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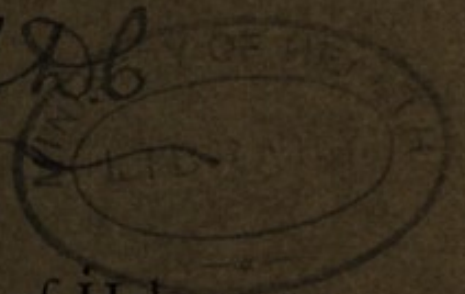
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The Late Rural District Council of Halesowen

January 1st to March 31st, 1925,

— AND —

The Urban District Council of Halesowen

April 1st to December 31st, 1925.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR 1925.





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ANNUAL REPORT

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*Clerk—*

E. H. GROVE, (Solicitor).

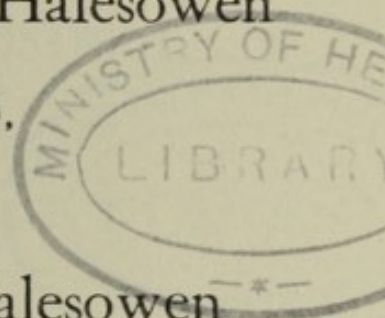
*Medical Officer of Health—*

T. BRETT YOUNG, M.D.

*Treasurer—*J. E. LLOYD.

*Surveyor—*G. SPURR.

*Sanitary Inspector—*J. W. COX.





MEMBERS OF THE LATE RURAL DISTRICT  
OF HALESOWEN,

January 1st to March 31st, 1925.

*Chairman* : MR. JOHN CHAPMAN.

*Vice-Chairman* : MR. ELI BEARD.

*Members—*

Mr. H. J. Cox, Mr. J. B. Downing, Mr. W. Green, Mr. F.  
Hipkiss, Mr. T. Hodgetts, Mr. N. Knowles, Mr. J. Parsons,  
Mr. J. A. Tate.

MEMBERS OF THE NEW URBAN DISTRICT  
OF HALESOWEN,

April 1st to December 31st, 1925.

*Chairman—*

MR. JOHN CHAPMAN (Hill Ward).

*Vice-Chairman—*

MR. ELI BEARD (Halesowen Ward).

*Members—*

CRADLEY : Mr. Richard Green, Mr. Walter Hodgetts, Mr.  
Edward Charles Starling, Mr. Alfred Westwood.

HALESOWEN : Mr. Eli Beard, Mr. William Whitehouse.

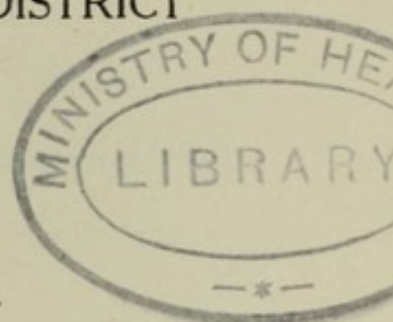
HASBURY : Mr. Alfred Hill, Mr. James A. Tate.

HAWNE : Mr. John Benjamin Downing.

HILL : Mr. John Chapman, Mr. Norman Knowles, Mr. William  
Joseph Rose.

CAKEMORE : Mr. John Gaunt, Mr. Joseph Parsons.

LAPAL : Mr. William Green.





MEMBERS OF THE EAST LONDON DISTRICT

CHARTERED

January 1st to March 31st 1851

Chairman: Mr. John Wood

Members: Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Members:

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Mr. John Wood

MEMBERS OF THE NEW LONDON DISTRICT

CHARTERED

April 1st to December 31st 1851

Chairman:

Mr. John Wood

Members:

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Members:

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

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Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood, Mr. John Wood

*To the Chairman and Members of the Halesowen Urban  
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit to you my report for the year 1925.

The outstanding event of the year has been the conversion of the Halesowen Rural District into an Urban District.

The Halesowen Rural District came to an end on March 31st, 1925.

This change in the constitution of the district may be expected to have, and almost certainly will have, the following results, viz :—

1. A more complete unification of the district.
2. A realisation of the idea that the welfare of the district, as a whole, should be equally the concern of every part of the district.
3. A more complete co-ordination of the working of the whole district.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF  
THE AREA.

The area of the district is 5,501 acres.

Population, Census 1921, 28,212.

Estimated for 1925, 30,160.



As to physical features and general character, it is situated in the extreme north of the County of Worcester. The general altitude above sea level varies from 675 feet at Hill and Cakemore, 525 at Halesowen to 338 at Cradley.

Geologically it is placed, in the greater part of its area, over the coal measures, the sub soil being for the most part a soft grey sandstone, and to a less extent clay.

Its water shed is taken by the river Stour which runs through it, and on its border for the whole extent of the district, and makes the division between the counties of Worcester and Stafford.

The greater part of the district is essentially urban in character and in its Sanitary needs.

The population is largely industrial, and the industries are very varied, comprising brick making ordinary fire clay and terra cotta, chain and spike making of almost all kinds, coal mining, nail and bolt forging, horn button making, tubes and tube fittings of all kinds, steel making, gunbarrel making, iron forging, bedstead and mattress making, bicycles, perambulators, iron castings, shoe heel and tip making, spade and shovel making, wall tie making (used in building) and spelter refining.

For the most part none of these occupations, carried on under proper conditions, are unhealthy.

The number of inhabited houses in 1921 was 5,533.

The number of families, or separate occupiers 5,800.

The total rateable value £92,823.

The sum represented by a penny rate equals £325 18 7.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

## BIRTHS :—

		Male.	Female.
Legitimate	575	317	258
Illegitimate	12	7	5

The birth rate from January 1st to March 31st (the last three months of the Rural District) was 20.3.

The birth rate from April 1st to December 31st (the first nine months of the Urban District) was 19.1.

The birth rate for the whole year, Rural and Urban, was 19.4.

The birth rate for England and Wales for 1925 was 18.3.

The birth rate shows a steady diminution during the past five years as is shown by the subjoined table :—

1921	.....	25.8.
1922	.....	22.3.
1923	.....	20.6.
1924	.....	19.7.
1925	.....	19.4.

The number of deaths registered during the year was 293 (153 males and 140 females) making a death rate of 9.7.

## DEATHS :—

The death rate for England and Wales for the same period was 12.2.

The death rate for the first three months of the year for the then Rural District was 9.1.

For the Urban District for the last 9 months of the year was 9.9.



For the whole year for the Rural and Urban District combined was 9.7.

The death rates as shown by the table below for the past five years were as follows:—

1921	.....	10.5.
1922	.....	10.8.
1923	.....	11.0.
1924	.....	9.3.
1925	.....	9.7.





TABLE 11.

NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER  
ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 wks. & under 3 mths.	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total deaths under 1 yr.
Tuber, Meningitis								1		1
Meningitis									2	2
Convulsions			1		1				1	2
Pneumonia				1	1			2	1	4
Bronchitis		1			1	1			1	3
Diarrhea										0
Dentition									1	1
Gastritis				1	1	2	1			4
Congenital Malformation	2				2					2
Atelectasis	1				1					1
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	1				1	1	1			3
Premature Birth	8	1	1		10	1				11
Icterus Neonatorum	1				1					1
Acute Intussusception								1		1
Hydrocephalus								1		1
Other Defined.									2	2
	13	2	2	2	19	5	2	5	8	39



## COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR THE DIFFERENT LOCALITIES OF THE DISTRICT.

<i>Locality.</i>	<i>Population Census 1921.</i>	<i>Birth-rate.</i>	<i>Death-rate</i>	<i>Zymotic Death-rate.</i>	<i>Infantile Mortality.</i>
Hill and Cakemore	10045	19.4	9.5	.6	71
Cradley	7599	22.8	9.6	.1	45
Halesowen	4128	19.1	14.7	.2	50
Hasbury	4044	21.7	10.6	.2	56
Hawne	1843	23.3	8.1	0	46
Illey, Lutley, Lapal	553	14.4	9.0	0	0

## THE AMOUNT OF POOR LAW RELIEF IN THE HALESOWEN DISTRICT DURING 1925.

Is shown in the subjoined table :

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>Institutional Relief.</i>	<i>Domiciliary Relief.</i>	<i>Medical Relief.</i>
Cradley	6	451	56
Halesowen	8	110	22
Hasbury	1	127	12
Hawne	Nil	33	5
Hill and Cakemore	17	152	13
Illey, Lapal, Lutley	2	28	7
Totals	34	901	115



## DIPHTHERIA.

35 cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

Of these 7 occurred at Cradley, 5 at Hasbury, 1 at Hawne, 21 at Hill and Cakemore, and 1 at Lapal.

Four of the Hasbury cases appeared to originate in the following way. A child of 10 months was discharged from the Childrens' Hospital, Birmingham, after an operation for intussusception, and was noticed on reaching home to have a blood stained discharge from the nostrils. The mother was told by a nurse at the hospital that the baby when it was being discharged had a snuffly cold in the head. The baby was discharged from Hospital on July 2nd. The baby's mother developed a sore throat on July 6th, and was told by a doctor who was called in, that she had a septic throat.

A child of three years living in the same house, developed a sore throat on the 6th July which was diagnosed as diphtheria, and from which he died on July 8th. A girl of ten years, living in the same house developed diphtheria on the 13th July.

On the 13th July, the child who had been discharged from Hospital and his mother were—after bacteriological examination, notified as suffering from diphtheria.

I wrote to the Childrens' Hospital, Birmingham on the 15th July and received from the House Governor a letter which states " that there was no case of Diphtheria in the Hospital during the time the child was here, that the child had no nasal discharge during its stay here, and also that no case of Diphtheria occurred in the ward either during the previous week or since his discharge. We are particularly keen at this Hospital about any nasal discharge in a child, and have published a note only recently in the British Medical Journal pointing out its extreme frequency."



With regard to the Hill and Cakemore cases, the bulk of them, 12 in number, occurred during the months of July and August and appear to have originated in a series of mild unrecognised cases, which attending the various schools, spread the infection. Rigid exclusions, burning of papers and books, disinfection and thorough cleansing, brought the trouble to an end.

21 cases were removed to Hospital and there were three deaths.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

### HOSPITALS:

#### 1. TUBERCULOSIS—

The Tuberculosis Pavilion at Hayley Green consists of one block containing 8 beds for men and 6 beds for women.

There are two double shelters and 5 single shelters.

Total accommodation, 23 :—8 beds for men, 15 for women.

#### 2. MATERNITY. Nil. (See below).

#### 3 CHILDREN.

Two cots for children are provided at the Cottage Hospital, Halesowen.

#### 4. FEVER.

This Hospital is provided by the Stourbridge and Halesowen Joint Hospital Committee. The Hospital is situate at Hayley Green in the area of the Halesowen Urban District.

The accommodation is as follows :—

16 beds and 4 cots for Scarlet Fever.

10 beds and 4 cots for Enteric Fever.

4 beds and 2 cots for Diphtheria.

The new block contains 16 beds and 4 cots with observation room extra, containing one bed, but capable of holding more, e.g., in all 17 beds and 4 cots.



## 5 SMALL POX.

The Small Pox Hospital is situate at Lutley and contains accommodation for 12 patients, 6 (male) and 6 (female).

## 6. OTHER.

The Cottage Hospital, Halesowen, which is supported by voluntary contributions contains 5 beds (male), 2 beds (female), 2 cots for children, and one private bed.

Maternity cases, childrens' cases and serious cases of illness and injury needing special treatment and major operations are sent to Birmingham and other local Hospitals.

There is no special provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, and homeless children apart from the Wordsley Poor Law Institution.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

A New Motor Ambulance has been provided by the Stourbridge and Halesowen Joint Hospital Committee to convey infectious cases to Isolation Hospital. There is also a motor Ambulance maintained by the Urban District Council at the Fire Station for use of Accidents and Non-Infectious cases.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL  
AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health (part time) T. BRETT YOUNG, The Laurels, Halesowen.

County Assistant Medical Officer of Health (for Tuberculosis) DR. CAROL SIMS.

Clerk of the Council (part time) E. H. GROVE, Solicitor.

Sanitary Inspector (whole time), J. W. COX, Cert. R. San. Inst.

Surveyor (whole time) G. SPURR.



There are also two Health Visitors appointed and paid by the County.

The duties of the Sanitary Inspector include the supervision of work done for the abatement of nuisances, investigation of complaints and the making of enquiries into all cases of infectious disease notified, the supervision of disinfection after removal or death of patients, inspection of Dairies and Cowsheds, Milk Shops, Canal Boats, Slaughter Houses, Workshops and Workplaces, Carbide of Calcium and Petroleum Stores, the supervision of nightsoil removal and house to house inspection under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations.

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

#### a. *General* :—

A Parish Nurse is provided by a local Committee who are responsible for her salary. She attends patients when requested to do so by the various doctors in the Parishes of Halesowen, Hasbury and Hawne.

#### b. *Infectious Diseases*.

The majority of cases of infectious disease are removed to the Isolation Hospital.

In cases of Measles and Ophthalmia Neonatorum visiting is done by the County Welfare Nurses.

### MIDWIVES.

There are six Midwives practising in the area, four Trained and two Untrained.

## CHEMICAL WORK.

Chemical Analyses of water, etc., are carried out by the County Analyst.

Bacteriological examinations by the County Bacteriologist.

Diphtheria—No. of swabs sent	46
Results—	
Positive	32
Negative	14

No. of cases in which Antidiphtheritic serum supplied 9

Tuberculosis—Specimens sent of sputum 4.

Results—	
Positive	2
Negative	2

## SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

This is administered by the County acting through the Police authorities.

The Superintendent of Police for the District reports that 15 test samples were taken and, on analysis, were found to be genuine.

## LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

The following Acts are in force in the District :—

Public Health Act Amendment Act 1890 (Part III) 13-7-1896  
All sections of the Infectious Diseases (Prevention)

Act 1890 and Sec. 74 of Towns 10-9-1896  
Improvement Clauses Act 1874.

Public Health Amendment Act 1907 Sec. 15, 16, 17,  
18, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32  
and 33 comprised in Part II. 16-4-1910



Sections 34 to 38, 43 to 46, 48 to 51, comprised in  
in Part III. „

Sections 52 to 58, 60 to 68 comprised in Part IV. „

Sections 95 comprised in Part V. „

Sections 21 comprised in Part II., Sections 39, 40,  
41, 42 and 47, comprised in Part III., in the  
Contributory places of Cakemore, Cradley,  
Halesowen, Hawne and Hill „

Sections 39, 40, and 42 comprised in Part III., in  
force in Lutley Parish „

Model Byelaws with respect to nuisances, common  
lodging houses, house refuse, offensive trades,  
slaughter houses, tents, vans and sheds, and  
new streets and buildings „

There is no co-operation with any auxilliary services or  
other outside agencies.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

**WATER.** The greater part of the district is supplied by  
the South Staffordshire Water Works Company, Limited, and  
is constant and sufficient. The only parts not supplied are  
the outlying parishes of Illey and Lapal. During the past five  
years water has been connected to dwelling houses as follows :  
1921 45, 1922 15, 1923 10, 1924 140, 1925 125.

**RIVERS AND STREAMS.** In conjunction with the  
adjoining district of Rowley Regis (Staffs), the portion of the  
River Stour between Lodge Forge Bridge and Mill Lane,  
Cradley, was cleansed by arrangement with the Mines Drain-  
age Board.



**DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.** The district forms part of the area drained by the Upper Stour Valley Main Sewerage Board, which is preparing a scheme for Supplementary Works for future necessary extensions. Storm water is discharged into the River Stour.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.** There are approximately 1280 Privy Middens and 3106 Water Closets. 121 conversions have been carried out in 1925 and 95 additional W.C's to new houses. Ashbins are being provided as the opportunity arises. The total number of conversions since 1921, 406.

**SCAVENGING.** At the present time only one part of the District, Cradley, is worked by contract. In the parishes of Halesowen, Hasbury and Hawne the work is done entirely by the Council. In Hill and Cakemore, team labour only is hired. During the year refuse was removed from all houses except those in the Parishes of Lapal, Lutley and Illey. Dry refuse is deposited on Tips and wet nightsoil as far as possible is used by local farmers.

5663 Privies and Ashpits were cleansed.

103038 Portable Receptacles were cleansed.

6288 Loads of Ashes and Excrement were removed.

### **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

Two cases of Smoke Nuisances were dealt with informally. No readings of atmospheric impurity were taken.

### **PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS, ETC.**

There are 30 Fried Fish Shops in the District, 1 Tripe Boiler, 1 Common Lodging House, 15 Slaughter Houses, 25 Caravans, all controlled by Byelaws

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The number of Inspections made during the year was 2137, these were as follows:—

Housing Acts	294
Inspection of District Regulations	193
Infectious Diseases	88
Vans	57
Drains	103
W.C's	105
Conversions	138
Smoke Nuisances	2
Offensive Trades	31
Slaughter Houses	420
Factory and Workshops	158
Bakehouses	26
Dairies	64
Cowsheds	152
Canal Boats	12
Lodging Houses	2
Meat Regulations (Private Slaughter)	282
Nuisance from Animals	4
Accumulations of Refuse	6

NOTICES. 431 Informal and 91 Statutory Notices were served resulting in the following defects being remedied, and other works and requirements carried out.

Defective Ceilings	35
Roofs	37
Floors	26
Sculleries	12
Windows	39
Stairs	11
Lights	8
Sinks	47
Eaves Gutters	89



Dampness	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Uncleanliness	.....	.....	.....	.....	87
Conversion of Privies	.....	.....	.....	.....	121
Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	136

#### F. & W. ACTS.

Limewashing of Workshops	.....	.....	.....	.....	54
Defective Sanitary Accommodation	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Nuisances	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Caravans Removed	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Smoke Nuisances	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Nuisance from animals	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Nuisance from refuse	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Overcrowding	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

#### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Accumulation of Bags causing a nuisance : Injunction obtained restraining owner from causing further nuisance.

Notices outstanding at end of year Housing 14, Public Health 25, Factory and Workshops 1.

#### SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary condition, and water supply of the public Elementary Schools in the district are for the most part satisfactory with the exception of the upper boys' and girls' departments of the Holt Road Council Schools, Hill and Cakemore, where the flushing arrangements appear to be inadequate, because of being entirely in the hands of the caretaker, and being too infrequently used. This has since been remedied.

It was found desirable to advise the closing of the Infants' department of the Halesowen C.E. School on April 24th, 1925, on account of the prevalence of Measles.

On the same date I advised the closing of the Infants' department of the Halesowen Tenter Street Council School, because of the prevalence of Measles.



On the same date I advised the closing of the Infants' department of the Blackheath C.E. School on account of Measles.

On the 8th May, I advised the closing of the Infants' department of the Halesowen Stourbridge Road Council School on account of Measles.

On May 15th I advised the closing of the Infants' department of the Hill Long Lane Council School on account of Measles and Whooping Cough, the attendance in all the above schools having fallen below 60 per cent.

On July 24th I advised the closing of all departments of the Causeway Green C.E. School to allow of disinfection after cases of Diphtheria.

On July 24th I advised the closing of the mixed department of the Holt Road Council School for disinfection after Diphtheria.

On October 8th I advised the closing of the Infants' department of the Colley Lane Cradley Council School, for disinfection after a case of Diphtheria.

During the year I received notifications of unnotifiable infectious diseases from the following schools, viz :—Cradley, Netherend Infants' School : Measles 5 cases, Chicken Pox 3 cases. Halesowen C.E. Infants' School : Measles, Whooping Cough and Mumps 22 cases, Chicken Pox 19 cases. Hasbury Church of England Infants' School : Measles 103 cases, Chicken Pox 21 cases, Influenza 2 cases. Hill and Cakemore C.E. Infants' : Measles 99 cases, Chicken Pox 27 cases, Mumps 19 cases, Whooping Cough 8 cases. Holt Road Council School Infants' department : Measles 45 cases. Tenter Street Halesowen Council School Junr. department : Measles 36 cases, Chicken Pox 30 cases.



## HOUSING.

I GENERAL CONDITIONS. There is a shortage of houses in the Wards of Halesowen, Hasbury, Hawne, Cradley, Hill and Cakemore.

To meet this shortage the following Housing Schemes have been completed.

	A	B Non-parlour.	Total.
Hasbury	32	32	64
Cradley	40	0	40
Cakemore	20	20	40
Cakemore	12	12	24
Cakemore (in progress)	10	6	16
Proposed Schemes :—			
Cradley	38	22	60
Hawne	20	37	57

II. OVERCROWDING. There are approximately 300 houses where there are two or more families. In the selection of tenants for the new houses this is one of the points taken into consideration.

One case of overcrowding was reported and dealt with.

## III. FITNESS OF HOUSES.

I. (a) A large number of old houses still exist but the greater part of them are in fair condition.

(b) Want of cleansing walls and ceilings seem to be the chief of the bad conditions found during house inspection.

(c) The above conditions are due to the lack of proper management by the owners, although in a few cases where two families occupy a house there is naturally more wear. In some cases the owners find it financially impossible to carry out the necessary repairs.

2. Where possible, action is taken under the Public Health Acts to deal with defects found. Other conditions are dealt with under the Housing Act 1925.

3. No special action outside the Statutory Powers has been taken with regard to the care and management of property.

4. There have been no representations made in regard to unhealthy areas.

5. Model Byelaws relating to tents, vans, sheds, etc., were adopted by the Council in 1916, and it is proposed to have the whole of the Byelaws revised at an early date.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

No. of new houses erected during the year	95
With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
By the Local Authority	24
By other bodies or persons	54
1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.	
1. Total number inspected under the Housing Acts and Public Health Acts	294
2. Number of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations	193
3. Number of houses found to be unfit for human habitation	1
4. Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	1



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	93
3.	Action under Statutory Powers.	
	A.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Acts 1925.	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	14
2.	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	0
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
3.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursu- ance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0
	B.—Proceedings under the Public Health Acts, 1925.	
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	110
2.	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners	87
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
	C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :	
1.	Number of representations made with a view view to the making of Closing Orders	0
2.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0

3. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the houses having been rendered fit	0
4. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
5. Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### (a)—*Milk Supply.*

There is a good supply of wholesome milk in the area, and the dairies, milkshops and cowsheds are kept in good order.

#### *Tuberculous Milk and Cattle.*

This work has been carried out by the County through the local Police.

No license has been granted for the sale of milk under Special Designations.

There has been no refusal or revocation of registration of retailers.

No samples were taken for bacteriological examination

#### (b)—*Meat.*

Inspections have been made of the slaughterhouses where regular hours are registered. Condemned meat is buried in lime or burnt. 420 visits were made, 906 carcasses were inspected (including private slaughtering).

The following were surrendered and destroyed: 2 Pigs, 1 cow's udder and intestines, 1 calf, 29 pig's lungs, 1 beef liver and lungs and 1 pig's intestines.



Informal notices were given in two cases to cease slaughtering on unlicensed premises.

There is no Public Slaughterhouse in the district. The number of existing private slaughterhouses is as follows:

	In 1920	In Jan. 1925	In Dec. 1925.
Registered	14	14	14
Licensed	0	0	1
	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 15

Under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, the cleanliness of the shops, stalls, stores and vehicles has greatly improved, it has been necessary to give informal warnings to butchers, which were generally complied with.

(c)—*Unsound Food.*

The Bakehouses, Shops and Food Stores have been regularly visited. 45 Tins of Condensed Milk were surrendered and destroyed.

(d)—There has been no case of food poisoning in the area.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

As to the sources and spread of infection, especially in connection with children, in an industrial district, where intercommunication and general mixing takes place so completely, it is difficult to say anything definite or useful.

A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin is always available, and it is fairly commonly used, and its use is becoming more general.

As to Encephalitis Lethargica, three cases occurred in 1921, all widely distributed throughout the district, with no evidence of any intercommunication. One case proved fatal.



In 1922 there was one case which proved fatal, this occurred in the month of November, the patient was a male of 58 years, and shortly before the onset of the disease had been on holiday at a seaside resort.

In 1923 there was no notification of this disease.

In 1924 there were four cases in widely separated parts of the district, the first a boy of five years, notified in January, whose case proved fatal, the next a boy of five years notified in April who recovered. Next a youth of 15 notified in April who also recovered. The last case, notified on June 30th, was a young man of 18 years, and proved fatal.

1925. There was no case notified during 1925.

There is no record of any "return" case of Scarlet Fever during the past five years.

No case of Malaria, Dysentery, nor Trench Fever have been notified during the past five years.

The number of cases of pneumonia notified during the period January 1919 to December 31st, 1925, was 297; the number of deaths 215. It is fairly obvious that all cases of pneumonia are not notified, whilst it is certain that all deaths are registered.

Pathological and bacteriological examinations are made by the County bacteriologist, whose services and help, are increasingly used.

Full arrangements for isolation and disinfection exist at the Stourbridge and Halesowen Isolation Hospital, which is situated at Hayley Green in the Halesowen District. There is at present no station for the disinfestation of verminous persons.



In connection with "carriers," a case of diphtheria was notified on 24th June, 1925, and the same case again on September 23rd, on each occasion a swab sent to the County Bacteriologist was reported positive. He was evidently a potential carrier, although there is no evidence that the infection was passed on.

So far as I know, no use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, nor of the recently developed artificial methods of immunization against these diseases.

### VACCINATION.

During the four years 1921—1924, 1,954 primary vaccinations were done, and 387 re-vaccinations.

During the year 1925, the figures were 209 primary and 3 re-vaccinations.

A very large portion of these vaccinations were done in 1923, 738 primary and 357 re-vaccinations. These large numbers were got through in a few weeks, thanks to the able organization and assistance of Dr. C. W. Sharpley, one of the Assistant Medical Officers of the Worcestershire County Council.

# INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED IN 1925.

29

Disease	Cases admitted to													Total Deaths	
	Totals	Under 1 yr.	1 yr. yrs.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	5 yrs.	10 yrs.	15 yrs.	20 yrs.	35 yrs.	45 yrs.	65 yrs.		
Scarlet Fever	36	0	0	1	2	3	17	7	3	2	1	0	0	24	0
Diphtheria	35	1	1	1	8	2	6	13	0	2	0	1	0	21	3
Pneumonia	36	1	7	4	3	3	3	1	2	4	2	5	1	0	23
Erysipelas	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	4	2	0	0
Pul. Tuber.	16	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	9	4	1	0		22
Other Tuber.	15	1	2	1	2	1	3	2	0	3	0	0	0		5
	146	3	10	7	16	9	30	24	5	21	7	11	3	45	53



COMPARATIVE STATISTICS for the District of the incidence of Infectious Diseases compared with England and Wales for the year 1925.

RURAL :

Scarlet Fever 9—1.21 per 1000. England and Wales 2.36.

Diphtheria 6—.81 per 1000. England and Wales 1.23.

Erysipelas 4—.54 per 1000. England and Wales 0.39.

URBAN :

Scarlet Fever 28—1.23 per 1000. England and Wales 2.36.

Diphtheria 29—1.28 per 1000. England and Wales 1.23.

Erysipelas 3—.13 per 1000. England and Wales 0.39.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This work is conducted under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health.

There are three centres in the Halesowen Urban District one at Halesowen, one at Cradley, and one at Blackheath (Hill and Cakemore).

Each centre is open weekly, and attended by an assistant County Medical Officer of Health, two Health Visitors, and Voluntary Helpers. All new cases are seen and examined by the Medical Officer in attendance. Cases of congenital defects which are considered to be remediable by surgical means and all surgical cases are referred to Hospital. There is still great need to use efforts for encouraging and securing breast feeding and to do this in a regular and methodical way. Next to this in importance is home visiting which tends to encourage mothers to persevere with breast feeding, and attend regularly at the consultation centres.

The Health Visitors make a point of visiting infants under one year as often as possible. Subjoined are figures showing the number of visits paid by the Health Visitors in connection with the Welfare centre in the Halesowen districts :—

Visits to infants under one year	3252
Visits to children one to three years	4474
Visits to expectant mothers	346
Attendances of expectant mothers at the centres during the year	425

In addition to the three Welfare Centres in the District, there is one School Clinic and one Tuberculosis Dispensary ; all provided and supervised by the Worcestershire County Council.



## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases			Vision unim- paired	Vision im- paired	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
2	1	1	2	0	0	0

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. BRETT YOUNG

# FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1925 for the Urban District of Halesowen on the Administration of the Factory and Workshop Act in connection with FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND HOME WORK.

## 1.—INSPECTION (including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or Inspector of Nuisances).

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecutions
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	59	9	0
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	101	52	0
Workplaces (other than Outworkers premises)	18	4	0
	158	65	0

## 2.—DEFECTS found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of Defects		Any Prosecutions
	Found.	Remedied.	
Want of Cleanliness	56	54	0
Want of Ventilation	1	1	0
Other Nuisances	2	2	0
Sanitary Accommodation :			
Insufficient ...	1	1	0
Unsuitable ...	4	4	0
Not separate for sexes	1	1	0
	65	63	0

## 3.—WORK. Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.

Nature of Work	Lists received from Employers	Lists from other Councils	Number of Addresses from other Councils
Cables & Chains	0	7	58
Tailoring	0	3	10



TABLE I.  
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN EACH  
PARISH IN 1925.

PARISH	Diphtheria	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculosis
Hill and Cakemore	21	10	0	0	11	2	5	1
Cradley ...	7	10	0	1	14	5	4	5
Halesowen ...	0	7	0	1	5	1	5	4
Hawne ...	1	3	0	0	1	0	1	2
Illey ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lapel ...	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Lutley ...	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35	36	0	2	36	8	16	15

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
1	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	1
5	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	1
10	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0
20	3	2	0	2	1	1	0	0
25	3	2	1	0	5	4	0	0
35	3	1	0	0	1	2	0	1
45	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
55	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
65 & up	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	11	5	8	7	12	10	2	3

## APPENDED IS THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1925.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my fifth Annual Report and Statistics of work done in my department during the year.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

88 cases of Notifiable Disease were visited and investigated, and 101 houses and lots of bedding disinfected. Disinfectant Fluid is supplied free in all cases.

### MEAT AND FOODS.

Careful attention has been given to the inspection of Slaughterhouses and slaughtering on private premises, also the cleanliness of Butcher's Shops. There are 43 Cowsheds on the register and 16 Dairies, these have been visited quarterly.

### BAKEHOUSES.

These are kept in a satisfactory condition.

### FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS.

There are 662 Factories and Workshops on the register, need of limewashing is found to be the general fault. Ten lists of outworkers have been received and 101 outworkers' premises visited. Seven complaints have been received from H.M. Inspector and have been dealt with. 65 Notices were sent with regard to defects found.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is only one registered common Lodging House in the district. This is visited periodically.



### TENTS, VANS, ETC.

These are generally found to be sanitary. Four Vandwellers who had occupied two fields where there were no sanitary conveniences or water supply were compelled to remove their vans.

### CANAL BOATS.

Twelve boats were inspected during the year. There was no infringement of the Acts and Regulations.

### PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

121 Privy Middens have been converted into Water Closets and bins provided.

### REFUSE REMOVAL.

This work continues to be carried out satisfactorily, considering the additional collection from the 419 houses erected during the past five years.

In conclusion I thank the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Committee for their continued support.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN W. COX.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT OF THE SANITARY WORK  
COMPLETED IN THE YEAR ENDING  
31st DECEMBER, 1925.

Infectious Disease :

No. of houses disinfected after notifiable disease	88
Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected or destroyed	101
Compensation paid for destruction	0
Cases of illegal exposure reported (P.H. Act, 1875, Sec. 26)	0

Houses :

No. of houses erected	95
No. of houses inspected	487
No. represented as unfit for habitation	1
No. of Closing Orders made by the Local Authority	0
No. of Closing Orders that became operative	0
No. of houses with defects remedied without Closing Orders	93
No. of houses with defects remedied after Closing Orders	0
No. of Closing Orders determined	0
No. of houses demolished	0
No. of Orders to execute works under Section 28	14
No. of Orders to execute work under Section 28 complied with	0
No. of yards paved or repaved	0
No. of cases of overcrowding abated	1

Moveable Dwellings, Caravans, etc.

No. observed	25
No. dealt with as insanitary	4



## House Drains :

No. laid or relaid	120
No. trapped, ventilated or repaired	16
No. of obstructed drains dealt with	306
No. of house drains tested	29
No. of insanitary lavatories, sinks, and urinals rectified	40
No. of urinals on licensed premises inspected	16
No. of dumb wells rectified	1

## Water Closets :

No. of additional W.C's. provided	97
No. repaired, ventilated and supplied with water	18

## Privies and Ashpits :

No. of additional privies and ashpits provided	0
No. of privies converted into W.C's.	121
No. converted to pail-closets	0
No. repaired	17

## Scavenging :

No. of houses from which refuse was removed	5901
No. of privies and ashpits cleansed	5663
No. of portable receptacles cleansed	103038
No. of loads and excrement removed	6288
How often is house refuse removed	

Ashpits quarterly, Bins weekly.

## Smoke Nuisances :

No. under observation	2
No. abated	2

## Offensive Trades :

No. under observation	31
No. improperly conducted	0
No. newly established with consent of Council	0

## Water Supply :

No. of wells sunk	0
No. of wells cleansed and repaired	0
No. of wells closed as polluted	0
No. of wells abolished	1
No. of houses supplied from waterworks during year	125
No. of samples of water sent for analysis	1
No. of houses with contaminated or deficient water supplies dealt with	0
No. of houses erected or rebuilt, for which certificates were given	95

## Slaughter Houses :

No. registered	14
No. licensed	1
No. cleansed and repaired	15
At what intervals is each inspected	Fortnightly.
Cases of slaughtering on unlicensed premises reported	1
Are byelaws in force thoroughly carried out	Yes

## Factories and Workshops :

No. under inspection	662
No. certified for limewashing by Inspector	32
No. of insanitary conditions dealt with as nuisances	33
No. employing " young persons " &c., reported to Medical Officer of Health	0
At what intervals is each inspected?	Periodically.
No. of outworkers' premises inspected	108

## Shop Hours' Act :

No. of shops under supervision	0
No. of contraventions of Act dealt with	0



## Purveyors of Milk :

No. of	28
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## Dairies :

No. registered	16
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No. of contraventions of Acts, Orders and Byelaws dealt with	0
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At what intervals is each inspected	Quarterly.
-------------------------------------	------------

No. of infected milk supplies dealt with	0
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Approximate No. of milking cows in District	220
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## Cowsheds :

No. registered	43
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No. of infected milk supplies reported	0
--	---

At what intervals is each inspected?	Quarterly.
--------------------------------------	------------

## Canal Boats :

No. of boats on register	0
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No. of boats registered during year	0
-------------------------------------	---

No. of certificates renewed	0
-----------------------------	---

No. of boats inspected (for registration or otherwise)	12
--	----

No. of contraventions of Acts and Regulations dealt with	0
---	---

## Lodging Houses :

No. on register	1
-----------------	---

No. regularly inspected	1
-------------------------	---

No. cleansed and repaired	1
---------------------------	---

At what intervals is each inspected?	Periodically.
--------------------------------------	---------------

## Food :

No. of seizures as unfit for consumption	
--	--

Amount destroyed as unfit for consumption	
---	--

Amount voluntarily surrendered as unfit for consumption :

1 calf, 2 pigs, 1 cow's udder and intestines, 1 beef liver and lungs, 29 pig's lungs and 45 tins of condensed milk.

Food and Drugs' Act :

No. of samples taken for analysis	
No. of samples certified genuine	N
No. of samples certified adulterated	

Animals kept so as to be a nuisance :

No. of cases of removal on notice	4
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Accumulation of Offensive Refuse :

No. of removals	6
-----------------	---

Legal Proceedings :

No. of convictions obtained with regard to insanitary conditions	1
No. of convictions obtained with regard to unsound food	0

Clerical Work :

No. of preliminary notices served	431
No. of Statutory Notices served	91
No. of Statutory notices complied with	51
No. of Statutory notices outstanding	40

J. W. COX.









