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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 1942.

COMPLETE (UNABBREVIATED) ANNUAL REPORT 1942.

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 CONDITIONS OF AREA.

Area (in acres)	1735 acres
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1942) according to rate Books	1473
Rateable Value	£35,233
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£150. 14. 2d.

The following are extracts from the vital statistics for the year.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	76	40	36
Illegitimate	8	6	2

Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1942 = 15.6
The Birth Rate for England and Wales is 15.8.

<u>Still-Births.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births = 23.8

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
	74	29	45

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population. 13.7

Deaths from Puerperal causes. None.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :
All infants per 1,000 live births 11.9
(This compares very favourably with the Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales at 49).
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 13.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births --

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 13
" " Measles (all ages) --
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) --
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) --
" of infants under 1 year of age: 1

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Case No. 10,000

Filed for Record

1910

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SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

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

a. Medical. I took up duty as Medical Officer of Health on 29th June, 1942.

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.

e. Hospitals.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (1) Water.

The water supply has been satisfactory, both as to quantity and quality, throughout the year.

(ii) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The Sewage Disposal Works have continued to operate satisfactorily during the year and all effluent samples were very satisfactory.

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. (1) Closet Accommodation.

Twelve 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 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.

Action was taken where necessary in connection with this matter 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 excluded according to schedule.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	303
and number of inspections made for the purposes	370
(b) Number of dwelling-houses (included above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	5
and number of inspections made for the purpose	5
(c) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	None
(d) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	158

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	156
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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)	None
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
(a) By owners	None
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	None

1891

1900

1910

2281

1870

...for the purpose

1000

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(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 None
- (b) Local Authority in default of owner 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

(d) Proceeding 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) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year } None
- (ii) Number of families dwelling therein } available.
- (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein }
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year None
- (c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such 10
- (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 None available
- 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.

(c) Proceedings under Part IV, Section 14

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which applications were received during the year

None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which orders were made after the date of the order

None

(a) By the court
(b) Local authority in default of order

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 12 of the Act 1936

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which applications were received during the year

None

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of orders made during the year

None

(d) Proceedings under Section 13 of the Act 1936

(1) Number of orders made in pursuance of applications received during the year

None

(2) Number of orders made in pursuance of applications received during the year in respect of which orders were made after the date of the order

None

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV, Section 14

(a) (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which applications were received during the year

None

(ii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of orders made during the year

None

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year

None

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year

5

(ii) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year

10

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have been or are to be demolished after the local authority have been asked for the removal of overcrowding

None

No records have yet been obtained concerning any premises now overcrowded owing to war-time conditions

(e) No records are available regarding the state of overcrowding during the year 1945-46

The general statistics regarding the state of overcrowding during the year 1945-46 are as follows:—

It has only been possible to deal with the cases of overcrowding in the year 1945-46

The worst cases of overcrowding in the year 1945-46 are as follows:—

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.

164 tins of Milk were condemned as unfit for food.

(b) Meat.

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

During the year 175 lbs. of meat and fish 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.

During the year, the diphtheria immunisation campaign was continued and a further 68 children completed their course of injections.

The number of children immunised were as follows:-

(a)	Pre-school children	46
(b)	School children	22
	Total	<u>68</u>

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

It is again a pleasure to pay tribute to the help and co-operation of the general practitioners, health visitors, district nurse and school teachers in connection with immunisation propaganda. Every effort has been made to contact the parents of children under 15 years of age and it is hoped that by the end of 1943 the percentage figures of immunised children will be highly satisfactory.

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1942.

In the early part of the year Scarlet Fever was epidemic - since then there has been no serious outbreak of any infectious disease.

So far as we can ascertain, the four cases of diphtheria which occurred during the year had not previously been immunised.

The following cases of infectious disease occurred among the non-civilian population :-

21 A.T.S. with Scarlet Fever
2 A.T.S. with Measles

SECTION 2.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF MILK

(a) Milk

All premises used in connection with the production or sale of milk were inspected regularly by the Sanitary Inspector during the year. All milk of milk were examined as well as for food.

(b) Meat

Meat inspection has been carried out in the butcher's shop and above as no slaughtering now takes place in the local slaughterhouse.

During the year 1941, 10,000 lbs. of meat and fish were consumed as well as for human consumption.

(c) Sanitation

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, Newcastle.

SECTION 3.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Diphtheria Immunisation

During the year, the diphtheria immunisation campaign was continued and a further 50 children completed their course of injections.

The number of children immunised were as follows:-

(a) Pre-school children	45
(b) School children	55
Total	100

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

It is again a pleasure to pay tribute to the help and co-operation of the General Practitioners, Health Visitors, District Nurses and school teachers in connection with immunisation propaganda. Every effort has been made to contact the parents of children under 15 years of age and it is hoped that by the end of 1942 the percentage figures of immunised children will be highly satisfactory.

Notifiable Diseases during the year 1941.

In the early part of the year Scarlatina fever was epidemic - since then there has been no serious outbreak of any infectious disease.

So far as we are aware, the four cases of diphtheria which occurred during the year had not previously been immunised.

The following cases of infectious diseases occurred during the year:-

- 21 A.P.T. with Scarlatina fever
- 2 A.P.T. with Measles

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

Diseases	Total Cases Confirmed	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	49	49	46	0
Diphtheria	4	5	5	0
Measles	23	23	8	0
Primary Pneumonia	9	9	0	2

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

Age Group	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Diphtheria	Primary Pneumonia
Under 1 yr.	-	1	-	-
1 -	-	6	-	-
2.-	2	6	-	-
3 -	1	7	-	-
4.-	4	1	1	-
5 -	9	-	2	-
10 -	4	-	1	1
15 -	7	1	-	-
20 -	19	1	-	1
35 -	3	-	-	2
45 -	-	-	-	2
65 & over	-	-	-	3

Highfield Hospital.

The following cases of infectious disease occurred among the Ear, Nose and Throat patients:-

2 Diphtheria
11 Scarlet Fever
1 Chicken pox.

Oaklands Nursery.

The following cases of infectious disease occurred among the inmates of Oaklands Nursery:-

1 Scarlet Fever
21 Mesles
1 Diphtheria (not confirmed).

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

Disease	Total Cases	Confirmed Cases	Unconfirmed Cases	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	48	48	-	-
Diphtheria	4	4	-	-
Measles	12	12	-	-
Primary Infection	3	3	-	-

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

Age Group	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Primary Infection
Under 1 yr.	-	-	1	-
1 - 4	-	-	3	-
5 - 9	2	-	5	-
10 - 14	1	-	4	-
15 - 19	4	-	1	-
20 - 24	3	-	-	-
25 - 29	4	-	-	-
30 - 34	7	-	1	-
35 - 39	10	-	1	-
40 - 44	3	-	-	-
45 - 49	-	-	-	-
50 & over	-	-	-	-

Notifiable Diseases.

The following cases of infectious diseases occurred during the year, those not reported being:-

- 2 Diphtheria
- 11 Scarlet Fever
- 1 Chicken pox

Notifiable Diseases.

The following cases of infectious diseases occurred during the year, those not reported being:-

- 1 Scarlet Fever
- 21 Measles
- 1 Diphtheria (not notified)

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year three deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred:-

Particulars of new cases are as follows:-

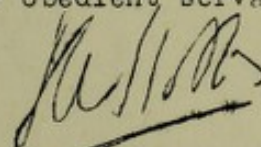
Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
5 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	2	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
25 -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
45 -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	3	5	-	1	-	2	-	1

No action was taken in 1942 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 and also for the valued assistance which is so freely given during the course of the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

DEATH	NEW CASES	RECOVERY	TOTAL
1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7
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12	12	12	12
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94	94	94	94
95	95	95	95
96	96	96	96
97	97	97	97
98	98	98	98
99	99	99	99
100	100	100	100

My thanks are due to Mr. A. E. Baker, The Research Director, and his staff, for the help they have given me in compiling this Report and also for the valued assistance which he so freely gives during the course of the year.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
[Signature]
Medical Officer of Health