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BROMSGROVE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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# ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1951.







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## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

### 1951

*Chairman of the Council*—COUNCILLOR H. P. HOLMES.

*Vice-Chairman*—COUNCILLOR J. E. WATTERSON.

#### MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE :

*Chairman*—COUNCILLOR MRS. M. H. HOLT.

COUNCILLOR H. B. BRYANT.

COUNCILLOR F. N. CLEMENTS.

COUNCILLOR F. W. EDMUNDS.

COUNCILLOR MRS. K. M. FIELD.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. F. FRANKS.

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COUNCILLOR H. P. HOLMES.

COUNCILLOR J. J. HUDSON.

COUNCILLOR F. T. JONES.

COUNCILLOR L. G. WAGSTAFF.

COUNCILLOR J. E. WATTERSON.

#### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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Medical Officer of Health (Part Time).

Assistant County Medical Officer.

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Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

Assistant County Medical Officer.

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Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat and Food Inspector.

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Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Food Certificate.

Additional Sanitary Inspector.

#### Clerks :

MISS B. WASS, MISS P. WALLACE.



HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
BROMSGROVE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the state of the public health of Bromsgrove Urban District for the year ending 31st December, 1951.

There were some slight changes in the general health of the community. The infant deaths showed a remarkable decrease. The number of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified increased and the number of deaths from this disease doubled, though the latter were only about half the number recorded in 1949.

No cases of Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis were recorded.

Though there were, for the first time, no cases of Diphtheria notified during the year, I would stress the need to avoid complacency and I would urge the continuing necessity for *full* immunisation of children against this deadly disease. As I have mentioned in my report, a neighbouring Authority in whose district more children appeared to have been immunised than in this district, suffered a very serious outbreak of Diphtheria in which three children died. *These three children were U N-immunised.*

Your Chief Sanitary Inspector is to be congratulated for his work towards the better understanding by cafe proprietors of the principles of food hygiene. The swabbing of crockery and cutlery utensils for bacteriological examination has shown up deficiencies in washing-up techniques in cafes and other catering establishments. Follow-up inspections with advice concerning the use of detergents and detergent-sterilisers has paid dividends. Great strides have been made towards improved kitchen hygiene as a result.

I wish to thank the members of the Council for the help and consideration extended to me during the year, and Mr. Jessop, Senior Officers and their staffs for their co-operation. I am greatly indebted to Mr. Holden and the staff of the Health Department for their continued enthusiastic work.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. T. SHENNAN, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION A.

### Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area : 9,228 acres.

Registrar General's estimate of Population mid :	1951—28,550
	1950—27,800
	1949—27,430
	1948—27,710
	1938—23,540

(Census 1951—27,924).

Number of inhabited houses at the end of :	1951—7,736
	1950—7,627
	1949—7,491
	1948—7,379
	1938—6,902

Rateable Value, 1st April, 1951 : £149,433.

Sum represented by Penny Rate : £595 0s. 0d.

### VITAL STATISTICS.

(1950 figures given in brackets).

#### Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population showed an increase of 750 over the previous year—74 by excess of births over deaths—676 by immigration.

The Census taken during the year showed the total population to be 626 below the estimated population.

The statistics have been calculated from the estimated figure.

#### Live Births.

	M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate ...	196	181	377 (391)
Illegitimate ...	7	3	10 (15)
Total	203	184	387 (406)

#### Birth Rate.

(Births per 1,000 population.)

1951	1950	1938	1951 (England and Wales)
13.5	14.6	17.8	15.5 (15.8)

#### Illegitimacy Rate.

(Total live illegitimate births per 1,000 total live births).

1951	1950	1949	1938
25.84	36.94	27.52	33.5

The number of births showed a fall under that of the previous year (406). The Birth Rate of 13.5 per thousand (14.6) was a decrease, well below that for the whole country. The Birth Rate for the district was 2.1 per thousand below that of the whole country.



The illegitimate births showed a decrease by one-third.  
**Still Births.**

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate ...	4	5	9 (7)
Illegitimate ...	1	—	1 (—)
Total ...	5	5	10 (7)

**Still Birth Rate.** (Still births per 1,000 total births.)

1951	1950	1949	1938
25.18	17.24	14.56	27.9

The rate of Still Births per 1,000 of the population was 0.35 (0.25) which approximated to that of England and Wales 0.36 (0.37).

**Deaths.**

<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
147 (140)	156 (143)	303 (283)

**Death Rate.** (Deaths per 1,000 population.)

1951	1950	1949	1938	1951 (England and Wales).
10.61	10.18	10.17	12.5	12.5 (11.6)

The number of deaths showed an increase of 20 over the previous year. The Death Rate was still well below that for the whole country.

#### **The Major Causes of Death by Percentage.**

1. Diseases of the heart and circulatory system ... 45.2 % (48.8 %)
2. Cancer and other malignant disease ... 19.9 % (15.9 %)
3. Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis) ... 13.6 % (11.3 %)
4. Influenza ... 2.9 % —
5. Tuberculosis ... 2.6 % (1.8 %)
6. Accidents ... 2.3 % (4.6 %)

The three major causes of death remained in the same order. There was a substantial increase in the number of deaths registered as caused by malignant disease. A countrywide outbreak of influenza occurring at the beginning of the year was felt to a slight extent in the district, there being 9 deaths registered. It is possible that mild attacks of influenza may have been the precipitating factor in bringing about a premature decease in sufferers from the other main causes of death.

#### **Percentage distribution of deaths :**

<i>Age at Death.</i>	% 1951	% 1950
0— 1 year.	1.65	3.89
1—14 years.	0.66	1.41
15—44 years	5.61	4.95
45—64 years	21.45	20.85
65 and over	70.63	68.90

**Maternal Mortality.**

Maternal deaths per 1,000 total births.

1951	1950	1949	1938	1951 (England and Wales).
2.52	—	—	1.17	0.79

**Infant and Neonatal Mortality.****Infant Deaths.**

(Deaths of Infants under 1 year.)

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate ...	2	3	5 (10)
Illegitimate ...	—	—	— (1)
Total ...	2	3	5 (11)

**Neonatal Deaths.**

(Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks.)

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate ...	—	2	2 (7)
Illegitimate ...	—	—	— (1)
Total ...	—	2	2 (8)

**Death rates of Infants and Neonatal Deaths.**

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

	1951	1950	1938	1951 (England and Wales)
Deaths of legitimately born infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 legitimate births	13.26	25.57	56.9	—
Deaths of illegitimately born infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 illegitimate births	Nil	66.67	166.7	—
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 live births ...	5.17	19.70	—	—
Deaths of all infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births ...	12.92	27.09	59.8	29.6 (29.8)

**The Causes of Infant Deaths.**

Prematurity ...	1 (Neonatal)
Haemorrhagic Disease ...	1 (Neonatal)
Broncho-Pneumonia ...	3
(one following Whooping Cough)	
Total ...	5



There was a striking fall in the number of infant deaths to below half of all infants and to a quarter of infants under 4 weeks in comparison with the previous year.

These are wonderful figures and it is hoped that they will be maintained. However, this is very doubtful as these figures are exceptional.

The Infant Mortality rate, for all infants for the district, of 12.92 was almost  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times below that for the whole country 29.6.

**CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BROMSGROVE URBAN DISTRICT  
1951.**

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Mor- tality Rate.</i>
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	5	3	8	0.28
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease ...	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough ...	—	1	1	0.04
6. Meningococcal Infections ...	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—
8. Measles ...	—	1	1	0.04
9. Other Infective and Parasitic diseases ...	1	—	1	0.04
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ...	13	4	17	0.60
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	8	2	10	0.35
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast ...	—	3	3	0.10
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus ...	—	5	5	0.17
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	12	13	25	0.88
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	—	2	2	0.07
16. Diabetes ...	1	—	1	0.04
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	29	48	1.68
18. Coronary Disease, Angina ...	13	9	22	0.77
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	6	3	9	0.32
20. Other heart disease ...	20	31	51	1.79
21. Other circulatory disease ...	5	2	7	0.24
22. Influenza ...	4	5	9	0.32
23. Pneumonia ...	3	8	11	0.39
24. Bronchitis ...	15	6	21	0.70
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	5	2	7	0.24
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	—	2	0.07
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	1	1	0.04
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	—	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	1	1	0.04
31. Congenital malformations ...	1	—	1	0.04
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	22	32	1.12
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	3	1	4	0.14
34. All other accidents ...	1	2	3	0.10
35. Suicide ...	—	—	—	—
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	147	156	303	10.61



## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

#### (a) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

<i>Clinic.</i>	<i>Situation.</i>	<i>Time of Holding.</i>
Bromsgrove Infant Welfare Centre	Recreation Road	Wednesday 2.0 p.m., 2nd & 4th Thursday 2.0 p.m.
Catshill Infant Welfare Centre	Baptist Chapel	Friday 2.0 p.m.
Bromsgrove Ante-Natal Clinic	Recreation Road	Monday 10.0—12.0 noon & 2.0—4.0 p.m.
School Clinic	Recreation Road	Monday & Wednesday 10.0 a.m. to 12.0 noon.
Dental Clinic	Recreation Road	As arranged.
Tuberculosis	All Saints Hospital	Tuesday 2.0 p.m.
Rubery Ante-Natal Clinic	St. Chad's Church Hall	1st & 3rd Thursdays 10.0 a.m.
Rubery Infant Welfare	St. Chad's Church Hall	1st & 3rd Thursdays 2.0 p.m.
Diphtheria Immunisation and Vaccination	Recreation Road	2nd & 4th Wednesday 11.0 a.m.

These clinics, administered by the County Council, continued to do valuable service towards the preservation of health and the prevention of disease. The great help given at the Infant Welfare Clinics by voluntary workers was very much appreciated by the Medical and Nursing Staffs.

#### (b) Home Nursing and Midwifery.

Three agencies were available to provide help to the expectant mother:—(1) The family doctor—ante and post-natal care and conduct of the confinement. (2) The County Council—ante-natal clinics and provision of midwives to conduct delivery or assist the family doctor as maternity nurses. (3) The Regional Hospital Board—provision of hospital beds for delivery and treatment. The functions of these three agencies overlapped to some degree, but, by co-operation between them, the midwifery service ran smoothly and to the benefit of the mothers and their babies.

The maternity unit at All Saints Hospital commenced work during the year, replacing Rigby Hall which closed down. Unfortunately, owing to lack of staff, it was not possible to much more than replace the number of beds lost by the closure of Rigby Hall. However, when the All Saints unit is able to expand to its full capacity the maternity-bed shortage should be considerably reduced.

The County Medical Officer continued to act as Agent for the Regional Hospital Board in the allocation of beds.

The Bromsgrove Nurses attended :—

145 Cases as Midwives ... making 2,989 visits.

16 Cases as Maternity Nurses making 334 visits.

422 Cases as General Nurses ... making 11,880 visits.

**(c) Health Visiting.**

The County Council continued to provide a Health Visiting Service. The Health Visitors are nurse-midwives especially trained in the care of healthy infants and young children. They visit mothers from four weeks after the birth of their infants and advise on the maintenance of breast feeding and the general care of the baby. They also attended infant welfare clinics and acted as school nurses.

These nurses do valuable work in health education, bringing advice on all health matters to the mother, in the home and in the clinic :—

Miss Hopkins, 96 Worcester Road, serves Bromsgrove itself.

Mrs. Bryan, 16 Windsor Street, serves Catshill.

Miss Lawson, 8 Chesterwood Road, King's Heath, serves Rubery.

**(d) Laboratory Facilities.**

Bacteriological Examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester, and chemical analyses were made by the County Laboratory, County Buildings, Worcester.

**(e) Diphtheria Immunisation and Smallpox Vaccination.**

The County Council provided a free Immunisation and Vaccination Service through which parents could have their children protected against Diphtheria and Smallpox either through clinics or by their own doctors.

Locally this service was arranged through the Urban District's Health Department. Details of the number of Immunisations and Vaccinations done is given under Section (F).



**(f) Hospitals.**

The following hospitals were available to the residents of the district :—

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Infectious Disease.                    | Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Hales-<br>owen.<br>Little Bromwich Fever Hospital.  |
| 2. Maternity.                             | All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove.<br>Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital,<br>Stourbridge.<br>Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stour-<br>port.<br>Redditch Maternity Hospital. |
| 3. General Medical and<br>Surgical Cases. | All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove.<br>Bromsgrove Cottage Hospital.<br>Birmingham Hospitals.  |
| 4. Chest Surgery.                         | Hill Top Hospital, Bromsgrove.   |
| 5. Children's Diseases.                   | Children's Hospital, Birmingham.   |
| 6. Venereal Disease.                      | General Hospital, Birmingham.<br>Royal Infirmary, Worcester.   |
| 7. Aged Chronic Sick.                     | All Saints Hospital, Bromsgrove.   |
| 8. Mental Illness.                        | Barnsley Hall, Bromsgrove.   |

All these hospital services, with the exception of the Redditch Maternity Hospital, a voluntary body, were provided by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

**(g) Health Education.**

The Council subscribes to the Central Council for Health Education. In general, the working agreement has been that the Central Council for Health Education are responsible for supplying general health education material, while the District Council has to supply material used in campaigns for specific diseases as part of their Disease Prevention Service.

**(h) Care of the Aged and Infirm.**

No cases of Aged and Infirm persons in need of care and protection brought to my notice during the year required action for their forcible removal to hospital or institution under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1946, or the amending 1951 Act.

There is no doubt that there is an ever increasing need for a service of nursing and domestic help for ageing people in their homes. I am very grateful for the assistance the District Nurses and the Home-Help Service, organised for the County Council by the W.V.S., have given towards this end.

I would reiterate my words of last year—"The forcing of old people, against their will, for their own good, into homes for the aged may be detrimental to their very survival, although their poor and insanitary circumstances appear to merit such action. These powers should only be exercised in very extreme and exceptional cases."

## SECTION C.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors is given in a report by your Chief Sanitary Inspector and a detailed statement of the sanitary state of the district is included in the report. During the year nine wells were abolished, and mains water provided in lieu.

The water supplied by the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company is sampled frequently both by the Company and the Sanitary Inspectors and specimen reports are set out below :—

**(a) Sample marked Pumping Station. Burcot—"Lambert."**

<i>Physical Characters</i>	...	...	Clear.
Odour	...	...	None.
Deposit	...	...	None. pH 6.8.
<i>Chemical Examination</i> (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).			
Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100°C)	...	...	None
Solids in Solution (Dried at 180°C)	...	...	25
Solids in Solution. After ignition	...	...	24
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	3.1
Hardness Permanent	...	...	9
Hardness Temporary	...	...	9
Hardness Total	...	...	18
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	0.001
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0022
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	0.45
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	Nil.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N/80 Permanganate)	...	...	Nil.
Toxic Metals	...	...	None detected.

#### **Bacteriological Examination**

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C	...	...	1 per one ml.
(b) In three days at 22°C	...	...	1 per one ml.
Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) Count	...	...	Nil per 100 ml.

*Opinion* : The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst,

23rd January, 1951.



(b) **Sample marked Washingstocks Pumping Station, Stourbridge Road—"Bigwood."**

<i>Physical Characters</i>	...	...	Clear.
Odour	...	...	None.
Deposit	...	...	None. pH 7.0.
<b>Chemical Examination</b> (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).			
Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100°C)	...	...	None.
Solids in Solution (Dried at 180°C)	...	...	28
Solids in Solution. After ignition	...	...	26
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	...	...	3.6
Hardness Permanent	...	...	8
Hardness Temporary	...	...	12
Hardness Total	...	...	20
Free and Saline Ammonia	...	...	0.0016
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	0.0002
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	...	0.53
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	...	...	Nil.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N/80 Permanganate)	...	...	Nil.
Toxic Metals	...	...	None detected.

**Bacteriological Examination**

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C ... Nil per one ml.

(b) In three days at 22°C ... 4 per one ml.

Coli-Aerogenes (presumptive coli) Count ... Nil per 100 ml.

*Opinion* : The Sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

16th November, 1951.

**Public Cleansing.**

Refuse collections and disposal are supervised by the Surveyor. The collections of refuse are weekly in the town and fortnightly in the more rural areas.

The number of loads from bins was 1,594.

**SECTION D.**

**HOUSING.**

The housing position at the end of 1951 was as follows :—

Number of houses in the district	...	...	7,736
Number of persons per house	...	...	3.69
Number of houses built by private enterprise	...	...	12
Number of houses built by Council	...	...	72
Number of houses under construction at end of year	...	...	147
Number of houses demolished during 1951	...	...	4

The number of persons living in caravans is still on the increase due to the continued housing shortage. The sites are inspected from time to time from the public health and town planning point of view. Licences are issued subject to renewal every six months.

## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

During the year routine inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspectors to food shops, cafes, licensed premises, etc., and as a result of these visits many improvements were carried out.

The need for hygiene now appears to be accepted, both by the trader and the public. Employers should ensure that employees understand the principles of hygiene, and it is up to the public to co-operate with the trader. Such practices as opening bags by blowing, licking the fingers or coughing over food are to be deprecated.

Towards the end of the year bacteriological swabs of crockery and cutlery were taken from cafes and restaurants. Some of the results obtained were not of a good standard, but improvements were made by the end of the year. Sampling will continue in order to give some indication of the standard of cleanliness of washing-up.

Efforts are continuously being made to bring premises up to a high standard of hygiene, but the main consideration must always be the food handler himself, for in his or her hands lies the responsibility for safe food.

## SECTION F.

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

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1951.

<i>Disease.</i>	<i>Corrected Notifications.</i>	<i>Admissions to Hospital.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	18	5	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever...	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ... ..	4	4	—
Measles ... ..	145	1	1
Whooping Cough ... ..	71	1	1
Acute Pneumonia ... ..	25	3	11 (one notified)
Puerperal Pyrexia... ..	11	9	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	5	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	1	—
Erysipelas ... ..	6	—	—
Malaria ... ..	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>13</b>



### Poliomyelitis.

There were no cases of Acute Poliomyelitis notified during the year.

### Diphtheria.

Diphtheria Incidence and Mortality 1941-1951.		
<i>Year.</i>	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
1941	55	1
1942	37	1
1943	21	—
1944	16	—
1945	13	1
1946	8	—
1947	8	—
1948	14	—
1949	1	—
1950	1	—
1951	—	—

For the first time there were no cases of diphtheria reported in the district during the year. However, there should be no complacency. A neighbouring district suffered a very serious outbreak of diphtheria involving 25 cases with 3 deaths during the year. Records of immunisation of children in the two districts showed the affected district to have a higher immunisation rate than this one.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children who completed a course of immunisation during the year 1951 was as follows :—

#### *Primary Immunisation.*

	1951	1950
Under 5 years ... ..	345	241
5—14 years ... ..	36	29
Total ... ..	381	270
Reinforcing "Booster" injection ...	283	238

The "immunisation state" of Bromsgrove children on the 31st December was as follows :—

<i>Age ( Years )</i>	0-1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	Total.
Number Immunised	15	219	258	331	384	2034	1744	4985
Population (approx.)	Children under five 2354			5 to 14 years 4607				6961
% Immunised	51.27 %			82.00 %				71.61 %

The comparable figures on 31st December, 1950, were :—

	Children under five	5 to 14 years	Total
% Immunised ...	50.06 %	82.77 %	71.27 %

The immunisation state, as above, shows little change from last year and, though good, is not good enough.

The experience in the outbreak of diphtheria, mentioned above, proved that, after 3—4 years from the time it is given, primary immunisation *alone* is not enough to give full protection against this disease. Primary immunisation in infancy without “reinforcement” appeared to protect the children affected against the fatal consequences of the disease, but did not prevent serious illness.

Only one case was found to be in a child who had been further protected by a “reinforcing” or “Booster” dose, and she had a very mild form of the disease and recovered completely.

*The 3 deaths were in UN-immunised children.*

ONLY THOSE IMMUNISED SCHOOL-CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN GIVEN A “REINFORCING” OR “BOOSTER” INJECTION 3—4 YEARS AFTER THE INITIAL COURSE CAN BE SAID TO BE FULLY PROTECTED AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

#### **Scarlet Fever.**

The notifications of scarlet fever remained at much the same level as last year. Fewer cases were admitted to hospital.

#### **Enteric Fever.**

Four cases of paratyphoid fever occurred in the district. On investigation, in collaboration with the Birmingham Public Health Department, these cases were found to be connected with a larger outbreak in the Northfield area. The cause was traced to a carrier, the vehicle of spread to cream buns.

#### **Dysentery.**

Five cases of dysentery were notified. None of these cases were connected with one another and the source of infection was not determined.

#### **Food Poisoning.**

No cases of food poisoning, other than the four cases of paratyphoid fever mentioned above, were reported.

#### **Smallpox.**

There were no cases of smallpox during the year. The number of primary vaccinations showed a slight increase.



## Vaccination.

Number of persons Vaccinated (or Re-Vaccinated) during 1951.

Age at 31st Dec., 1951, i.e. born in years.	Under 1 1951	1 1950	2 to 4 1949-1947	5 to 14 1946-1937	15 or over before 1937	Total 1951	Total 1950
Number Vaccinated	172	6	8	7	17	210	187
Number Re-Vaccinated	Nil	Nil	1	2	58	61	60

## Whooping Cough.

There was a considerable increase in the number of notified cases of whooping cough 71 (15). There was one death.

## Measles.

There was a similar number of notifications of measles received to that of the previous year 145 (150). The greatest number were received from Bromsgrove town itself, whereas last year Rubery was the main sufferer. The disease, therefore, showed the usual biennial variation in the two areas, but not in the district as a whole.

## Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis continued to be notified to the Urban District Council and a Register kept. Following the implementation of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the responsibility for the treatment of tuberculosis passed from the County Council to the Regional Hospital Board, but the County Council still remained responsible for the Prevention and After-Care. The Tuberculosis Officers became Officers of the Regional Hospital Board, but remained at the disposal of the County Council for duties in connection with Prevention and After-Care.

The state of the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1951 was as follows :—

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Pulmonary ... ..	91	76	167 (139)
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	21	21	42 (37)
Total ... ..	112	97	209 (176)

# Tuberculosis Incidence and Mortality for the year 1951.

Age.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5— ...	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
10— ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15— ...	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
20— ...	1	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
25— ...	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
35— ...	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
45— ...	5	3	—	—	2	1	—	—
55— ...	3	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
65 & Over	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age Un-known ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	17	16	3	3	5	3	Nil	Nil
	33 (13)		6 (3)		8 (4)		Nil (1)	

During the year 39 (16) new cases were notified, 33 (13) being pulmonary and 6 (3) being non-pulmonary. This was an increase of over twice the number notified during the previous year. There were 8 deaths—3 more than the previous year.

The total number on the Register showed an increase of 33 over last year.

The overall figure of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis for England and Wales showed a considerable fall—2,000 less deaths than the previous year. However, these were still at a rate of 230 deaths per week.

It is to be hoped that the increased number of notifications shows that the disease is being diagnosed earlier and that the recession in deaths is due to more effective drug and surgical treatment instituted in the early stages of the disease.

However, preventive measures in the form of isolation, examination of contacts, rehousing in cases of overcrowding and insanitary conditions must be continued.

The Bromsgrove Tuberculosis After-Care Committee continued to do good work in providing extra help and comforts to needy patients and their families.



# REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1951.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you a report of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1951.

During the year there was a considerable increase in the amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption, particularly tinned ham, luncheon meats, etc. The weight of tinned ham alone found unfit for food was 8 cwts. 1 qr. 13 lbs. The Ministry of Food took this matter up with the importers and a considerable improvement has been made in the quality of tinned ham since. Food shops and food preparing and ice cream premises received special attention, particularly with regard to the washing-up of cutlery and crockery and the rinse water used for ice cream servers. It was noticeable that the quaternary ammonium compounds when correctly used were very effective.

As in previous years, notices on property fit only for demolition have been limited to urgent sanitary defects. It is hoped that the time will not be far distant when these unsatisfactory houses can be dealt with by demolition.

Some houses were connected to the sewer during the year, but there are still many properties where no sewer is available and the occupiers have to rely on cesspools. Although the Council empty cesspools every six months, the only satisfactory solution is the provision of more sewers. Two schemes for the provision of sewers are in the preparatory stage and it is hoped that more will follow.

With the co-operation of the Surveyor, over 700 bins have been delivered under the Bin Provision Scheme adopted by the Council during the year. Unfortunately the supply of bins from the manufacturers is erratic due to the shortage of steel and, although every effort is made to provide bins as soon as they are required, some delay is inevitable.

I should again like to record my appreciation of the work of the Staff of the Department; without their whole-hearted co-operation and keenness it would have been impossible to achieve the improvements which are recorded in this report. I should also like to thank the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk of the Council, the Surveyor, the Housing Manager and all the other Officers of the Council for their help at all times, and also the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support in our endeavours.

A summary of the work done is set out below.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. HOLDEN,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*



## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The number of pigs notified to the department for inspection under the self-suppliers scheme was 138. The amount of pig meat found on inspection to be unfit for human consumption was as follows :—

	<i>No.</i>	<i>Reason for Surrender.</i>	<i>Weight.</i>
Heads	2	Tuberculosis	50 lbs.
Mesentery	1	Tuberculosis	4 lbs.

A list of foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption after examination at wholesale depots and shops is set out below :—

Ox Lungs & Spleens	152 lbs.	Sponge Mixture	
English Beef	17 lbs. 2 oz.	(16 Packets)	8 lbs.
Ox Tails	42 lbs.	Sponge Flour Mixture	
Frozen Forequarter Beef	60 lbs.	(3 Packets)	1 lb. 8 oz.
Pork Sausage	15 lbs.	Cake Flour Mixture	
Pork Pies	3 lbs.	(14 Packets)	7 lbs.
Boiled Ham	2 lbs.	Shrewsbury Cake	15 Pkts.
Brawn	2 lbs.	Milk Bar Sandwich	
Beef Sausage	1 lb.	Wafers	160
Bacon	4 lbs. 4 oz.	Vanilla Wafers	19 lbs. 4 oz.
Tomato & Oxtail Soup	86 Packets.	Wafer Bars	4 lbs.
Desiccated Soup	15 Packets.	Lemon Wafers	8 lbs.
Gravy Powders	43 Packets.	Fish Paste (53 Jars)	5 lbs. 2 oz.
Gravy Salt	12 Packets.	Bloater Paste (5 Jars)	6 ozs.
Meat Paste (1 Jar)	1½ oz.	Kipper (1 Jar)	3 ozs.
Pineapple Chunks (5 Jars)	4 lbs. 1 oz.	Sandwich Spread	7 Jars.
Pineapples (3 Jars)	2 lbs. 8 oz.	Lemon Flavour	5 Bottles.
Damsons (1 Jar)	1 lb. 9 oz.	Glycerine, Lemon &	
Pears	10 lbs.	Honey	2 Bottles.
Pears (3 Jars)	3 lbs. 7 oz.	Essence	13 Bottles.
Jordan Almonds	4 lbs.	Ginger Wine Essence	
Ground Almonds	12 lbs.	(6 Bottles)	12 oz.
Olives (1 Jar)	10 oz.	Mint Sauce	1 Bottle.
Fruit Salad (1 Jar)	1 lb. 2 oz.	Lime Flavouring	
Gooseberries (2 Jars)	3 lbs. 2 oz.	(2 Bottles)	4 oz.
Plums (3 Jars)	4 lbs. 10 oz.	Horse Radish (1 Jar)	6 oz.
Prunes	15 lbs.	Tomato Sauce	4 Bottles.
Apricots (9 Jars)	8 lbs. 2 oz.	Salad Cream	88 Jars.
Jam (1 Jar)	2 lbs.	Pickled Onions	1 Jar.
Table Jelly	1 Packet.	Chutney	1 Jar.
Mincemeat	1 lb.	Gravy Browning (1 Jar)	6½ oz.
Patum Peperium	1 Jar.	Table Salt	1 lb. 8 oz.
Junket (2 Bottles)	7 oz.	Pickles (5 Jars)	2 lbs. 8 oz.
Milk Chocolate Dainties	35½ doz. bars.	Pickled Cabbage (1 Jar)	12 oz.
Chocolate	3 lbs. 2 oz.	Olives	2 Jars.
Bun Flour (3 Packets)	1 lb. 8 oz.	Cheese	16 lbs.
Porridge Oats	3 lbs. 8 oz.	Processed Cheese	
Cereals (2 Packets)	1 lb. 1½ oz.	(22 Boxes)	5 lbs. 11 oz.
Barley Kernels	12 oz.	Butter	3 lbs.
Self Raising Flour	34 lbs.	Cheese Spread	
Barley Flour (1 Pkt.)	4 oz.	(58 Packets)	14 lbs. 8 oz.



Flour (2 Packets)	2 lbs.	Danish Cheese Spread	18 Pkts.
Soya Flour	4 lbs.	Lard	7 lbs. 8 oz.
Soyaghetti	36 lbs.	Sugar	1 lb.
Ground Rice	9 lbs.	Dried Fruit & Sugar	60 lbs.
Oats (2 Packets)	3 lbs. 8 oz.	Ryvita (3 Packets)	1 lb. 6½ oz.
Rice	4 lbs.	Biscuits	31 lbs. 8 oz.
Spaghetti (1 Packet)	1 lb.	Sponge Fingers	4 lbs.
Dutch Wafflet	4 Packets.	Chocolate Biscuits	8 lbs. 6 oz.
Slab Cake	30 lbs. 4 oz.	Cream Crackers	34 lbs. 4 oz.
Jam Tarts	12 Boxes.	Shortbread	19 lbs.
Jam Swiss Rolls	5		
Chocolate Swiss Rolls	12		
Malt and Fruit Loaves	3		

### Tinned Goods.

Braised Hearts	1 tin.	Baby Food Puree	2 tins.
Veal	4 tins.	Baby Food	1 tin.
Beef Sausages	2 tins.	Pepper Substitute	1 tin.
Meat	4 tins.	Mustard	1 tin.
Beef Loaf	5 tins.	Sandwich Spread	3 tins.
Pork and Beef	21 tins.	Horse Radish	1 tin.
Veal and Ham Loaf	2 tins.	Table Salt	1 tin.
Ham	81 tins.	Damsons	16 tins.
Pork	19 tins.	Strawberries	1 tin.
Luncheon Meat	134 tins.	Gooseberries	2 tins.
Pork Luncheon Meat	3 tins.	Goldengages	2 tins.
Stewed Steak	1 tin.	Greengages	4 tins.
Brawn	1 tin.	Blackcurrants	9 tins.
Chicken	3 tins.	Pears	6 tins.
Meat Soups	5 tins.	Apple Pudding	1 tin.
Tomato Soup	8 tins.	Apples	8 tins.
Soup	9 tins.	Apple Puree	29 tins.
Scotch Broth	4 tins.	Plums	37 tins.
Vegetable Soup	2 tins.	Bananas	31 tins.
Condensed Milk	45 tins.	Grapes	1 tin.
Evaporated Milk	59 tins.	Grape Juice	3 tins.
Skimmed Milk	4 tins.	Grapefruit	1 tin.
Cocoa	3 tins.	Grapefruit Juice	12 tins.
Tomatoes	206 tins.	Pineapple	6 tins.
Tomato Juice	1 tin.	Pineapple Juice	1 tin.
Tomato Puree	6 tins.	Prunes	1 tin.
Carrots	13 tins.	Rhubarb	4 tins.
Peas	71 tins.	Peaches	3 tins.
Beans	66 tins.	Cherries	12 tins.
Beetroot	2 tins.	Raspberries	1 tin.
Mixed Vegetables	1 tin.	Oranges	4 tins.
Spinach	1 tin.	Apricots	6 tins.
Celery	2 tins.	Blackberries	9 tins.
Spaghetti	53 tins.	Peach Pulp	10 tins.
Macedoinès	5 tins.	Blackberry Pie Pulp	9 tins.



Lobster	3 tins.	Peach Jam	1 tin.
Peel Shrimps	2 tins.	Jam	1 tin.
Soft Roes	3 tins.	Apricot Jam	1 tin.
Crab Paste	1 tin.	Plum Jam	2 tins.
Fish Paste	2 tins.	Marmalade	6 tins.
Sardines	9 tins.	Grapefruit Marmalade	1 tin.
Herrings	13 tins.	Mincemeat	2 tins.
Pilchards	1 tin.	Grapefruit & Orange	
Fish Spread	3 tins.	Marmalade	2 tins.
Silds	5 tins.	Melon & Ginger Jam	1 tin.
		Bilberries	16 tins.
		Blackcurrant Jam	1 tin.

### Food Premises.

During the year, routine visits were made to practically all the food shops, food preparing premises, cafes, licensed premises and ice cream premises in the district. The total number of visits under the Food and Drugs Act was over 800.

Particular attention was paid to cafes, restaurants and ice cream premises. Crockery and cutlery in cafes and restaurant kitchens were swabbed and these were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination; 97 such swabs of cups, plates, forks, spoons and glasses were taken. Twenty samples of the water in which ice cream servers were standing were also submitted for bacteriological examination and 16 clean bottles which were ready for filling at mineral water factories were sent for examination. In many cases the initial samples were of a poor bacteriological standard, but advice was given to the traders on the dangers of infected crockery, etc., with suggestions on improving the standard of dishwashing. Further samples showed a considerable improvement in some cases, and some were of a high standard. This work is being continued during 1952 and an endeavour is being made to achieve consistently good results at all cafes and restaurants in the district.

During the year the Working Party, set up by the Minister of Food to report on Hygiene in Catering Establishments, issued its report and it may be of interest to quote the recommendations on hand dishwashing procedure outlined in the report.

"Since Sir William Savage had informed the Committee that single-tank washing methods should not be used, only two-tank or three-tank methods were discussed.

"Before applying either method, food residues should be scraped into waste bins and the utensils preferably rinsed in warm water. This procedure should avoid waste of detergent and undue accumulation of soil in the first tank.

"Effective treatment by one or other of these two methods necessitates the following:—

#### *Two-tank method*

"(1) Wash-solution of suitable detergent at temperature of 110° F.—120° F.



- (2) (i) Immersion for fifteen seconds in clean water maintained at a temperature of 170° F., or an equally effective process of sterilisation by heat, or
- (ii) immersion for an adequate period in a solution of an effective concentration of a suitable bactericidal substance, such as a quaternary ammonium compound or a hypochlorite.

#### *Three-tank method*

- (1) Wash-solution as in stage (1) of two-tank method.
- (2) Warm water rinse, to prevent carry over of washing liquid to final rinsing stage. This second tank may be replaced by a satisfactory rinsing or spraying device.
- (3) (i) Immersion for fifteen seconds in clean water maintained at a temperature of 170° F., or an equally effective process of sterilisation by heat, or
- (ii) immersion for an adequate period in a solution of an effective concentration of a suitable bactericidal substance, such as a quaternary ammonium compound or hypochlorite."

It will be noticed that the single sink method of dishwashing is considered by the Working Party to be of no use and was not even considered. Many small cafes and restaurants have only one sink and should further legislation incorporate the two-sink method of dishwashing, many food shops will require alterations to comply with the new regulations.

During the year 10 premises were provided with a constant supply of hot water on request from this department. Repairs and improvements were carried out at 6 premises.

The Meat Depot in Windsor Street was inspected frequently. The meat is collected from Birmingham for distribution to butchers and is transported to the retail shops by means of special lorries.

The Surveyor and the Food Office co-operate with the Health Department in connection with new plans and licences granted to catering establishments.

The number of premises registered in the district for the preparation or manufacture of preserved food is 26.

#### **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

During the year there were 9 renewals granted under the above Act. In all cases, applicants stated they were prepared to use a humane killer, and the licences were granted on condition that a humane killer was used in the slaughtering of animals.

#### **Milk Supply.**

During the year 24 visits were made to the 4 dairies in the district. The number of distributors of milk is 25.

### Designated Milk.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949, all dealers in Pasteurised, Sterilised, Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk are subject to registration, and the following registrations are in force :—

	<i>Tuberculin Tested</i>	<i>Accredited</i>	<i>Pasteur- ised.</i>	<i>Sterilised</i>
No. of Dealers' Licences	6	Nil.	4	4
No. of Supplementary Licences ... ..	6	Nil.	8	7

The number of samples of milk taken for bacteriological examination was 84, and they are classified below :—

<i>Samples.</i>	<i>No. taken for bacteriological Examination.</i>	<i>No. Satisfactory</i>	<i>No. Unsatisfactory</i>
Undesignated Raw Milk ... ..	32	29	3
Heat Treated Milk ...	4	4	—
Sterilised Milk ...	7	7	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised ... ..	9	9	—
Pasteurised ... ..	22	22	—
Tuberculin Tested ...	10	10	—
Totals ... ..	84	81	3

The unsatisfactory samples were followed up by further samples which proved to be satisfactory.

Fifteen samples of undesignated milk were examined for the presence of tubercle bacillus with negative results.

### Ice Cream.

Routine samples of ice cream for bacteriological examination numbered 97. The results of samples taken is again favourable and a comparison with 1950 is set out overleaf :—



# Ice Cream—Bacteriological Results 1950 and 1951.

1950.

1951.

<i>Grade.</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>No. of Samples.</i>	<i>%</i>
1	104	97.2	1	93	95.9
2	3	2.8	2	4	4.1
3	—	—	3	—	—
4	—	—	4	—	—
Total	107	100.0	Total	97	100.0

The bacteriological standard of ice cream sold in the district is high. A large proportion of ice cream sold is manufactured by large concerns and the bulk of ice cream sold by retail is served in pre-packed containers or packages.

Retailers selling loose ice cream have been advised on the use of quaternary ammonium compounds for keeping serving utensils sterile. 21 samples of rinse water in which servers were standing have been taken during the year; 12 were unsatisfactory and advice was given concerning the use of quaternary ammonium compounds. When used in the correct proportion these quaternary ammonium compounds have proved very effective in rendering and maintaining a sterile serving utensil.

Regulations on the composition of ice cream were introduced during the year, and sampling for chemical examination is carried out by the Food and Drugs Authority, i.e. the County Council.

During the year there were 13 applications for the sale of ice cream, 10 were for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only, 2 were for loose ice cream and 1 for the manufacture and sale of ice cream.

No. of Premises Registered for Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream 9

No. of Premises Registered for Sale of Ice Cream ... 26

No. of Premises Registered for Sale of Pre-packed Ice Cream only 36

## Food and Drugs Act—Sampling.

I am authorised by the County Council to act as a Sampling Officer on their behalf within the district. Sampling under this arrangement is independent of, and in addition to, sampling carried out by the County Council.

Samples taken by me and submitted for analysis were as follows :—

Milk	...	Formal Samples	...	43
Milk	...	Informal Samples	...	Nil.

Samples found to be "adulterated" are listed below :—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Result of Analysis.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
750	20 % Deficient in fat.	} Follow-up. } of No. 750. } "Appeal to Cow" } Follow-up of Nos. } 750, 754 & 755.
754	13.3 % Deficient in fat.	
755	13.3 % Deficient in fat.	
756	3.3 % Deficient in fat.	
757	3.3 % Deficient in fat.	

All these samples were obtained from the same purveyor of milk. It was obvious that the milk sold was as it came from the cow ; therefore no legal action was taken.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

The following is a summary of the Sanitary Survey at the end of the year :—

#### Analysis of Sanitary Survey.

##### Including Council Houses.

	<i>No.</i>	<i>%.</i>
No. of Houses in District ... ..	7736	100
No. of Houses with Separate W.C.'s ... ..	6524	84.3
No. of Houses with Combined W.C.'s ... ..	438	5.7
No. of Houses with Privies and Earth Closets ... ..	156	2.0
No. of Houses with Pails and Chemicals ... ..	554	7.2
No. of Houses with Combined Pails ... ..	41	0.5
No. of Houses with Waste Water Closets ... ..	23	0.3
No. of Houses with Separate Mains Water Supply	7108	91.9
No. of Houses with Standpost Mains Water Supply	503	6.5
No. of Houses with Wells, Springs or Pumps Water Supply ... ..	125	1.6
No. of Houses with Baths ... ..	5155	66.6
No. of Houses connected to Sewer ... ..	6316	81.6
No. of Houses connected to Cesspools ... ..	906	11.7
No. of Houses connected to Septic Tanks ... ..	145	1.9
No. of Houses with no Proper Drainage ... ..	369	4.8



A Census Report of Great Britain taken in 1951 has just been published and the following figures are abstracted. For comparison we have attached the figures for Bromsgrove taken from our records :—

	<i>Census Report of Great Britain</i> <i>1 % Sample Tables Part 1.</i>	<i>Bromsgrove.</i>
Water Closets (not an earth or chemical closet).	77 % have separate.	84.3 %
	15 % shared.	5.7 %
	8 % entirely without.	10.0 %
Piped Water.	83 % have separate.	91.9 %
	11 % shared.	6.5 %
	6 % entirely without.	1.6 %
Fixed Bath with waste pipe leading outside.	55 % have separate.	66.6 % } No separate figures available.
	7½ % shared.	
	37½ % entirely without.	33.4 %

Although there is a slightly higher percentage of houses in Bromsgrove entirely without water closets, it is to be expected in a district of this type which has such a large rural area. It is interesting to note that in regard to water supply Bromsgrove is well up of the mean of the country and shows a slightly better average for fixed baths. There is, however, still much to be done before every house is equipped with separate W.C., piped water and a fixed bath.

#### **Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

At the end of 1951 there were 41 moveable dwellings in the district in full-time occupation on a temporary basis. Of these 14 are on sites, the remainder being individual vans only. No nuisances were reported from vans during the year. A strict watch is maintained in this matter and caravans are licensed by the Council for six month periods, subject to public health requirements.

#### **Water Supply.**

Forty samples of the town's supply were submitted to the County Analyst for chemical and bacteriological analysis, all of which were satisfactory.



Eleven samples from wells and springs were submitted and 9 samples were found to be unfit. Nine houses were provided with a piped water supply and the unfit wells serving the houses were abolished.

The East Worcestershire Waterworks Company laid mains in Fairfield Road, Bournheath, New Road, Sidemoor, and Willow Road, Sidemoor, to enable six properties to have a piped water supply.

### **Drainage.**

The preparations for the provision of sewers in Beacon Hill and Malvern Road went ahead and meetings were arranged with the owners of property in Malvern Road, who agreed to lay a private sewer to connect to the Old Birmingham Road sewer. When completed, this sewer will enable seven properties to be connected, and the Beacon Hill sewer extension will drain 10 houses.

New drainage provided to sewer ... ..	14
New drainage provided to cesspools ... ..	6
No. of obstructed drains dealt with ... ..	21
No. of tests applied to house drains ... ..	82
No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks, urinals, etc. dealt with ... ..	11
No. of cesspools abolished ... ..	7
No. of sinks provided ... ..	6

### **Cesspool Emptying.**

The cesspool emptying service provided by the Council continued as in other years, a twice yearly service being given to householders where no sewer is available. The following is a summary of the work carried out by the Cesspool Vehicle in 1951 :—

No. of Cesspools Emptied ... ..	1334
No. of loads from Cesspools ... ..	1160
No. of Gullies Cleansed ... ..	1212
No. of Privies Emptied ... ..	449
No. of Pails Emptied ... ..	1009
Mileage Covered ... ..	6036

### **Ashes Accommodation.**

In June, 1951, the Council undertook to provide dustbins for all properties in the district. An order was placed for 1,500 bins and up to the end of the year 500 dustbins had been supplied by the contractors ; 1,149 inspections were made and 747 bins were provided to occupiers. The bins being provided at present are aluminium painted bins, galvanising being prohibited by Government order.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

No smoke nuisances were reported during the year.

### **Disinfestation.**

No. of houses found to be infested with bugs	11
No. of houses disinfested ... ..	11
Method employed for disinfestation of houses :—Zaldecide/D.D.T.	



## RODENT CONTROL.

A full-time operator is employed to undertake treatment on all Council, business and private properties. The degree of infestation in the district is limited mainly to minor infestations at private houses, Sewage Works, refuse tips and business premises in the centre of the town.

A summary of the work done during the year is set out below :—

No. of Prebaits laid	...	...	...	10289
No. of Poison Baits laid	...	...	...	3116
No. of Post-Baits laid	...	...	...	2111
No. of Pilot Baits laid	...	...	...	331
No. of Test Baits laid	...	...	...	100
No. of Test Baits laid (Sewers)	...	...	...	54
No. of Tins of " Dak " used	...	...	...	2½
No. of Treatments at Council Premises (Sewage Works and Tips, etc.)	...	...	...	19
No. of Sewer Treatments	...	...	...	2
No. of Brookcourse Treatments	...	...	...	9

## SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

Defects or nuisance discovered	...	...	312
Number abated	...	...	291
Number of notices served (Informal 135, Formal 19).			
Legal Proceedings taken	...	...	Nil.

### Inspections.

Inspections carried out in the year are recorded below :— *Re-*

						<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>inspections</i>
Houses under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	378		719
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	31		—
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	115		52
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	234		33
Schools	...	...	...	...	1		—
Entertainment Houses	...	...	...	...	6		4
Ashes Accommodation	...	...	...	...	1122		27
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	22		2
Animals or Birds	...	...	...	...	6		—
Stable Premises	...	...	...	...	4		—
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	17		—
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	489		407
Drainage Tests	...	...	...	...	82		—
Closets—Water	...	...	...	...	62		30
Pails or Privies	...	...	...	...	42		16
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	395		10
Urinals	...	...	...	...	11		2
Sewers and Street Gullies	...	...	...	...	86		11
Milkshops and Dairies	...	...	...	...	24		—
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	204		5
Meat Depot	...	...	...	...	22		—
Slaughterhouses for Meat Inspection	...	...	...	...	5		—
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	244		16

General Food Premises	...	...	...	...	219	9
Cottagers' Pigs	...	...	...	...	138	—
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	54	5
Factories	...	...	...	...	53	6
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	29	3
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	1	—
Rats and Mice Acts	...	...	...	...	236	—
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	55	2
Rodent Control (Farms)	...	...	...	...	2	—
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	6	—
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	121	11
Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	10	—
Housing—Other Visits	...	...	...	...	149	2
Smoke Abatement Premises Visited	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sanitary Survey	...	...	...	...	43	—
Cleansing	...	...	...	...	1	—
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	...	22	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	...	399	—
Interviews—Owners, Tradesmen, etc.	...	...	...	...	492	—

#### SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED.

Conversion to W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	12
Additional W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	1
W.C. seats renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
W.C. pedestals renewed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Obstructed Drains	...	...	...	...	...	21
W.C. Flushing Cisterns	...	...	...	...	...	8
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
Roofs Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	41
Ceiling plaster made good	...	...	...	...	...	39
Wallplaster made good	...	...	...	...	...	28
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	27
Eavespouting and downspouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	24
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Firegrates renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	10
New pails provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Repairs to sinks	...	...	...	...	...	5
Houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	11
Ashbins provided by owners	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ashbins provided by Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	747
Coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Doors renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Washbasins renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous Structural Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	2
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	26
Repairs to sink waste pipe	...	...	...	...	...	1
Verminous houses	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hot water systems	...	...	...	...	...	5
Overflowing cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yards, Passageways—defective paving	...	...	...	...	...	1



## HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(i) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	72
(ii) By other local authorities	...	...	...	...	...	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	12

1. *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	378
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1097
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	...	...	...	...	43
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	43
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	10
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	99

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in conse- quence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	...	76
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3. *Action under statutory powers during the year :—*

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	... Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	... Nil.
(b) By local authority in default of owners	... Nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... 19
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	... 16
(b) By local authority in default of owners	... Nil.
(c) Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demoli- tion Orders were made	... Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... 4
(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... 3
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... Nil.

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part I V—Overcrowding :—*

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year								
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...					
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...					
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year								
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...						
	(iii)	Number of houses again overcrowded after being previously relieved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

\*

(\* No accurate information available.)

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS

### PART 1 OF THE ACT.

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

<i>Premises.</i>	<i>No. on Register.</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices.</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	95	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	4	6	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<b>106</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>



## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND :—

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

### PETROLEUM ACTS.

Sixty-four licences were issued during 1951 for the storage of 125,102 gallons of petroleum spirit.

One licence was issued for the storage of 1,000 lbs of carbide of calcium.





