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ...	—	—	115	74	261	—	42	—	2	42 Omentum
Peritonitis ...	17	17	17	17	5973	652	502	34	1519	—
Hydronephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6890	—	—
Nephritis ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	7 Forequarters
Pyæmia ...	7	14	7	7	8	7	7	14	7	18 Hindquarters
Empyæma ...	12	12	45	45	16	12	12	24	12	65 Forequarters
Swine Erysipelas ...	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	72	36	—
Paratyphoid ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	—
Septicæmia ...	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	26	13	—
Variola ...	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	26	13	—
Enteritis ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	33	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	5 Forequarters
Fractures ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10 Hindquarters 1 Shank

PIGS—continued.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads.	Lungs.	Hearts.	Livers.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys	Intestines.	Other Parts.
Ascariides ...	—	4	—	4	6	—	4	—	—	—
Toxaemia ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	8	4	—
Fascioliasis ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice ...	12	12	12	12	12	—	12	24	12	—
Oedema ...	2	2	2	2	2	—	2	4	2	—
Hernia ...	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	3	—
Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Forequarters 1 Hindquarter
Bruising ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8 Shanks
Contamination ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Hindquarter
Melanosis ...	3	3	3	3	3	—	3	6	3	2 Forequarters
Carcinomata ...	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	1	—
Transit Erythema ...	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	1	—
Congestion ...	—	—	2082	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Forequarters
Pigmentation ...	25	25	25	25	25	—	25	50	25	—
Lympho-sarcoma ...	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	1	—
Rachitis ...	1	1	1	1	1	—	1	2	1	—
Gangrene ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Died in lairage ...	13	13	13	13	13	—	13	26	13	—
Died in transit ...	83	83	83	83	83	—	83	166	83	—
Totals ...	447	6280	27625	6298	15239	1933	1291	7774	7568	377 Forequarters 31 Hindquarters 42 Omentum 9 Shanks

MEAT SEIZED.

SHEEP.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads.	Lungs.	Hearts.	Livers.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys	Intestines.	Other Parts.
Muelleriasis ...	—	—	1854	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, etc. ...	—	—	36	16	2839	16	16	32	16	7 Forequarters
Fascioliasis ...	16	16	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis... ..	—	—	476	372	490	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ...	—	—	2	2	2	2	2	5	2	3 Forequarters
Pyæmia ...	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 Hindquarters
Empyæma ...	1	4	10	10	4	1	1	2	1	15 Forequarters
Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 Forequarter
Toxaemia ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	1 Hindquarter
Peritonitis ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	3	—
Fatty Infiltration ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2 Shanks
Jaundice ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Septicaemia ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Hernia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dead in lairage ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1 Flank
Dead in transit ...	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	20	10	—
Totals ...	40	44	2415	430	3357	40	40	81	42	26 Forequarters 11 Hindquarters 6 Shanks, 3 Flanks, 1 Neck

MEAT SEIZED.

CALVES.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads.	Lungs.	Hearts.	Livers.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys	Intestines.	Other Parts.
Tuberculosis ...	3	6	22	21	21	5	21	6	4	—
Pneumonia ...	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Immaturity ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Arthritis ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Malformation ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia ...	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	20	10	—
Jaundice ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	—
Pyæmia ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Abscess ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oedema ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2 Hindquarters
Dead in transit ...	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	8	4	—
Totals ...	31	35	58	50	54	33	49	62	32	2 Hindquarters

CATTLE.

MEAT SEIZED.

Diseases.	Carcases	Heads.	Lungs.	Hearts.	Livers.	Stomachs.	Spleens.	Kidneys	Intestines.	Other Parts.
Actinomycosis ...	1	16	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Actinobacillosis ...	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3 Tongues
Tuberculosis ...	230	868	1493	794	303	243	340	460	540	166 Forequarters 21 Hindquarters 1 Loin, 1 Flank 6 Forequarters
Pneumonia, &c. ...	—	—	586	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis... ..	—	—	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydatid Cysts ...	—	—	199	1	74	—	1	—	—	—
Peritonitis ...	2	2	2	2	188	62	571	4	49	2 Hindquarters 1 Flank
Fascioliasis ...	—	—	—	—	2345	—	—	—	—	—
Haemangiomata ...	—	—	—	—	267	—	—	—	—	—
Bacterial Necrosis ...	—	—	—	—	100	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticerciasis ...	—	57	48	55	48	—	44	—	—	2 Forequarters
Oedema & Emacn. ...	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	18	9	—
Pyæmia ...	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	1 Hindquarter 1 Loin
Metritis ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Contamination ...	—	—	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Bruising ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	10 Forequarters 4 Hindquarters 1 Hindquarter 1 Shank
Arthritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration ...	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
Jaundice ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Cirrhosis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Septicæmia ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Melanosis ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	12	—	—	—	—
Congestion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hydronephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	382 Udders
Dead in lairage ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Dead in transit ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Totals ...	254	977	2352	906	3356	338	978	512	612	3 Tongues, 1 Shank 184 Forequarters 29 Hindquarters 2 Loins, 2 Flanks 382 Udders

Percentage of Pathological Conditions found in Animals, 1950.

P I G S .

Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	12%
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	4%
Hydronephrosis	...	...	...	4%
Peritonitis	...	...	...	3%
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	2%
Pericarditis	...	...	...	1%
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	1%
Congestion	...	...	...	1%
Hydatid Cysts	...	...	...	0.2%
Pigmentation	...	...	...	0.1%
Pyæmia	...	...	...	0.02%
Empyæmia	...	...	...	0.02%
Swine Erysipelas	...	...	...	0.02%
Enteritis	...	...	...	0.02%
Strongylosis	...	...	...	0.01%
Fractures	...	...	...	0.008%
Jaundice	...	...	...	0.006%
Variola suis	...	...	...	0.006%
Septicæmia	...	...	...	0.006%
Arthritis	...	...	...	0.005%
Haemangioma	...	...	...	0.005%
Endocarditis	...	...	...	0.004%
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	0.003%
Ascarides	...	...	...	0.003%
Toxaemia	...	...	...	0.002%
Fascioliasis	...	...	...	0.002%
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	0.002%
Nephritis	...	...	...	0.002%
Hepatitis	...	...	...	0.002%
Oedema ...	...	...	...	0.001%
Contamination	...	...	...	0.001%
Melanosis	...	...	...	0.001%
Carcinoma	...	...	...	0.001%
Hernia ...	...	...	...	0.0005%
Bruising ...	...	...	...	0.0005%
Transit Erythema	...	...	...	0.0005%
Lympho-sarcoma	...	...	...	0.0005%
Rachitis	...	...	...	0.0005%
Gangrene	...	...	...	0.0005%
Died in lairage	...	...	...	0.006%
Died in transit	...	...	...	0.04%

Percentage of Pathological Conditions found in

S H E E P .

Fascioliasis	...	...	...	...	13 ^o / _o
Muelleriasis	...	...	...	...	9 ^o / _o
Hydatid Cysts	...	...	...	...	2 ^o / _o
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0.2 ^o / _o
Empyaema	...	...	...	...	0.06 ^o / _o
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	0.03 ^o / _o
Arthritis	...	...	...	...	0.01 ^o / _o
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	0.01
Toxaemia	...	...	...	...	0.008
Hernia	...	...	...	...	0.008 ^o / _o
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	0.004 ^o / _o
Died in lairage	...	...	...	...	0.004 ^o / _o
Died in transit	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o

Percentage of Pathological Conditions found in

C A L V E S .

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	0.5 ^o / _o
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	0.2 ^o / _o
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	0.2 ^o / _o
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	0.1 ^o / _o
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	0.08 ^o / _o
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	0.06 ^o / _o
Immaturity	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o
Arthritis	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o
Bruising	...	...	...	...	0.04 ^o / _o
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	0.02 ^o / _o
Malformation	...	...	...	...	0.02 ^o / _o
Abscess	...	...	...	...	0.02 ^o / _o
Oedema	...	...	...	...	0.02 ^o / _o
Died in transit	...	...	...	...	0.08 ^o / _o

Percentage of Pathological Conditions found in

CATTLE.

Fascioliasis	...	...	...	...	30%
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	20%
Pleurisy and Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	7%
Mastitis	...	...	...	...	5%
Haemangioma	...	...	...	...	3%
Hydatid Cysts	...	...	...	...	3%
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	2%
Bacterial Necrosis	...	...	...	...	1%
Cysticerciasis	...	...	...	...	0.7%
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	0.2%
Actinomycosis	...	...	...	...	0.1%
Actinobacillosis	...	...	...	...	0.1%
Faecal contamination	...	...	...	...	0.1%
Bruising	...	...	...	...	0.1%
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	0.1%
Oedema and Emaciation	...	...	...	...	0.09%
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	0.08%
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	0.06%
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	0.05%
Arthritis	...	...	...	...	0.02%
Septicæmia	...	...	...	...	0.02%
Hydronephrosis	...	...	...	...	0.02%
Melanosis	...	...	...	...	0.02%
Metritis	...	...	...	...	0.01%
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	0.01%
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	0.01%
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	0.01%
Congestion	...	...	...	...	0.01%
Dead in lairage	...	...	...	...	0.01%
Dead in transit	...	...	...	...	0.02%

During the year veterinary treatment, medical and surgical, was applied to the following animals. The figures represent the number of times treatment was required:—

Horses	...	...	...	...	71
Cattle	...	...	...	...	155
Calves	...	...	...	...	16
Sheep	...	...	...	...	253
Pigs	...	...	...	...	218

The amount of Imported and other foods seized was as follows :

	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Beef	—	17	—	7	4
Veal	—	2	2	11	—
Pork	—	—	2	1	8
Bacon	—	—	—	2	—
Hams	—	3	1	5	—
Mutton	—	—	3	22	—
Corned beef	—	2	1	12	—
Corned mutton	—	—	—	2	4
Beef kidneys	—	—	—	5	12
Calf tongue	—	—	—	1	—
Lamb tongue	—	—	—	—	12
Minced beef loaf	—	—	—	14	7
Minced veal loaf	—	—	—	7	10
Potted meat	—	—	—	—	5½
Meat and Gravy	—	—	—	6	—
Stewing steak	—	—	—	13	—
Ox tongues	—	—	—	6	—
Russian salmon	—	—	—	—	11
Mussels	—	—	—	1	—
Soup	—	—	—	1	—
Milk	—	—	—	1	—
Tomato juice	—	—	—	3	14
Peas	—	—	—	—	12
Pilchards	—	—	—	3	—
Chicken soup	—	—	—	—	10½
Totals	1	7	1	17	4

Post-mortem examinations were carried out on the following animals dead in transit:—

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Syncope	—	1	—	27	28
Internal haemorrhage	—	—	—	11	11
Toxaemia	—	—	3	23	26
Anaemia	—	1	—	7	8
Pneumonia and Pleurisy	1	—	2	15	18
Metritis	1	—	1	—	2
Hydatid Cysts	—	—	1	—	1
Nephritis	—	—	—	1	1
Enteritis	—	—	1	1	2
Peritonitis	—	1	—	2	3
Hypocalcaemia	1	—	—	—	1
Swine Erysipelas	—	—	—	7	7
Empyaema	—	—	—	2	2
Pericarditis	—	—	—	2	2
Septicaemia	1	—	—	—	1
Fascioliasis	—	—	2	—	2
Brucellosis	—	2	—	—	2
Total	4	5	10	99	118

During the year Research workers in the Veterinary as well as in the Medical sphere were assisted in a variety of ways, and material for these purposes was sent to the following:—

- Imperial Chemicals (Pharmaceuticals) Ltd., Wilmslow, Cheshire.
- The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Veterinary Laboratory, Weybridge.
- The Royal College of Surgeons of England, London.
- The Artificial Insemination Centre, Bromsgrove.
- Messrs. Boots (Chemists) Research Centre, Nottingham.
- The National Blood Transfusion Service, Sheffield.
- The Dudley Guest Hospital.
- The Animal Health Trust, Huntingdon.
- The Department of Zoology.
- The University of Liverpool.
- The Anatomy Departments of the University of Bristol,
- St. Thomas's Hospital and Charing Cross Hospital, London.

The Government-appointed Committee on Food Hygiene visited the factory during the year, and have thought it worth while in their report to copy the wording of the Clean Food poster designed by one of us and exhibited prominently throughout the factory.

TABLE VIII.

CORRECTED NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1950.

	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 Over	Age Un- known	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	7	18	6	1	—	—	32
Whooping Cough	21	55	78	61	1	—	1	1	218
Poliomyelitis— Paralytic	—	5	3	1	—	1	—	—	10
Non-Paralytic	—	—	3	3	—	1	2	—	9
Measles	2	18	34	43	4	—	1	—	102
Diphtheria	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Ac. Pneumonia	2	—	1	5	—	2	10	—	20
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	5
Gastro-Enteritis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	25	79	127	132	11	7	18	1	400

NOTE.—Diseases against which no notifications have been received are excluded from the above Schedule.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**Diphtheria.**

Five notifications were received compared with four in 1949, three of these on investigation proved to be tonsillitis.

The two confirmed cases give an attack of 0.04 per 1,000 population as compared with 0.04 for the previous year and 0.02 for towns of comparable size.

Immunisation.

The routine immunisation or reimmunisation of entrants has been carried out in the Schools, while younger children have been dealt with at Infant Welfare Centres of the County Council.

The following figures have been provided by the Area Medical Office :—

Initial Treatments :—

Children under 5 years	345
Children 5 to 14 years	128
	— 473
Reinforcing doses	546

Scarlet Fever.

32 notifications were received during the year, giving a notification rate of 0.65 per 1,000 population as compared with 1.23 for 1949 and 1.55 for the whole country.

Erysipelas.

Five cases were notified giving a rate of 0.10 per 1,000 population.

Pneumonia.

20 cases were notified during the year. The notification rate is 0.04 compared with 0.70 for the country as a whole.

Whooping Cough.

There were 218 notifications as compared with 155 for the previous year. The notification rate of 4.46 per 1,000 population compares with 3.60 for the whole country.

Measles.

There were 102 notifications compared with 503 for the previous year, giving a notification rate of 2.09 per 1,000 population.

Poliomyelitis.

Poliomyelitis claimed 19 victims, one being fatal. Much work was entailed in an attempt to control this disease by careful and constant watch over contacts, and the prompt co-operation of Medical Practitioners, Nursing Staff, and Sanitary Officers, did much to help in ensuring that the situation did not get out of hand. The number affected with paralysis was ten, but continuity of treatment has ensured marked improvement in six. It is regretted that the remaining four are likely to have some degree of invalidism.

The cases were distributed throughout the Urban District with no marked incidence in any one area. No evidence was found of any direct contacts.

The outbreak lasted from June to October with cases occurring sporadically; in the main, the attacks were mild, and all cases were admitted to Hospital.

	<i>Paralytic.</i>		<i>Non-Paralytic.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—
1—2 years ...	2	3	—	—	5
3—4 years ...	1	2	1	2	6
5—9 years ...	—	1	1	2	4
10—14 years ...	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 years ...	—	1	—	1	2
25 and over ...	—	—	1	1	2
Total ...	3	7	3	6	19

General.

There is nothing untoward to report on other infectious diseases.

Food Poisoning.

No notifications of Food Poisoning were received.

Tuberculosis.

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis, both male and female, is reduced in comparison with 1949.

51 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were brought to notice by notification or otherwise. This gives an attack rate of 1.05 per 1,000 population. There were four new non-pulmonary cases.

There is also a reduction during 1950 in the Death Rate of Pulmonary and Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis, both male and female. Tuberculosis of the lungs accounted for 17 deaths as against 33 in 1949. This is a welcome improvement.

In relation to the control of this disease, in the year eleven families have been rehoused, thus affording better opportunity for recovery of those patients infected and reducing the risks of the spread of the disease.

TABLE IX.

	MALES.		FEMALES.		Total.
	<i>Pul-monary.</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary.</i>	<i>Pul-monary.</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary.</i>	
Number on Register 1st January 1950... ..	170	49	178	49	446
New Notifications 1950 ...	27	1	18	2	48
Number restored to Register having been removed in the previous Quarters ...	—	—	—	—	—
Cases brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	3	1	3	—	7
Total removed from Register, 1950 (due to Recovery, Death, or outward transfer)	20	1	13	1	35
Number on Register December 31st, 1950	180	50	186	50	466

AGE AND SEX OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1950.

TABLE X.

Age.	New Cases.				Cases removed from Register due to death.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
	Pul- monary.	Non- Pul- monary.	Pul- monary.	Non- Pul- monary.	Pul- monary.	Non- Pul- monary.	Pul- monary.	Non- Pul- monary.
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
—5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
—15	1	1	2	1	—	1	1	1
—25	10	1	12	—	1	—	1	—
—35	3	—	6	—	2	—	2	—
—45	4	—	1	—	4	—	2	—
—55	6	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
—65	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	30	2	21	2	9	1	8	3

The death rate is 0.43 per 1,000 population.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

I present a report on the work carried out in my Department during 1950.

Housing once again presents the major problem.

Shortage of labour and materials, and the fact that very few builders are anxious to undertake repairs, has meant difficulty and delay in obtaining priority for the execution of work on Abatement Notices. Another obstacle is the excessive cost of repairs; even small items cost many weeks' gross rent. Due to these factors, there has been a steady deterioration of property generally as there is little or no return for the exceptional expenditure necessary today to meet the cost of housing repairs. Consequently houses are falling into a state of disrepair far more quickly than they can be replaced. A further contributory factor is the present rate of progress in the erection of new houses.

Considerable attention has been paid to Food Premises, the Department taking stall space at the Traders' Exhibition.

Expenditure incurred on the collection and disposal of house refuse was slightly less than the previous year (rather remarkable in these days of high prices). This is explained by the shortage of manual labour, as at no time was the strength up to normal. A tribute must therefore be paid to the employees who have remained with the Authority and helped to maintain a regular Cleansing Service.

My thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence and support, also to other officers for their co-operation.

To the Staff generally, all of whom have contributed in some way to the progress of the Department, my acknowledgment for services rendered. There were no staff changes.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.**Complaints.**

374 complaints were received as compared with 474 in 1949; 183 related to stoppages in drains.

Several of the complaints had reference to odours from a New Sewage Works constructed by a Sewage Board, and representations were made. The nuisance disappeared with the advent of cooler weather; but, it is anticipated that complaints will again be received during the Summer period if certain steps are not taken.

Some of the trouble had relation to teething difficulties of a new plant, but, with the up-to-date installation provided, there should be very little nuisance, although it is likely there will always be some odour which is generally associated with such works.

In view of the close proximity of a number of houses, it is difficult to understand why this site was originally approved.

Two complaints were received of a nuisance from industrial tips, due to spontaneous combustion of tipped ashes and after due consideration the Public Health Committee decided to ask the Planning Committee that in future when approving ground for the tipping of industrial waste to place restrictions on the depth of tipping, etc., with a view to minimising the risk of spontaneous combustion.

Smoke Abatement.

Generally conditions so far as industrial black smoke is concerned have much improved. The "Black Spot" is still one large steel plant where there is a battery of twelve Lancashire Boilers.

Electrification of these works is still progressing, but has been delayed due to various circumstances. When the scheme is completed, the nuisance from black smoke and grit should disappear, but, and it is a very big "but", there will remain process fumes which may be more difficult to deal with, particularly in view of the fact that part of the new works has been erected far too near houses; in addition, the plant is much larger. There is one redeeming feature, this plant is on the East side of the Town. The plans for the plant were approved in 1945, before the Town and Country Planning Act came into operation.

Complaints were received from many residents in the month of June of damage to plant life, and representations were made to the works, also contact was made with the Home Office Inspector under the Alkali Act; certain promises were made.

There is no doubt that in future where planning permission is sought, more attention must be paid as to the likely source of process nuisances. Representations were made by the Public Health Committee that more process details should be obtained when plans are submitted.

Abatement of domestic smoke has received some check due to difficulties in obtaining coke and other types of smokeless fuel. More coke should be made available for household purposes, (heating and cooking) and less to industry which can obtain more easily proper appliances for smokeless burning of Bituminous Coal.

Water Supplies.

Samples were taken from the Public Main Supply as follows :—

Chemical—7, Bacteriological—9, These were satisfactory. Two samples were taken for Bacteriological examination from the borehole at the Kingfisher Lido and were passed. Three samples from two shallow wells all showed signs of pollution. Steps have been taken to have mains water laid on, but one difficulty to be overcome is the considerable distance mains have to be laid to serve the premises concerned. Samples of water from a Private Borehole showed slight contamination and immediately chlorination of the supply was brought into operation. The matter was receiving attention at the end of the year. Fifty-six samples were taken in respect of this supply.

Swimming Bath Water.

Five samples (four Bacteriological, one Chemical) were taken from a Swimming Pool in the area ; the results being satisfactory. During the bathing season the chlorine contents are checked systematically by the District Sanitary Inspector with a Lovibond Comparator.

Sewage Effluent.

Five samples of sewage effluent were taken ; three from the Council's Farm—these were satisfactory. Of the two taken from another works, the first one was not good ; a repeat sample showed distinct improvement.

Infectious Disease Prevention.

122 Visits were made to cases of Infectious Disease ; 84 houses were disinfected.

33 Houses were dealt with for the elimination of bed bugs and the following table shows the work carried out :—

Vermin.	No. of houses sprayed.	No. of sprayings.
Bugs	33	82
Cockroaches	6	12
Total	39	94

Moveable Dwellings.

Considerable difficulties have been experienced with the gipsy type of caravan, which is now taking up a position on grass verges at roadsides in the more rural parts of the area. The time spent by the Inspectors in getting these people moving has been considerable, Police Officers have also given assistance ; but, in spite of all this, the problem remains.

One of the facts that emerges is that these people, who at one time resided in rural areas because of certain advantages, now endeavour to reside in or near urban areas, where they tend to become collectors of rags, scrap metal, etc.

Seven applications have been received to use caravans or other similar structures as dwellings on sites within the area ; five of these being refused. Of the two granted, one related to a caravan on a farm, the other to a caravan for the use of a foreman on a Housing Site. In addition, renewal licences were issued in respect of two sites for one and three trailer caravans.

Legal proceedings were authorised for using land as a site for caravans without a licence, but the vans were moved before date of hearing.

A licence is in operation in respect of ground used for Holiday Camping, for 100 trailer caravans, and during the year an application was received for the restriction in the licence " there should be no caravans on the site between the 1st November and 1st April " to be removed, to enable the site to be permanently occupied. The Committee decided not to modify the licence in respect of the whole camping area, but agreed for three sites only. In consequence an appeal was lodged. After much negotiation, the appeal was withdrawn, the Committee agreeing to amend the licence in respect of the whole of the Camping Ground, subject to the following being provided : a second sanitary and ablution block, additional water points and drainage, asphalt roads and also the use of shower baths at the adjoining lido, owned by the applicant.

The Camping Ground is very rural in character, undulating, well-wooded and is divided into fifteen sites, accommodation ranging from one to twenty-two caravans ; only properly constructed trailer caravans being permitted. There is a weekly collection of house refuse made by the Council from this site.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Section 9.

Notices were served on the owners of eight houses under this Section, four of which were outstanding at the end of the year. At the other four houses, work was carried out in default at a cost of £137 7s. 6d.

Section 11.

The following dwelling houses were represented as being unfit during the year and were dealt with as follows :—

Demolition Orders.

27, 53, Birch Coppice, Quarry Bank.
 7, Turk Street, Brierley Hill.
 87, 91, Level Street, Brierley Hill.
 15, Seagers Lane, Brierley Hill.
 106, 108, 110, 114, Dudley Road, Brierley Hill.
 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, Church Street, Pensnett.
 8, 9, 10, School Street, Pensnett.
 180, 181, 182, 183, Commonsides, Pensnett.
 66a, Sheffield Street, Quarry Bank.
 42, Park Road, Quarry Bank.
 20, 21, 22, East Street, Quarry Bank.
 48, Brierley Hill Road, Wordsley.
 130, 131, Brettell Lane, Wordsley.

Plans and specification for re-opening one house which had been closed since March, 1938 and on which an Undertaking was operative, were approved, the Undertaking being cancelled and the house re-occupied.

The Council have continued to give assistance in rehousing persons living in Unfit houses, 194 persons being rehoused from 44 unfit houses into 46 houses.

There is no doubt that whilst the 20% allocated does help no real improvement is being made on the total number of houses on which Orders are in operation as will be seen from the following :—

Houses occupied on which Orders were in operation at December,	113
1949	31
New Orders made in 1950	144
Houses from which tenants rehoused	40
Houses still occupied	104
(Many of these Orders were made 1938/39)	—

An increased allocation is imperative to meet the annual number of houses on which Orders have to be made. This figure is likely to be considerable in view of the fact that there were at the outbreak of hostilities five declared Clearance Areas not confirmed and many others not declared.

The following are details of the houses dealt with under the Housing Act, since Slum Clearance commenced.

Clearance Areas.

No. confirmed	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
No. of houses in areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	628
No. of Persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	2351
No. of Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	550

Demolition Orders.

No. of Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	1239
No. of Persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	4614
No. of Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	1104

Closing Orders.

No. of Orders made	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
No. of Persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	342
No. of Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

Undertakings.

No. accepted	...	...	...	...	...	...	155
No. of Persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	227
No. of Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	21

Houses demolished in anticipation of

Formal Action	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
No. of Persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	141

To summarise.

Houses dealt with under Housing Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	2195
Houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	1734
Persons displaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	7675

Overcrowding.

In the relief of statutory overcrowding, substantial progress has been made due mainly to the Council's points' scheme, also to the policy adopted of exchanges. Generally owners of private houses have co-operated well with this Authority and the position at the end of the year was as follows:—

Number of known statutory overcrowding cases 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
New cases during 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
							—
							145
Cases abated 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	98
							—
Known cases at 31st December, 1950	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
							—

One part of the problem which has not improved is the number of cases of sex overcrowding. There are 109 known cases. This problem is one which the Council's points' scheme does not materially assist.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

In connection with the National Drive for Clean and Safe Food Handling stall space was taken at an Exhibition organised by the Manufacturers' and Traders' Association. Two stalls were set up, one as a model food shop, the other stall dealing with food contamination, water supplies, rodent control, and atmospheric pollution. Space was also taken for a small cinema, the projection appliances and films being loaned by the Central Office of Information. Among the films shown were "Another Case of Food Poisoning," "Fly About the House" and "Town Rat." The Exhibition was open from Saturday, May 20th to Saturday May 27th, and, in spite of the fact that a shilling charge for admission was made, it was an unqualified success, over 24,000 persons attending.

The stalls set up by this Authority were at times simply over-whelmed with viewers.

The Exhibition was open from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. daily, and members of the staff were on duty to answer and discuss questions asked by members of the public. It was amazing the variety of questions asked and the interest taken. The Cinema was quite small, but 79 shows were given, the attendance being over 3,000 persons.

The Model Bye-Laws of the Ministry of Food relating to Clean Food were adopted with certain modifications on 11th September, but before adopting, the Public Health Committee considered the staffing of the Department and finally, it was decided to increase the strength by one Inspector in order that almost the whole time of one Inspector could be devoted to Food Hygiene work.

There is one large covered public market in the centre of the shopping area owned by a Private Company, and when the Food Bye-Laws were adopted consideration was given in the first place to the washing of hands.

Sufficient sanitary accommodation for the stall-holders, both male and female was available, and after much discussion with the owners, it was agreed to erect, in conjunction with the existing conveniences, separate washing facilities, each compartment to have a sink, wash basin and hot and cold running water; the soap and towels to be provided by the stall-holders themselves.

The works required were completed during the year.

During the year the policy of centralised slaughtering was continued and 3,880 pigs were notified for slaughter under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 and examined at the two Bacon Factories still operating on behalf of the Ministry of Food. In addition the carcasses of 221 pigs were inspected at other premises.

The following tables give details of all whole carcasses and organs unfit for human consumption, also the causes for which they were condemned.

Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

Number of Pigs killed	...	...	...	...	...	4101
Number of Pigs inspected	...	...	...	...	...	4101

All diseases except Tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	6
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	493
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	12.17%

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	363
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	8.85%

Carcases or parts and offals condemned.

Carcases	...	...	...	...	...	10
Heads	...	...	...	...	...	306
Collars	...	...	...	...	...	6
Hearts	...	...	...	...	...	120
Kidneys	...	...	...	...	...	34
Lungs (Sets of)	...	...	...	...	...	507
Livers	...	...	...	...	...	197
Spleens	...	...	...	...	...	27
Stomachs	...	...	...	...	...	37
Intestines	...	...	...	...	...	37
Part Carcasses	...	...	...	...	...	6

*Weight of Meat
Condemned
in lbs.***Diseases.**

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	4420
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	370
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	...	40
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	120
Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	296
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	30
Fatty Liver	...	...	...	...	...	3
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	26
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	54
Cysts	...	...	...	...	...	60
Melanosis	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	71
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	3
Moribund Carcase	...	...	...	...	...	196
Necrosis	...	...	...	...	...	319
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	...	272
Hydronephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	2
Urticaria	...	...	...	...	...	24
Acute Fever	...	...	...	...	...	260

Total weight of meat condemned 6,580- lbs.—2 Tons 18 Cwts. 3 Qrs.

Slaughterhouses.

There are 22 slaughterhouses in the area, six of these only are in use at the present time.

Other Foods Condemned.

Apples (Tins)	6
Baking Powder (pkts.)	36
Beans (Tins)	111
Beetroot (Tins and Jars)	38
Blackberries (Tins)	5
Blackcurrants (Tins)	5
Cake, Slab (lbs.)	49½
Carrots (Tins)	57
Cheese (lbs.)	51½
Cherries (Tins and Jars)	45
Chocolate Bars	311
Chocolate Cup	72
Chocolate Spread	12
Coffee (Tins)	25
Coffee and Chicory Extract (Bottles)	167
Crab (Tins)	2
Crawfish (Tins)	4
Currants (lbs.)	100
Damsons (Tins)	7
Eggs, Danish	70
Figs, dried (Boxes)	1
Fruit, mixed (Tins)	2
Ginger Wine (Bottles)	23
Gooseberries (Tins and Jars)	6
Grapefruit (Tins)	9
Grapes (Tins)	2
Gravy Browning (Tins)	1
Groats (Tins)	2
Hactoids (Cartons)	36
Herrings (Tins)	7
Jellies (Pkts.)	1735
Marmalade (Tins)	2
Meat (Tins) including Beef, Tongue, Whale Meat	90
Meat and Gravy (Tins)	27
Meat and Vegetable Stew (Tins)	3
Melon and Pineapple Jam (Tins)	2
Milk (Tins)	414
Mincemeat (Tins and Jars)	4
Mussels (Tins)	1
Nuts, mixed (Boxes each 72 pkts.)	23
Oranges (Tins)	1
Paste (Tins) Anchovy, Crab, Fish, Meat, Tomato	50
Peaches (Tins)	1

**Summary of Articles of Food and Drugs submitted to the Public Analyst
and the Results of the Analyses.**

<i>Article Analysed.</i>	<i>Total Samples.</i>	<i>Genuine.</i>	<i>Not Genuine.</i>
Barlova	1	1	
Blanc-Mange Powder	2	2	
Caraway Seeds	1	1	
Chocolate Cup	1	1	
Coconut Cake	1		1 18.3% def. in Sugar.
Coconut, Dessicated	1	1	
Coffee, Pure	1	1	
Cornflour	1	1	
Cream Whip	1	1	
Custard Powder	1	1	
Flour, Plain	1	1	
Frizets	1	1	
Gelatine	3	3	
Jam, Blackberry	1	1	
Jelly, Crystals	2	2	
Jelly, Table	4	—	4 Def. in Sugar.
Jelly, Pengil	1	1	
Lemonspred	1	1	
Milk	49	46	3 Def. in Fat.
Mixture, Sweetened Cake	1	1	
Mixture, Pastry	1	1	
Mixture, Sponge	1	1	
Pepper, White	1	1	
Pop-pops	1	1	
Sage, Dried	1	1	
Sauce, Mint	1	1	
Semolina	1	1	
Spice, Mixed	1	1	
Stuffing, Sage and Onion	1	1	
Suet, Beef, flaked	1	1	
Suet, Shredded	1	1	
Thyme, dried	1	1	
Vitacup	1	1	
Total	88	80	8

A Formal Milk sample was taken on the 21st June which showed a 9% deficiency in Fat, and consequently two "Appeal to Cow" samples were taken on the 23rd June. The results of these also showed a similar deficiency; the matter was therefore taken up with the farmer and reference made to the Ministry of Agriculture.

The result of an Informal sample of Coconut Cake showed a deficiency in sugar ; but a repeat sample could not be taken as no further supply was available.

Ice-Cream.

39 samples of Ice-Cream were submitted for Chemical analysis in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Food.

In agreeing, the Public Health Committee pointed out that in their opinion a legal standard should be set of at least 5% Fat ; the reply of the Ministry was that it was not practical at that time. This was considered by the Committee and so strong was their feeling on the matter that it was decided to notify each manufacturer in the District that in their opinion there should be at least a 5% fat content in Ice-Cream, and ask for their co-operation.

It is interesting to note that the samples taken from local manufacturers give results of over 5%, with one exception.

The Fat content of the 39 samples submitted were as follows :—

Five samples	...	...	result over	12%	Fat.
Two	..	...	..	11%	..
Six	..	...	..	10%	..
Six	..	...	..	9%	..
Three	..	...	..	8%	..
Five	..	...	..	7%	..
Three	..	...	..	6%	..
Five	..	...	..	5%	..
Two	..	...	..	4%	..
Two	..	...	..	3%	..

Section 14.

One application for registration of premises for cooked meats was approved. Two applications in respect of the manufacture of potato crisps were received. One was recommended for registration subject to certain reconstruction work to be carried out. The other was given notice to attend the Committee, who having heard the applicant, decided to refuse to register.

Premises registered for manufacture of Potted, Pressed, Preserved or Pickled Foods	...	...	...	...	...	13
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	28

Section 22.

One Dairyman was given notice to attend before the Committee and after the usual hearing registration of the premises was cancelled.

Section 34.

Five premises are registered under this Section of the Act for carrying out the business of Wholesale Dealers in Margarine.

MILK (Special Designation) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Supplementary Licences—

Tuberculin Tested	5
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Dealers Licences—

Tuberculin Tested	8
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MILK (Special Designation) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK), REGULATIONS, 1949.

Supplementary Licences—

Pasteurised	9
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Sterilised	9
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Retailing Shopkeepers	176
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Notices were served on four retailer shopkeepers that the Public Health Committee would consider refusing registration. In each case, after the formal hearing, registration was refused.

MILK SAMPLES.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL.

Designation under which sold.	Total No. of Samples.		Methylene Blue Test.		Phosphatase Test.		Phenol- Phthalein Test.		Turbidity Test.		Tuberculosis Test.	
	Bact.	T.T.	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Neg.	Pos.
Pasteurised ...	65	4	54	11	64	1	64	1	—	—	3	1
T.T. Past. ...	34	10	34	—	34	—	34	—	—	—	10	—
Sterilised ...	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	—	—	—
T.T. Cert. ...	8	3	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Ungraded	5	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
TOTAL ...	158	19	100	12	98	1	98	1	46	—	18	1

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947.

Manufacturers in the District—

Ice Cream—

Heat Treated	...	...	...	...	6	
Cold Mix	...	...	...	...	9	
					—	15
Fruit Lollies	...	...	...	...	...	10
						—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	25
						—

Retailers—Storage and Sale 80

Notices were served on two retailers that registration would be cancelled, one ceasing to retail, the second failing to comply with the Bye-Laws; in both cases registration was cancelled.

189 Samples were submitted for the Methylene Blue Test, the results of which were as follows:—

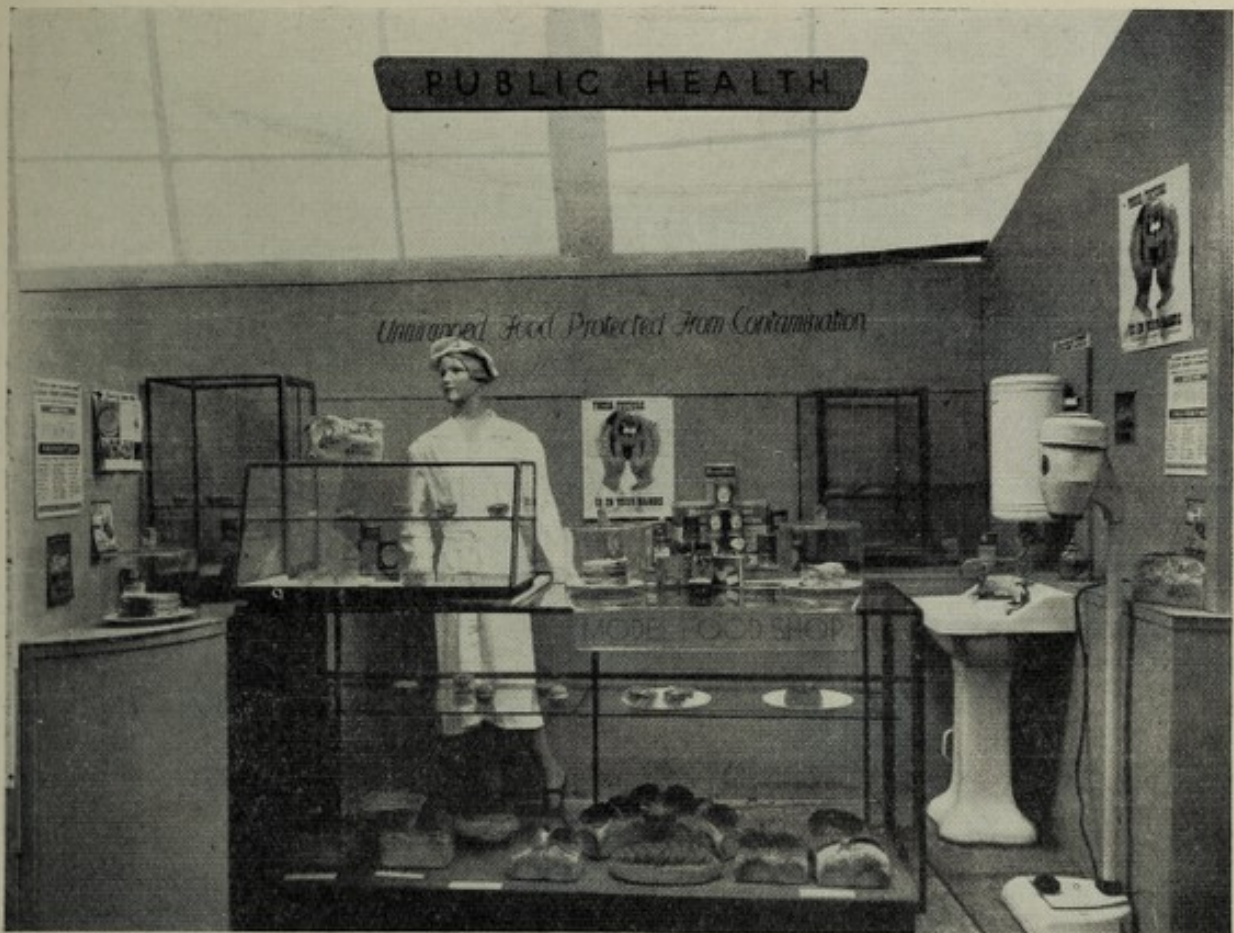
	Type of Mix.	No. of samples taken.	GRADES.			
			1.	2.	3.	4.
Produced in Brierley Hill	Heat Treated	53	31	10	6	6
	Cold Mix	30	27	—	3	—
Produced outside Brierley Hill	Heat Treated	106	44	27	20	15
	Cold Mix	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	189	102	37	29	21

a considerable improvement on the previous year, especially samples manufactured within the District.

Fruit Lollies.

41 Samples were submitted for examination, and on the whole the results were satisfactory. The results were as follows:—

Plate Count per c.c.			B. Coli Content	
Sterile.	Under 100.	100 to 1,000.	Nil in 0.3 c.c.	Present in 0.3 c.c.
20	17	4	40	1



FACTORIES.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of	
		Inspections.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories—			
With Mechanical Power ...	179	156	Nil
Without Mechanical Power ...	105	17	Nil
Total	284	173	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness	6	4	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :				
Insufficient	6	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	7	6	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences re- lating to Outwork) ...	16	21	—	—
Total	36	34	—	—

Five Outworkers lists were received notifying nine Outworkers.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Rodent control generally is dealt with by one wholtime female operative. The result of the year's work is summarised as follows:—

	Number of	
	Premises.	Treatments.
1. Work carried out by Contract (Business Premises)	80	256
2. Private Dwellings	127	139
3. Council Properties	9	35
4. Amblecote U.D.C.	5	12
Total	221	442

The work carried out at business premises is obviously successful, the regular quarterly treatments, where takes are revealed by test-baiting, keeps the infestations down. The revenue from this source was £240.

Private dwellings are usually troubled by mice, and it will be seen that there are few occasions where more than the initial treatment is required.

Assistance was again given to Amblecote U.D.C. who have no trained operative.

Sewers.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Control Division), the test-baiting of 70 manholes in various parts of the area was undertaken and resulted in 9 "takes." These were incorporated in the first half-yearly maintenance treatment, which showed 21 "takes."

The second maintenance treatment resulted in four "takes."

	No. of Manholes.		Prebait takes.		Total takes.
	Test-baited.	Pre-baited.	Complete	Partial.	
1st Half-Year ...	70	36	10	11	21
2nd Half-Year ...	—	42	1	3	4

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

There are 67 slaughtermen licensed to carry out the work of slaughtering.

SHOPS ACT.

There are 638 shops on the register.

PETROLEUM ACT.

111 Premises are licensed to store petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licensed being 93,900 gallons. Licence fees amounted to £69 0s. 0d.

Three licences for the storage of Calcium Carbide were issued, the total amount licensed being six tons and the fees amounted to £1 15s. 0d.

RENT RESTRICTION ACT.

One application under the above Act was received and a certificate was issued.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING.

Applications for licences to carry out work to existing houses were as follows :—

Licences issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Total amount of Licences issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£2,730

H. J. PARKER,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1950.

	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Re- Inspections</i>
Housing Act.		
Section 9	4	51
Section 11	29	219
Section 12	—	6
Other Visits	1	2
Clearance Areas	—	23
 Public Health Act.		
Houses	736	2971
Council Houses	75	79
Licensed Premises	13	74
Entertainment Houses	17	26
Public Conveniences	81	—
Building Licence Inspections	13	4
Overcrowding	172	57
W.C's. and Wash-houses	18	10
Stable Premises	1	—
Yards, Courts, etc.	2	2
Drainage Inspections	157	304
Drainage Tests	22	3
Cesspools	2	8
Ashes Accommodation	110	420
Acumulations... ..	19	3
Sewers and Street Gullies	14	3
Disinfestation	7	—
Waste Food Bins	19	—
Rag and Bone Dealers	4	—
Offensive Trades	6	—
Animals or Birds	2	—
Water Supply	12	—
Rivers Pollution	4	2
Smoke Abatement—Observations and Premises visited	70	70
Miscellaneous	4	—
 Factory Act.		
Factories	77	79
Bake-houses	15	37
Outworkers	19	5

Re-
Inspections Inspections

Food and Drugs Act.

Food Premises and Markets	...	...	253	...	223
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	29	...	73
Meat Shops	...	...	15	...	12
Fish Fryers	...	...	33	...	78
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	71	...	252
Cold Store	...	...	6	...	—
Milk and Dairies	...	...	180	...	63

Shops Act 96 ... 7

Petroleum Act 13 ... 2

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 41 ... 10

Bye-Laws.

Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	105	...	23
Piggeries	...	...	34	...	23
Slaughterhouses	...	...	233	...	—
Houses let-in-lodgings	...	...	1	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	235	...	71
Interviews with Owners, Builders, etc., on Property	...	...	705	...	—

Sanitary Improvements carried out as a result of Inspections made and Notices served. (Work actually carried out).

Dwelling Houses.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	227
House brickwork repointed	...	...	...	...	25
Gables, cement rendered	...	...	...	...	22
Chimney stacks repointed	...	...	...	...	23
Chimney pots provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Defective brickwork of walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	5
Dangerous walls rebuilt or repaired	...	...	...	...	10
Rainwater spouting repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	74
Walls and ceilings cleansed	...	...	...	...	109
Plasterwork repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	382
New firegrates provided	...	...	...	...	25
Firegrates repaired	...	...	...	...	26
New doors provided	...	...	...	...	6
Doors and door frames repaired	...	...	...	...	27
Door steps provided or renewed	...	...	...	...	15
Latches provided	...	...	...	...	4
New windows provided	...	...	...	...	9
New window casements provided	...	...	...	...	28
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	63
Sash cords renewed	...	...	...	...	189

Top sashes of windows hung	...	...	...	...	...	7
Window fasteners provided	...	...	...	...	...	19
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	...	14
Quarry floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	15
Living room floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	42
Bedroom floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Handrails on stairs provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Verandahs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	13
Dirty houses—tenants neglect	...	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty bedding—tenants neglect	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wash-houses, Water Closets, etc.						
Wash-house walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wash-house roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	79
Wash-house doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	17
Wash-house chimneys repointed or rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	6
Wash-house windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Wash-house floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
New earthenware sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Repairs to sinks, brickwork, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	13
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	33
Water supply provided to sinks	...	...	...	...	...	3
Washing boilers provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	46
Washing furnaces provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
Brickwork of washing boilers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water Closet walls rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	8
Water Closet Brickwork repaired or repointed	...	...	...	...	...	16
Water Closet roofs repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Leaking Water Closet joints repaired	...	...	...	...	...	37
Water Closet flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	36
Water Closet pans provided	...	...	...	...	...	15
Water Closet seats renewed...	...	...	...	...	...	23
New Water Closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
Water Closet floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rainwater spouting provided or repaired to Wash-houses and Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	15
Coal stores repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Coal house doors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Yards or paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ashbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	68
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	28
Drainage.						
Obstructed drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	191
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	12
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	...	8
New covers provided to inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	...	1
Waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Provision of piped water supply	...	...	...	...	...	6
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	33

Letters and Notices sent out.

Preliminary Notices and housing schedules	...	...	...	718
Letters	...	...	...	1369

Statutory Notices.

Public Health Act, 1936—

Section 93	...	...	...	191
Section 269 Licences granted	...	...	...	2
„ „ Renewals granted	...	...	...	2
„ „ Notices of Refusal	...	...	...	5

Housing Act, 1936—

Section 9	...	...	...	8
Section 11 (1)...	...	...	...	36
Section 11 (4)...	...	...	...	31

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—

Section 14 (3)...	...	...	...	5
Section 14 (4)...	...	...	...	5
Section 22 (1)...	...	...	...	1
Section 22 (2)...	...	...	...	1

Legal Proceedings.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 154.
 Distribution of toys to children under 14 years.
 Fined 10/- and 26/- costs.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

This section of the Report relates to the year ended 31st March, 1951.

Staff.

Foreman	...	...	...	1
Male Employees	...	...	...	40
Female Employees	...	...	...	5

These are employed as follows :—

	<i>Male.</i>			<i>Female.</i>
Refuse Collection	23	...	...	—
Refuse Disposal	1	...	...	—
Salvage	4	...	...	5
Street Cleansing	7	...	...	—
Gullies and Cesspools	2	...	...	—
Depot, Drains, Public Conveniences, etc.	3	...	...	—

Vehicles.

The only alteration in the fleet was the replacement of the motor-cycle and side-car by a 5-cwt. Ford Van. The vehicle is used in connection with the cleaning of Public Conveniences, drain opening, disinfection, etc.

An order placed for one S.D. Gully-Cesspool Emptier with street cleaning attachments is due for delivery in September, 1951.

At the end of the year the following vehicles were available :—

- 2 S.D. Freighters (11 cubic yards).
- 3 S.D. Freighters (7 cubic yards).
- 1 S.D. Gully/Cesspool Emptier.
- 1 Morris 2-ton covered lorry.
- 2 Morris Vans (Paper Collection).
- 2 Ford Vans (Paper Collection).
- 2 Lewin Roadsweeper Collectors.
- 1 Austin Utility Van (Foreman).
- 1 Ford 5-cwt. Van (Disinfection, etc.).
- 1 Fordson Tractor (Half-Track).

Bin Provision.

In May, after considerable deliberation the Council decided that the provision of bins should be a charge on the Rate Fund. This progressive step enables the Department to control the storage of refuse and the prompt replacement of defective and broken receptacles is far reaching in the interests of public health.

The type of bin adopted as standard has a capacity of $2\frac{1}{4}$ cubic feet and although not in accordance with the British Standard Specification should prove as serviceable, whilst from the financial angle, the several modifications have resulted in a saving of at least $2/6$ per bin or approximately £250 on the number purchased, which were allocated as follows:—

Council Houses	...	...	...	417
New Council Houses	...	...	...	155
Private Houses	...	...	...	1454
New Private Houses	...	...	...	20
				—
Total	...	...	...	2046
				—

In order to commence the scheme an inspection of every ash receptacle was undertaken and defective bins replaced the following day. This naturally entailed additional work, but, although replacements were greater than at first anticipated, the up-to-date information meant that bins were purchased well in advance, which resulted in a good stock being on hand when the price of bins increased. Each bin is embossed with a serial number for record purposes. In order to assist the in preservation of ash bins, it has been the practice, even with these galvanised type, to coat the bottoms, inside and out, also the sides up to a height of 18-ins. with bitumastic paint.

In November notification was received that as and from the 10th February, 1951, no more galvanised dustbins were to be supplied, and as the previous experience of this Authority with painted bins during the War period, was, to say the least most unsatisfactory, and as this Authority had now undertaken the provision of bins free of cost, it was decided to obtain at least a six months' supply. This was done with some financial gain due to rising prices.

Collection.

The problems presented in relation to house refuse collection were much the same as in the previous year, *i.e.*, shortage of labour and absence of employees through sickness and injury; the long winter added further to the difficulties. Despite this, the weekly collection was maintained except for one short spell, when the weather caused the work to fall in arrears, and, as a consequence, one part of the area received a nine-day collection. for a period.

In view of the difficulty experienced in obtaining men to undertake the work, the Council accepted the recommendation of the Public Health Committee to pay a bonus of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bin per week per gang for all bins emptied over a basic figure. This arrangement, brought into operation in order to cope with the addition of newly erected houses, solved the immediate problem, but it is certain that unless wages become more in keeping with the times, a situation will arise, which only additional labour can meet.

The number of working days lost through illness and injury was 823, an increase of 82 compared with last year, while absenteeism amounted to 156 days.

The regular weekly collection has caused a decrease in the weight of refuse by 954 tons. The number of loads collected is approximately the same as the previous year, signifying that the weekly collection is causing the refuse to become more bulky.

The following table shows the loads moved by the various vehicles :—

Vehicle.	Number of Loads.					Total.
	Bins.	Fixed. Receptacles.	Trade.	Hospital & Schools.	Pans and Bins.	
RF 9623	336	85	25	39	25	510
JH 5906	1521	4	—	—	—	1525
JH 9307	1340	—	—	—	—	1340
ARE733	21	14	151	158	180	524
DRF 624	15	—	7	1	5	28
MRE 884	1378	—	—	—	1	1379
SRE 742	1527	—	—	—	—	1527
Total	6138	103	183	198	211	6833

Disposal.

The Leys Disposal Ground, comprising 53½ acres, acquired in 1939, is situated practically in the centre of the area and is expected to meet the needs of the District for at least another 20 years. Filling of the ground is gradually taking shape, two pools having been drained and culverts laid.

The whole of the refuse and street sweepings is controlled tipped in layers of six feet in depth and is dealt with by one man driving a Fordson half-track vehicle, fitted with a bulldozing blade with a serrated edge ; this leaves fine ash which assists the top covering of the tip. The vehicle, purchased three years ago, obviates the use of plates on the tip ; and the driver, in addition to dressing down the sides, finds time to extract any obvious material for salvage.

Disposal Ground :—

House Refuse	12990 tons.
Road Sweepings	1313 tons.
	<hr/>
	14303 tons
	<hr/>

Costs for the year ended 31st March, 1951.

The provision of dustbins as a rate charge means that the expenditure is debited to the refuse collection service. The cost amounting to £1,921, is included in the table set out below, and it is this fact alone which is responsible for the increase when compared with the previous year.

Particulars.	Collection.	Disposal.	Collection and Disposal
	£	£	£
Revenue Account :—			
Gross expenditure	1,6465	1,040	17,505
Gross income	3,230	139	3,369
Net Cost	13,235	901	14,136
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Unit Costs :—			
Gross expenditure per ton	25 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	26 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Gross income per ton	4 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Net Cost per ton	20 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	21 9 $\frac{1}{4}$
	£	£	£
Net Cost per 1,000 Population ...	271	18	289
Net Cost per 1,000 houses or premises from which refuse is collected ...	955	65	1020

Total refuse collected (tons)	12,990
Population	48,900
Area (Statute acres)	5,932
Weight per 1,000 population per day (cwts.)	14.55
Number of houses and premises	13,860
Rateable value	£190,383
Product of Id. rate	£746
Rate in £ (Collection and Disposal)	18.95d.

Depot.

At the present time there is no permanent depot for the Cleansing Department, primarily due to the short period between the amalgamation of the three Authorities in 1934 and the outbreak of hostilities. Garage accommodation now available at Round Oak is severely strained as, although the buildings have been improved, the restricted space, together with the fact that it is leased by this Authority, make it imperative for a new Depot to be provided in the near future.

Waste Paper, etc., is dealt with at the Leys where sorting and baling is carried out in old converted buildings which will have to be removed within the next few years if tipping of refuse proceeds according to plan.

There can be no doubt that the ideal place for the Depot is at the Leys Disposal Ground which is of a size sufficient to allow for future development. It was pointed out at the inquiry held prior to the Ministry's approval to purchase, that the site, in addition to disposal facilities, would be suitable for Depot purposes; here also ground will eventually become available for recreation purposes for the employees of all departments.

Street Cleansing.

This service is mainly performed by two Lewin Mechanical Sweeper Collectors with the assistance of five hand sweepers. Of the latter, however, only one is physically fit and at times this man has to be transferred to keep refuse collection gangs up to strength.

Considerable trouble has been experienced in cleaning road surfaces due to clay, etc., being brought on to the public highway by lorries, particularly at places where reconstruction work is in progress. The position became so difficult in one place in spite of contractors' men assisting in clearing up, that eventually, it was decided by the Council to ask the County Council to frame a Bye-Law to enable such conditions to be dealt with.

The Lewin Sweepers rendered good service although the working days were reduced by 76 compared with the previous year, for as the machines become older, repairs and overhauls are more frequently required. The rising maintenance costs, wages, etc., were off-set by re-arrangement of the sweeping brushes, the cost of rebristling being £728 as compared with £1,010 for the previous year; and the gross expenditure on street cleansing at £4,656 reveals a decrease of £180.

Details of the work of the vehicles is summarised below:—

	<i>Working Days.</i>	<i>No. of Loads.</i>	<i>Weight Tons.</i>	<i>Loads of Water.</i>
No. 1 Lewin Sweeper	234	417	539	357
No. 2 Lewin Sweeper	231	410	551	299
		827	1090	656
Street sweepings moved by other vehicles		137	223	—
Total		964	1313	656

The mileage of the made-up roads is:—

Trunk Roads—1.19; Main Roads—21.69; District Roads—36.91.

Gully Cleansing.

There are 1,752 street gullies, all of which are emptied by mechanical means. 5,408 Cleansings were effected and 278 loads removed, giving a total tonnage of 638 tons.

The gross cost was £542 or £73 per 1,000 gullies.

Cesspools.

The number of cesspools cleansed was 177 ; loads removed were 369 and the cost was £236.

Sanitary Accommodation.

The following comparison shows the considerable progress made in the sanitary accommodation since 1939 :—

	<i>W.C.'s.</i>	<i>Bins.</i>	<i>Pans.</i>	<i>Ashpits Privies.</i>	<i>Dry Ashpits.</i>	<i>Cesspools.</i>
1939 ...	12762 ...	12540 ...	100 ...	159 ...	26 ...	98
1951 ...	14216 ...	13785 ...	87 ...	39 ...	2 ...	97

Public Conveniences.

There are seven for males and three for females in the area ; the sum of £46 0s. 0d. was collected during the year.

All public conveniences are thoroughly cleaned daily, two being visited twice each day.

SALVAGE.**Waste Paper.**

Throughout the year two vehicles were employed on the collection of waste paper, one female collector assisting the driver in each case with a third collector available when required. A regular weekly collection was made from all works and shops and a fortnightly collection from house-holders who had continued their war-time habit of saving waste paper, thereby making considerable contributions.

From an economic point of view the result was satisfactory, the income being £2,464 in return for 350 tons of Waste Paper despatched to the paper mills. This tonnage was much the same as last year, but the income was £300 higher due to price increases.

At the end of the year arrangements were being made to add another team and divide the area into three districts so as to enable more attention to be given to house-to-house collections, and, if warranted by economic conditions, to engage more collectors.

Kitchen Waste.

Waste food continues to be collected from communal street bins, works' canteens, etc., twice weekly, whilst a weekly collection is given to 460 householders who have 3-gallon containers provided for the purpose. Unfortunately, due to labour and economic problems, it has never been possible to extend the system.

The total amount collected was 148 tons as compared with 165 tons the previous year and income was £407, but there can be little doubt that the income would not cover the expenditure if the service was separately costed.

During the year, difficulty arose as to the disposal of waste food as the processors who, for the past ten years, had taken the waste food collections refused, at very short notice, to accept supplies. It was possible, however, after some little delay, to find a fresh outlet.

General.

The total income from all materials salvaged was £3,052, representing a total of 521 tons as follows:—

Salvage Income.	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£</i>
Paper	350	2464
Metal	3	13
Cullet, bottle and jars	10	20
Condemned Meat and Bones	3	10
Textiles	7	133
Kitchen Waste	148	407
Miscellaneous	—	5
Total	521	3052

H. J. PARKER,

Cleansing Superintendent.

