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Contributors

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TO THE CORPORATION OF THE BOROUGH OF DROITWICH.

R. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

Outside 6

I have the honour to present my Report upon the public health of the Borough during the year 1940.

This Report is arranged according to the instructions given in Circular 1961 which was issued by the Ministry of Health in February, 1940.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF AREA.						
Area (in acres.)		1	735 acres.			
Registrar-General's estimate of (a) resident population, mid (b) average population appropulation of death rat	f: -1940) priate to the es.	4	738			
Number of inhabited houses (en according to Rate Books.	d of 1940)	1	479			
Rateable Value		£3	4,580			
Sum represented by a Penny Rat	е	£l	42			
The following are extra	cts from the vita	l statist	ics for the			
Live Births. Legitimate Illegitimate	Total.	Male 33 2	Female 39 4			
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated	resident populat	ion mid-l	940 = 14.5			
Still-Births. Legitimate Illegitimate	Total.	Male.	Female.			
Rate per 1,000 total (live and	still) births =	. 1	4.9			
Deaths.	Total.	Male.	Female.			
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.	87	39 1	48			
Deaths from Puerperal causes.		N	ione.			
Death Rate of Infants under on All infants per 1,000 live Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births. Illegitimate infants per 1, live births.			7 6 33			
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) " " Measles (all ages) " " Whooping Cough (al " " Diarrhoea (under 2 " of Infants under 1	years of age)	Male.	Female.			
Legitimate Illegitimate	5 2	2	3 1			

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. (i) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

a. Medical. Dr. A. B. Follows was appointed Medical Officer of Health on the 1st April, 1939 and on the 31st December I took over his duties temporarily in an acting capacity.

b. Others. Mr. R. E. Hulse, Cert. R. San. I., is a wholetime officer and combines the duties of Borough Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

(ii). There have been no developments or changes in the services provided under the following heads:

a. Laboratory facilities.

b. Ambulance facilities. These have been good, and have only been used for the transport of sickness and accident cases. All infectious cases were removed by special ambulances provided by the Bromsgrove, Droitwich & Redditch Joint Hospital Board.

- c. Nursing in the Home.
- d. Treatment Centres and Clinics.
- 8. Hospitals.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water.

The supply of water from the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company has been satisfactory in quality and all samples taken for analysis were satisfactory. Towards the end of the year the population of the area was substantially increased by unofficial evacuees and soldiers. Difficulties were experienced owing to water shortage and after conferences with the Military Authorities, arrangements were made for an additional pipe line to be laid from Wychbold to Droitwich to supplement the existing 6 inch pipe. Sanction for the work was obtained at the end of the year

(ii) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal have satisfactorily '. dealt with the additional quantity of sewage from the increased population.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The River Salwarpe, a tributary of the River Severn, passes through the town. No pollution has occurred, the condition of the canals has been satisfactory and prophylactic measures are still applied to prevent larvae from breeding.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

One pail closet has been converted and 50 additional W.C.s. have been put in during the course of the year.

(ii) Public Cleansing.

The methods in use for the collection and disposal of refuse have been satisfactory.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Details of this will be found in the attached Tabular Statement.

(iv) Shops. Inspections have been carried out and any necessary

SECTION B.

CENTRAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SHIPPORS FOR THE AREA.

L. (i) Public Health Cf. Hears of the Authority.

To root to test between and awolfer . S. A. CO .isobball as position of the control of took over I took over the control of th

time officer and combines the dubies of Borough Surveyor and Smitary

(11). There have been no developments or changes in the services

a. Laboratory facilities.

been used for the transport of sickness and accident cases. All infections cases were removed by apecial ambulances provided by the Brongrove, Droited ob a Redditch Joint Hospital Board.

- se Murgine in the Hone.
- d. Treatment Centres and Clinics.
 - &. Hospitals.

SECTION C.

SAFITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

L. (i) Mater.

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- Blyers and Streams.

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3. (i) Closet Accommodation.

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The methods in ose for the collection and disposel of refuse

(iii) Santtery Inspection of the Arca.

Details of this will be found in the attached Tabular Stateont.

alterations have been done.

(v) Camping Sites. There are no sites in the area used for camping purposes.

(vi) Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary in this matter.

(vii) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the Borough. All samples of water taken for bacteriological examination proved satisfactory.

(viii) Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action in connection with this matter was necessary during the year.

4. Schools.

The sanitary condition of the Schools is fair; the water supply good. The scholars were inspected regularly during the year and all cases of infectious disease, together with immediate contacts of notifiable diseases, were escluded.

SECTION D.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health of Housing Acts) and number of inspections made for the purpose	310 362
(b)	Number of dwellinghouses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	31

(c) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.

None

and number of inspections made for the purpose......

31

None

(d) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. 67

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

(a). Proceeding under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs (or defects remedied).
- (2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.
 - (a) By owners. None (b) By Local Authority in default of owners. None.

primaries, between confederations or metros into (e)

(b). Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.

None.

- (2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:
 - (a) By the Owner.(b) Local Authority in default of owner.

None.

None.

- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936.
 - (1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.

None.

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.

None.

(d). Proceedings under Section 12 of Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. None.
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.

 None.

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

- (a) (i). Number of dwellinghouses overcrowded at the end of the year. 26. (ii) Number of families dwelling therein. 30 l69½
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. None
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. 29
 - (ii) Number of persons concerned in such. 1872
 - (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding.

 No records have yet been obtained concerning many premises now overcrowded owing to wartime conditions.
 - (e) Overcrowding in the Borough is acute on account of unofficial evacuees and soldiers but it has not been possible to obtain any census; however, the worst cases are under review, and it is hoped that some steps may be taken to relieve the condition as opportunity arises. Unfortunately although the Council's Scheme for the abatement of overcrowding (by the construction of 70 additional houses) was ready for adoption on the completion of the remaining 34 houses during the year, 36 of these have been requisitioned by a Government Department and therefore only 34 houses were available for the intended purpose.

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SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk.

All premises used in connection with the production or sale of milk were inspected regularly by the Sanitary Inspector during the year and all samples taken by him were satisfactory.

(b) Meat.

Meat inspection has been confined to that in butchers' shops and stores as no slaughtering now takes place in the local slaughter-houses.

During the year, 277 pounds of meat were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

(c) Adulteration.

No action was taken during the year.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

This work is carried out by the County Analyst and Bacteriologist at the County Buildings, Worcester.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A diphtheria immunisation campaign was commenced in the Borough and 330 children were completely immunised during the course of the year.

The diphtheria prophylactic used was T.A.M. and each child received the three injections at the Schools.

The numbers of children immunised were as follows:

(a) pre-school children 22 (b) School children 308

Total 330

In order to show the big part that is played by school teachers in such a campaign, the percentage of children for whom parental consents were obtained at each school is recorded; -

	School.	Consent	Rate.
11	Peter's Boys. "Girls. "Infants nett's Lane Infants'	80% 81% 64% 85%	

Thanks are due to Mr. Fisher, Headmaster of St. Peter's Boys' School and to Miss Willmore, Headmistress of Winnett's Iane Infants' School, for providing facilities and co-operating so energetically in this undertaking.

Thenic are too to Mr. Fisher, Machaster of St. Peter's Boys' School and to Miss of Finness of Finness and Lands Intented to School and Machaster of Machaster of

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1940.

In spite of overcrowding due to the influx of unofficial evacuees and military into the Borough, the incidence of infectious disease remained remarkably low, and only one death occurred during the year.

Particulars of cases of infectious diseases which occurred during the course of the year (together with those of measles and whooping cough which became notifiable in October 1939) are shown in the following table:

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	4	3	0
Diphtheria	4	4	0
Measles	37	1	0
Whooping Cough	1	0	1
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	2	0
Primary Pneumonia	1	0	0

An analysis of the total notified cases are tabulated below according to age-groups.

Age Group	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria	Measles	Whooping Cough.	Erysi- pelas.	Cerebro- Spinal Meningi- tis.	Primary Pneumo- nia.
Under 1 yr.	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
1 -	1	1	2	1	-	Supply and the supply	ma <u>i</u> ma
2 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	2	2	5	-	_	-	-
10 -	-	-	10	letter to	-	Spiral I	Marie .
15 -	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
20 -	1	-	13	_	i	2	-
35 -	-	1	3	_	-	- 1	1
45 -	1:	-	1	_	_	_	-
65 and over	1:	-	-	-	1	-	-

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TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year no deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred.

Particulars of new cases are as follows: -

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
Age Periods.	Respi	ratory	Non-	Respiratory	Resp	iratory	Non-	Respiratory
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.
015	-	-	-	-	_	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	=
15 -	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 -	-	1	-	-	-	-		
35 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 + 55 - 65 and over			ī	=======================================	=		. 1.1.1	
Total.	-	3	1	1	-		-	-

No action was taken in 1940 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

My thanks are due to Mr. R. E. Hulse, the Borough Surveyor, and his Staff, for the help they have given me in compiling this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,
S. Chalmers Parry

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

SEVERAL PROPERTY.

During the year or dearly from policetary tuberculosis congress.

MILLER.	Janes Janes and		
	Interdespiratory		
			- 17
			-7
			- 0
-			
			3
			nevo bna S
			novo but 5
		5	

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the the the bely they have gives us in compiling this Report. sol his

Total destination

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diletty Bed total Carlein of Bealth.

of the Sanitary Work completed in the year ended 31st December, 1940.

Inf	ectious Diseases, etc.	
	Visits to houses on account of notifiable disease Houses disinfected after notifiable disease Other houses disinfected	50 10 9
Hou	sing.	
	Houses erected: (a) By Local Authority (b) By private enterprise or subsidy	34 2
1.	(a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (b) Number (included above) inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 (c) Number of houses found unfit for habitation (d) Number of houses (excluding c.) not in all respects fit for habitation	310 31 None 67
2.	Number of defective houses rendered fit after informal action.	67
3.	Housing Act, 1936, Sections 9, 10 and 16.	
	(a) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs or defects remedied. (b) Number of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after notice by:	None
	(a) The Owner (b) Local Authority in default of owner	None None
4.	Public Health Acts.	
	(a) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs or defects remedied. (b) Number of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after notice by:	None.
	(a) The Oner (b) Local Authority in default of owner	None None
5.	Housing Act, 1936, Sections 11 and 13.	
	(a) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made (b) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	None None
		MOHO
6.	(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made (b) Number of Closing Orders determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	None None
7.	Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.	
	(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year Number of families dwelling therein Number of persons dwelling therein (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year (c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	26 30 169½ None.
	Number of persons concerned in such cases	1875

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5. Howaten Act, 1936, Sections 11 and 13.
of to boo ed to bebrorosero agailing to reduct (a)

 (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. 	Many premises now over- crowded owing to war time conditions but no records have yet been ob- tained.
Dirty Houses dealt with Yards paved or repaved	None 36
Movable Dwellings, Caravns etc.	
Number observed Number dealt with as insanitary	None.
House Drainage etc.	
Number laid or relaid Number trapped, ventilated and repaired Number of obstructed drains dealt with Number of house-drains tested Number of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified In what parishes, if any, is there need for a sewerage scheme or improvement in sewage disposa. Number of privy middens in use at end of yearin rural por- tion of the Borough.	41 6 31 36 9 None
Number of earth or pail closets in use at end of year in rural portion of the Borough.	37
Water Closets.	
Number of privy or pail conversions including additional W.C.'s. Number of defective W.C.'s. remedied Number of Slop Closets converted to W.C.'s with fresh water flush. Number of additional W.C.'s. put in	1 69 None 50
Scavenging.	Section 1
Number of houses from which refuse was removed Number of privies cleansed Number of ashpits cleansed in rural portion of the Borough. Number of portable receptacles cleansed Number of ashpits removed and ash bins provided How often is house refuse removed	1399 None 10 1309 None Weekly.
Smoke Nuisances.	
Number under observation Number abated	None.
Offensive Trades.	
Number under observation Number improperly conducted Number newly established with consent of Council	None. None. None.
Water Supply.	
Number of wells sunk Number of wells cleansed and repaired Number of wells closed as polluted Number of houses supplied from waterworks during year Number of samples of water sent for analysis	None None None 36 3

supplies dealt Is there a defi	s with contaminat with ciency in any par ive name of paris	ish or part o		None.		
Slaughter House	S.					
Cases of slaugh Number of inspe	ed (private)	laws or defec sed premises	ts found reported	None. None. 5 None. 6 Premises not use owing to Food Control.		
Milk.						
Total number of Number of Licen	tered dairy farms Retailers in dis ces under Milk (S	in the area trict pecial Design	ations) Ord	8 19 er:		
	Pasteurised	Accredited	Tuberculin Tested.			
Bottlers Retailers P roducers	nil 2 nil	1 5 2	nil.			
Approximate number	per of milking co	ws in the dis	trict	95		
Canal Boats.						
There are no Car	nal Boats registe	red.				
Lodging Houses.						
Number on Register Number of inspections Number of contraventions of bye-laws or defects found Non Non						
Houses Let in Lo	odgings.					
Number on Regist Number of Inspec Number of contra	ter ctions avnetions of bye-	laws or defec	ts found	None. None. None.		
Food.						
Number of seizur Amount voluntar: Amount destroyed	res as unfit for ily surrendered a l as unfit for co	consumption s unfit for c nsumption: Me	onsumption	277 lbs: 277 lbs.		
Cases of animals affected with Tuberculosis: Oxen None. Pigs. None.						
Food & Drugs' Act.						
Samples taken for analysis Number of samples certified genuine Number of samples certified adulterated						
Other Matters.						
Verminous Person Verminous Houses Stagnant Water	Destruction) Act, ns Cases dealt w do. do. ng from domestic	ith	with	None. None. 7 None. None.		
Marsanos arran	ne from domestic	CHILINGIS.		Hone		

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Legal Proceedings.

Convictions obtained with regard to insanitary conditions Convictions obtained with regard to unsound food

None.

Outbreaks of Infectious Disease.

No serious outbreak of Infectious Disease or other abnormal illness occurred during the year.

Sanitary Improvements.

No large sanitary improvements were made during the year.

Chief Sanitary Requirements.

There are no chief sanitary requirements.

Fever.

No cases of Typhoid or Paratyphoid occurred during the year.

General Remarks.

The Town Council were fortunate in being able to complete their scheme of 70 houses on the Experimental Gardens housing site early in 1940. 34 of these houses were let to tenants who were formerly living under overcrowded conditions but the remaining 36 houses were requisitioned on completion by the Military Authorities.

Towards the end of 1940 the population of the area was substantially increased by unofficial evacuees and soldiers. Difficulties were experienced with water supply and after conferences with the Military Authorities arrangements were made for an additional pipe line to be laid from Wychbold to Droitwich as the existing 6" pipe was inadequate to deliver the amount of water required. Sanction for this work was obtained at the end of 1940 and the constructional work is now (March, 1941) in hand.

Overcrowding in the Borough is acute on account of unofficial evacuees but it has not been possible to obtain any census but the worst cases are under review and it is hoped that some steps may be taken to relieve this trouble as opportunity arises.

(Signed) R. E. HULSE,

Sanitary Inspector.

29th August, 1941.