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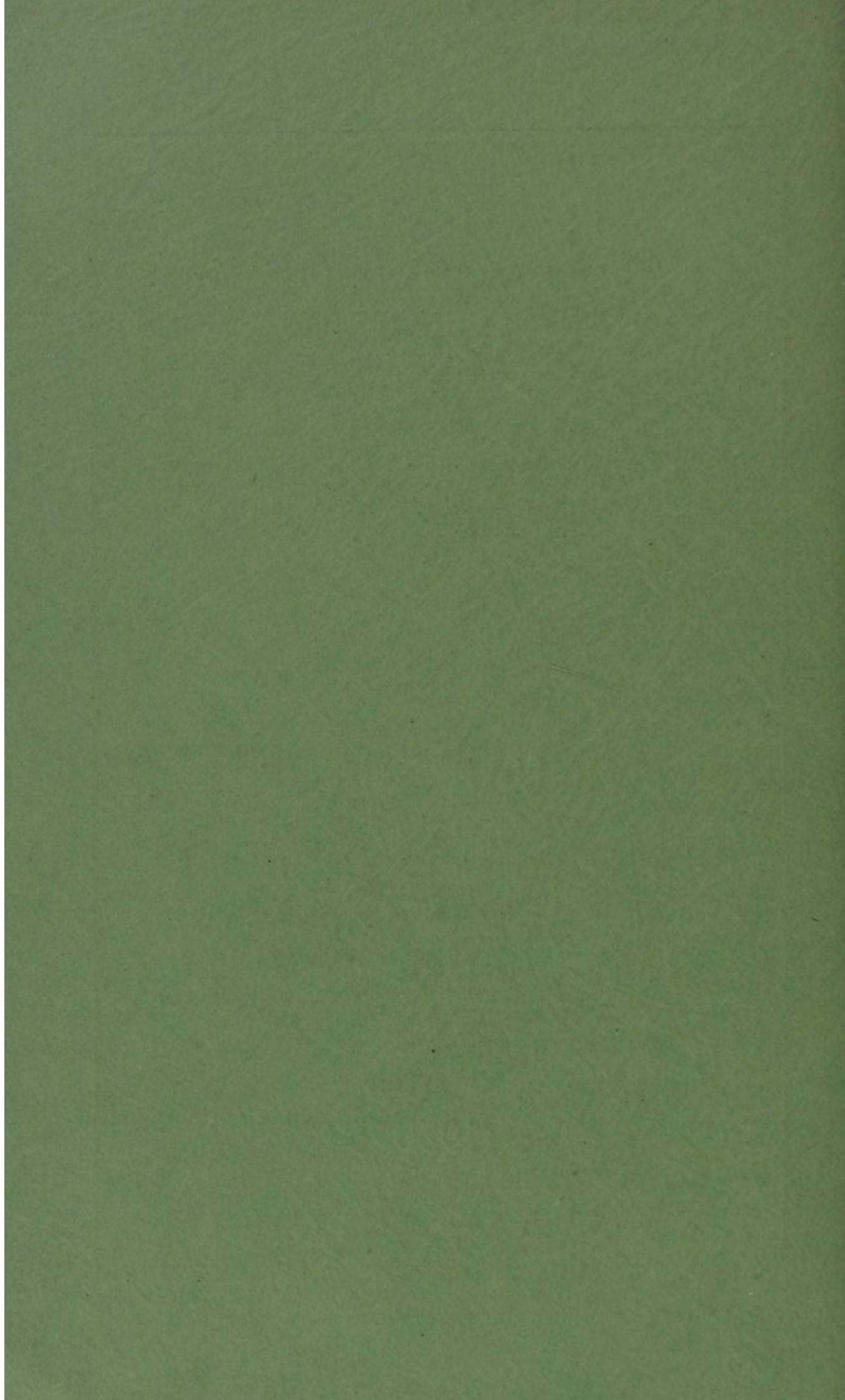
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CANNOCK URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
together with the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1950



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CANNOCK TOWN DISTRICT
COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
together with the Report of the
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1920

Members of the Public Health Committee

Chairman : MR. COUNCILLOR A. HAMPTON, O.B.E., J.P., C.C.

Vice-Chairman : MRS. COUNCILLOR E. JONES

MR. COUNCILLOR J. DEAN

MR. COUNCILLOR A. HAMPTON, JUNR.

MR. COUNCILLOR J. JAMES

MRS. COUNCILLOR M. L. ROWLEY

MR. COUNCILLOR D. M. WHITEHOUSE, T.D.

MR. COUNCILLOR F. TURNER

MR. COUNCILLOR F. ROWLEY

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health :

R. WEBSTER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Shops' Act Inspector :

FRED TURNER, C.R.S.I., Certificate of Inspector of Meat
and other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspector : JOSEPH BALL, C.R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector : RALPH HEATH, C.R.S.I.

Health Visitors

MRS. D. ROBINSON, C.M.B., S.R.N.

MRS. S. LEACH, S.R.N.

MRS. M. E. VAUGHAN, S.R.N.

MRS. H. M. THOMPSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N., H.V.

MISS M. BRENNAN, S.R.N.

MRS. M. BOX, S.R.N.

Part-Time Officers

Oculist : G. F. HAYCRAFT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.O.M.S.

Orthopædic Surgeon : NEWTON HEATH, F.R.C.S.

Orthopædic Masseuse : MISS F. M. BARNES, C.S.M.M.G.

To the Chairman and Members of the Cannock Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the people of the Urban District of Cannock for the year 1950.

As before, information is included on important aspects of the health and welfare of the inhabitants, which although not strictly within the scope of this Health Committee, is nevertheless of great interest.

The Birth Rate, following National trends, has fallen from 19.49 in 1949 to 18.69 in 1950.

The number of infant deaths has been fewer, but as a result of the fall in the number of births, the Infant Mortality Rate remains at the same figure as for last year.

For the second year in succession we have pleasure in recording the absence of death due to pregnancy and labour.

The Clinics provided by the Local Health Authority have been busy. Attendances were greater than last year, and indeed were the highest since 1944.

Education of mothers attending Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-natal Clinics has been vigorously pursued, by lectures, demonstrations and by suitable film shows. Health Education is preventive medicine, in its truest sense, and is one of the most important functions of Local Authorities, whether they be Local Health Authorities or not.

The Urban District Council has taken a leading part in this aspect of Public Health during the year.

The General Death Rate is still lower than last year, and well below that for the country as a whole.

Deaths from Cancer were also reduced.

Notifications of tuberculosis were up on previous years, but deaths from this cause remained the same as for last year.

Antibiotics and chemotherapy have now enabled a policy of energetic home treatment to be adopted. Many cases treated at home are non infectious, and reasonably well isolated. Cases where priority in housing, for purposes of isolation, might be justified, have been considered by the Health Committee.

The closest liaison is maintained with the Chest Physician on this aspect of Tuberculosis.

Major infectious disease in the Urban District included eight cases of Poliomyelitis, and five cases of Diphtheria.

Only one of the Diphtheria cases had been immunised. There were no deaths. Scarlet Fever cases were mild, and most of them were isolated and treated in their own homes.

A sharp outbreak of Dysentery in one of the nursery schools was rapidly brought under control by appropriate measures.

Water supplies were maintained at the high standard of purity, which we have come to accept as the normal order of things in this district.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish to thank members of the Public Health Committee for their kind co-operation and advice, and the staff of the Public Health Department for loyal service throughout the year.

I am, Your obedient servant,

R. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A—Statistics and Social Conditions

VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

Area of the district (excluding area covered by water)	acres 8,155
Total Population at all ages at 1951 Census ..	40,927
Registrar-General's estimate of population to middle of the year	41,080
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1948	£175,211
Product of Penny Rate	£687
Nett Births	768
Birth Rate (live and still-births) per 1,000 of estimated population	18.69
Nett Deaths allocated to the district :	
Under one year of age	27
At all ages	435
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) ..	36.8
Death Rates (at all ages)	10.58
Number of inhabited houses (according to Rate Books) at end of year	10,271

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Unemployment figures for the year were as follows :

DATE	MALES		FEMALES		TOTAL
	18 and over	Under 18	18 and over	Under 18	
13-3-50	108	2	47	8	165
12-6-50	79	3	59	6	147
11-9-50	65	12	83	12	172
11-12-50	54	5	65	7	131

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births, legitimate	712	366	346
Live Births, illegitimate	22	12	10
Still Births, legitimate	32	18	14
Still Births, illegitimate	2	—	2

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (live and still births)	18.69
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (live births)	17.86
Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales (live births)	15.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales (still births)	0.37
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (still births) ..	0.82

	Total	M.	F.
Total Deaths	435	260	175
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population .. .. .		..	10.58
Death Rate for England and Wales .. .. .		..	11.6
Area comparability factor .. .. .		..	1.16

MATERNAL MORTALITY

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	
		Cannock	Eng. & Wales
Puerperal Sepsis	—	0.00	0.03
Others	—	0.00	0.83
Total	—	0.00	0.86

INFANT MORTALITY

	Actual Deaths	Cannock Rate	England & Wales Rate
Deaths under one year of age :			
All infants per 1,000 live births	27	36.8	29.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	25	35.11	—
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	2	90.9	—

DEATHS AT ALL AGES

					Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	
					Cannock	England & Wales
				Deaths		
Cancer .. .. .	..	..	..	60	1.46	—
Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	—	0.00	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	—	0.00	0.01
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	—	0.00	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..	—	0.00	0.00
Influenza .. .. .	..	..	..	1	0.02	0.10
Diarrhoea (under 4 years of age) per 1,000 live births ..				1	0.02	1.9

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services for the Area

WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS

Ante-Natal Visits .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	293
Primary visits to infants .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	770
Re-visits to infants .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4,310

WELFARE CENTRES

Centre	Sessions held	Primary Attendances of Infants		Total Attendances	
		Under 1 year	1—5 years	Under 1 year	1—5 years
Cannock ..	48	150	28	1,600	500
Hednesford ..	50	106	36	1,581	479
Chadsmoor ..	51	122	29	1,773	372
Wimblebury ..	25	42	13	518	176
Heath Hayes..	26	89	81	540	497
Hazel Slade ..	21	55	28	472	157
Totals ..	221	564	215	6,484	2,181

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

Four Ante-Natal Clinics are now held — one at Hednesford every Thursday morning, one at Cannock every Tuesday afternoon, one at Chads-moor every Friday morning, and one at Wimblebury Thursdays fortnightly.

	Hednes- ford	Chads- moor	Can- nock	Wimble- bury	Total
Primary Attendances	155	115	162	18	450
Re-attendances ..	693	533	813	66	2,105
Total Attendances ..	848	648	975	84	2,555
No. of Sessions ..	52	50	50	25	177
Aver. No. per Session	16	13	19	3	51

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

No cases were notified.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no cases.

INFANT MORTALITY

The main causes of death of children under one year of age were: Premature birth, 7; Congenital malformations and birth injuries, 13; Gastro Enteritis, 1; Broncho-Pneumonia, 3; Asphyxia, 2; Acute Capillary Bronchitis, 1.

The Birth Rates, Infant Mortality Rates (I.M.R.) and Maternal Mortality Rates (M.M.R.) for the past ten years were as follows:

Year	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Birth Rates	19.3	21.44	21.15	21.38	20.55	21.72	23.69	22.49	19.49	18.69
I.M. Rates	75.4	52.0	44.27	54.23	37.91	61.86	50.05	39.8	36.3	36.8
M.M. Rates	1.27	8.75	1.27	6.14	2.61	2.4	0.00	2.19	0.00	0.00

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

In conjunction with other authorities, arrangements have been made with the Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare, who continue to deal with illegitimate children and their mothers.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Two cases were notified.

SECTION C—Infectious Diseases

DIPHTHERIA

5 cases were notified, compared with one in the previous year. All five cases were removed to hospital.

SCARLET FEVER

25 cases were notified, compared with 111 in the previous year. 8 were removed to hospital, and there were no fatal cases.

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS

No cases were notified.

POLIOMYELITIS

8 cases were notified. There were no fatal cases.

ENTERIC FEVER

No cases of enteric fever were notified.

PNEUMONIA

15 cases of primary pneumonia were notified. There were 20 deaths from all types of pneumonia.

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

141 cases of measles were notified, with no fatal case. There were 50 cases of Whooping Cough, with no fatal case.

CANCER

There were 60 deaths from Cancer, 6 less than in the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	NEW CASES NOTIFIED				Total	DEATHS				Total
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1—5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5—15	1	3	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..
15—25	3	10	..	..	13	1	2	..	..	3
25—35	6	5	..	1	12	2	..	..	..	2
35—45	4	2	..	..	6	1	3	..	..	4
45—55	1	2	..	..	3	1	1	..	..	2
55—65	8	3	..	..	11	4	1	..	..	5
65 & up	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Total	23	25	..	1	49	9	8	..	..	17

There were 17 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 more than in the previous year, and none from non-pulmonary tuberculosis. The incidence of the pulmonary and non-pulmonary locations of the disease is set out below :

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1949	25	9	1	2
1950	23	25	—	1

Notices of admission to Institutions were received as follows :

The Limes, Himley Sanatorium	..	..	1
Prestwood Sanatorium ..	..	..	5
Groundslow Sanatorium	..	..	3
Newcastle Isolation Hospital ..	..	..	3
Edge View, Kinver Sanatorium	..	..	—

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1950

					Males	Females
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	9	8
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	—	—
3.	Syphilitic Disease	..	..	..	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	..	—	—
6.	Meningococcal Infection	..	..	..	—	1
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	..	..	..	—	—
8.	Measles	..	..	..	—	—
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	..	..	..	—	1
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	..	8	4
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus	..	..	..	6	1
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	..	..	..	—	4
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	..	..	..	—	3
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	..	..	..	20	14
15.	Leukæmia, Aleukæmia	..	..	..	—	—
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	1	2
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	..	..	..	31	21
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	..	..	..	24	8
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	..	..	..	2	4
20.	Other Heart Disease	..	..	..	42	28
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	..	..	..	17	18
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	1	—
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	10	10
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	26	12
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	..	..	..	1	2
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	3	0
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	..	..	..	2	2
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	..	1	4
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	..	..	..	2	—
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	..	..	..	—	—
31.	Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	4	5
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	37	17
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	2	2
34.	All Other Accidents	..	..	..	7	4
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	3	—
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	..	..	..	1	—
	Totals	..	..	..	260	175

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

**To the Chairman and Members of the Cannock Urban District
Council**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1950, giving particulars of the sanitary administration of the Urban Area.

NUISANCES AND OTHER MATTERS DEALT WITH

Insufficient closet accommodation	.. .. .	7
Foul drains, water closets, cesspools, sinks, urinals	..	70
Accumulations of manure and other offensive matter	..	11
Defective water closets and drains	.. .. .	187
Animals so kept as to be a nuisance	.. .. .	20
Dirty yards	.. .. .	22
Dirty dwellinghouses	.. .. .	15
Dirty bedding	.. .. .	6
Dwellinghouses needing repair	.. .. .	357
Dwellinghouses without a water supply	.. .. .	3
Dwellinghouses overcrowded	.. .. .	14
Number of nuisances and other matters reported during the year	.. .. .	259

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

- 5 Water closets substituted for 5 trough closets.
- 1 Water closet substituted for 1 chemical closet.
- 1 Water closet substituted for 1 pail closet.
- 9 Additional water closets provided.
- 1 Pail closet dispensed with.
- 2 New water closet floors.
- 98 Water closets put in order.
- 34 New water closet pans.
- 15 New water closet seats.
- 5 New water closet flushing cisterns.
- 44 Water closet flushing cisterns repaired.
- 1 Choked water closet opened.
- 55 Choked drains opened.
- 93 Yards of new drains on 12 premises.
- 17 Drains repaired.
- 820 Dustbins substituted for worn-out dustbins.
- 4 New gullies and grids provided.

- 3 Gullies provided with benching.
- 3 Drain inspection chambers rebuilt.
- 9 New drain inspection chambers constructed.
- 9 New drain inspection chamber covers provided.
- 11 Drain ventilating shafts repaired.
- 2 Drains ventilated.
- 1 New sanitary pail provided.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

1. The number and nature of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors

Inspection of Dwellinghouses :					
(1)	Housing Inspections	..	..	..	27
(2)	District Inspections	..	..	..	5,575
Inspection of Bakehouses					
	" Dairies	..	..	..	108
	" Milk Shops	..	..	..	36
	" Milk Bars	..	..	..	49
	" Milk Floats	..	..	..	10
	" Restaurant Kitchens	..	..	..	52
	" Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	56
	" Shops	..	..	..	200
	" Meat Shops	..	..	..	715
	" Grocers' Shops	..	..	..	260
	" Meat Distribution Centre	..	..	..	235
	" Markets	..	..	..	310
	" Factories	..	..	..	211
	" Knacker's Yard	..	..	..	56
	" Public Conveniences	..	..	..	112
	" Works for abatement of nuisances	..	..	..	1,996
	" Works for abatement of housing repairs	..	..	..	528
	" Ice-Cream premises	..	..	..	315
	" Complaints investigated	..	..	..	214
	" Water courses	..	..	..	12
	" Tips	..	..	..	6
	" Living Vans	..	..	..	8
	" Pithead baths	..	..	..	8
	" Spoilbanks	..	..	..	56
	" Canal Boats — Wharves	..	..	..	12
	" Camping Grounds	..	..	..	4
	" Mortuaries	..	..	..	12
	" Making-up Rooms (Food)	..	..	..	294
	" Canteens, Cafes, etc.	..	..	..	125
	" Fishmongers' premises	..	..	..	144
	" Meat Stalls	..	..	..	226
	" Offices	..	..	..	36

2. The number of Notices served during the year

Informal	515
Statutory, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	159
Statutory, Housing Act, 1936, Section 66	6

3. Results of Service

Number of Nuisances abated	428
Notices not complied with	87

In the case of the Notices not complied with, repairs are already in hand in a considerable number of these premises, but not completed.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

	End of 1949	End of 1950
Water Closets	11,809	12,028
Dustbins	10,130	10,288
Privies	1	1
Privy Ashpits	1	1
Privy Pans	152	149
Cesspools	169	169

CESSPOOLS

The cesspools are situated at properties in the area where no sewer is available and are emptied at frequent intervals by the Cleansing Department for which purpose a modern cesspool emptier is used. The number of cesspools in the area is 169.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES

The public conveniences in the area are situated at the following points :

Cannock, Market Place ..	Ladies' and Gents' conveniences
Cannock, The Park	" " " "
Hednesford, Victoria Street	" " " "
Hednesford, The Park ..	" " " "
Heath Hayes, Wimblebury Road	" " " "
Cannock, Hednesford Road	Urinal only
Chadsmoor, Cannock Road	" "
Chadsmoor, Belt Road	" "
Hednesford, Green Heath Road	" "
Hednesford, Station Road	" "
Heath Hayes, Hill Street	" "
Littleworth, Littleworth Road	" "

Additional sanitary conveniences will, at some future date, be required to be provided in other parts of the area and a report on this matter is being prepared for consideration by the Public Health Committee.

The whole of the existing conveniences are cleaned daily, including Sundays. Lady attendants are employed at Cannock Market Place and Hednesford Victoria Street conveniences and a male employee is responsible for the cleaning of all the gents' conveniences.

It is most regrettable that damage to conveniences still prevails — it appears that certain people do not appreciate what is provided by the Council for the convenience of the public.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation is all on the water carriage system except one part of the area where no sewer is available. Some of the dwellinghouses in this particular area have water closets and others have chemical closets or sanitary pans which are emptied very frequently by the Cleansing Department.

Dustbins are well maintained and the majority of the dwellinghouses are supplied with dustbins under the Scheme in accordance with Section 75, Subsection 3, Public Health Act, 1936. An annual charge of 4/- per annum is made for each bin.

HOUSING

11 Houses were built by private enterprise.

112 Houses were built by the local authority.

35 Permanent bungalows were erected by the local authority.

FITNESS OF HOUSES

Twenty-seven houses were inspected ; twenty-six were found to be damp, none dirty and none overcrowded.

The number of persons per house was 4·4 with ·89 rooms per person, or 119 persons to 106 rooms (46 living rooms and 60 sleeping rooms).

OVERCROWDING

No. of cases on books at the end of 1950	54
No. of cases abated :	
From Council Houses	0
From Private Houses	8
No. of new cases reported to Medical Officer of Health during 1950	14
No. of cases dealt with	22

HOUSES IMPROVED

Roofs repaired	142
Chimneys repaired	24
Houses re-spouted	85
Houses re-pointed, roughcast or cemented	39
Walls and ceilings repaired	479
New ceilings	65
New quarry and concrete floors	11
Quarry, brick and concrete floors repaired	10
New wood floors	9
Wood floors repaired	20
New sub-floor ventilators	5
New firegrates fitted or firegrates repaired	64
New windows and windows repaired	120
New sashcords, catches, fasteners, etc.	135
New doors fitted and doors repaired	36
Handrails fitted	1
Dangerous stair treads renewed	1
Bedrooms ventilated (airbricks fixed)	4
Foodstores ventilated and lighted	2
New sinks and sinks repaired	44
New coppers and coppers repaired	47
Hot water systems provided or put in order	5
Burst pipes repaired	43
Yards paved and paving repaired	10
Sculleries repaired and rebuilt	30
Coalstores repaired	1
Water supply provided	3

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	351
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose ..	609
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-heading (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	27
(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose ..	81
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	14

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	337
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2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	266
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By local authority in default of Owners ..	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Act :	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	127
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	75
(b) By local authority in default of Owners ..	0
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	6
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

UNFIT HOUSES

Number demolished :

Individual Unfits	..	..	..	..	..	6
Clearance Orders	..	..	..	..	..	4
Voluntary	..	..	..	..	..	1

SITUATION OF HOUSES DEMOLISHED

St. Paul's Ward :

Dwellinghouse, Rumer Hill, Cannock .. Voluntary.

St. John's Ward :

94a Cannock Road, Heath Hayes .. Demolition Order

1, 3, 3a Moss's Buildings, East Cannock Demolition Order

42a, 42b, 44, 46 John Street, Wimble-
bury Clearance Order

St. Peter's Ward :

"Wagstaff," Cumberledge Hill, Can-
nock Wood Demolition Order

"Wood Cottage," Rawnsley Demolition Order

Situation of Houses Represented for Demolition

St. John's Ward :

Hemlocks Farm, Hawkes Green, Cannock.

St. Peter's Ward :

"Wagstaff," Cumberledge Hill, Cannock Wood.

Clearance Areas Represented

During the year one Clearance Area was represented and dealt with by the making of the following Order :

	Area sq. yds.	No. of Houses	No. of Persons
St. Chad's Ward :			
Cannock (Cecil Street, Chadsmoor) (No. 76)			
Clearance Order, 1950	2,609	6	31

RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACTS, 1920 TO 1939

Section 2 (2) of Act of 1920

Ten applications were received from tenants under the above mentioned Acts, and each case was considered in a report submitted. Ten certificates were granted.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919

INFESTATION ORDER, 1943

During the year 1950 the following results were obtained by our Rodent Operator :

Poison baits laid	..	..	..	..	..	1,489
Partial poison takes	..	..	..	..	..	492
Dead rats found	..	..	..	..	..	291
Premises dealt with by Cymag and Rockets	..					7
Rats found	..	..	..	..	..	16

170 sewer manholes were treated. There were 14 good takes ; 156 manholes were clear.

BLOCK SURVEYS

75 Block Surveys were carried out during the year, and in these surveys the following premises were dealt with :

Dwellingshouses	..	..	..	..	110
Business Premises	..	..	..	..	45
Council Premises	..	..	..	..	9
Brook courses	..	..	..	..	21
Markets	..	..	..	..	5
Hostel	..	..	..	..	1

LIVING VANS AND TENTS

A survey was made during the year of all the living vans and tents within the area, and it was found that there were 12 vans and 2 tents. Of these, two vans and one tent are included in a confirmed Clearance Order.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

					December, 1950
Licensed Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	24
Visits to Meat Shops	..	..	..	..	715

TOTAL — UNSOUND FOOD

							Weight, lbs.
Bovine Hearts — Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Pigs — Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	300
Sheep — Other Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	45
Fish	..	..	..	..	..	..	112
Bacon and Ham	..	..	..	..	..	..	258
Butter	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	..	82
Sausage	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Jam	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Sultanas	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Figs	..	..	..	..	..	..	85
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..	596	
Apricot Pulp	..	..	..	..	..	..	46
Pudding Mixture and Flour	..	..	..	..	..	..	76
Marsh Mallows	..	..	..	..	..	..	26
Tinned and Bottled Food	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,408
Australian Pears	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Peaches	..	..	..	..	..	..	220
Milk	..	..	..	..	..	24 gallons	
Total							2,886

Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
1	5	3	2

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND BUTCHERS' SHOPS

The number of slaughterhouses, butchers' shops and meat stalls in the area is as follows :

Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	24
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	42
Meat Stalls	..	..	..	..	9

SLAUGHTERHOUSES, MEAT SHOPS AND MEAT VANS

Out of 24 slaughterhouses in the area only 4 are now used for the slaughter of pigs from persons who feed pigs for their own consumption. All the slaughterhouses are visited periodically and those where pigs are slaughtered are visited each time slaughtering takes place. Some of the slaughterhouses are now old property and would not be suitable for the slaughter of animals intended for human food. The question of providing a public abattoir has been considered by the Public Health Committee but the matter has been deferred for the time being.

The meat supplied to this area comes from the Ministry of Food Abattoir at Walsall and is re-distributed from a Meat

Distribution Centre in Cannock to the butchers' shops in the area in modern, ventilated vans in which hanging rails are fitted.

The meat shops and meat stalls are visited very frequently also meat making-up rooms. Butchers' meat vans are inspected both at the shop premises and on the streets when delivery is taking place.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE ERECTION OF PIGSTIES

During the year 4 applications were received, from occupiers of premises, for permission to erect pigsties ; 5 were granted (the fifth application was received at the end of 1949). Those at rear of Council houses are erected according to a plan approved by the Council. It is most desirable that all pigsties should be of a uniform type and erected of suitable and approved materials.

TABLE FROM CIRCULAR No. 1650

No records are kept in regard to this circular, because no slaughterhouses are used for the slaughter of animals intended for human consumption.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933

Three new licences were granted to persons employed in the meat trade, and 77 licences were renewed during the year for persons to stun animals intended for human consumption.

KNACKER'S YARD

There is only one Knacker's Yard in the area, this is situated in Walkmill Lane, Bridgtown. Visits are made frequently and the premises are found to be kept clean and well maintained.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR REGULATIONS AND UNDER REGULAR INSPECTION

Dairies and Milk Shops	..	..	..	..	..	9
Purveyors of Milk from other districts selling milk in this area	..	..	..	..	..	11
Bakehouses	..	..	..	..	..	20
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	24
Butchers' Shops	..	..	..	..	..	42
Meat Stalls	..	..	..	..	..	9
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	52
Tents, Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	..	..	14
Mortuaries	..	..	..	..	..	2
Knacker's Yard	..	..	..	..	..	1
Factories	..	..	..	..	..	111

CANAL BOATS

Visits are made to the various wharves in the area but no registered boats have been found.

The transport of coal is chiefly done by road and rail.

FISH FRIERS

There are 52 fish friers in the area and the premises are kept under constant supervision. Each shop has a modern stove and the washing facilities are up-to-date as regards the water supply, soap and towels.

CANTEENS AND RESTAURANTS

All these premises are inspected regularly and conditions generally are observed. Attention is also paid to condition of cups, saucers, plates, glasses and other utensils. The removal of waste food is carried out at very frequent intervals.

The premises have all been found to be kept clean and a report on same is given to the Public Health Committee at intervals.

PUBLIC HOUSES

In the area there are 42 licenced premises for the sale of intoxicants. The premises are inspected at regular intervals, attention being paid to the washing facilities, condition of glasses, cellars, sanitary accommodation and the premises generally as regards cleanliness.

Considerable improvements to several premises were carried out during 1949. The Brewery Companies are co-operative and are willing to carry out improvements where necessary.

DISINFESTATION

The Housing Department notify the names and addresses of all selected applicants for Council houses. 156 premises were visited by the Sanitary Inspectors to ascertain whether disinfestation of furniture, furnishings, etc., was necessary before the persons concerned moved into the Council house.

In 31 cases it was found necessary to treat the furniture, furnishings and bedding of selected applicants. In all cases the furniture was disinfested with Hydrogen Cyanide Gas, and the bedding and soft furnishings were dealt with by means of steam disinfection. The houses from which the people were rehoused were dealt with by spraying with an insecticidal fluid.

The whole of this work was carried out by the staff of the Public Health (Sanitary) Department.

STEAM DISINFECTOR

The steam disinfecter at the Council's Depot was used for disinfecting 896 articles.

Number of days disinfecter in use 69

WATER

The whole of the area is supplied by water from the statutory undertakers (South Staffordshire Waterworks Company) with the exception of one house which is already condemned as unfit for human habitation. In this case the occupier has been advised to boil the water as it is obtained from a well.

There are no water stand pipes on any premises. All the houses have an internal supply over a sink either in a scullery or wash-house.

During the year 21 samples of water were taken from various parts of the area and submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. All samples proved satisfactory.

The following is a report on a sample of water taken from a tap and submitted for examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford.

Chemical :	Parts per 100,000
Total solid matter dried at 212° F. ..	23.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil
Albuminoid	0.0048
Nitric Nitrogen	0.14
Chlorine	2.4
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	0.023
Appearance	Extremely minute trace of suspended matter
Injurious Metallic Contamination ..	None
pH Value	7.4
Hardness before boiling	12.2°
Hardness after boiling	7.2°
Temporary hardness	5.0°
Bacteriological :	
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37° C. ..	Nil per 100 ml.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

During the year periodical inspections were made of the various streams and watercourses in the area.

Thirteen samples of water were taken — two of these from points where the final effluents from the different sewage disposal works enter the various watercourses.

All these samples were submitted for chemical analysis, and the reports were all satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

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

Ices and Ice-cream

The registered premises for the manufacture and/or sale of ice-cream in the area are :

Premises registered for manufacture of ice-cream by the hot-mix method	2
Premises registered for manufacture of ice-cream by the cold-mix method	6
Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream	101

Of the 101 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, practically all the ice-cream sold is in cartons or wrapped blocks and is stored in refrigerators.

During the year 147 samples were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. Particulars of these are as follows :

Total number of samples taken :	
Bacteriological	95
Chemical	52
Total number of samples taken from premises registered by the Urban District Council for manufacture and sale	56
Total number of samples taken from premises registered by the Urban District Council for sale only	91
Total number of samples manufactured by the Hot-mix method	46
Total number of samples manufactured by the Cold-mix method	15
Total number of samples where the method of manufacture was not known (ice-cream manufactured outside the Urban District)	86

The samples taken for bacteriological examination fell into the following Provisional Grades :

			Number of Samples	
			Manufactured in District	Manufactured outside District
Grade One	..	..	21	23
Grade Two	..	..	6	19
Grade Three	..	..	7	2
Grade Four	..	..	*12	5

*High due to repeat samples taken during preparation from one manufacturer.

19 samples of various ingredients were also taken and submitted for bacteriological examination.

Two samples of " Frozen Lollies " were taken. No prohibited colour was present, nor were any coliform organisms present in 0.3 c.c.

All premises where ice-cream is manufactured or sold are visited very frequently and are found to be satisfactory. In all cases adequate washing facilities are provided and maintained.

The ice-cream vendors who come into the area from other districts are increasing in number and where they are found the vans and utensils are inspected. Some of these vans are well equipped with modern utensils and even washing facilities. Others are not so well equipped but all are found to be clean.

Ice-cream is a food which is in great demand so it is most important that it should be prepared and sold under the most hygienic conditions.

MILK

The cowkeeper and dairy farms are now under the control of the Agricultural Executive Committee and the local authority still control milk retailers and dairies (not being dairy farms).

The dairies in the district are visited periodically and in each case the premises are found to be satisfactory.

Sampling milk for bacteriological examination is carried out by this Department and in all cases where unsatisfactory reports are received a copy of the report is sent to the County Milk Production Officer with a view to him checking up the conditions at the farms concerned.

There are now nine premises registered as dairies (not being dairy farms) and fifty-eight registered distributors of milk.

The following are the details of milk samples taken in 1950 :

Taken from vans in course of delivery	..	..	..	25
" " shops	..	..	..	2
" " dairies	..	..	..	76
" " dairies — bulk milk	..	..	..	4
" " dairies — pasteurisation plant	..	..	..	11
" " farms	..	..	..	28
" " farms — split samples	..	..	..	18

Out of these 164 samples, 26 failed to pass the statutory test ; these failures were as follows :

Samples taken from vans in course of delivery	..	..	3
(one produced outside area)			
Samples taken from dairies	..	..	7
(four produced outside area)			
Samples taken from dairies (bulk milk)	..	..	3
Samples taken from farms	..	..	13
(five were repeat samples taken during split sampling)			

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED) REGULATIONS, 1949

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

The following licences have been granted to sell the under-mentioned designated milks :

Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	..	23
Pasteurised	..	..	..	..	38
Sterilised	..	..	..	..	45

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Section 13

Foodshops

The Council adopted the Byelaws in May, 1950 and the work of inspecting all foodshops was first put in hand during the month of April. Since that date to the end of the year 299 foodshops have been inspected, these comprised :

Butchers	..	..	..	..	..	28
Cafes, Restaurants and Snack Bars	..				..	8
Chemists	..	..	..	..	..	6
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	12
Corn Chandlers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	..	36
Grocers	..	..	..	..	..	57
General Dealers and Off Licences	..	..			..	114
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	..	..			..	19
Multiple stores	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sugar confectioners	..	..	..	..	..	8
Wine and Spirit Merchants	..	..	..	..	..	2
Wholesale Merchants	..	..	..	..	..	5

It was necessary in certain cases to request that proper washing facilities should be provided namely, sanitary sink or wash basin, hot and cold water supply laid on over the sink or wash basin also the provision of soap, nailbrush and towels.

A full list of the improvements carried out at food premises is summarised as follows :

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT AT FOOD PREMISES **Food and Drugs Act, 1938**

Sec. 13 Sub-sec.	Improvements	General Dealers	Grocers	Butchers	Green- grocers	Chem- ists	Fried Fish Shops	Confec- tioners	Cafes, etc.	Total	
(a)	Intervening ventilated space provided Water closets cleansed	— 1	1 3	— —	— 1	— —	— 1	— —	— —	1 6	
(c)	Walls and ceilings repaired .. Floors renewed or repaired .. Windows repaired Doors repaired	4 — 1 —	3 2 — 1	2 1 — —	1 3 — —	— — — —	2 2 — —	— — — —	— — — —	12 8 1 1	
(d)	Rooms redecorated	15	8	4	4	2	5	—	—	38	
(f)	Rooms ventilated	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
(g)	Store rooms cleansed Counters cleansed Floors cleansed Yards cleansed Refuse removed	— 1 1 — 1	— — — 1 —	— — — — —	2 — — 2 3	— 1 1 — —	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — — —	— — — — —	2 2 2 3 4
(h)	Utensils cleansed	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
(i)	Sinks or wash basins provided Soap and towels provided .. Drainage improved Water heaters installed ..	4 — 1 2	4 3 3 11	3 — 1 4	— 2 — 2	— — — 3	1 — — —	— — — 2	— — — 2	12 5 5 26	

Food Premises — New Establishments

The Ministry of Food notify the department of all cases where applications have been received by them to commence new businesses such as snack bars, sweet shops, fish friers and in each case a visit is made and a report submitted to the Public Health Committee. If any alterations are required to be made the applicants are advised accordingly.

There were 12 applications dealt with during the year.

MARKETS

There are three markets in the area, two at Cannock and one at Hednesford. During the year the Council acquired the Market Hall and large open market at Cannock. The old wooden structures on the large open market at Cannock were removed and the Council erected permanent shops around the market and provided open stalls which were placed in avenues in the centre. All food traders, except fruiterers, occupy the permanent shops in which a sanitary sink is provided with a cold water supply over same — the occupiers have provided their own hot water service chiefly by electric water heater or kettles. All stalls have electricity for lighting and heating purposes.

The remaining markets are privately owned and certain improvements have to be carried out at these premises.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912 TO 1938 — 1950

The Shops Act, 1950, which came into operation on 1st October, 1950, is a consolidated Act which replaces a lot of the older Acts and makes the work of this particular branch of the Department more easy to administrate.

During the year 200 visits were made to shops in relation to notices to be exhibited and records kept, also to ascertain the particulars of sanitary and washing accommodation.

Observations are made in various parts of the area to ascertain if the Closing Hours are observed and all cases where contraventions of the Acts are found are reported to the Public Health Committee for instructions.

OFFICES

The sanitary accommodation and washing facilities at offices in the area have been inspected and found to be clean. They are chiefly at Banks and Factories and a few are in various other buildings.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The factories in the area are visited periodically ; there are 131 factories on the register, including factory bakehouses.

The sanitary accommodation and washing facilities are inspected, and these have been found to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

1. Inspection of factories made for purposes of provisions as to health

PREMISES	NUMBER ON REGISTER	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ..	13	28	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies :				
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order, 1938 ..	118	253	20	—
(b) Others ..	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	131	281	21	—

2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient ..	4	3	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	8	1	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	4	4	—	1	—
Other offences (not including offences in relation to homework) ..	5	5	—	—	—
Total	24	20*	1	5	—

*Of the outstanding four, work is either in hand, plans are being prepared or considered by the Council, or representations are still being made to the firms concerned.

OUTWORKERS

One list of outworkers has been received during the year.

BAKEHOUSES

Visits have been made to these premises, and the following matters were reported upon and dealt with :

Walls and ceilings of bakehouses cleansed ..	25
Bakehouses enlarged	1
New ovens provided	1
Accumulations of refuse removed	4
New sanitary accommodation	2

CAMP SITE

There is only one camp site in the area — this is used by the Scout Movement and is situated in Beaudesert Park, Cannock Wood. There is modern sanitation, adequate water supply and the site is kept in a very clean and tidy condition.

SPOILBANKS

The spoilbanks at collieries in the area number seven and they are visited at regular intervals. During the year one new spoilbank was commenced in the Rumer Hill area.

The National Coal Board are giving a lot of attention to the question of preventing emission of smoke and gasses from the spoilbanks and the method used is chiefly by continuous spraying with water over the surface of the spoilbank.

At one colliery the spoilbank has ceased to be used for tipping waste matter from the colliery.

The atmosphere in the vicinity of collieries is much better now than in previous years and it is to be hoped that the present control of the spoilbanks will continue.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The department has continued its work in connection with the investigation of atmospheric pollution. The instruments used are known as Deposit Gauges, Lead Peroxide Gauges and Smoke Filter and Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide Apparatus. By means of these instruments it is possible to assess the deposited atmospheric impurity and the activity of sulphur gasses in the air.

An additional Deposit Gauge was installed as from 1st September, 1950 in the northern part of the district. As in 1949, six Lead Peroxide Instruments and one combined Smoke Filter and Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide apparatus have been in use.

The results obtained from these various instruments are set out in Tables I, II, and III on pages 32 and 33 ; graphs are also shown on pages 34 and 35.

The Deposit Gauge in the southern part of the area (Bridg-town) has now been operating on its present site since 1st June, 1949. It is pleasing to note the average monthly deposit for 1950 was slightly less than that recorded in 1949. Even so it should be remembered that a deposit of 13.19 tons per square mile per month represents an annual total of over 2,000 tons for the whole of the district.

It seems a recognised fact that the emissions of sulphur dioxide follow a seasonal cycle as will be seen by the graph on page 00. The low recordings during the summer months are most certainly due to the diminished use of domestic fires during this period.

Table I
Deposit Gauges — Records of Deposits

Month							Deposits in Tons per Square Mile per Month	
							Bridgtown	Littleworth
January .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.53	—
February .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.07	—
March .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.11	—
April .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.31	—
May .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.36	—
June .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.31	—
July .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.71	—
August .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.18	—
September .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	13.20	21.21
October .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.94	16.03
November .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	19.97	17.79
December .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	10.66	9.73
Totals							158.35	*64.76
Monthly average, 1950							13.19	*16.19
Monthly average, 1949							13.29	—

*Total and average for four months only

Table II**Lead Peroxide Gauges — Record of Sulphur Pollution**

Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected — in milligrammes per 100 square centimetres per day.

Month	Bridg- town	Cannock	Pye Green	Hednes- ford	Wimble- bury	Rumer Hill
January	1.69	0.95	1.55	1.31	2.21	2.46
February	2.20	1.51	1.65	1.98	2.39	3.15
March	1.41	1.33	1.31	1.40	2.00	2.10
April	1.15	0.72	0.77	0.92	1.56	1.46
May	1.28	0.97	1.22	1.02	1.80	1.36
June	1.07	0.39	0.54	0.55	0.88	0.86
July	0.68	0.39	0.45	0.56	0.90	0.98
August	0.61	0.59	0.61	0.70	0.96	1.47
September	0.94	0.72	0.68	0.91	1.77	1.70
October	1.30	1.02	1.19	1.26	1.90	1.93
November	1.54	1.01	1.03	1.18	1.97	2.12
December	1.77	1.36	1.55	1.62	2.39	2.45
Totals	15.64	10.96	12.55	13.41	20.73	22.04

Monthly Average						
1950	1.30	0.91	1.05	1.12	1.73	1.84
1949	1.08	0.93	1.00	1.15	1.52	1.84

Table III**Smoke Filter and Volumetric Sulphur Dioxide Apparatus**

Monthly Average concentrations of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide.

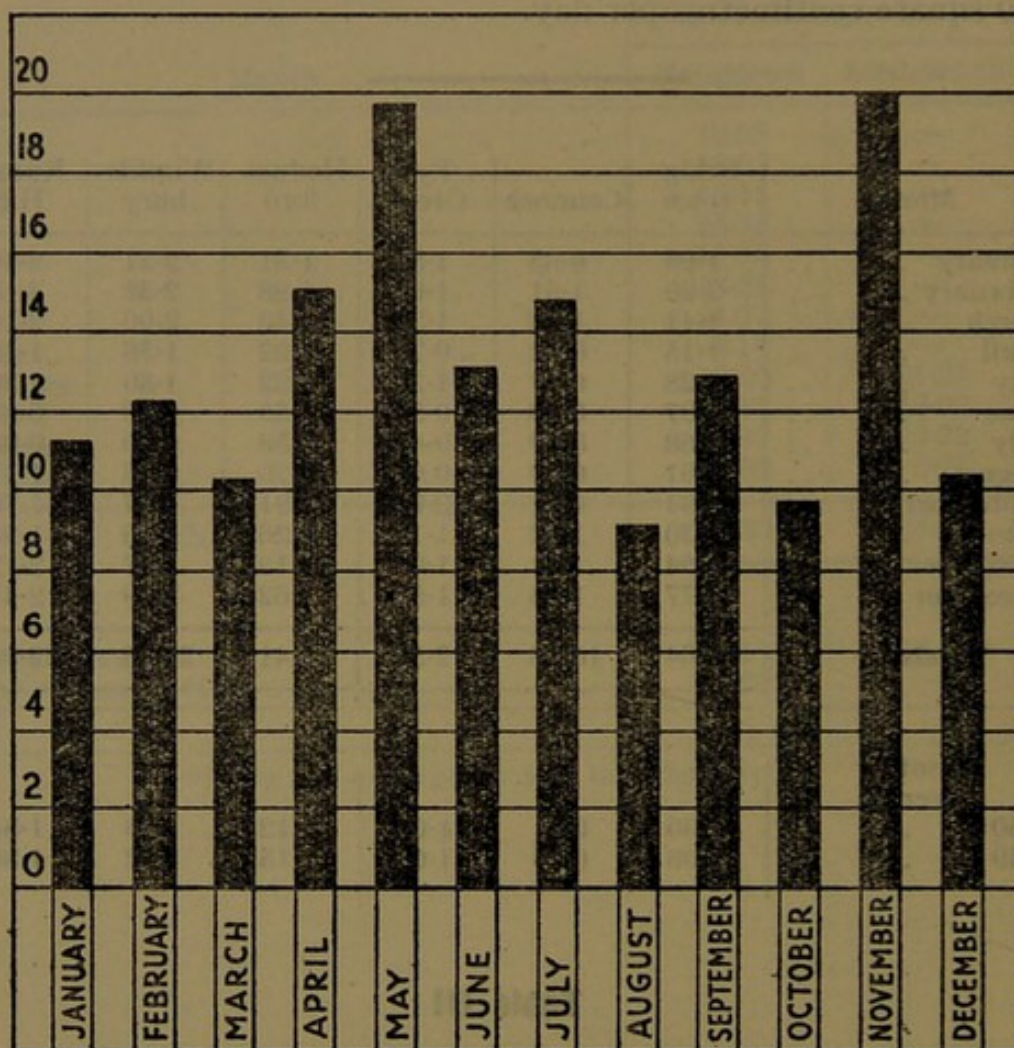
Smoke	Milligrammes per cu. metre	Sulphur Dioxide	Parts per Million
Average .. ..	.082	Average .. ..	.029
Highest .. ..	.198	Highest .. ..	.072
Lowest .. ..	.025	Lowest .. ..	.007

The smoke filters obtained by means of this apparatus are sent each month to the Department of Pathology at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where they are used in the work of cancer research.

DEPOSIT GAUGE (BRIDGTOWN 1950)

SEASONAL INCIDENCE

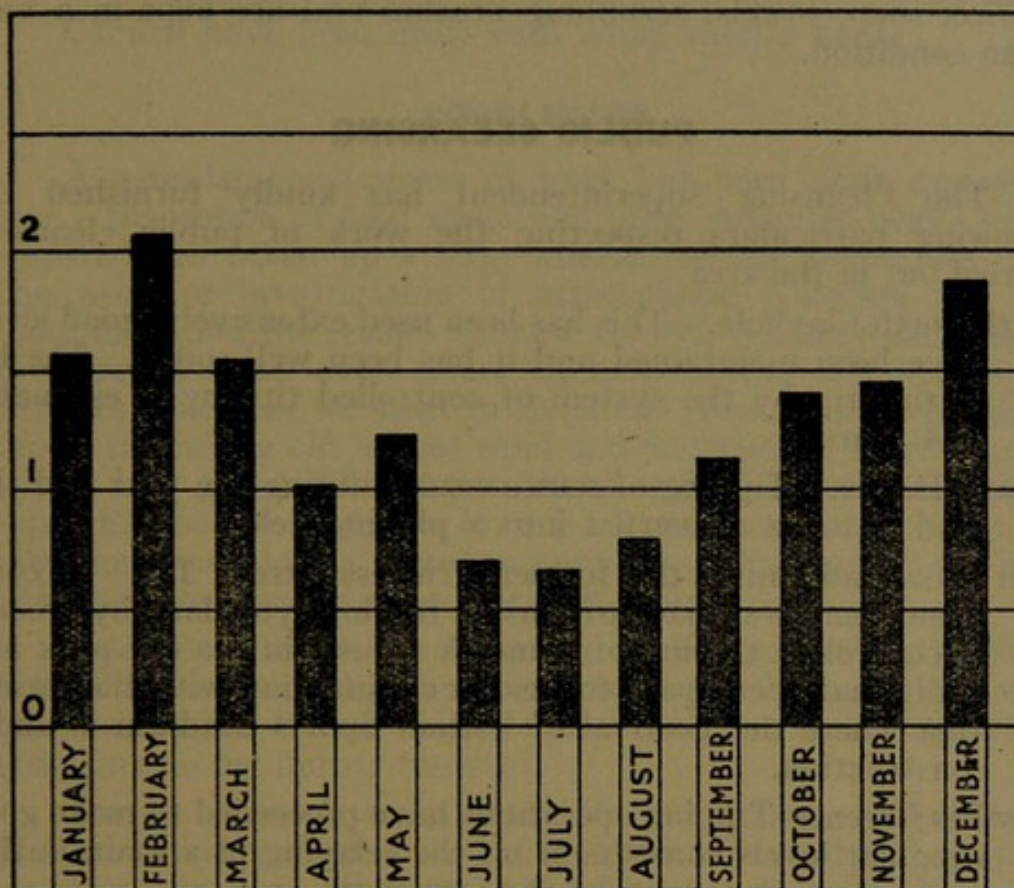
Tons per Square Mile per Month



LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES 1950 (SULPHUR DIOXIDE)

SEASONAL INCIDENCE (AVERAGES)

M/Grms/SO₃/100 Sq. Cms./Day.



MORTUARIES

There are two mortuaries in the area, one at Cannock and one at Hednesford. During the year structural improvements have been carried out at both premises, also redecoration inside and outside.

Both premises are well equipped with hot and cold water service, soap, towels, scrubbing brushes and are kept in a very clean condition.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Cleansing Superintendent has kindly furnished the following particulars respecting the work of public cleansing carried out in the area.

Littleworth Clayhole.—This has been used extensively, good levels have been maintained and it has been well soiled. The life of this tip by the system of controlled tipping is estimated at 4 years.

Heath Hayes.—Tipping of refuse ceased during the year and this land is to be converted into a playing field.

Belt Road adjoining the former Princess Street Tip.—A commencement was made to convert this low lying land by process of controlled tipping of domestic refuse, into a car park and additional open space for use in conjunction with the former area where the Festival of Britain Sports Stadium is under construction.

Hawkes Green.—Tipping operations have proceeded to make good irregular levels consequent on the relaying of a main outfall sewer through the site of the former tip.

Refuse Collection Generally.—The fleet of vehicles used on refuse collection is comprised of one 10 cubic yard capacity and four 7 cubic yard capacity vehicles of the side loading type. The vehicles are of modern design and their ages range from 1946 to the last one purchased in December, 1950 as a replacement vehicle. The interval of collection of household refuse was generally maintained at seven days.

Cesspools and Gully Cleansing.—The 750 gallons capacity Cesspool Gully Emptier has been fully engaged on emptying of cesspools in the Cannock Wood and Pye Green areas and on periodical sewer flushing.

Street gully cleansing was carried out by manual labour but an additional 1,000 gallons capacity vehicle will be available for 1951 which will be used for cesspool emptying thus enabling the 750 gallons capacity vehicle to be utilised for mechanical gully emptying.

Street Scavenging.—This work has been carried out on a rota system by a 25 cwt. capacity vehicle with sliding dustproof covers working in conjunction with bin truck orderlies.

The shopping centres are cleaned up daily and a good standard of cleanliness has been the objective throughout the area.

The open Markets since becoming the property of the Council have been dealt with along similar lines.

CONCLUSION

A considerable amount of work has been done during the year. Inspection of food shops and other premises where food is prepared has taken up a large amount of the Inspectors' time. The work of investigation of atmospheric pollution has been maintained and the results are now shown. Factory inspection is now greater than ever before because of the erection of new factories which are an asset to the area. The work on housing is chiefly in making old houses wind and waterproof, slum clearance is now at a standstill owing to the shortage of new houses but I hope that before long this branch of our work can be put into operation inasmuch as there are numerous houses which are much below the standard required for a fit house.

I desire to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, also the Members of the Council who are not Members of the Public Health Committee, for their support and assistance to me during the year.

I wish to pay tribute to the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Webster) and the Staff of the Public Health (Sanitary) Department for their help in all branches of the department and I also wish to thank the Chief Officials of the Council for their assistance rendered to me on many occasions during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

FRED TURNER,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



