[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Droitwich Borough.

Contributors

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CORPORATION OF THE BOROUGH OF DROITWICH.

Mr. Mayor & Gentlemen.

I have the honour to present my Report on the health of the borough for the year ending 31st December, 1944.

This Report is prepared in accordance with Circular 49/45 issued by the Ministry of Health, in March, 1945.

SECTION

STATISTICS SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND

Area in (acres)

1735 acres

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944)

Rateable Value

£37,804

Sum represented by a Penny Rate

£148. 4. 11d.

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

Live Births.

Legitimate Illegitimate

Female.

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 16.5 The Birth Rate for England and Wales for the same period is 17.6

Still-Births.

Legitimate Illegitimate

The still-birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 11.4

Deaths.

Male.

Female.

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population is 14.2 The Death Rate for England and Wales for the same period is 11.6

There were no deaths of mothers associated with child-birth.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:

Legitimate Illegitimate Total.

Male.

Female. 1

This gives an infantile mortality rate of 69.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

10

Measles (all ages)
Whooping Cough (all ages)
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)

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SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority:-

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. J. A. Stobbs, who resigned in September, 1944.

" " From 4th December, Dr. M. C. Fell.

Surveyor & Sanitary Inspector: Mr. R. E. Hulse, M.I.M. & Cy.E., A.R. San.I; L.R.I.B.A.

- 2. (a) Laboratory facilities are provided by the County Council at their laboratory in Worcester.
- (b) Ambulance facilities are unchanged, and continue to meet the needs of the district in a most satisfactory manner.
- (c) Nursing in the Home is done by the local District Nursing Association.
- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics. The County Council's Infant Welfare Clinic is held every Tuesday afternoon and the Antenatal Clinic on the first and third Wednesday morning in each month. These Clinics are held in the Baptist Church Hall, Droitwich.
- (e) <u>Isolation Hospital</u>. Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Hill Top Isolation Hospital, Bromsgrove. Cases of Scabies requiring hospital treatment can be admitted to the County Council's Hospital at Tolladine, Worcester.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (a) Water.

The Water supply continues to be satisfactory, both for quantity and quality.

(b) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

There have been no changes in these services. The disposal works have operated satisfactorily and effluent samples have complied with the required standards.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No serious pollution occurred during the year.

3. (a) Closet Accommodation.

One additional W.C. has been put in during the course of the year.

(b) Public Cleansing.

Collection and disposal of refuse have continued as in recent years and the service is quite satisfactory.

(c) Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Details of this will be found in the attached Tabular Statement prepared by the Sanitary Inspector.

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Prop 4th December, Dec 10 to 1

Surveyor's Sintrary Inspectors Mr. E. E. Holze, M.I.R. S. Holze, M.I.R. S. H. Ban. I; L.R.

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(a) Treatednt Centres and Cinties. The County Council's Intent Watters Cilnic is held every Tweedex attermook and the Antquaked Cints on the first and third Watmesday corning in each worth.

(a) Includion in the Easting Charch Hall, Dreitwich.

(b) Includion in the Easting Charch Hall, Dreitwich.

(c) Includion in the County Charch to Hill Top Isolation Hosepating Charch in Santing County Caucott is Hospital treatment.

(d) Treatment of the County Caucott's Hospital at Tollading.

SECTION D.

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Statement property the Seattary Inspector.

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u		_	-			200	

Inspections have been carried out and any necessary alterations have been done.

(e) Smoke Abatement.

No action has been necessary in this matter.

4. Schools.

Regular medical inspection of school children has been continued thoughout the year and necessary action has been taken where cases of infectious disease were concerned.

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) 273 and number of inspection made for the purpose 281

 - (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 154

2. Remedy of defects without sevice of formal Notices.

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

154

Nil

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

- (a) Proceedings 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)

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.

- (a) By owners Nil
 (b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Asts.
 - (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

12000 (8) Belauce tol beloscast searce-patified to redmon farot (4) (d) Named of dualitar-bodes (and notice of though peterred to upder the proceding sub-head) found not to be in all responds responds for human habitation

- (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) 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 been rendered fit

None

- 4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV. Overcrowding.
- (a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year

 (11) Number of families dwelling therein (11) Number of persons dwelling therein
- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year

Two

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year

None

(11) Number of persons concerned in such

None

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement overcrowding

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

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.

8 tins of milk were condemned as unfit for food.

(b) Meat.

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

During the year 163 lbs. 8 ozs. of meat and fish were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

(c) Adulteration. No action was taken during the year.

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(d) Chemical and Bacteriogical 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 further propaganda was carried out and 53 children completed their course of injections.

(a) Pre-school children 38
(b) School children 15

53

At the end of the year the percentage of children estimated to be immunised in the age groups 0 - 5 and 5 - 15 years was 73.6% and 92.3% in the respective groups.

Every assistance was again received from the general practitioners, school teachers, health visitors and district nurse in connection with this campaign.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1944.

Figures showing the incidence of notifiable diseases during the year are given in the attached table.

Particulars of cases of infectious diseases which occurred

uring the year.				
Disease	Total Cases Confirmed	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	4	4	3	Nil
Diptheria	4	5	4	N11
Measles	5	5	Nil	Nil
Primary Pneumonia	1	1	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	3	3	Nil	1
Erysipelas	1	, . 1	Nil	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	. 1	Nil	Nil
Acute Bacillary Dysentry	-	-	-	Nil

1, 1117

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

Age	Jphthal- mia Neo- natorum	s. Fever	Measles	Diph- theria.	Erys- ipolas	Pneumo-	Dys- en- try	Whooping Cough.
Under 1 yr	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1 -	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
2 -	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_
4 -	-	-	1	-	-	_	-	-
5 -	4	4	3	4	-	1	-	1
10 -		-	-	-	1	-	-	-
15 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 -	=	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
35 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	- '	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	- 1	55,-	-	-
65 & over	4	-	-	-	-	-	-,	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

During the year there were thred deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases are as follows:-

		NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
A	ge Periods.	Respi	ratory F.	Non-Res	piratory F.	Respi	ratory F.	Non- pira M.	Res- tory F.
	0 - 1 - 5 -		=	=	-	=	=		-
	15 -	i	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
/_	25 -	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-
_	35 -	1		-	-	-		-	-
	45 - 55 - 65 & over		- 2		1 -	111	ī	-	
-	TOTAL	. 3	4	1	1	1	1	-	-

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Figures at the beginning of year and end of year on register.

The number of cases of tuberculosis on the register at the end of December 1943 and 1944 were as follows:-

	Fulmonary M.	Cases F.	Non-Pulmonary M.	Cases F.
1943	11	10	1	3
1944	13	13	1	3

No action was taken in 1943 under the Public Health (Prevention) of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade) or under Section 17 of the Public Health Act 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

My thanks are due to Mr. G. L. Robinson and his staff for the help they have given in the compilation of this report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MARGARET C. FELL.

Medical Officer of Health.



SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT of the Sanitary Work completed in the year ended 31st December, 1944.

Inf	ectious Diseases, etc.	
	Visits to houses on account of notifiable disease Houses disinfected after notifiable disease Other houses disinfected	997
Hou	sing.	
	Houses Erected: (a) By Local Authority (b) By private enterprise or subsidy	Nil -
1.	(a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (b) Number (included above) inspected and recorded under	281
	the Housing (Consolidated Regulations, 1925 (c) Number of houses found unfit for habitation	Nil
	(d) Number of houses (excluding c.) not in all respects fit for habitation	154
2.	Number of defective houses rendered fit after informal action.	154
3.	Housing Act, 1936, Sections 9, 10 and 16.	
	(a) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs of defects remedied (b) Number of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after	Nil
	notice by:- (a) The Owner (b) Local Authority in default of owner	. 11
4.	Public Health Acts.	
	 (a) Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs of defects remedied. (b) Number of dwellings subsequently rendered fit after 	Nil
	notice by:- (a) The Owner (b) Local Authority in default of owner	11
5.	Housing Act, 1936, Sections 11 and 13.	
	(a) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
	(b) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	"
6.	Housing Act, 1936, Section 12.	
	(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in	Nil
	respect of which Closing Orders were made (b) Number of Closing Orders determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	II
7.	Housing Act, 1936 - Part 1V Overcrowding.	
	(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	No record
	Number of families dwelling therein Number of persons dwelling therein	"
	(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	2
	(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	, N11
	Number of persons concerned in such cases	N11

AND AND THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA .

 (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken stops 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 Promises now over crowded owing to war time condition but no records have been obtained.
Dirty Houses dealt with Yards paved of repaved	58
Moveable Dwellings, Caravans etc.	
Number observed Number dealt with, as insanitary	Nil "
House Drainage, etc.	
Number laid or relaid	Nil
Number trapped, ventilated and repaired Number of obstructed drains dealt with	46
Number of house-drains tested	Nil 8
Number of insanitary lavatories, sinks and urinals rectified In what parishes, if any, is there need for a sewerage scheme, or improvements in sewage disposal	
Number of privy middens in use at end of year in rural parts of Borough	3
Number of earth of pail closets in use at end of year in rural parts of Borough	37
Water Closets.	
No. of privy or pail conversions including additional	**
W.C.'s. Number of defective W.C.'s remedied	None 31
Number of Slop Closets, converted to W.C.'s. with fresh water flush	None
Number of additional W.G. ts. put in	1
Scavenging.	
Number of houses from which refuse was removed	1399
Number of privies cleansed Number of ashpits cleansed	None 10
Number of portable receptacles cleansed	1400
Number of ashpits removed and ash bins provided How often is house refuse removed	None Weekly
Smoke Nuisances.	
Number under observation Number abated	None
Offensive Trades.	
Number under observation	None
Number improperly conducted Number newly established, with consent of Council	"
Water Supply.	
Number of wells sunk	None
Number of wells cleansed and repaired	
Number of wells closed as polluted Number of houses supplied from waterworks during year	II .
Number of samples of water sent for analysis	4

Number of houses with contaminated or deficient we supplied dealt with Is there a deficiency in any parish or part of the If so, please give name of parish or part.	11
Slaughter Houses.	
Public Slaughter houses Number registered (private) Number licensed (private) Number of contraventions of bye-laws or defects Cases of slaughtering on unlicensed premises repo	None found None Premises not in use owing to Food Control.
Milk.	
Number of registered dairy farms in the area Total number of Retailers in district Number of Licences under Milk (Special Designati	ons Order:
THE CONTENTS THE TABLE THE	erculin ested.
Bottlers nil 1	nil
Bottlers nil 1 Retailers 2 5 Producers nil 2	l nil
111	
Approximate number of milking cows in the distri	et 95
Canal Boats.	
There are no Canal Boats registered.	
Lodging Houses.	
Number on Register. Number of inspections Number of contraventions of bye-laws or defects	None "
Houses Let in Lodgings.	
Number on Register	None
Number of Inspections Number of contraventions of bye-laws or defects	found "
Food.	
Number of seizures as unfit for consumption Amount voluntarily surrendered as unfit for cons Amount destroyed as unfit for consumption: Meat Other Food-stuffs	
4 ca	21 Tins Peas 14 lbs. Cheese Parings ses & 263 lbs. Oranges 8 Tins Milk
	en None gs None
Food & Drugs' Act,	
Samples taken for analysis	None
Number of samples certified genuine Number of samples certified adulterated	II ii
The state of the s	

1.3

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Other Matters.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, Cases dealt with

Verminous Persons Cases dealt with

Verminous Houses Cases dealt with

Stagnant Water do.

None
Nuisances arising from domestic animals

Legal Proceedings.

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

Outbreaks of Infectious Diseases.

There was no serious outbreak of Infectious Disease or other abnormal Illness during the year.

Sanitary Improvements.

None.

Chief Sanitary Requirements.

None.

Fever.

None.

General Remarks.

At the end of 1944 it was hoped to shortly commence work upon the preparation of the Stalls Farm Housing Estate, which included the construction of roads and sewers.

(Signed) G. L. ROBINSON,

Sanitary Inspector.

None

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Santhary Improvements

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None.

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None

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(Signed) C. L. HORINSON

Sanitary Inspector.