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**Contributors**

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# Bromyard Urban District

HEREFORDSHIRE

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## ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

## State of the Public Health

For the Year 1942

## Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health ... ..	H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H. (On War Service from 17/7/42)
Acting Medical Officer of Health (Deputy County Medical Officer)	I. F. MACKENZIE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.
Area Medical Offices : 4, Church Street, Leominster (Tel., Leom. 95)	
Clerk in Northern Area Medical Office ... ..	B. J. SCANDRETT (On War Service from 1939)
Temporary Clerk ... ..	MISS D. M. J. BRAMFITT
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (Part-time) ... ..	T. S. WATTS, C.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Insp.

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To the Chairman and Members of Bromyard Urban Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the Year 1942.

It has been drawn up in accordance with the recommendation of the Ministry that the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health may be interim during the period of the war emergency.

My duties as Acting Medical Officer, which commenced on 17th July, 1942, on the departure of your Medical Officer of Health for service with H.M. Forces, have been rendered less onerous by the ready and efficient assistance which has been given me throughout the year by your Sanitary Inspector. It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of acknowledging my indebtedness to him.

I would like to place on record also my appreciation of the painstaking manner in which the clerk in the Area Office has discharged her duties.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. F. MACKENZIE,  
*Acting Area Medical Officer.*



## SECTION A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:

Area (in Acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	213
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to the							
Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	...	495
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£8,868
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£34 15 0

### EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR :

BIRTH RATE per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	11.6
STILLBIRTHS.	No Stillbirths occurred.		
DEATH RATE per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	11.1

### DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES :

No deaths in 1942 were attributable to Puerperal or Maternal causes.

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS under One year of age	...	...	...	47.6
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## SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH

### SERVICES FOR THE AREA:

#### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities continued to be available at the County Public Health Laboratory, Hereford. During the year the laboratory came under the direct administration of the Medical Research Council as a War-time measure.

#### CLINICS.

There are no Clinics provided by the Authority. Under a County Council scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held twice monthly.

The nearest Venereal Diseases Clinic is at the County Council Hospital, Hereford.

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I am indebted to Mr. T. S. Watts, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following statement (Sections C to E) furnished under Article 27 (sub-Section 18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations.

## **SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

### **WATER : SAMPLING.**

Samples are taken periodically. A Chlorination Plant has been installed and the results of all samples taken during the year have been satisfactory.

### **DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.**

No adequate means of sewage purification exists. The sewage is discharged into the river in its crude state. Plans for a sewage disposal scheme were made in 1937 but the proposal was not carried through due to the outbreak of hostilities in 1939. Occasional complaints were received during the year.

### **RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

The only matters noted under this heading are dealt with in the previous paragraph.

### **REFUSE DISPOSAL.**

The collection of refuse in the town is undertaken by a Contractor. The service during the year has been satisfactory and no complaints were received.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

INSPECTIONS :	No. of Inspections	Informal Notices Served	Statutory Notices Served	Notices complied with
Housing and Public Health Acts	31	9	1	9
Factories ... ..	39	6	—	6
Butchers' Shops ... ..	47	—	—	—
Dairies ... ..	24	1	—	1
Schools ... ..	8	—	—	—
Water Supplies ... ..	24	—	—	—
Infectious Disease ... ..	7	—	—	—
Complaints ... ..	8	4	—	4

### DEFECTS REMEDIED :

Chimney Stacks ... ..	7	New Drains ... ..	3
Roofs ... ..	5	New Sinks ... ..	3
Drains cleared ... ..	17	New W.C. Pans ... ..	4
Drains repaired ... ..	4	Flushing Cisterns provided ... ..	4

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are none within the area.

### FACTORIES.

(a) With Mechanical Power.

(b) Without Mechanical Power.

No. of Inspections ... ..	18	No. of Inspections ... ..	21
New W.C.'s provided ... ..	6	Defects found ... ..	2
New Urinals do. ... ..	3	Defects remedied ... ..	2
New Drains laid ... ..	3		



CAMPING SITES.—There are no registered sites in the Area.

BED BUGS.—No reports of infestation received.

## SECTION D. HOUSING.

### INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts ...	17
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	31
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation ...	9

### ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :

#### Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	1
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Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after services of formal notices :

(a) By Owners ...	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	Nil

VAN DWELLINGS : Nil.

## SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK.

There are no milk producers within the Urban District. Inspection of the Dairies in town is carried out regularly and samples are taken

when necessary. Most of the milk retailed in town is sampled outside the district. One sample taken in town was found unsatisfactory and investigation was made outside the district.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

All meat now brought into the District is inspected at the place of slaughter, which is under the control of the Ministry of Food. No cases of diseased or unsound meat has been noted during the year.

#### FOOD FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

The following foods were examined, found unsound and destroyed :

Tinned milk, 24 tins	...	weight	...	12 lbs.
Tinned meat, 34 tins	...	,,	...	163 lbs.
Ham and bacon	...	,,	...	22 lbs.

#### SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Bromyard remained remarkably free from Infectious Diseases during 1942. The notifications received during the year were 14 in number, of which ten were in respect of Pneumonia. There were three cases of Scarlet Fever, and one of Erysipelas. It is particularly gratifying to report that, throughout the twelve months, Diphtheria did not appear in the district.



## ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES ACCORDING TO AGE.

DISEASE	AGE OF PATIENT													Total
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	Over 40	
Scarlet Fever	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	3
Acute Pneumonia (Primary or Influenzal)	...	—	—	1	2	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	2	10
Erysipelas	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The state of immunisation of the child population of the district at the end of 1942 is indicated in the table below.

Under 5 years of age		Between 5 and 15 years of age	
Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
104	65%	182	74%

## TUBERCULOSIS.

At the end of 1942 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of three males and five females who normally reside within the district. During the year two new cases were notified, both on account of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis. During the same period one death from this disease occurred.