

[Report 1923] / Medical Officer of Health, Burton-upon-Trent County Borough.

Contributors

Burton upon Trent (England). County Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1923

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/uvnmnq9y>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

1246938
1923



1923

County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

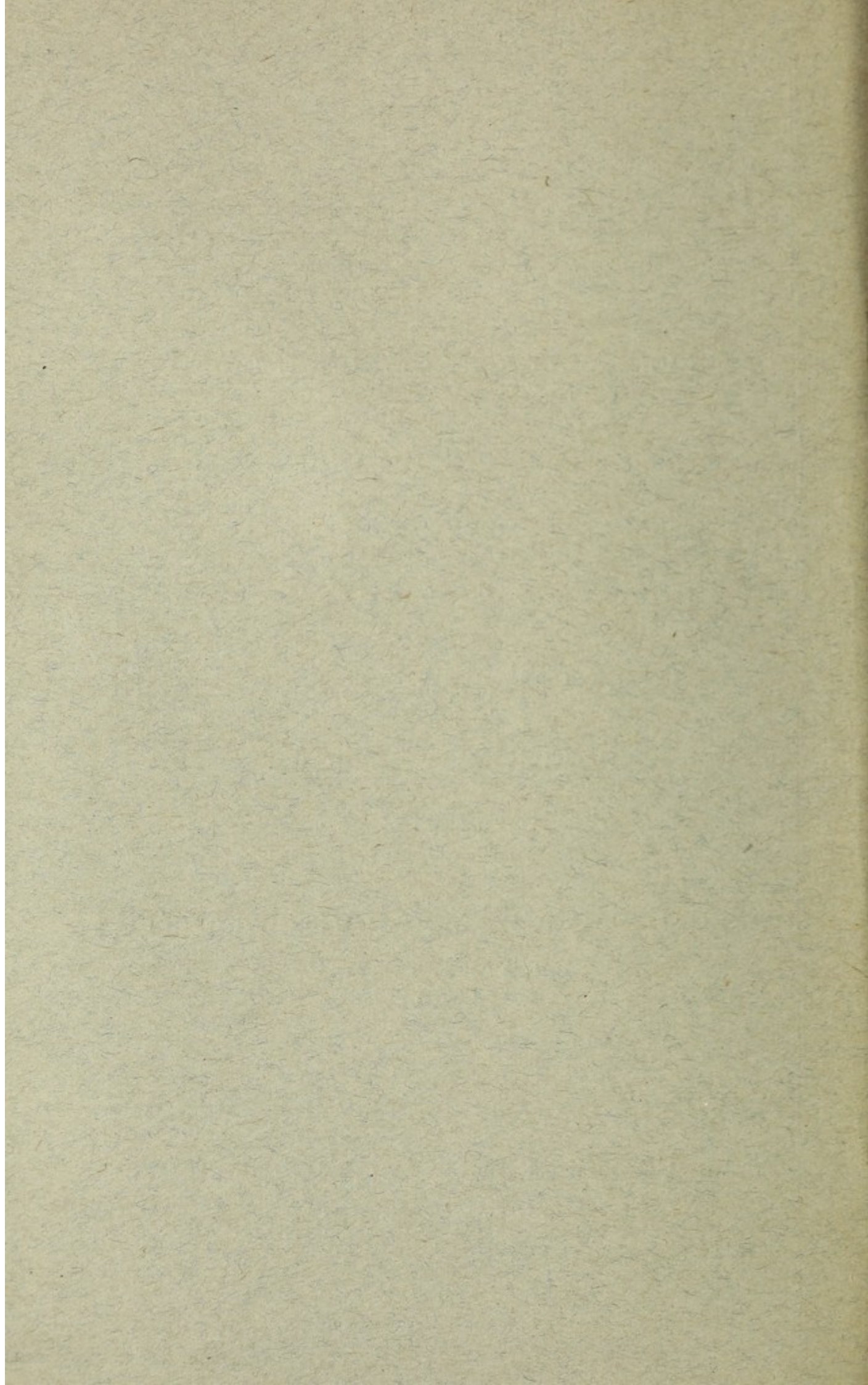
Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR 1923,

By JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., D.P.H.

ALSO

Reports of the Sanitary Inspector and
Superintendent of Refuse Removal
and Destructor Department.



1923



1923

County Borough of Burton-upon-Trent

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE


Medical Officer of Health
and School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR 1923,

By JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., D.P.H

ALSO

Reports of the Sanitary Inspector and
Superintendent of Refuse Removal
and Destructor Department.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28967331>

County Borough of Burton-on-Trent.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN F. THOMPSON, J.P.)

Chairman—ALDERMAN J. W. A. BASSETT, M.B.E., J.P.

Vice-Chairman—COUNCILLOR W. D. JOHNSON.

ALDERMAN G. HILL, J.P.

ALDERMAN T. METCALFE, J.P.

COUNCILLOR J. W. COOPER.

COUNCILLOR A. ELLIOTT.

COUNCILLOR MARY GOODGER.

COUNCILLOR W. HUTSON.

COUNCILLOR L. T. PEACH, O.B.E.

COUNCILLOR G. E. RIDER.

COUNCILLOR J. D. ROBERTSON.

COUNCILLOR G. SANDERS.

COUNCILLOR J. WILKINSON.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

MEMBERS OF HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MRS. BELL.

MRS. CLARK.

MRS. GREEN.

MRS. STERN.

MISS E. THRIFT.

HEALTH OFFICE,
TOWN HALL,
BURTON-UPON-TRENT,
6th May, 1924.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF BURTON-UPON-TRENT.

I beg to present my Twentieth Annual Report on the health of the Borough, and also the Report of the School Medical Officer for the year 1923.

The main features of the statistical part of the report are the number of deaths from Cancer, which is the largest on record, and the small number of notifications of, and deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, which is the lowest on record.

The borough was remarkably free from serious infectious disease during the year.

I have to acknowledge the excellent work done by the Assistant Medical Officer, Dr. P. A. Dormer, who has carried out his many duties in a very thorough and enthusiastic manner, and also the great assistance I have received from the other members of my staff during the year.

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. COWIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Acres)	4,203
Population—Census 1921 (corrected)	48,909
Population estimated to mid-year 1923	49,670
No. of Inhabited Houses, 1921 (Census)	11,082
No. of Families or Separate Occupiers, 1921	11,282
Rateable Value (Sept. 30th, 1923)	£300,515
Sum represented by penny rate (Sept. 30th, 1923)	£1,177

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	
			1923	1922
Births (total)	535	474	1009	1120
Births, Legitimate	509	455	964	1076
Births, Illegitimate	26	19	45	44
Birth Rate			20·31	22·56
Deaths	330	273	603	622
Death Rate			12·14	12·53
Illegitimate Births (percentage of total births)			4·4	4·0
No. of Women dying in or in consequence of Childbirth from Sepsis			0	0
„ other causes			2	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births			75	68
Deaths of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate births			70	66
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate births			177	113
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			5	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			7	3
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)			6	3

				1923		1922
Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	..	45	..	57
Death Rate from do.	..	..	..	0·90	..	1·15
Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	11	..	11
Death Rate from do.	..	..	..	0·22	..	0·22
Number of Deaths from Cancer	..	..	..	81	..	50
Death Rate from Cancer	..	..	..	1·63	..	1·0
Zymotic Death Rate	..	..	..	0·42	..	0·14
Number of Marriages	..	..	..	507	..	527
Marriage Rate	..	..	..	20·4	..	21·2

The number of deaths from Cancer is the largest recorded in the borough, the next highest being 67 deaths in 1921.

The death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis is the lowest recorded in the borough, and the number of deaths from that disease is also the lowest on record, being equal to the number certified in 1921.

CENSUS FIGURES.

The full report for the County of Stafford of the Census taken on the 19th-20th June, 1921, was issued in August, 1923, and the following is a summary of the principal items relating to the borough of Burton-upon-Trent :—

POPULATION.

The total population of the borough was found to be 48,909. Males, 24,022. Females, 24,887.

This is an increase of 643 over the previous Census, or 1·3 per cent.

			1921		1911
No. of private families	..	..	11,282	..	10,880
No. of structurally separate dwellings occupied	..	..	11,082	..	10,784

A private family means a group of persons in separate occupation of any premises or part of premises, lodgers being counted as separate families when boarding separately.

PARTICULARS OF WARD POPULATIONS.

WARD	Population	No. of Private Families	Structurally separate dwellings occupied	Rooms per person
Broadway	6117	1376	1345	1·24
Burton	4460	1016	984	1·21
Horninglow	6911	1622	1597	1·19
Shobnall	6454	1433	1410	1·29
Stapenhill	5228	1229	1208	1·26
Uxbridge	7571	1727	1691	1·16
Victoria	6488	1570	1551	1·28
Winshill and Wetmore ..	5680	1309	1296	1·25

ROOMS OCCUPIED PER PERSON AND PERSONS PER ACRE.

The following table shows the average number of rooms occupied per person for the whole of the county of Stafford, and the county boroughs in the county, and also the persons per acre :—

AREA	Rooms per person	Persons per acre
County of Stafford, including county boroughs	0·99	1·8
Whole of County Boroughs, Municipal Boroughs, and Urban Districts ..	0·96	9·6
Rural Districts	1·13	0·4
Smethwick	1·01	39·3
Stoke-on-Trent,	0·91	21·6
Walsall	0·98	13·0
West Bromwich	0·88	12·6
Wolverhampton	1·06	29·0
Burton-upon-Trent	1·23	11·6

DWELLINGS, ROOMS AND FAMILIES.

Dwellings vacant on Census night, including those un-occupied through the temporary absence of the usual occupant	247
Dwellings occupied by 1 private family	10,891
Dwellings occupied by 2 private families	182
Dwellings occupied by 3 or more private families	9

PERCENTAGE OF DWELLINGS OCCUPIED CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF ROOMS.

AREA	1 to 3 rooms	4 to 5 rooms	6 to 8 rooms	9 or more rooms
Staffordshire	14	63	21	2
Smethwick	7	61	31	1
Stoke on-Trent	9	75	15	1
Walsall	10	65	23	2
West Bromwich	24	60	15	1
Wolverhampton	10	61	27	2
BURTON-UPON-TRENT ..	3	58	37	2

PERSONS PER FAMILY, ROOMS, &c.

AREA	Persons per family		Rooms per dwelling 1921	Families per dwelling 1921
	1921	1911		
Staffordshire	4·62	4·72	4·74	1·04
Smethwick	4·67	4·77	4·97	1·06
Stoke-on-Trent	4·82	4·93	4·5	1·03
Walsall	4·61	4·8	4·82	1·07
West Bromwich	4·73	4·77	4·36	1·04
Wolverhampton	4·38	4·55	4·94	1·06
BURTON-UPON-TRENT ..	4·25	4·35	5·34	1·02

POPULATION LIVING MORE THAN TWO PERSONS TO A ROOM.

AREA				Percentage of Total. 1921	Private Family Population. 1911
Staffordshire	..	..	..	11·1	8·4
Smethwick	..	..	..	8·9	5·7
Stoke-on-Trent	..	..	..	11·6	8·6
Walsall	..	..	..	10·8	7·2
West Bromwich	..	..	..	17·1	12·2
Wolverhampton	..	..	..	7·9	5·0
Burton-upon-Trent	..	..	..	3	1·6

STANDARD OF ACCOMMODATION.

The number of rooms in each area compared with the number of rooms which would be required by the standard of accommodation existing in 1911 in the whole of England and Wales is shown below on a percentage basis :—

Staffordshire	..	3·2 per cent. below the standard.
Stoke on-Trent		6·4 per cent. below the standard.
Walsall	..	3·5 per cent. below the standard.
West Bromwich		10·3 per cent. below the standard.
Wolverhampton		0·7 per cent. above the standard.
Smethwick	..	1·2 per cent. above the standard.
Burton-upon-Trent		13·7 per cent. above the standard.

Many other particulars are given in the returns relating to occupation, marital condition, &c., but the above is a summary of the main features.

3.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Disease.				Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	..	..	..	23	14	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	53	52	2
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid)	..	..	..	1	0	0
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	0	0	0
Pneumonia	..	..	..	32	0	36
Erysipelas	..	..	..	17	0	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	..	..	..	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	0	0	0
Dysentery	..	..	..	0	0	0
Trench Fever	..	..	..	0	0	0
Malaria	..	..	..	0	0	0
Polioencephalitis	..	..	..	0	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	..	..	..	1	0	0
TUBERCULOSIS :—						
Pulmonary	Males		..	33	30	26
	Females		..	20	13	19
	Total		..	53	43	45
Non-Pulmonary	Males		..	15	12	8
	Females		..	23	13	3
	Total		..	38	25	11
Chickenpox	..	..	..	361	0	0

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Apart from Measles and Chickenpox, the borough was remarkably free from infectious disease during the year.

Influenza was rather prevalent during the months of June and July, when most of the cases of Pneumonia were notified.

DIPHTHERIA "CONTACTS."

During the year swabs were taken from 14 children who had been in contact with a case of Diphtheria, but only one gave a positive result.

SMALLPOX AND CHICKENPOX.

No Smallpox cases were notified in the borough during the year.

As Chickenpox is very liable to be confused with Smallpox this disease, was made notifiable from the 18th November, 1922, for six months. The notification was renewed for a further period of six months ending November, 1923, when it was again extended for a further period of twelve months.

Chickenpox was very prevalent during the year, and 361 cases were notified. All the cases were visited and examined by the Medical Officer of Health or the Assistant Medical Officer of Health, but none of the cases notified were found to be Smallpox.

A number of contacts of Smallpox cases from other districts were visited and kept under observation.

MEASLES.

There was an epidemic of Measles during the year, but this was only of a mild type, and only caused 5 deaths.

Nine infants' departments were closed for various periods in order to stop the spread of this disease.

Twelve cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital for treatment, and 1,052 visits to cases of Measles were paid by the Health Visitors.

In addition, by arrangement with the Nursing Institution, 5 cases received 70 visits from the Nurses of that Institution for the purpose of assisting in the nursing of the cases at home.

ZYMOTIC DEATHS.

The number of deaths from Zymotic diseases was 21, viz.: Whooping Cough 7, Diphtheria 1, Diarrhoea 6, Measles 5, and Scarlet Fever 2.

SCHOOLS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following Table shows how the various schools were affected with the various infectious diseases, including the principal non-notifiable infectious diseases :—

SCHOOLS AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCHOOL.	Whoop- ing Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Mumps.
Winshill	1	1	105	3	0	1
Horninglow	2	11	140	2	2	1
Broadway	6	11	66	2	3	0
Mission Room, Stapenhill ..	0	13	34	1	0	7
Victoria Road	3	50	87	5	2	4
Grange Street	7	23	79	1	0	2
Hawkins Lane	3	3	15	0	0	0
Christ Church	34	2	56	2	0	1
Shobnall Road	1	0	0	0	0	0
Hill Street and St. Peter's Street	10	3	55	4	0	21
Guild Street	0	2	0	0	0	4
Wetmore Road	1	24	28	2	1	0
Uxbridge Street	7	19	24	2	1	0
Catholic, Guild Street	3	1	22	0	3	0
Goodman Street and Stafford St.	10	7	67	5	0	0
High School (Girls)	0	8	0	0	0	0
Grammar School	0	0	0	0	0	0
No School	13	180	241	23	11	2
Private School	0	3	4	1	0	0
Bond Street	1	0	29	0	0	0
Totals ..	102	361	1052	53	23	43

VISITS TO INFECTIOUS DISEASES (NON-NOTIFIABLE).

The Health Visitors paid the following visits to non-notifiable infectious diseases during the year :—

Visits to Measles	1052	(Including 480 to children under 5 years of age).
Visits to Whooping Cough	102	(Including 65 to children under 5 years of age).
Visits to Mumps	43	(Including 10 to children under 5 years of age).

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

CASES TREATED.

The following Table shows the number of cases admitted to and discharged from the Hospital during the year, with the number of deaths.

Patients.	In Hosp'l 1st Jan., 1923.	Admitted	Dis- charged.	Died.	In Hosp'l 31st Dec., 1923.
Scarlet Fever ..	9	*57	59	1	6
Diphtheria ..	1	†15	15	1	0
Measles	0	12	12	0	0
Totals ..	10	84	86	2	6

* Including 5 from Tutbury Rural District.

† Including 1 "Carrier."

The average period of isolation of the 59 Scarlet Fever patients discharged was 43 days, and of the 15 Diphtheria patients 28 days.

"RETURN" CASES OF SCARLET FEVER.

There were no "return" cases of Scarlet Fever notified in the borough during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Tables give the number of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year in age groups, and also the deaths :—

Age-Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	2
1	1	0	3	3	0	0	3	0
5	0	0	7	3	1	1	1	1
10	2	1	2	8				
15	2	3	1	2	2	3	0	0
20	2	2	0	3				
25	10	6	0	2	13	11	2	0
35	5	5	0	0				
45	8	3	1	0	10	3	1	0
55	3	0	0	0				
65 and upwards ..	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Totals ..	33	20	15	23	26	19	8	3

The number of cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs notified is by far the smallest number notified in any one year since notification came into force. The previous lowest was 75 cases notified in 1922.

PROPORTION OF NON-NOTIFIED CASES.

All cases where death was certified as due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis had previously been notified to the Medical Officer of Health, but in one case where the death was due to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis no notification had been received.

The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was 1 in 91, compared with 1 in 17 the previous year.

SANATORIUM.

The number of cases admitted to the Sanatorium for treatment during the year was 68, while 17 were undergoing treatment at the beginning of the year.

The cases admitted were as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Insured persons	21	3	24
Insured persons (discharged soldiers) ..	7	0	7
Sent by Children's Care Committee ..	9	4	13
Others	5	19	24
			—
		Total	68
			—

PATIENTS DISCHARGED FROM THE SANATORIUM.

During the year 60 patients were discharged from the Sanatorium, 4 died, and 21 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

The condition of the patients at the time of discharge from the Sanatorium was as follows :—

	Males	Females
Material improvement	23	11
Slight improvement	3	4
No change	3	1
Deterioration	6	3
Died	2	2
Treatment discontinued for other than medical reasons	0	1
Observation cases (Tuberculosis not found)	4	1
Under treatment at end of year	12	9

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

In 1923 the hours of attendance at the Tuberculosis Dispensary were the same as in the previous year, viz.: 3 to 5 p.m. Fridays, and 4-30 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays.

59 fresh names were entered on the register during the year. Included in that number were 6 "suspected" contacts and 12 cases sent for consultation and observation (6 by the School Medical Officer and 6 by medical practitioners).

21 cases were also seen at their homes or at the Health Office being referred for consultation by medical practitioners.

In addition to the contacts examined at the Dispensary 45 contacts were examined in school (See report of the School Medical Officer).

The total number of attendances at the Dispensary for the year was 962, which gives an average per session of 9.3.

HOME SUPERVISION.

The Health Visitors, who also act as Dispensary Nurses, undertake the home supervision of Tuberculous patients. The total number of cases visited at home was 153, and the total number of visits 738.

Nine shelters with beds and bedding have been in almost constant use for the treatment of cases at home. Two patients were lent beds and bedding, so that they could have beds separate from other persons.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Cases.			Vision unim- paired.	Vision impaired	Total Blind	Deaths.
	Notified	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital				
	11	10	1	11	0	0	0

In addition to above, 15 other cases of inflammation of the eyes were brought to the notice of the Health Department by Midwives, but when visited practically no signs of disease were found.

The 11 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum may be classified as follows :—

Mild, 7. Moderate, 2. Severe, 2.

All the cases were treated at home (with one exception treated at the General Infirmary), the actual treatment being done by the Health Visitors, who carried out the instructions of the doctor in attendance.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

During the year the arrangements for the treatment of Venereal Diseases were the same as described in previous reports.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year :

Diseases.	No. of Persons attending the Clinic.		No. of Attendances.	No. of In-patient Days.
	Males.	Females.		
Syphilis	25	20	580	Nil.
Soft Chancre ..	6	1	26	Nil.
Gonorrhœa	19	3	325	Nil.
Other Diseases ..	18	7	54	Nil.
Totals ..	68	31	985	Nil.

In 1922 the patients attending the Clinic numbered 114 males and 23 females, while the total number of attendances was 913.

The figures given in the above Table include patients from the Borough, from South Derbyshire, and from Staffordshire, and also includes 17 patients suffering from Syphilis, and 5 suffering from Gonorrhœa, and 3 from Soft Chancre, who attended the Clinic in 1922, and continued their attendance during 1923.

There were, therefore, 74 new cases admitted to the Clinic during 1923, viz., 51 from Burton, 18 from South Derbyshire, and 5 from Staffordshire, compared with 94 new cases in 1922, of which 69 were Borough cases.

Of the 985 attendances at the Clinic 647 were made by Burton patients, 286 by South Derbyshire, and 52 by Staffordshire patients.

SALVARSAN.

The number of doses of Arsenobenzol compounds given at the Clinic was 228.

PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

Pathological specimens are examined from cases of Venereal Disease at the Laboratory of the Derby County Council at Derby.

The following Table shows the number of specimens examined, both from the Clinic and from private medical practitioners, but the specimens sent from patients attending the Clinic from the South Derbyshire area are not included in this Table.

	Wasserman	Gonorrhœa	Spirochaeta Pallida
Treatment Centre	77	28	1
Private Medical Practitioners ..	38	16	2

SALVARSAN SUBSTITUTES SUPPLIED TO PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

Two medical practitioners were supplied with Novarsenobillon during the year for the use of patients treated privately.

The number of doses supplied was 14.

PATHOLOGICAL OUTFITS.

The number of outfits for pathological specimens from cases of Venereal Diseases issued by the Medical Officer of Health during the year was :—

To the Clinic	..	..	..	..	203
To Medical Practitioners	..	..	..		10
					—
				Total	213
					—

PROPAGANDA WORK.

Notices were posted in all the urinals as before.

Arrangements were made by the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases for the showing of two films and the giving of two lectures on Venereal Diseases in June.

The films shown were “End of the Road” and “Damaged Goods,” and lectures were given before each film was shown.

The attendances at the two lectures was approximately 2,000.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

There was an epidemic of Measles of a mild type during the year and Influenza was rather prevalent during the months of June and July.

There was also an epidemic of Chickenpox.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS.

The Nursing arrangements for the district are the same as given in the Report for 1921.

MIDWIVES.

No Midwives are employed by the Public Health Authority, and no subsidy is paid to any practising Midwife.

The number of Midwives who in January, 1923, gave notice of their intention to practise within the area of the Borough, in accordance with Section 10 of the Midwives' Act, was 17. Subsequently 3 others gave notice, and their names were added to the register.

Four of the Midwives hold their Certificate under Section 2 of the Midwives' Act ; 16 are trained and certificated Midwives.

In 8 instances Midwives were cautioned for offences against the rules of the Central Midwives' Board, one for not having a complete set of instruments ; one for not having her register up-to-date and her bag being unsatisfactory ; one for not calling in a doctor for discharging eyes ; one for not having her register up-to-date, for not notifying to the Local Authority that she sent for medical help, for having a badly kept register, and bag unsatisfactory, and for her place of residence not being clean ; one for not notifying the Local Authority that she sent for medical help ; one for not having her register up-to-date ; one for not having her register up-to-date and her bag not being satisfactory ; and one for her register not being up-to-date and her clothing not being clean.

No case of Puerperal Fever was notified during the year.

Visits of inspection to Midwives to the number of 66 were made during the year.

The following notifications have been received from Midwives:—

Medical assistance required	..	..	147
Still births	..	..	13
Artificial feeding	..	..	8

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' FEES.

Claims from medical practitioners for fees under Section 14 of the Midwives' Act, 1918, for assistance to Midwives in emergencies amounted to £45 19s. 6d. for the year. Of that amount the sum of £24 8s. 6d. was repaid to the Corporation by the patients.

CLINICS, TREATMENT CENTRES, AND HOSPITALS.

Clinics, Treatment Centres, and Hospitals in the Borough are the same as given in the Report for 1921.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

STAFF.

Miss H. C. Scott, who had served the Council for seven years as Health Visitor and Superintendent Health Visitor, resigned in May, 1923. Miss Scott left an excellent record of devoted service to the welfare of mothers and infants in the borough.

Mrs. E. A. Steel, of Sunderland, was appointed as Superintendent Health Visitor in her place.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

A Centre for Maternity and Infant Welfare is provided by the Corporation at 55 Union Street. The Centre is open on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons, for infant consultations, and at the same time for ante-natal cases.

Dr. W. P. Lowe is the Medical Officer to the Centre on Monday afternoons, and the Assistant Medical Officer of Health on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.

Demonstrations in cutting out garments and dressmaking for infants were given once a week throughout the year.

The number of new cases registered at the Centre during the year was 568, and the total attendances 11,704, giving an average per session of 58.

7,387 lbs. of dried milk were supplied at slightly over cost price for infants attending the Centre.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.

Nine new cases were registered at the Infant Welfare Centre, and 10 attendances were made by ante-natal cases.

In this connection the Health Visitors paid 300 visits to ante-natal cases at home.

MATERNITY BAGS.

The number of maternity bags lent during the year was 8, 6 being paid for and 2 lent free to cases where the husband was unemployed.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-committee, consisting of the following ladies: Mrs. Green (Chairman), Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Clark, Mrs. McGilp, Mrs. Stern, Mrs. Sanders, and Miss Thrift, held 12 meetings throughout the year. The Committee give valuable help in the management of the Infant Welfare Centre, and also had administrative control of the assisted milk supply for expectant and nursing mothers and for infants.

ASSISTED MILK SUPPLY.

During the year the number of families supplied with milk free was 78, at a cost of £108 18s. 3d.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS AND HEALTH VISITING.

The number of births notified under the " Notification of Births Act " was 1,019 (including 31 still births). The number of births registered was 1,020.

The proportion of live births notified is, therefore, 97 per cent.

The number notified by Midwives was 925, and by parents and doctors 94.

The Health Visitors paid the following visits :—

Primary visits to babies	..	..	..	1010
Secondary visits to children under 12 months	..	..	..	1781
Visits to children over one year	..	..	..	2133
Visits to still births	..	..	..	24
				<hr/> 4948 <hr/>

1,197 visits to non-notifiable infectious diseases were also made by the Health Visitors.

TREATMENT OF COMPLICATED CASES OF PREGNANCY, &c.

In March, 1919, at the request of the Ministry of Health, an arrangement was made with the Infirmary Committee for the treatment of complicated cases of pregnancy or labour, also cases with complications arising after parturition, whether in the mother or in the child.

The Infirmary Committee agreed to treat such cases if they were of real urgency, and could not be treated at home, at a charge of £2 2s. per patient, to cover a period of 14 days.

The following is a summary of the conditions treated during the past 12 months :—

Condition or Diseases	Result	
	Cured	Died
Placenta Prævia	3	—
Retained Membranes	3	1
Incomplete abortion	13	—
Difficult labour	5	—
Other conditions	1	—

LABORATORY WORK.

Bacteriological examinations, with the exception of Venereal Diseases and Tuberculosis Milk, are carried out for the Corporation by the Lister Institute, London.

Milk is tested for Tuberculosis at the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, while the laboratory work in connection with Venereal Diseases is done by arrangement with the Derbyshire County Council at their Laboratory, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

The work done in connection with Venereal Diseases and Milk will be found in another part of this Report.

The total number of specimens sent to the Lister Institute was 283, and the results may be summarised as follows :—

<i>Disease.</i>				<i>Results Positive.</i>		<i>Results Negative.</i>
Diphtheria	..	..	..	32	..	71
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	0	..	2
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	48	..	130

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN was supplied, as usual, from the Health Office for all cases of Diphtheria in the Borough, if applied for. During the year 51 phials, each containing 2,000 units, were supplied to medical practitioners in the Borough.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

I have received the following report and tables from Mr. J. Jenkinson, Chief Sanitary Inspector under the Sanitary Officers Order, 1922, Article 19 (12) :—

TOWN HALL,
BURTON-ON-TRENT,
April, 1924.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Fifteenth Annual Report upon the work of the Sanitary Inspectors for the year ended 31st December, 1923.

There has been no change in the Staff during the year.

In the Report for 1922 attention was called to the work which had been undertaken in an endeavour to secure the conversion of privy middens and pail closets to the w.c. system, and during the year 1923 this particular work was again proceeded with.

In cases where the water supply to the houses was by means of a well, samples of the said water were obtained for analysis, 99 samples being collected.

Altogether during the year 80 letters were sent to owners recommending the conversion of the closets to the w.c. system ; whilst in 15 cases it has been found necessary to serve a Statutory Notice. In addition, much has been accomplished by interviews between the Inspectors and various owners and builders.

The total number of visits made during the year in connection with this work was 644.

The number of nuisances abated during 1923 was 2,068, this being a smaller number than for the preceding year, the reduction being partly accounted for by the increased attention paid to meat inspection, as shown by the large amount of meat condemned (26 tons), and also the extra work entailed owing to the restrictions imposed consequent on Foot and Mouth Disease outbreaks in the country.

Some difficulty has also been experienced during the year in getting work done in the direction of removal of nuisances. It has happened in many cases that orders have been given to builders to carry out the work, and somewhat long periods have elapsed before the work has been completed ; this has been quite a notable feature during the past year.

The number of complaints received during the year was 424, as compared with 436 in the preceding year. In every case the premises complained of were visited, notices being served where such action was necessary, the number of nuisances found to exist being 394.

Visits to the number of 318 have been paid to premises in connection with the inspection of food, and this includes the inspection of shops and stalls in the Market, also eating houses, butchers' shops, and other premises where food is prepared or adapted for sale.

It was not found necessary to institute proceedings for non-compliance with notices requiring the abatement of nuisances, but in seven cases particulars were reported to your Committee, who authorised proceedings, but after a letter was sent by the Town Clerk the necessary work was put in hand without having recourse to the Police Court.

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES DEALT WITH.

Foul or defective drains, defective or dilapidated w.cs., privies and urinals	581
Defective roofs, eave and down spoutings	416
Houses damp, defective or dirty	469
Houses without proper ashes accommodation	169
Houses without proper water supply	186
Defective sinks, sink pipes, and yard paving	115
Accumulations of manure, &c.	77
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	7
Nuisances from black smoke	12
Nuisances from overcrowding	5
Miscellaneous nuisances	31
	<hr/>
	2068
	<hr/>

CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYE-LAWS- ORDERS, &c.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	11
Slaughterhouses	19
Bakehouses	6
Common Lodging Houses	88
Workshops	21
Offensive Trades	7
	<hr/>
	152
	<hr/>

NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary	1020	Statutory	73
---------------------	------	-------------------	----

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS

ACTS, 1920 AND 1923.

During the year under review two applications for Certificates were received under the above Acts, and in both cases a Certificate was granted.

In neither instance was it necessary for the tenant to apply to the County Court for an Order suspending the increase, the necessary work being put in hand and completed in due course.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

The number of common lodging houses on the register is the same as last year, viz.: four, there being accommodation for 179 adults and 10 children, 198 inspections having been made.

Every lodging house is visited at least once a week, systematic inspection being necessary in order to maintain a reasonable standard of cleanliness. Some of the frequenters of these places are quite respectable people, whilst others can only be regarded as deficient in the most elementary laws of cleanliness. This is shown by the filthy and oftentimes verminous condition of the beds, &c., after having been in use for only a day or two, some of these people being literally alive with vermin.

The number of contraventions discovered in lodging houses during the year was 88, and it is gratifying to record that the keepers and deputies promptly comply with any suggestion made by the Inspectors.

CANAL BOATS.

No. of Boats inspected	..	..	..	..	..	18
No. of infringements	..	..	..	..	..	0
Cases of infectious disease	..	..	..	..	..	0

OCCUPANTS.

No. of men	..	..	..	..	..	16
No. of women	..	..	..	..	..	15
No. of children	..	..	..	..	..	36

It is not always possible to meet boats. Very many visits have been paid to the canal without meeting with one.

VAN DWELLINGS.

The inspection of these habitations has again received attention.

The piece of ground at rear of lodging house in Branstone Road is a favourite camping ground for van dwellers, and definite complaints were received from time to time during the year of the generally unsatisfactory and untidy condition of this ground resulting therefrom, and eventually the question was considered by your Committee when it was decided that not more than six vans should be allowed to encamp there at any one time, and this limitation will do a great deal to prevent further complaints.

Towards the end of the year, in connection with a fair which was held in Evershed's Yard, New Street, four or five vans were encamped there, but there being proper closet accommodation and water supply provided no nuisance within the meaning of the Public Health Act arose. Further, from time to time vans were found to be encamped in Mrs. Weir's Yard, Watson Street, but here again no nuisance was found to exist.

The total number of inspections during the year was 220.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS.

(a) SWINE FEVER.

During the year five cases of suspected Swine Fever were reported, none of which were confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture.

During the past three years only two outbreaks of Swine Fever have occurred in the Borough, which must be regarded as very satisfactory.

All the cattle sales were attended throughout the year in order to grant licences for the removal of swine therefrom, and three cases of failure to obtain licences were reported to your Committee, who decided to warn the offenders. The necessary cleansing and disinfection of vehicles used for the removal of pigs from the sale-yard, as required by the Swine Fever Order of 1912, has also received attention during the year.

(b) FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

Attention was called in the Annual Report for 1922 to the serious outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease which occurred in that year, and it is with regret that one has to report further outbreaks of this scourge.

In August, 1923, the disease again became rampant in many parts of the country, and up to the time of writing this report, April, 1924, it has been prevalent over the greater part of the United Kingdom, and in November the Ministry issued an Order forbidding the holding of any sales in certain areas, including Burton-on-Trent, with the exception of fat stock for immediate slaughter and veterinary examination of all the stock exposed at the said sales had to be made.

The disease continued to spread, and in some parts of the country about December as many as 40 to 50 outbreaks per day were confirmed.

In the Borough an outbreak was notified at Horninglow on the 28th December, and during the subsequent ten days two other adjoining farms also became infected.

The total number of stock on the three farms consisted of 133 beast, 13 sheep, and 5 calves, all of which were slaughtered, the carcasses of the affected animals being burned on the farms, after which the work of disinfection was proceeded with, the restrictions relating to all three farms being withdrawn on the 5th March, 1924.

Further outbreaks took place on farms near to the Borough which necessitated the restrictions being continued for some months, and during this period no cattle sales were held in the Borough, and movement of animals for slaughter could only take place when authorised by a licence.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912 TO 1921.

Inspections under these Acts have been made periodically throughout the year, in order to see that the necessary notices required by the Act of 1912 were affixed, also to see that shops were closed on the day of the weekly half-holiday.

Inspections are made, not only with regard to the closing of shops, but also as to the assistants' half-holiday.

Closing Orders are now in force in the Borough relating to the following classes of shops :—

Boot Dealers.

Watchmakers and Jewellers.

Hairdressers and Barbers.

Butchers and Pork Butchers.

Frequent inspections have been made in the evenings and on Saturday nights of butchers' shops particularly, as the closing hour, 7 p.m., is a busy shopping time, and warnings have been given from time to time to tradesmen, who have not always closed at the required hour ; speaking generally, however, the orders are fairly well complied with.

The total number of visits made during the year was 1,568.

VERMIN REPRESSION.

This particular work has again called for much attention during the year, cases having come to our notice where premises have been found to be infested ; in the majority of cases this being due to the careless and indolent habits of the occupiers. Notices are served on the tenants, but in certain cases we give assistance to ensure that the premises are effectually cleansed.

The number of rooms in dirty houses which have been fumigated owing to the presence of vermin was 49.

ICE CREAM.

The premises used for the sale and manufacture of ice cream were regularly inspected during the summer months, 59 inspections having been made.

DESTRUCTION OF RATS.

This very necessary work continues to receive attention, applications for assistance in dealing with this pest are received more or less regularly throughout the year, and different premises call for different methods of extermination.

During National Rat Week, from 5th to 10th November, a special campaign was waged, nearly 1,000 poison baits were laid in the sewers in various parts of the town. Efforts were also concentrated on a badly infested group of shops and warehouses in High Street ; and all the local rat-catchers were urged to devote as much time as possible to rat destruction during that particular week.

Articles were inserted in the local papers on the subject of rat destruction, and in the week preceding Rat Week a film was exhibited at the Electric Theatre showing in a vivid manner not only the danger to be apprehended from the rat peril, but also the various methods of extermination.

The number of premises found to be infested during the year was 82, while 51 were rendered rat-proof. We have evidence of 1,697 rats having been destroyed, and nearly 2,500 poison baits have been laid.

Six letters have been sent to persons responsible suggesting that certain work be carried out with a view to rendering certain premises rat-proof.

The total number of visits made during the year *re* rat destruction was 529.

SUMMARY OF VISITS MADE.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	..	..	..	..	495
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	1925
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	90
Common Lodging Houses	..	..	..	..	198
To Properties under notice	..	..	..	..	1436
To Premises <i>re</i> Nuisances	..	..	..	..	1460
To Workshops and Outworkers	..	..	..	..	333
To Premises where Swine are kept	..	..	..	..	285
To Markets and Shops <i>re</i> Food Inspection	..	..	..	..	318
Visits <i>re</i> Petrol and Carbide	..	..	..	..	314
Visits <i>re</i> Diseases of Animals Acts	..	..	..	..	169
Visits <i>re</i> Vermin Repression	..	..	..	..	529
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts and Closing of Shops	..	..	..	..	1568

Visits to Van Dwellings	220
Visits <i>re</i> Sale of Food and Drugs Acts	144
Visits <i>re</i> Offensive Trades	44
Smoke Observations	442
Visits <i>re</i> Ice Cream	59
Observations <i>re</i> Effluvium Nuisances	142
Visits <i>re</i> Closet Accommodation	644
Miscellaneous Visits	431
Visits to Premises <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	710

11956

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

During the latter part of the year it was found impossible to devote any time to this particular work, the number of observations, 442, being all taken before the end of August.

The number of nuisances from smoke reported to your Committee during the year was 12, the number of letters sent being 3, and in addition three interviews took place between the Sanitary Inspectors and Engineers, &c., of the firms concerned.

It is gratifying to record that a definite improvement has been brought about in the last few years, but systematic and continuous action in the shape of smoke observation is necessary in order to maintain this improvement.

I am convinced that a great amount of smoke can be prevented, in addition to being wasteful black smoke is damaging in many ways. This question is a national one, and earnest reformers are looking forward to the time when coal in its raw state will not be burned for either domestic purposes or steam raising, but will be carbonised by the low temperature method when all the valuable bye-products (motor spirit, oils, and sulphate of ammonia) which are at present wasted, will be recovered and at the same time a smokeless fuel produced.

There are also appliances on the market which aim at smoke prevention, the maker of one of which guarantees to reduce smoke not less than 50% and also bring about a saving in coal of not less than 5%. One hopes that some pioneer in smoke reform will, in the near future, instal one of these appliances.

PETROLEUM ACTS AND ORDERS.

The premises licensed for the storage of petroleum and carbide of calcium have all been inspected throughout the year, the number of visits being 314.

In the Annual Report for 1922 attention was called to the great increase in the number of premises licensed, and this increase still continues, more premises being licensed every year.

HOUSING.

The total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects amounts to 1,462, and included in this total are 69 houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910. The nuisances discovered in these latter houses (amounting to 381) are included in the gross list of nuisances dealt with, which I give in another part of this report the summary of these nuisances being as follows :—

Defective drains, eave and down spoutings and roofs ..	89
Defective yard paving, dampness, defective lighting and ventilation	44
Defective w.c's., urinals, closets, ashplaces, and want of receptacles for house refuse	53
General want of repair, dirty houses, and defective sinks ..	195
	—
	381
	—

In conclusion, I desire to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their confidence and support.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

JOSEPH JENKINSON, C.R.S.I.,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Inspector under the above-mentioned Acts.*

WATER SUPPLY.

The public water supply of the borough is given by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company. Four samples of the public water supply were analysed during the year, and were found to be of good quality.

99 samples from shallow wells were also analysed, when 64 were found to be unfit for domestic use.

A register of houses which have well water for their only supply has been compiled during the year.

At the end of the year there remained 834 houses supplied by well water only, these being supplied by 321 pumps.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

During the year 196 privies and 206 pail closets were converted to the water carriage system, and 20 additional water closets provided.

Since the commencement of this work 1,884 privy middens and 3,479 pail closets have been converted, while 505 additional water closets have been provided in order to get separate closet accommodation for each house.

The closets on the books of the Surveyor's Department still remaining to be converted to the water carriage system number 512 privy middens and 3,092 pail closets, but the Borough Surveyor has no information as to the correct number of these which have been demolished or abandoned, hence his figures are not reliable.

The number of houses with privy midden accommodation on the books of the Health Department at the end of the year was 277. Eight privy middens were known to have been abolished or abandoned during the year.

A considerable amount of attention was devoted during the year to the inspection of privy middens, and in attempting to get conversion carried out.

A considerable number of complaints were received of the nuisance caused in the process of emptying these conveniences and there can be no doubt that it is impossible to avoid a nuisance in doing this work. For that reason, and from every public health standpoint, it would be advisable to have the few remaining middens converted to the water carriage system or abolished at an early date.

Attention was also given to the clearing of streets of pail closets.

A register was compiled of all the remaining houses with pail closet accommodation, when it was found that certain streets were completely cleared, while other streets had got sometimes as few as one or two pail closets not converted.

The question of collecting one or two pans in a street is no doubt an expensive one, and if it is possible to clear a street it is not only a saving, but in time a number of these streets will form an area which will be cleared. In fact, it would not be a very difficult matter to clear the whole of the Winshill area, where only about 150 pail closets and 8 privy middens remain to be converted.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY AND TUBERCULOSIS.

Bulk samples of milk to the number of 55 were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester, to be tested for Tuberculosis, and in 8 cases a positive report was received.

The farms concerned were visited by the Veterinary Surgeon, who examined the cows.

At the first farm one sample was taken from a suspected animal, which was reported positive. The cow was sold ultimately at Derby Fat Stock Sale to a butcher for slaughter.

At the second farm one sample was taken from a suspected animal which proved to be positive. The animal was slaughtered in Burton under supervision.

At the third farm 2 samples were taken from suspected animals, one of which was reported positive. The animal was slaughtered under supervision in Burton.

At the fourth farm three samples were taken from suspected animals, one of which was reported positive. The affected animal was sold to a butcher in Burton for slaughter.

The fifth positive sample was the mixed milk of two small farms, which were both visited by the Veterinary Surgeon, and one sample taken from each. One of these was reported positive, and the affected cow was slaughtered under supervision.

At the sixth farm great difficulty was experienced in getting the affected animal, and several visits had to be paid to the farm before the affected animal was ultimately found. It was then slaughtered under supervision.

The seventh sample was the mixed milk of two small farms, and the affected animal here was never discovered, but after the bulk sample was taken a devilitated cow was sold to a butcher in Burton for slaughter ; this was no doubt the affected animal, as the milk was subsequently found to be negative.

At the eighth farm three samples were taken from suspected animals, one of which was reported positive. The cow was killed under supervision.

MILK AND DAIRIES AMENDMENT ACT, 1922.

In the Report for 1922 attention was called to the passing of this important measure, and it was felt that a somewhat higher standard should be aimed at having regard to the importance of the question of milk production, storage, and distribution.

During the past year 88 persons have been registered under this Act as retail purveyors of milk, and in every case suitable storage accommodation has been provided ; it has been found necessary to insist in many cases upon the provision of a separate building for the storage of milk, whilst in other cases existing buildings have been adapted for the purpose.

At the end of the year the register contained the names of 86 purveyors, two persons having died during the year, and their names have been removed from the register.

No applications were made for licences for the sale of milk as "Certified," "Grade A (Tuberculin tested)," "Grade A," or "Pasteurised" during the year.

495 inspections of dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops were made during the year, and in eleven cases contraventions of the Regulations were found and dealt with.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

ANALYST'S REPORT FOR 1923.

Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream.

	No. of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.	No. in which Preserva- tive was reported to be present and percentage of Preservative in each sample.
Milk	38	.. 0
Cream	7	.. 2
		(.43 per cent and .45 per cent Boric Acid)

Cream sold as Preserved Cream 2

- (a) Instances in which samples have been submitted for analysis to ascertain if the statements on the label of the preservatives were correct.

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| (1) Correct statements made | 2 |
| (2) Statements incorrect | 0 |
| (3) Percentage of Preservatives found in each sample .24% | |
| | .23% Boric Acid. |

- (b) Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as preserved cream.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| (1) Above 35 per cent. | 2 |
| (2) Below 35 per cent. | 0 |

(c) Instances where apart from analysis the requirements as to labelling or declaration of preserved cream in Article V. (2) of the Regulations have not been observed 0

(d) Particulars of each case in which the Regulations have not been complied with, and action taken 0

J. M. COWIE, *Public Analyst.*

15th January, 1924.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

In the following Table are set forth particulars of the 104 samples which were obtained by the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the purposes of analysis :—

Article.	No. taken formally.	No. Adul- terated.	No. taken in- formally.	No. Adul- terated.	Total No. of Samples.	Total No. Adul- terated.
Milk	23	0	15	0	38	0
Cream	0	0	7	2	7	2
„ (Preserved) ..	0	0	2	0	2	0
Butter	10	0	0	0	10	0
Margarine	3	0	0	0	3	0
Lard	6	0	0	0	6	0
Cheese	0	0	4	0	4	0
Liquid Egg	0	0	1	0	1	0
Coffee	0	0	4	0	4	0
Sponge Cake	0	0	9	0	9	0
Corn Flour	0	0	4	0	4	0
Pepper	0	0	4	0	4	0
Arrowroot	0	0	2	0	2	0
Malt Extract with Cod Liver Oil	0	0	5	0	5	0
Condensed Milk ..	0	0	5	0	5	0
Total	42	0	62	2	104	2

Particulars of the adulterated samples and of the action taken are given below :—

Sample No. 73. Cream. Informal sample. Adulterated with .45% Boric Acid. Not labelled.

Sample No. 80. Cream. Formal sample. Adulterated with .43% Boric Acid. Not labelled.

Vendor cautioned (1) For not having carton labelled “ Preserved cream ; ” (2) For having excess Boric Acid.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

The number of slaughterhouses in use at the end of the year was 31, one being registered and 30 licensed (18 being licensed annually and 12 licensed during the occupancy of the present tenant of the premises).

During the year a modern up-to-date slaughterhouse for pigs was opened in Mosley Street by Messrs. Roberts and Birch, the licence being granted during the occupancy of the premises by Mr. J. H. Birch, and in return for this, licences granted for the use and occupation of slaughterhouses at rear of 185 High Street, and also at rear of 10 Main Street, Stapenhill, were surrendered.

The inspection of meat continues to receive attention, the number of visits to slaughterhouses during the year being 1,925, and a greater amount of meat, fish, and other unsound food was condemned during the year than in any one year in the history of the town namely, 26 tons, 4 cwt., 3 qrs.

CLASSIFICATION OF MEAT CONDEMNED.

	Bovines		Sheep		Pigs	
	Whole Car.	Part Car.	Whole Car.	Part Car.	Whole Car.	Part Car.
Tuberculosis	30	149	..	..	4	56
Other Diseases	25	18	..	1	7	..
Unsoundness	5	51	6	1	1	3

BAKEHOUSES.

There are now 23 bakehouses in use in the Borough, 14 being workshops and 9 factories, there having been no change during the year.

All these have been inspected, there being only 6 contraventions recorded, which were remedied on receipt of notice from the Inspectors.

The number of inspections made during the year to bakehouses was 90.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, AND OUTWORKERS.

The number of workshops on the register at the end of the year was 227, as compared with 223 the previous year, the total number of defects found in factories, workshops, and outworkers' premises during the year was 21. In every case the necessary work was put in hand on receipt of a notice from this department.

The lists of outworkers, as required by Section 107 of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, have been duly received, the number being as follows :—

43 lists comprising 153 outworkers, all of which have been visited.

One case of infectious disease occurred on outworkers' premises and the necessary disinfection was carried out.

The total number of visits to factories, workshops, and workplaces, including outworkers' premises, during the year amounted to 333.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

J. JENKINSON, Cert. Roy. San. Inst.; Cert. Inspection of Meat.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors :

F. V. A. SMITH, Cert. Roy. San. Inst.; Cert. Inspection of Meat.

F. R. SMITH, Cert. Roy. San. Inst.; Cert. Inspection of Meat.

E. MITTON, Cert. Roy. San. Inst.

Clerks :

C. GAUNT.

G. M. UPTON.

Matron of Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium :

Miss M. HEAPY, Certified and Registered Nurse.

Health Visitors :

Mrs. E. A. STEEL, Certified and Registered Nurse, Certified
Midwife, Cert. Roy. San. Instit.

Miss E. MAYALL, Certified Midwife.

Miss S. TEAKLE, Certified Midwife.

School Nurses :

Miss M. E. COLEMAN, Certified and Registered Nurse and Certified
Midwife.

Miss W. JAMES, Certified and Registered Nurse and Certified Midwife.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

Medical Officers :

*Dr. W. P. LOWE (part time).

*Dr. P. A. DORMER.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

Medical Officers :

*Dr. C. T. HOLFORD (part time).

*Dr. W. P. LOWE (part time).

*Medical Officer of Health, Public Analyst, School Medical Officer and
Tuberculosis Officer, &c.:*

*JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., D.P.H.

Assistant Ditto :

*P. A. DORMER, M.D., D.P.H.

* Contributions received towards salary from Government grant.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total	.. .. .	18
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923.		
(1) By the Local Authority	.. .. .	0
(2) By other bodies or persons	.. .. .	0

1.—UNFIT DWELLING HOUSES.

INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts	..	1462
(2) Number of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	..	69
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		0
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	.	1432

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	1124
---	---------	------

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

A. Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
---	---------	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	159
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied	
(a) By owners	112
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0

C. Proceedings under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	0
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	3

HOUSING SCHEMES.

No new housing schemes were passed during the year.

OVERCROWDING.

The Census returns which are summarised at the beginning of this Report show that Burton is in a rather favourable position as regards housing, compared with other towns in the county of Stafford, but in spite of this fact there is no doubt that a considerable amount of overcrowding exists in the borough.

The following are examples of overcrowding which came under the notice of the Health Department :—

- (a) Man and wife, 3 males over 12 years, and 6 children under 12 years, occupying 2 bedrooms, but in this case there was another bedroom not used.
- (b) Man and wife, 2 adult sons and 1 adult daughter, son and wife and 3 children, daughter and husband and 2 children, daughter and husband and 1 child, occupying 4 bedrooms.
- (c) Six adults and 1 child occupying 2 bedrooms. Here some of the adults were said to sleep downstairs.
- (d) Man and wife, one son aged 16 years, 1 daughter aged 14 years, and 6 children occupying 2 bedrooms.
- (e) Man and wife, son aged 19, 2 daughters aged 18 and 14, and 6 children occupying 2 bedrooms.
- (f) Man and wife, 2 sons aged 16 and 17, and 3 children, and man and wife lodgers and 3 children occupying 3 bedrooms.

The officials of the Health Department have done their best to remedy the above conditions, but it is difficult to do very much in the present housing shortage.

In some cases the overcrowding was due to the fault of the householder in consenting to take in lodgers when the number already in the house was sufficient for the accommodation.

ANNUAL REPORT OF Superintendent of Refuse Removal and Destructor Department.

TOWN HALL,
BURTON-ON-TRENT,
April, 1924.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

ANNUAL REPORT, 1923-24 (1ST APRIL, 1923, TO 31ST MARCH, 1924).

I beg to submit my Annual Report and summary of work done during the past financial year.

Total number of foremen and workmen employed in the department is 51—compared with 53 the previous year. The decrease is due to the establishment of water closets in place of sanitary pans and combined pits.

REFUSE REMOVAL.

The number of workmen employed in this work averages 40—compared with 42 the previous year.

W. Goodwin continues to receive 5s. per week pension.

C. Pickess, our oldest employee, died during the year. He had had 40 years' service in the department.

				1923-4.			1922-3.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sick pay amounts to	..	..	..	21	14	4	..	18	0 8
Compensation pay	..	..	..	18	5	5	..	20	6 3
Pension	..	..	..	13	0	0	..	18	10 0

There have been three accidents for which compensation pay has been made, viz., W. Dawes had an injured finger ; J. Broadhurst was knocked down by the shaft of a floater and injured his arm ; and H. Seabridge twisted his knee by falling off a cart.

Sick pay is slightly above the average, which is chiefly accounted for by Laxton, the horsekeeper, being away from duty 16 weeks, owing to an operation for appendicitis at the local Infirmary.

20 horses are employed in the whole of the work.

4 old horses were sold during the past year.

3 fresh horses were purchased during the past year.

3 fresh horses are allowed for in estimate for ensuing year.

46 vehicles are in use—6 of which are spares. These are used while others are under repair and painting.

374 sanitary pans have been converted to w.c.'s. during the year. This leaves 2,787 sanitary pans (that are in use) to be emptied weekly.

93 combined privy ashpits have been converted during the year.

10,414 ashpans are emptied weekly.

308 ashpans have been supplied as renewals and additions.

271 dry ashpits have been emptied, compared with 264 the previous year.

20 cesspools have been emptied, compared with 27 the previous year.

278 combined privies have been emptied, compared with 322 the previous year.

68 loads of excreta have been collected weekly, a decrease of 9 loads per week.

183 loads of house refuse have been collected weekly.

690 tons of nightsoil manure have been disposed of by trucks—compared with 540 tons the previous year. The increase is due to more wet ashes being mixed up, and additional loads brought in from Stapenhill, Winshill, and Horninglow.

The depot at Stapenhill, rented from Mr. Butt, Edge Hill, has now been fenced round and a soil bank made, so as to prevent an overflow on the field.

Arrangements have been made for the use of Wetmore Hall Farm depot to be used again during the coming summer on the same terms as heretofore, viz., £35 to cover everything.

The estimated cost of working and maintenance of plant for the past year was fixed at £9,870, the approximate cost is £9,590.

The estimate for ensuing year is £9,378.

DESTRUCTOR.

The number of workmen engaged is the same as last year, viz.:

11. H. Aldous continues to receive 5s. per week allowance pay.

				1923-4.			1922-3.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sick pay amounts to	..	..	..	2	10	10	..	1	1 8
Compensation pay	..	..	..	<i>nil.</i>			<i>nil.</i>		
Allowance	..	..	..	13	0	0	..	13	0 0

The approximate weight of refuse dealt with is about 11,850 tons collected by out teams—plus 12 to 15 loads per week of market and trade rubbish.

The general repairs last summer proved a much bigger item than was anticipated ; consequently the expenditure under this head was £180 more than estimated.

Permission was obtained from L.M.S. Railway Co., Ltd., for the surplus refuse (during repairs) to be tipped on their ground at Bond End Wharf—the refuse being cleared off again at the earliest opportunity.

Messrs. Marple and Gillott, Ltd., Sheffield, have purchased the old tins and galvanised scrap for the year at 36s. per ton, an increase of 2s. per ton over last year.

Messrs. Moore and Son, Burton, are the buyers of the light scrap iron picked from refuse, at 35s. per ton—an increase of 10s. per ton over last year.

The estimated cost of working and maintenance of plant was fixed at £3,282, and the probable cost is £3,345.

The estimate for ensuing year is £3,340.

Your obedient Servant,

F. W. TURNER, *Supt.*

METEOROLOGY.

A summary of the observations at the meteorological station at the Borough Hospital
for the year appear below :

MONTH.	RAINFALL.			No. of days on which 0·01 or more fell.	TEMPERATURE (IN SHADE).						No. of nights at or below 32 deg.
	Total inches.	Greatest in 24 hours.			Mean.	Maximum.		Minimum.			
		Depth.	Date.			Deg.	Date.	Deg.	Date.		
JANUARY ..	1·56	·35	5	21	41·43	55	31	28	23	13	
FEBRUARY ..	3·86	·46	24	24	41·0	58	1	25	22	10	
MARCH ..	1·36	·24	3	15	43·75	66	27	31	12	3	
APRIL ..	2·46	1·13	12	15	46·04	63	4	28	24	5	
MAY ..	2·51	·95	5	18	49·06	77	4	30	24	2	
JUNE ..	·45	·10	4	10	54·94	75	29	37	3	0	
JULY ..	3·99	·55	28	16	64·38	91	12	48	29	0	
AUGUST ..	2·27	·67	29	15	59·67	80	8	41	31	0	
SEPTEMBER ..	2·51	·62	20	14	54·33	74	30	34	3	0	
OCTOBER ..	2·68	·39	10	22	59·16	64	1	31	5	2	
NOVEMBER ..	1·98	·51	13	16	37·34	62	3	19	8	21	
DECEMBER ..	3·44	·62	25	18	37·53	53	17	19	25	20	
YEAR—1923 ..	29·07	1·13	12 Apl.	204	49·05	91	12 July	19	8 Nov. 25 Dec.	76	

TABLE I.
COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURTON-UPON-TRENT.
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1923.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY IN THE DISTRICT.							Removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages.	All Ages—Years.						Shobnall	Victoria	Horn'glow	Uxbridge	Broadway	Burton	Winshill & Wetmore		Stapenhill
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65										Over 65
Smallpox ..	..	..	7	10	..	..	..	..	4	3	6	1	5	2	0	14
Diphtheria ..	23	0	0	0	2	4	0	..	0	3	1	2	0	0	3	0
Erysipelas ..	17	1	0	1	0	4	11	0	0	13	9	4	5	4	5	52
Scarlet Fever ..	53	0	15	28	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Enteric Fever..	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dysentery ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Influ. Pneumonia ..	5	0	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
Primary Pneumonia ..	27	0	9	5	3	5	3	2	2	1	5	2	1	2	9	0
Trench Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Malaria ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Polioencephalitis ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	2	1	0	1	3	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	56	0	1	3	10	28	14	0	5	7	6	9	10	5	5	43
Other forms of Tuberculosis	44	3	6	25	7	2	1	0	6	5	5	4	6	6	4	25
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Chicken-pox ..	361	15	154	184	6	2	0	0	77	42	65	22	16	44	38	0
Totals ..	599	19	192	257	39	50	29	2	109	77	102	45	44	65	69	135

Burton-on-Trent Isolation Hospital and Sanatorium is outside the Borough.

TABLE II.
COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURTON-UPON-TRENT.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1923.

Causes of Death.	Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 yrs.	2 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and upward
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All Causes	603	76	17	10	11	17	67	171	123	111
Enteric Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Smallpox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	5	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	2	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	7	4	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza	15	4	..	..	..	1	1	5	4	..
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Meningococcal Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	45	..	..	..	2	5	24	13	1	..
Other Tuberculous Diseases	11	3	3	..	2	..	2	1	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease	81	..	..	1	..	..	8	44	16	12
Rheumatic Fever	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Diabetes	7	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	3	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	41	..	..	..	..	..	1	9	15	16
Heart Disease	69	..	..	..	..	2	4	32	20	11
Arterio-sclerosis	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	5	7
Bronchitis	44	4	2	..	..	..	2	5	14	17
Pneumonia (all forms)	36	4	4	2	2	..	7	9	6	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..
Diarrhœa, &c.	8	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	..
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	19	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	7	3
Puerperal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
Congenital Debility and Malformation including Premature Birth	41	38	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Suicide	9	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	2	..
Other Deaths from Violence	10	..	1	..	..	2	..	4	3	..
Other Defined Diseases	116	12	2	2	3	2	13	21	22	39
Causes ill-defined or unknown	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..

1923.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL
OFFICER.

BY

JAMES M. COWIE, M.D., D.P.H.,

School Medical Officer.

Annual Report of the School Medical Officer.

TO THE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY,
BURTON-ON-TRENT.

I herewith present to you the Annual Report on the work done in connection with the medical inspection and treatment of school children in the Borough during the year 1923.

STAFF.

The staff of the School Medical Department consists of the School Medical Officer, one Assistant School Medical Officer, and two School Nurses. The School Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer are also Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Medical Officer of Health respectively, so co-operation with the Health Department is assured.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS.

The school buildings remain the same as in 1922. The number of schools in the borough is one Central School of two departments, one Mixed Central School, and 31 other departments under separate head teachers.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN.

The average number of children on the roll for 1923 was 8,160 and the average number in attendance 7,279.

The figures for 1922 were 8,105 and 7,229.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The age groups inspected at routine inspection are as follows :—

- (a) All children between 12 and 13 years of age, together with children over 13 years of age, who had not already been examined after reaching the age of 12.

(b) All children between 8 and 9 years of age.

(c) Children admitted.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year. Full particulars are given in the tables at the end of the report.

(a) Routine cases examined	.. .. .	2319
(b) Special cases examined in school	.. .. .	261
(c) Number of cases examined and treated at school clinic		416
(d) Number of children examined at school clinic, but not treated there	.. .. .	2077
(e) Number of children examined at school clinic for defective vision (not included in (c))	.. .. .	286
(f) Number of defective children re-examined in school or school clinics	.. .. .	1795
(g) Number of inspections for cleanliness by school nurses		27,679
(h) Number of individual children found unclean	..	1106
(i) Number of home visits paid by school nurses	..	792

FINDINGS AND TREATMENT.

The statistical summary of the work of the school medical department is given in the tables at the end of the Report.

MINOR AILMENTS.

All the cases found at routine or special inspections to be suffering from minor ailments received satisfactory treatment either at the school clinic or otherwise.

A number of cases of slight impetigo or septic spots are treated at the school clinic by the school nurses without being seen by the Medical Officer. These cases are not included in Table 2, but are shown in Table 4.

CHARGES FOR TREATMENT.

As a result of pressure from the Board of Education it became necessary to draw up a scheme with a view to charging the parents for certain forms of treatment undertaken by the Local Authority. As the Local Authority does not at present undertake dental treatment or the operative treatment of tonsils and adenoids it was not necessary to get out a scale of charges for treatment for these defects. In the case of minor ailments the Board did not insist on a charge being made, and as it was thought that the amount it would be possible to collect would be very small when compared with the expense of collection it was decided to make no charge for the treatment of minor ailments.

The following scheme was eventually adopted :—

- (a) Free treatment for all minor ailments. No charge for eye testing and provision of a prescription.
- (b) X-ray treatment of ringworm : A charge of 6d. for every shilling the income is above the following scale :—

No. in Family				Income. less Rent	
3 (2 parents, 1 child)	40/-
4	43/-
5	46/-
6	48/-
7	50/-
8	52/-
9	54/-
Over 9	56/-

DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

During the year 311 cases of defective vision, squint, or suspected eyestrain were examined at the school clinic. Spectacles were prescribed in 197 cases. At the time of writing spectacles have been obtained for all cases for which they were prescribed.

The Local Authority does not provide spectacles, but there is a special fund from which glasses may be provided in necessitous cases. The number of cases helped by this fund in 1923 was 27.

In February, 1923, a contract was entered into with a local firm of opticians for the supply and repair of spectacles prescribed at the school clinic. The following are the terms of the contract :—

Spectacles, with strong steel curled sides, complete with				
lenses and case, per pair—Spherical				4/6
Cylindrical				6/-
Sphero-cylin.				6/-
REPAIRS—(a)	New frames	..	..	2/6
(b)	One new side	..	..	9d.
(c)	One new lens—Spherical .. ..	..	..	1/6
	Cylindrical .. ..	..	..	2/6
	Sphero-cylin. .. ..	..	..	2/6
(d) Adjusting bent frames—no charge.				

It has been found that since it has become possible for the parents to obtain the spectacles at these rates, much less difficulty has been experienced in having the glasses provided.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

One hundred and thirty-one cases of defect of nose and throat were referred for treatment. Of these 71 received operative treatment and 37 non-operative treatment. The majority of the operations was done at the General Infirmary, the patients bringing ordinary Infirmary tickets. A few operations were done privately. The Local Authority does not undertake the operative treatment of defects of nose and throat. Infirmary tickets are supplied free of charge at the Education Offices for children attending the Public Elementary Schools, if they cannot be obtained otherwise.

TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.

When defects of the permanent teeth or gross defects of the temporary teeth are discovered at routine or special inspections, a note is sent to the parent advising dental treatment. Unfortunately it is extremely difficult to get any conservative treatment done. As a rule, the only treatment attempted is extraction.

The Local Authority does not, at present, provide dental treatment, but it is hoped that this will be provided at an early date.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

Most of the cases of verminous conditions are restricted to pediculosis of the head. During the year the nurses have carried out 27,679 inspections, and found 1,106 individual children unclean to a greater or less extent.

If the infection is thought to be casual a note is sent to the parent drawing attention to the condition and asking that it be remedied; if the infection is moderate, and in the case of old offenders, the child is required to attend the school clinic for re-inspection to make sure the treatment has been carried out. When there is evidence of gross infection the child is excluded for three days to give time for a thorough cleansing, and is re-inspected before being allowed to return to school. Under the heading "Children excluded," it will be seen that there were 1,850 exclusions on account of verminous conditions. This figure includes re-exclusions of the same child; unfortunately in some cases it is necessary to re-exclude a child five or six times before it is possible to allow it to return to school.

If after having been excluded for three days a child is not sufficiently clean to return to school the School Medical Officer sends a letter to the parent or guardian stating that if the child is not fit to return to school in another three days action may be taken under the bye-laws for non-attendance. During 1923, 205 such letters were sent, 189 families being affected.

Legal proceedings were taken under the school attendance bye-laws in 29 cases. There were no prosecutions under the Children Act, 1908.

FOLLOWING UP.

All cases found to be defective are re-examined at school by the school medical officer, each department being visited three times a year for this purpose.

In addition the school nurses and school medical officer pay a number of visits to the homes in order to give advice as to treatment; the nurses paid 792 home visits in 1923.

In cases of neglect or cruelty the matter is referred to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Fourteen families were reported to the society because the children were in a verminous and neglected condition ; 23 families because of neglect to provide glasses where necessary ; and one family because the parents refused to obtain treatment for their child who was suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids. It was not found necessary to take legal proceedings in any case referred by the School Medical Officer.

CO-OPERATION WITH TEACHERS.

The teachers give valuable help to the school medical department. Most of the work of arranging for routine inspections is done by the teachers, who get out the numbers for examination in the different age groups, inform the parents or guardians of each child that the child is about to be examined and request the presence of the parent or guardian at the examination ; also certain parts of the inspection schedule are filled in by the teachers prior to the examination.

In addition many cases of skin disease and other defects are brought to the notice of the school nurses or school medical officer by the teachers. Frequently also the teachers, by using their influence with the parents, are successful in obtaining treatment in stubborn and difficult cases.

CO-OPERATION WITH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS.

As usual, the School Attendance Officers have rendered every assistance to my department, and especially in connection with the provision of spectacles in necessitous cases, and also with children excluded on account of verminous conditions.

SCHOOL CLOSURE.

It was found necessary during the year to order the closure of the following schools on account of the prevalence of Measles: Goodman Street Infants, Winshill Infants, Horninglow Infants, Uxbridge Street Infants, Stapenhill Infants, Mission Room Infants, Grange Street Infants, Wetmore Road Infants, and Christ Church Infants.

CHILDREN EXCLUDED.

The number of exclusions from school by the school medical officer is given below under the heading of the defect which caused the exclusion :—

Debility	8	Mumps	5
Ringworm	55	Measles	11
Impetigo	232	Whooping Cough	2
Scabies	2	Septic Sores	21
Chorea	3	Verminous Conditions ..	1850
Chickenpox	3	Anæmia	3
Eczema	3	Epilepsy	1
Tuberculosis	3	Sore Throat	2
Bronchitis	9	Other defects	117
Conjunctivitis	17		

EXAMINATION OF PHTHISIS CONTACTS.

All children attending the public elementary schools who have been in contact with a known case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis are examined at school at the same time as the re-examination of children who have been found defective at the routine inspections. The total number of "contacts" examined in school during the year was 45, most of these cases being examined three times during the year.

The following Table gives the result of such examinations :—

Number examined.	Number with no signs of Tuberculosis.	Number with suspicious signs.	Number with Tuberculosis.
BOYS—25 ..	22	3	0
GIRLS—20 ..	15	5	0
Total—45 ..	37	8	0

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN THE AREA.

The register of exceptional children in the area has been kept up to date. Table 3 gives statistical details.

During the year one boy was discharged from the Royal Institution for the Blind, Nottingham, and one boy was admitted to the Royal Institution for the Blind, Birmingham.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS.

Parents or guardians attended routine inspection in a total of 790 instances, which is equal to 34% of the total ; the proportion of attendances in 1922 was 27%. At the examination of the entrants the proportion was 63% ; 27% in the case of the intermediates ; and 10% in the leaver group.

The parents, as a rule, take a great interest in the work of medical inspection, and act promptly on the advice given. The only serious difficulty experienced is with cases of uncleanness and defective teeth. Occasionally slight difficulty is experienced in persuading the parents to obtain treatment for cases of defective vision and enlarged tonsils and adenoids.

EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

Prior to permission being granted for the employment of children, the child must be examined and certified fit by the school medical officer.

During 1923 sixty-six children were examined for employment, one being found unfit.

VACCINATION.

The following Table gives particulars of the number of children who were vaccinated among those who were examined as " routine " cases during 1923 :—

Age Period.	Unvac- cinated.	VACCINATED.			
		1 Mark.	2 Marks.	3 Marks.	4 Marks or more.
Entrants	74·56	0·63	1·51	2·52	20·78
Intermediate Group	63·09	1·47	3·53	2·50	29·41
Leavers	53·49	1·90	3·55	7·34	33·72

CHILDREN'S CARE COMMITTEE.

Very valuable work continues to be done by the Children's Care Committee in arranging for the treatment and after care of certain types of case, more particularly cases requiring orthopædic sanatorium, or convalescent home treatment.

I have pleasure in presenting below the report of the Children's Care Committee for the year, which I have received from Mrs. Birch, Hon. Secretary.

REPORT FOR 1923.

The Children's Care Committee was re-appointed by the Education Committee in November, 1922, and was constituted as follows : Mrs. Birch, Mrs. Coxon, Miss Evershed, Mrs. Green, Miss Miers, Mrs. Oakden, Mrs. Radford, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Williams, and Miss Elsie Lowe (Hon. Sec.).

During the year 80 cases were reported to the Committee and dealt with as follows :—

- 1 Girl aged 8 Sent to Convalescent Home.
- 2 Girl „ 14 do.
- 3 Girl „ 12 Under supervision.
- 4 Girl „ 9 Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
- 5 Girl „ 12 Sent to Convalescent Home.
- 6 Girl „ 6 do.

*7	Girl	aged	13	Sent to Convalescent Home.
8	Girl	„	8	do.
*9	Boy	„	10	do.
10	Girl	„	9	do.
*11	Girl	„	12	do.
12	Girl	„	5	do.
13	Boy	„	7	Sent by parents for change of air.
14	Girl	„	8	Sent to Convalescent Home.
15	Girl	„	5	do.
16	Boy	„	5	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
17	Boy	„	8	do.
18	Girl	„	13	Sent to Convalescent Home.
19	Girl	„	13	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
20	Boy	„	7	Sent to Convalescent Home.
21	Girl	„	9	do.
*22	Boy	„	6	do.
*23	Girl	„	11	do.
24	Girl	„	13	Under supervision.
25	Boy	„	6	Sent to Convalescent Home.
26	Boy	„	10	do.
27	Girl	„	11	Under supervision.
28	Girl	„	13	Instrument repaired.
29	Boy	„	13	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
30	Boy	„	3	Sent to Orthopædic Hospital.
*31	Girl	„	8	Sent to Convalescent Home.
32	Boy	„	13	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
*33	Girl	„	10	Sent to Convalescent Home.
34	Girl	„	6	do.
35	Girl	„	13	do.
36	Girl	„	12	Treatment refused.
37	Boy	„	6	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.

38	Boy	aged 12	Sent to Convalescent Home.
39	Boy	„ 9	do.
40	Boy	„ 6	do.
41	Girl	„ 6	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
42	Boy	„ 9	do.
43	Boy	„ 10	Sent to Convalescent Home.
44	Boy	„ 12	Under supervision.
45	Girl	„ 7	Sent to Convalescent Home.
*46	Girl	„ 8	do.
*47	Girl	„ 10	do.
48	Boy	„ 9	do.
49	Boy	„ 4½	do.
50	Girl	„ 5	do.
51	Boy	„ 6½	do.
52	Boy	„ 8	do.
*53	Boy	„ 10½	do.
54	Boy	„ 6	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
55	Girl	„ 10	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
56	Boy	„ 7	do.
57	Girl	„ 14	Sent to Convalescent Home.
58	Girl	„ 11	Under observation.
59	Girl	„ 12	Treatment refused.
60	Boy	„ 7	Under observation.
61	Girl	„ 9	Sent to Convalescent Home.
62	Boy	„ 8	Sent to Outwoods Sanatorium.
63	Boy	„ 11	Instrument repaired.
64	Girl	„ 12	Sent to Convalescent Home.
65	Boy	„ 12½	do.
*66	Girl	„	do.
67	Girl	„	Instrument to be replaced.
68	Girl	„ 2	Under supervision.

Also 12 children provided with spectacles.

The cases marked with an asterisk were sent to the Royal Alexandra Convalescent Home at Rhyl by the *Burton Observer* "Uncle Jack" Fund, all the children being examined by the School Medical Officer.

The Committee desires to express their great regret at the resignation in April of Miss Elsie Lowe. Since the Committee was incorporated in 1910, she had held the position of Hon. Secretary, and had attended every meeting, and it is due to her unfailing tact and efficiency that so many children of school age have received such great benefit during the 12 years of her work as Secretary.

The thanks of the Committee are due to the Feoffees, who again gave a grant of £25, and also provided a large number of Convalescent Home tickets and grants in aid of Sanatorium treatment.

The Committee has also received a sack of garments from the Mayoress's Needlework Guild, for which it takes this opportunity of expressing its thanks to the Mayoress and her workers. The garments are of great help in the work for children.

The Committee also thank the War Memorial Committee, the War Pensions Committee for their help in various ways, and the Voluntary Aid Association for their help in providing railway fares and clothes.

F. BIRCH,

Hon. Secretary.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The situation with regard to open-air education, physical training, provision of meals, school baths, nursery schools, secondary schools, continuation schools, and play centres is as described in my Report for 1920.

A special examination and report was made on 11 girls and 2 boys who were about to become Bursars, with a view to training for the teaching profession.

Dr. Dormer, Assistant School Medical Officer, has been responsible for the compilation of this Report, and his assistance in this respect is hereby acknowledged.

J. M. COWIE,

School Medical Officer.

HEIGHT AND WEIGHT.—Boys.

Age last Birthday.	Number Examined.	Average Height.		Average Weight.	
		Centimetres.	Inches.	Kilogrammes	Pounds.
3 ..	158	94·92	37·1	15·33	33·8
4 ..	131	100·06	39·4	16·56	36·4
5 ..	104	105·2	41·4	17·65	38·8
6 ..	19	116·02	45·7	19·96	43·9
7 ..	10	117·74	46·3	22·05	48·6
8 ..	334	123·03	48·4	24·44	53·8
12 ..	416	140·78	55·4	33·62	74·1
13 ..	35	143·31	56·4	35·40	78·1
Other Ages	12				
Total ..	1219				

GIRLS.

Age last Birthday.	Number Examined.	Average Height.		Average Weight.	
		Centimetres.	Inches.	Kilogrammes.	Pounds.
3 ..	128	93·96	36·9	14·53	32·0
4 ..	100	99·09	39·0	15·87	35·0
5 ..	103	104·74	41·2	17·71	39·0
6 ..	24	110·62	43·5	18·92	41·7
7 ..	11	116·57	45·8	20·80	45·8
8 ..	343	122·25	48·1	23·01	50·7
12 ..	362	139·77	55·0	33·43	73·7
13 ..	27	147·3	58·0	39·0	86·0
Other Ages	2				
Total ..	1100				

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Entrants	..	..	..	..	794
Intermediates	..	..	..	..	680
Leavers	..	..	..	..	845
					<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	..	2319

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	..	..	1147
Number of Re-Inspections	..	..	1795
			<hr/>
Total	..	..	2942

TABLE II—A.

Return of Defects found in the course of Medical Inspection in 1923.

DEFECT OR DISEASE.					ROUTINE INSPECTION		SPECIALS.	
					Number referred for Treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.	Number referred for Treatment	Number requiring to be kept under observation, but not referred for Treatment.
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Malnutrition	..	..	..	..	21	5	55	1
Skin	{	Ringworm—Scalp	..	..	2	0	15	0
		Body	..	..	0	0	15	0
	{	Scabies	..	..	1	0	1	0
	{	Impetigo	..	..	2	0	13	0
	{	Other Diseases (Non-tuberculous)	..	..	6	0	47	0
Eye	{	Blepharitis	..	..	1	0	17	0
		Conjunctivitis	..	..	2	0	3	0
	{	Keratitis	..	..	2	0	2	0
	{	Corneal Opacities	..	..	1	1	9	0
	{	Defective Vision (ex. squint)	..	..	130	26	174	4
Ear	{	Squint	..	..	3	8	28	4
		Other Conditions	..	..	0	2	5	0
	{	Defective Hearing	..	..	6	2	12	0
		Otitis Media	..	..	11	0	17	0
	{	Other Ear Diseases	..	..	9	0	0	0
Nose and Throat	{	Enlarged Tonsils	..	..	19	8	5	1
		Adenoids	..	..	28	5	41	0
	{	Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	..	..	6	0	13	2
		Other Conditions	..	..	6	0	13	0
	{	Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tub.)	..	..	3	1	18	0
Defective Speech	..	..	..	..	0	1	1	0
Teeth—Dental Diseases	..	..	..	..	126	0	22	0
Heart and Circulation	{	Heart Disease : Organic	..	..	4	1	3	0
		Functional	..	..	0	4	3	1
	{	Anæmia	..	..	20	0	24	1
	{	Bronchitis	..	..	12	0	13	0
	{	Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	1	1	3	0
Tuberculosis	{	Pulmonary : Definite	..	..	0	0	0	0
		Suspected	..	..	1	0	6	0
	{	Non-Pulmonary : Glands	..	..	0	0	1	0
		Spine	..	..	0	0	0	0
	{	Hip	..	..	0	0	1	0
		Other Bones and Joints	..	..	0	0	1	0
	{	Skin	..	..	0	0	1	0
		Other Forms	..	..	0	0	4	0
	{	Epilepsy	..	..	2	0	6	0
		Chorea	..	..	0	0	8	0
Nervous System	{	Other Conditions	..	..	1	2	7	0
Deformities	{	Rickets	..	..	3	0	2	0
		Spinal Curvature	..	..	1	0	1	0
	{	Other Forms	..	..	5	4	26	0
Other Defects and Diseases	..	..	..	..	12	11	104	20

TABLE II.—B.

Number of individual children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Disease).

GROUP	Number of Children		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment
	Inspected	Found to require Treatment	
CODE GROUPS :—			
Entrants	794	100	12·6
Intermediates	680	81	11·9
Leavers	845	112	13·2
Total (Code Groups) ..	2319	293	12·6
Other Routine Inspections	Nil		

TABLE III.

Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind)	Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Blind ..	3	2	5
		Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	2	..	2
		At no School or Institution ..	..	1	1
Deaf (including deaf and dumb and partially deaf)	Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	2	3	5
		At no School or Institution ..	..	1	1
	Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	Attending Certified Schools or Classes for the Deaf ..	2	0	2
Mentally defective		Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	..	1	1
		At no School or Institution ..	..	1	1
	Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	..	1	1
Mentally defective	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).	Attending Public Elementary Schools ..	36	23	59
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	Imbeciles ..	1	..	1

TABLE III.—Continued.

			Boys	Girls	Total
Epileptics	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	Attending Public Elementary Schools .. .. .	..	1	1
	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	Attending Public Elementary Schools	16	5	21
Physically Defective.	Infectious pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At no School or Institution ..	..	2	2
	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	At Public Elementary Schools ..	1	5	6
Physically Defective.	Delicate children (<i>e.g.</i> , pre- or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anaemia, &c.)	At Public Elementary Schools ..	15	9	24
	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	At Public Elementary Schools .. At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution ..	1 1 2	2 .. 2	3 1 4
Physically Defective.	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease), <i>e.g.</i> , children suffering from paralysis, &c., and including those with severe heart disease.	At Public Elementary Schools .. At other Institutions .. At no School or Institution ..	34 .. 2	27 1 ..	61 1 2

TABLE IV.
TREATMENT TABLE.
GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Disease or Defect.					Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.		
					Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise	Total.
<i>Skin—</i>							
Ringworm—Scalp	..	..	..	..	17	..	17
Ringworm—Body	..	..	..	..	13	2	15
Scabies	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Impetigo	..	..	..	..	170	7	177
Other Skin Disease	..	..	..	..	82	16	98
Minor Eye Defects	..	..	..	..	37	7	44
Minor Ear Defects	..	..	..	..	42	14	56
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	16	4	20
Total	..	..	..	..	377	52	429

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

Defect or Disease.	No. of Defects dealt with.			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Submitted to refraction by Private Practitioner or at Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Total.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint)	304	15	3	322
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes	7	..	..	7
Total	311	15	3	329

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 197

(b) Otherwise 19

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme 169

(b) Otherwise 19

GROUP III.

TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.				Total number treated
Received Operative Treatment.			Received other forms of Treatment.	
Under Local Education Authority's Scheme— Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital	Total		
—	71	71	37	108

GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS & VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School

Nurses	10·9
--------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	------

Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School

Nurses	27,679
--------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	--------

Number of individual children found unclean	1106
---	----	----	----	----	------

Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	0
-----------------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	29
-------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----

INDEX.

	PAGE
Annual Report Superintendent Refuse Removal	47
Ante-natal Work	23
Births	7
Bakehouses	42
Cancer	8
Causes of Death	52
Census Figures	8
Closet Conversions	36
Common Lodging Houses	29
Deaths	7
Destruction of Rats	32
Factory and Workshops Act	42
Food	37
Food and Drugs Acts	40
Housing	35 & 44
Infantile Mortality	7
Infant Welfare Centre	23
Infectious Diseases	12
Isolation Hospital	15
Laboratory Work	25
Maternity and Child Welfare	23
Marriages	8
Milk (Mothers and Children) Order (Milk Supplied)	24
Meat Inspection	41
Meteorology	50
Midwives	21
Milk and Cream Regulations	39
Milk Supply and Tuberculosis	37
Notification of Births	24
Nursing Arrangements (Summary of)	21
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	18
Overcrowding	46
Population	7 & 8
Pregnancy : Treatment of Complicated Cases	25
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16
" Return Cases "	15
Shops Acts	31
Smoke Abatement	34

INDEX – continued.

	PAGE
Sickness (Causes of)	21
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection	41
Sanatorium	17
Sanitary Inspector's Report	26
Schools and Infectious Diseases	14
Statistics	7 & 8
Smallpox	13
Staff	42 & 43
Tables	50-52
Tuberculosis Dispensary	17
Venereal Diseases	19
Water Supply	36
Zymotic Death Rate	8

SCHOOL REPORT.

Ailments, Minor	55
Children's Care Committee	62
Cleanliness (Want of)	58 & 74
Co-operation of Parents	61
Dental Defects	57
Employment of Children	61
Exceptional Children in Area	61
Excluded Children	60
Height of School Children	66
Nose and Throat	57
Number of Children	54
N.S.P.C.C.	59
Ringworm	68
School Buildings, Hygienic Conditions of	54
School Closure	59
School Clinic	55
Skin Diseases	55
Staff	54
Tuberculosis Contacts	60
Tonsils and Adenoids	57
Treatment—Charges for	56
Vaccination	61
Verminous Conditions	74
Vision	56
Weight	66

