[Report 1941] / Medical Officer of Health, Droitwich Borough.

Contributors

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TO THE CORPORATION OF THE BOROUGH OF DROITWICH. MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN, I have the honour to present my Report upon the public health of the Borough during the year 1941. This Report is arranged according to the instructions given in Circular 2604 which was issued by the Ministry of Health in March, 1942.

SECTION A.	
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL COND	ITIONS OF AREA.
Area (in acres)	1735 acres.
Registrar-General's estimate of: (a) resident population, mid-1941) (b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates.	5220
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1941) according to Rate Books.	1479
Rateable Value	£33,775
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£129.17.0.
The following are extracts from the vital year.	statistics for the
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident popula	tion mid-1941 = 13.2
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and sti	11) births = 54.8
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population.	16.8
Deaths from Puerperal causes.	none.
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age: All infants per 1,000 live births. Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.	52
live births. [Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimat	50 e
live births.	nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) " " Measles (all ages) " " Whooping Cough (all ages) " " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age	ll nil nil
CHANGE TO THE CONTRACT OF THE	

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(i) Public Health Officers of the Authority.

a. Medical. During the year I have continued to carry out the duties of Medical Officer of Health temporarily in an acting capacity for Dr. A. B. Follows.

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

provided under the following heads:

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- 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.
 - e. Hospitals.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water.

The supply of water derived from boreholes of the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company has continued to be very good in quality and all samples, taken for analysis, were satisfactory. Throughout the year chlorination has been carried out effectively.

(ii). Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

It was found necessary to carry out some alteration and modification to the Pumps at the Sewage Disposal Works.

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.

Ten additional W.C.s. have been put in during the sourse 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 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.

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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 excluded according to Schedule.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

*	MOODING.	
1-	Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.	
	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) and number of inspections made for the purpose	271 330
	(b) Number of dwelling-houses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	35 35
	(c) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	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.	87
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.	87
3.	Action under Statutory Powers.	
	(a) Proceeding under Sections 9. 10 and 16 of the Housing Act. 1936.	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs (or defects remedied.)	1
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
	(a) By owners. (b) By Local Authority in default of owners	none
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
	(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	none
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses 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 dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.	none
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.	none

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(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 tenements or rooms having been rendered fit. none.

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

- (a) (i). Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year.

 (ii) Number of families dwelling therein.

 None available.
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. None.
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year.
 - (ii) Number of persons concerned in such. 12
- (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.

 No records have yet been obtained concerning many premises now overcrowded owing to war-time conditions.
- (e) No records are available regarding the state of overcrowding but it is felt on the whole that the general position, brought about by war-time conditions, has not deteriorated during the year although there are still numbers of evacuees, both official and unofficial, resident in the area. Three cases of overcrowding have been abated, but it has only been possible to deal effectively with the worst cases as there is no alternative accommodation in the district.

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, 312 lbs. 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.

11. Propositions inter New Con 12 of Fourth 199, 100. to mean of white distance of the control of the con Window of a real tenent of and real sections of the real of the re AND PROPERTY AND LOSS AND LEGAL OF THE PLANT to the recent of manual-parts of the godgett. It for The set of the second To make you be a self (3) The Following of (1 3 . 1 (c) detroited to the second of the Land the second of the second row and accommended to the in ristata er and the second of the second

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year, the diphtheria immunisation campaign was continued and a further 101 children completed their course of injections.

The numbers of children immunised were as follows: -

(a) Pre-school children 31 (b) School children 70

Total 101

The diphtheria prophylactic used was A.P.T. which had been supplied by the Ministry of Health.

The important part played, not only by general practitioners and schoolteachers but also by the health visitor and district nurse, in connection with the immunisation propaganda cannot be over-emphasised and I wish to express my grateful thanks for their energetic cooperation in securing consents from the parents.

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1941.

With the exception of measles and scarlet fever there has been no appreciable change in the incidence of infectious disease on comparison with last year's figures.

Particulars of cases of infectious diseases which occurred during the year are shown in the following table:-

Disease.	Total Cases Notified & Confirmed.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	64	61	0
Diphtheria	0	5	0
Measles	101	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	0	0
Erysipelas	1 7	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	5	5	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	0
Primary Pneumonia	2	0	0

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

Age Group	Sc. Fever	Measles	Wh' png Cough.	Erysi- pelas.	Puer- peral Pyrexia.	Cerebro Spinal Meningi tis.	Acute Polio-myelitis	Primary Pneumo~ nia.
Under 1 yr.	-	9	-	-	-	-	1	4 -
1 -	1	8	-	-	_	-	-	-
2 -	1	8	10-119	T- Will	THE PERSON NAMED IN	E/12000	16-18	-
3 -	3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 -	8	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	28	37	1	-	-	1	-	-
10 -	15	8	-	-	-	1		-
15 -	2	3		1	- 1	-	-	-
20 -	6	-	-	-	2	2	-	1
35 -	1	4	-	-	-/31	-		-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
65 &			2			. 7		
over.		-	-	-		-	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year four deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred. Particulars of new cases are as follows:-

	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
Age Periods.	Respi	ratory	Non-Respiratory.		Respi	ratory.	Non-Respir- atory.	
	M.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.	M.	F.
9 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	ī	1	-	-	1 7	-
15 -	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
25 +	2	-	7	-	1	-	-	-
35 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 + 55 - 65 and over	-	=	=	-	1111	1 -	1 -	-
Total	4	1	2	-	1	2	1	-

No action was taken in 1941 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).

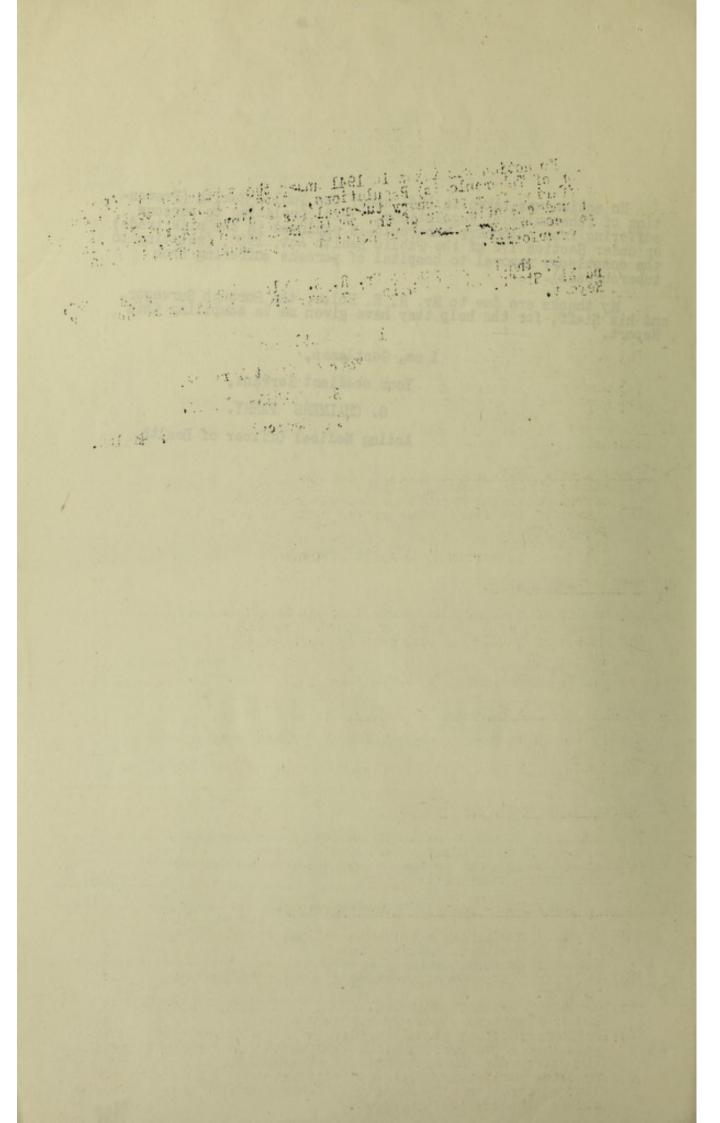
My thanks are due to Mr. R. E. Hulse, the Borough Surveyor, and his Staff, for the help they have given me in compiling this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

S. CHALMERS PARRY.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.



of the Sanitary Work completed in the year ended

Infe	ectious Diseases, etc.	
	Visits to houses on account of notifiable disease Houses disinfected after notifiable disease Other houses disinfected	95 95 18
Hous	sing.	
1.	Houses erected: (a) By Iocal Authority (b) By private enterprise or subsidy (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. Number of defective houses rendered fit after informal action.	nil nil 271 35 nil 87
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:	1
	(a) The Owner (b) Local Authority in default of owner	nil
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:	nil
	(a) The Owner (b) Local Authority in default of owner	nil
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.	nil nil
6.	Housing Act, 1936, Section 12.	1000
	(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	nil
	room having been rendered fit	nil
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	1
	(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year Number of persons concerned in such cases (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.	3 12- Many premises are now overcrow ded due to war- time con
	lees m	ron

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Policy Disable	but no records have been obtained.
Dirty Houses dealt with Yards paved or repaved	nil 14
Movable Dwellings, Caravans, etc.	
Number ovserved Number dealt with as insanitary	nil nil
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	1 58 1
rectified. In what parishes, if any, is there need for a sewerage	4
scheme, or improvements in sewage disposal Number of privy middens in use at end of year in rural	nil
portion of Borough	3
Number of earth or pail closets in use at end of year in rural portion of Borough.	37
Water Closets.	
Number of privy or pail conversions including additional	. 1000
W.C.'s. Number of defective W.C.'s. remedied Number of Slop Closets convented to W.C.'s with fresh	none 44
Number of Slop Closets, converted to W.C.'s. with fresh water flush Number of additi onal W.C.'s. put in	none 10
Scavenging.	10
Number of houses from which refuse was removed	1399
Number of privies cleansed	none
Number of ashpits cleansed Number of portable receptacles cleansed Number of ashpits removed and ash bins provided	10 1400
How often is house refuse removed	none Weekly
Smoke Nuisances.	
Number under observation Number abated	none none
Offensive Trades.	
Number under observation Number improperly conducted Number newly established, with consent of Council	none none none
Water Supply.	Bell C
Number of wells sunk	none
Number of wells cleansed and repaired	none none
Number of wells closed as polluted Number of houses supplied from waterworks during year	none 4
Number of samples of water sent for analysis Number of houses with contaminated or deficient water	1
supplies dealt with Is there a deficiency in any parish or part of the	
District? If so, please give name of parish or part?	none

ditions

1. Jan. the state of the state of the state of range to d TO YOU THE STATE OF THE STATE O bi All

Slaughter Houses.	
	none none 5 none 35 Premises not in use owing to Food Control.
Milk.	2000 000000
Number of registered dairy farms in the area Total Number of Retailers in district Number of Licences under Milk (Special Designations) Order	. 19 r:-
Pasteurised Accredited Tuberculin Tested,	
Bottlers nil 1 nil 2 nil Producers nil 2 nil	
Approximate number of milking cows in the district Canal Boats.	95
Number of Boats on register Number of boats registered during year Number of certificates renewed Number of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise) Number of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with	none none none none th none
Lodging Houses.	
Number on Register Number of inspections Number of contraventions of bye-laws or defects found	none none none
Houses Let in Lodgings.	
Number on Register Number of inspections Number of contraventions of bye-laws or defects found	none none none
Food.	
Number of seizures as unfit for consumption Amount voluntarily surrendered as unfit for consumption Amount destroyed as unfit for consumption: Meat Other Foodstuffs:	the whole: 31½ lbs. 42 lbs. of Fish & 819 Eggs.
Cases of animals affected with Tuberculosis: Oxen Pigs	none none
Food and Drugs' Act.	
Samples taken for analysis Number of samples certified genuine Number of samples certified adulterated	none none none
Other Matters.	
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, Cases dealt with Verminous Persons Cases dealt with Verminous Houses do. Stagnant Water do. Nuisances arising from domestic animals	none 1 5 none none

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Legal Proceedings.

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

none

Outbreaks of Infectious Disease or other abnormal illness during the year.

64 Cases of Scarlet Fever and 101 Cases of Measles were notified 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. Three suspect cases were reported but were not confirmed.

(Signed) R. E. HULSE,
Sanitary Inspector.

10th July, 1942.

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