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BOROUGH OF HALESOWEN

REPORT

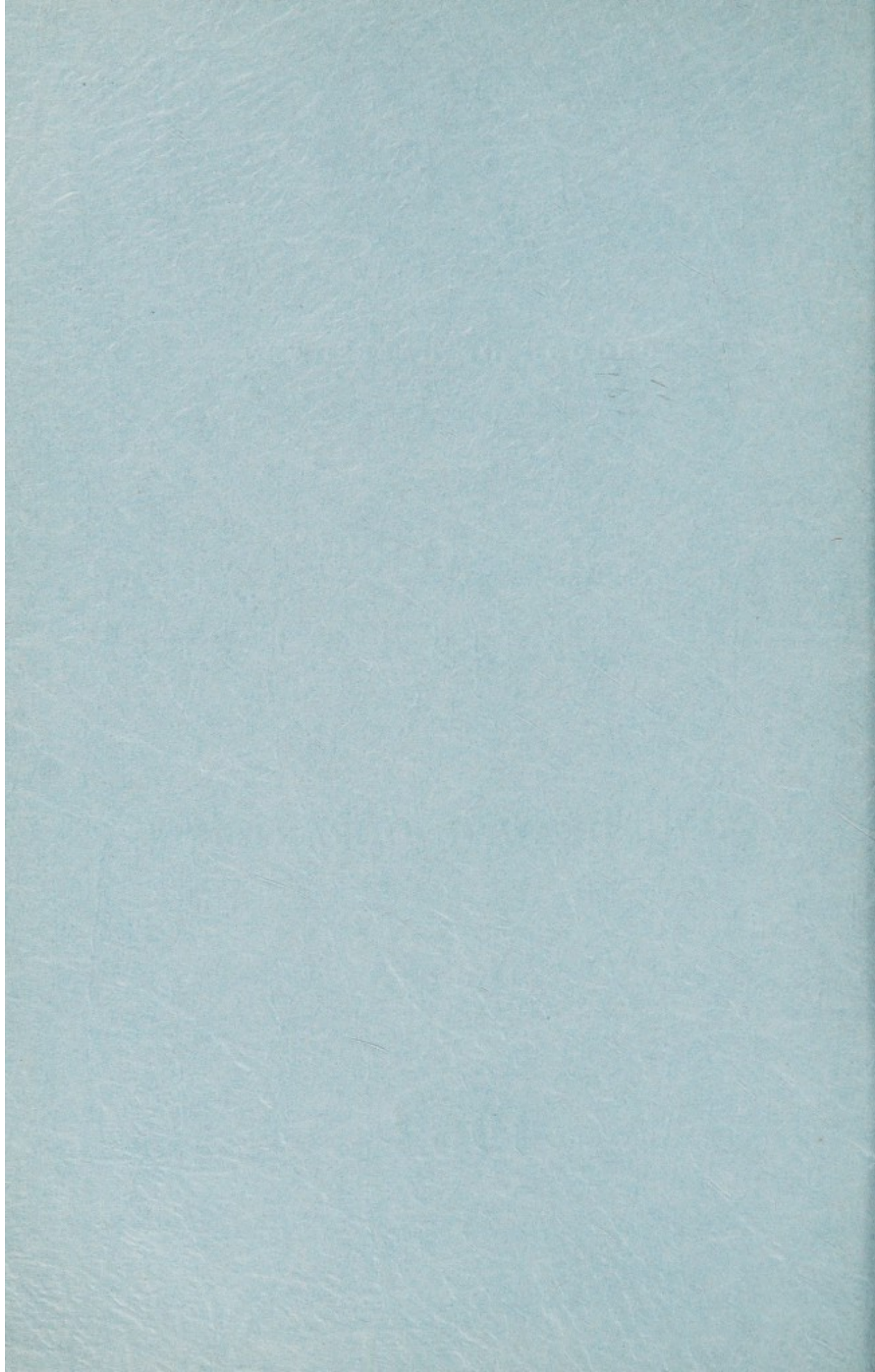
of the work of the



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

for the year

1962





BOROUGH OF HALESOWEN

REPORT

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THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1962

Chairman

Alderman C. WILLETTS, C.C.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor R. BLAKEWAY

The Mayor

Alderman W. HODGETTS, J.P.

Councillors

A. BRODIE

D. C. HERBERT

N. GARNER

F. L. HORN

L. D. LAY

C. R. TROMANS

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

R. L. CORLETT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. (*retired 31st December, 1962*)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

C. W. J. HINGSTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. and H.,
D.P.H. (*appointed Medical Officer of Health 1st January, 1963*)

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

A. ARCHER (a.b.c.)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:

A. R. HUMPHRIES (a.b.c.)

District Public Health Inspectors:

R. MATHER (a.b.c.)

B. L. BREAKWELL (a.b.)

K. ADAMS (a.b.)

Pupil Public Health Inspectors:

R. J. WILDE

R. J. SHAW (*from November, 1962*)

Chief Clerk:

G. W. J. LEWIS

Clerk to Medical Officer of Health:

MISS P. J. MARSH

Secretary to Chief Public Health Inspector:

MRS. H. DEELEY

Clerks:

MRS. M. A. BAGLEY (*until February, 1962*)

MRS. B. M. BRADLEY

MISS M. J. SMITH (*from February, 1962*)

MRS. M. E. GRAINGER (*Welfare Foods*)

(a) Public Health Inspector's Certificate.

(b) Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate.

(c) Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

DR. R. L. CORLETT

Dr. R. L. Corlett became Medical Officer of Health on the 9th May, 1938, and retired at the end of December, 1962. At the time of his retirement he was also Medical Officer of Health for Stourbridge and Medical Superintendent of the Hayley Green Hospital, Hales-owen. He succeeded Dr. T. Brett Young who had held the post of part-time Medical Officer of Health from 1895 to 1938.

Dr. Corlett's appointment came towards the end of an era which saw the provision in the Borough of a piped water supply, the development of an efficient sewerage system and the organisation of a satisfactory refuse collection service. Although the grosser hazards to public health, such as the privy midden and the back yard pump had disappeared, too many children still died in the first year of life, tuberculosis claimed its annual toll, and diphtheria, measles and whooping cough were still killing diseases of childhood. Indeed during the years of war more children were killed in Great Britain by diphtheria, a preventable disease, than by enemy bombs. Many dairy cattle were infected with tuberculosis with the result that about 600 children in Great Britain died every year from this readily preventable form of infection and many more suffered permanent crippling.

From 1938 to 1962 significant and important changes have taken place in the field of public health. Bovine tuberculosis has been eradicated and milk is heat treated before sale. Nationally, infantile mortality which between 1896 and 1900, in Dr. Brett Young's early days, averaged 156 per 1,000 live births, was in 1938, 53 and had by 1962 fallen to 21. Deaths from diphtheria fell from 2,861 in 1938 to 8 in 1961 and similar dramatic reductions took place in deaths from measles, scarlet fever and whooping cough in the same period.

Dr. Corlett has seen spectacular advances in the field of therapeutics. Many new drugs have come into widespread use including the sulphonamides, penicillin, various antibiotics and substances such as cortisone. He has seen the development of a successful vaccine against poliomyelitis and the use of B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis.

On the environmental side the last twenty years have seen a renewed attack on the slum problem, improvement in housing standards, considerable advances in food hygiene in shops and canteens and lately a drive to combat air pollution in all its forms.

Dr. Corlett can feel well satisfied that although there still remains much to be done in the public health field his own contribution to the community welfare during his time as Medical Officer of Health was considerable.

Council House,
Halesowen.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1962

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Halesowen,

Mr. Mayor, I have the honour to present for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year ending 31st December, 1962.

1. *Tuberculosis*

Compared with 1961, the number of new cases notified in the Borough has decreased from 11 in 1961 to 9 in 1962. It is hoped that by selected use of Mass Radiography and the continued use of anti-tuberculosis drugs in chronic cases in order to render them non-infective to others, and the use of B.C.G. for school children age 13 years who are susceptible to the disease, this figure in time may be reduced even further.

The County After-Care Committee for this Borough has continued to consider the health and welfare aspects of tuberculosis cases, and has extended the scope of its work to cover other diseases of the chest.

2. *Measles*

Following the high incidence in 1961 when 545 cases occurred it was expected that few cases would occur in 1962. The figure of 10 notified cases confirmed this.

3. *Poliomyelitis*

No new cases of poliomyelitis occurred in the Borough in 1962. I would stress the importance of free oral vaccine now available to the public through the family doctor or the County Clinics, Tenter Street Clinic, Halesowen, Colley Lane Clinic, Cradley and Feldon Lane Clinic, Blackheath. The public response to oral vaccine has been disappointing and I would ask parents especially to reconsider this matter with regard to the free protection offered their family.

4. *Dysentery*

A mild form of sonné dysentery occurred in the Borough with 34 cases, starting in March and extending through to early May. A further outbreak occurred in the second week of June when 22 cases

were notified extending through to the end of July. The areas involved were mainly in the Hill and Cakemore, Blackheath and Lapal districts. Just over half the number of cases occurred in children under the age of 10 years. A further 8 cases were found by house enquiry by the staff of the Public Health Department. A total of 37 families in the areas mentioned were affected. Sixty-one people living in contact with these cases in the same houses were not affected.

It is probable that the cases were mainly spread through school contact, and by enforcing a greater measure of hygiene in schools, especially with regard to wash rooms, lavatories, and dining halls the spread was reduced and by the end of August no further cases occurred.

The general rise in the incidence of sonné dysentery was reflected throughout England and Wales in the first and second quarters of 1962 when 17,838 cases had occurred.

5. *Smallpox*

Due to the introduction of smallpox into this country in the first quarter of 1962, the number of requests for vaccination increased considerably over the previous year. At no time was it considered necessary to introduce mass vaccination of the population in the Borough. Some 5,138 vaccinations were carried out in the Borough. Special precautions calling for vaccination were taken in certain factories and houses where persons were known to have been in contact with a known or suspected case either in Birmingham or West Bromwich.

No known case occurred in Halesowen. With the ever increasing speed of air travel there is now a much greater risk of introducing smallpox cases into this country before they become obviously ill with this disease, and such outbreaks as did occur in 1962 should remind us all of the importance of vaccination especially in infancy, and I would remind all parents to continue to request vaccination of their children after they are one year old and before they have reached their second birthday.

6. *Respiratory Disorders and Air Pollution*

The quality of the air we breathe often determines the extent of respiratory disorders in the community. This is especially so with regard to bronchitis. In accordance with the Clean Air Act, Halesowen had by the end of 1962 eleven smoke control orders in operation involving 1,593 dwellings, and during 1962 a further six smoke control areas were approved by the Council.

Deaths from bronchitis were 34 in 1962 compared with 42 in 1961.

Apart from general air pollution by domestic and industrial smoke every effort should be made to prevent the school child from causing a self induced pollution of the air in his own lungs by cigarette smoking with its danger of cancer.

7. *Vital Statistics*

The number of infants who die within the first year and those who die within the first four weeks per 1,000 live births has continued to decrease over the last 4 years.

This measure of the health and care of the infant up to one year of age, is reflected throughout the whole of England and Wales in the steady annual decrease in this figure since 1952, the infant mortality rate for 1962 of England and Wales is 20.7, the lowest it has ever been.

The Perinatal Mortality Rate is a measure of the causes of mortality affecting the child from the 28th week of pregnancy, during labour and during the first week after birth. This important measure of mortality has shown a marked decrease in the Borough over the last few years, and is a measure of ante-natal, obstetric and immediate post-natal care of the child.

Live births numbered 754, total deaths 496, the excess of births over deaths numbered 258.

Deaths from bronchitis decreased from 42 to 34 compared with last year.

Deaths from diseases of the heart continue to remain the highest single cause of death, there is however a decrease in the number of deaths due to high blood pressure.

It is significant that no deaths occurred in the Borough as a result of motor vehicle accidents in 1962 compared with 7 deaths in 1961.

It is to be noted that Halesowen Borough Council became an affiliated member of the Home Safety Section of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents in 1962.

8. *Public Baths*

In March, 1962, the foundation stone of the new Swimming Bath was laid and it is hoped that when the baths are open in 1963, parents will encourage their children to learn to swim. It is hoped that organised classes will be made available for the schools in Halesowen for this purpose. Apart from an enjoyable and healthy form of exercise, the ability to swim may one day prevent a drowning accident and so save a life.

9. *Water Supplies*

In November, 1962, consideration was given to the Public Health measure of introducing fluoride into the Public Water Supply. By the 14th December, 1962, the Ministry of Health had outlined in a circular the method by which all Local Health Authorities, i.e., the County Health Department might introduce this scheme under section 28 of the National Health Service Act providing technical aspects of fluoridation had prior approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Two water undertakings would be involved, the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company which provides most of the water to Halesowen, and the Birmingham City supply which provides a small quantity of water to this Borough.

It is hoped that in the next year or two that this preventative measure to reduce the high incidence of dental decay in children, will be introduced into the public water supplies in Halesowen.

I would like to express my appreciation for the help and encouragement I have received from the Chairman, Alderman C. Willetts, C.C., and members of the Public Health Committee and all members of the Council.

I also wish to thank all chief officers especially the Town Clerk, Mr. J. B. McCooke, and his staff.

I should like to record the co-operation and willing help I have received from all members of the Public Health Department especially Mr. A. Archer, the Chief Public Health Inspector, the Chief Clerk and Miss P. J. Marsh, since my appointment as Medical Officer of Health on the retirement of my predecessor, Dr. R. L. Corlett.

Lastly, I wish to thank the Director of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Dr. R. J. Henderson, for all the assistance in laboratory work for the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C. W. J. HINGSTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1963

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions

Area of the district	5,247 acres
Population census, 1951	39,884
Population mid 1962	44,510
Rateable value	£573,134
Sum represented by the penny rate	£2,325
Number of inhabited dwellings at the end of 1962	14,811
Number of persons per dwelling	3

The Borough of Halesowen is easily accessible for industrial purposes to the Black Country but fortunately it forms part of the northern area of the beautiful County of Worcestershire. It is partly industrial, partly residential and partly agricultural. The prevailing wind comes from the rural belt surrounding the Borough.

The larger industrial plants in the Borough comprise the manufacturing of tube and tube fittings, the manufacture and machining of heavy forgings for the marine, electrical and mining industries, the production of die blocks for the drop forging industry, drop forging, the polishing of stainless steel, and the manufacture of brick and fireclay goods. The lighter industries include the making of buttons, spades, shovels, forks, electric motors and the manufacture of clothes.

VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Live Births:	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	381	...	347	...	728
Illegitimate	11	...	15	...	26
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	392		362		754
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

(b) Still Births:					
Legitimate	7	...	6	...	13
Illegitimate	1	...	1	...	2
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	8		7		15
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
	9				

Maternal Mortality Rate including abortion per 1,000 total live and still births for England and Wales	0.35
Maternal Mortality Rate including abortion per 1,000 total live and still births for Halesowen	Nil
Neonatal Mortality Rate infant deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births for England and Wales	15.1
Neonatal Mortality Rate infant deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births for Halesowen	10.6
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births for Halesowen	9.2
Perinatal Mortality Rate still births and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	28.6
Birth rate per 1,000 resident population	16.9
Birth rate adjusted by comparability factor of 0.94	15.9
Birth rate of England and Wales	18.0
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births for Halesowen	3.4
Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	19.5
Still birth rate for England and Wales	18.1

DEATHS	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
	279	217	496

Crude death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population ...	11.1
Area comparability factor	1.30
Adjusted death rate	14.4
Death rate for England and Wales	11.9
Infant Mortality rate	11.9
Infant Mortality rate for England and Wales	20.7
Illegitimate infant death rate	Nil
Legitimate infant death rate per 1,000 live births	11.9

The adjusted death rate is obtainable by multiplying the crude death rate by the area comparability factor.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	4	5	9
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	<i>Total deaths</i>	<i>Over 1 week Under 1 month</i>	<i>Under 1 week</i>
Prematurity	3	—	3
Congenital abnormalities ...	2	—	2
Cerebral Anoxia	2	—	2
Infection	1	1	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

CAUSES OF DEATHS	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	—
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	1
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	1	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	3
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	14	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	10
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
14. Other malignant, and lymphatic neoplasm	24	28
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1
16. Diabetes	2	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	38	45
18. Coronary disease, angina	73	29
19. Hypertension with heart disease	5	4
20. Other heart disease	31	34
21. Other circulatory disease	9	14
22. Influenza	2	2
23. Pneumonia	5	9
24. Bronchitis	24	10
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
31. Congenital malformation	4	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	16	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	—
34. All other accidents	5	2
35. Suicide	7	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—
	<hr/> 279	<hr/> 217

Death rates from respiratory tuberculosis, England and Wales, per million population	59
Corresponding figure for Halesowen, per million population	67
Cancer of the lung and bronchus per million, England and Wales	510
Corresponding figure for Halesowen (16 deaths)	359
Other cancer per million, England and Wales	1,667
Corresponding figure for Halesowen	1,640

**COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS
DISEASES AND MORTALITY RATES FOR HALESOWEN**

	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
Food Poisoning	-	6	7	4	3	13	8	6	1	14	-
Measles	10	545	39	669	49	679	15	574	14	627	188
Scarlet Fever	25	13	37	57	59	18	32	34	88	64	73
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	6	66	29	7	33	153	47	89	132	175
Dysentery	56	-	2	12	5	7	29	15	17	-	-
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	-	-	-	1
Respiratory T.B. (new cases)	7	11	14	21	18	16	21	28	47	31	35
Meningococcal Infections	1	2	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Neonatal Mortality Rate	10.6	16.8	14.4	16.6				29.5	8.9	27.6	24.5
Infant Mortality Rate	11.9	18.4	23.1	24.1	14.3	26.1	20.5				
Perinatal Mortality Rate	28.6	31.6	41.9	43.8							

SECTION B

General Provision of Health Services in the Borough of Halesowen

1. (a) *Public Health Officers*

The staff of the Public Health Department is given on page 3.

(b) *Laboratory Facilities*

The work is carried out at the Worcester County Laboratory by the County Analyst, Mr. M. M. Love, F.R.I.C.

Bacteriological work is done by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester, under the Medical Director, Dr. R. J. Henderson, M.B., Ch.B.

2. *Ambulance Service*

The ambulance service is controlled by the Worcestershire County Council and during the year six ambulances and fourteen whole time drivers were employed. The ambulances are radio controlled and a twenty-four hour service is operated from the station.

The hospitals used by the inhabitants of the Borough in addition to those in the City of Birmingham and the County Borough of Wolverhampton are the Corbett Hospital and Wordsley Hospital at Stourbridge, the Guest Hospital, Dudley, and Bromsgrove General Hospital.

Maternity cases are taken to Mary Stevens Hospital, Stourbridge, the Lucy Baldwin Hospital, Stourport, and the Loveday Street Maternity Hospital, Birmingham.

Patients suffering from infectious diseases are carried in the two ambulances at Hayley Green Hospital.

3. *Nursing in the Home*

The Worcestershire County Council are the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority for the area. They have also arranged a "Home Help" service in conjunction with the W.V.S.

4. *Tuberculosis*

Sanatorium treatment and the provision of dispensary treatment are the responsibility of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

5. *Infectious Diseases*

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Hayley Green Hospital. This Hospital is under the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and administered by Group 17, Dudley, Stourbridge and District Hospital Group, Birmingham Region.

6. *School Clinics, Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Sessions*

These are provided by the County Council and the district has three centres: Hill and Cakemore, Halesowen and Cradley.

7. *Welfare Foods*

Distribution of welfare food is carried out from the Infant Welfare Centres, the Public Health Department and three shops in the Borough.

SECTION C

WATER

The supply to Halesowen during 1962 came mainly from the Churchill and Hagley Pumping Stations and the Hayley Green works. The water was satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity and is not liable to plumbo solvency but periodic samples are taken for lead by the Company. Water from the Churchill and Hagley Pumping Stations is obtained from boreholes and that from the Hayley Green works is derived from the Elan Valley Aqueduct.

Station	Raw Water		Treated Water		Result of Chemical Test
	No. of samples	No. free from coliform bacteria	No. of samples	No. free from coliform bacteria	
Churchill Pumping	52	50	52	52	Satisfactory
Hagley Pumping ...	98	98	52	52	Satisfactory
Hayley Green Works	52	40	52	51	Satisfactory
Kinver Pumping	—	—	—	—	
Prestwood Pumping	—	—	—	—	
Fire Station, Halesowen ...	—	—	52	52	Satisfactory
Waterman's House, Waxland Road, Halesowen ...	—	—	14	14	Satisfactory

The average chemical results for 1962 were as follows:--

	<i>Waxland Road</i>	<i>Fire Station</i>
Number of Samples	14	52
	<i>Parts per million</i>	
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	108	101
Chlorides (Cl)	19.0	18.6
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)	Trace	Trace
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)	Trace	.005
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	6.6	6.3
Oxygen Absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C) .....	.12	.20
Temporary Hardness	103	95
Permanent Hardness	70	69
Total Hardness	173	164
Iron (Fe)	Trace	.02
Manganese (Mn)	Nil	Nil
Free Cl .....	.02	Trace

No fluoride is present in any of the water supplied to the Borough.

Details are set out below of the method of water supply to dwellings in the Borough:—

Number of dwellings supplied direct from public water mains	14,774
Number of persons	44,312
Number of houses supplied from party taps	64
Number of persons	198

The following main extensions were carried out during 1962:—

*Lineal yards laid of main
4 in. diameter*

HALESOWEN

Grange Road	79
Highfields	110
Cherry Tree Lane	192
Foxhunt Estate	37
Haysech Road	352

CRADLEY

Furlong Lane	159
Bath Meadow	204
Spring Street	171
Burfield Road	51
Talbot Street	14

HILL AND CAKEMORE

Hope Street	349
Cocksheds Lane	116

TOTAL	1,834
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Only a few isolated dwellings are not supplied with mains water. These depend on private wells for their supply.

The Public Health Department is indebted to R. H. Taylor, Esq., B.Sc., M.I.C.E., Engineer-in-Chief to the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, for this information.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewage from the Borough together with storm water is drained into the branch sewers of the Upper Stour Valley Sewerage Board. The branch sewers discharge into the main high level outfall sewer and treatment of the flow is carried out at the Whittington irrigation farms, and the disposal works at Quarry Bank. At the farm treatment consists of passing sewage through a detritus tank and to various treatment centres for irrigation on the land. The disposal works are relatively modern.

After removal of detritus the sewage passes through primary settlement tanks and finally humus tanks before discharge into the River Stour on the Halesowen-Rowley Regis boundary.

The duplication of the branch sewer from the northern part of the Borough was commenced in 1961 and completed in June, 1962. The final cost was in the region of £100,000.

The Board have proposals for the duplication of the high level outfall sewer from Cradley Heath to Halesowen, and also a branch sewer from Dudley Road to New Road, Halesowen. It is anticipated that permission to invite tenders for the work which also includes additional storm water tanks at Belle Vale, would be received early in 1963. The scheme estimated to cost £303,000 will be of considerable benefit to the Borough of Halesowen being designed to cure the flooding at Overend and Haysech and the premature discharge of

storm overflows at four points within the Borough. The Board commenced construction of new storm water tanks at Cradley in October, 1962, and the work should be completed early in 1964 at a cost of £103,000.

A new sewerage treatment works with a capacity of 3 million gallons per day is being planned at Quarry Bank and already tenders have been accepted for part of the work. It is hoped that the engineering work will be commenced in 1963. The sewage from the Mucklow Hill and Blackheath area is discharging into two branch sewers and a report on these has been sent to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government together with plans for duplication.

The Board have continued to treat approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons of sewage per day at the Whittington irrigation farms in addition to which a flow of $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons per day is treated at the freehold works and the sludge then pumped to the Whittington farms for disposal on the land.

The Public Health Department is indebted to O. C. Rowe, Esq., M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., A.M.Inst., Mun.E., M.I.P.H.E., Engineer to the Upper Stour Valley Sewerage Board, for this information.

SECTION D

HOUSING

Details of the inspection of houses are given later in the report. In 1962, 229 dwellings were erected, 71 by the local authority, 157 privately and one by the County Council. The Council at 31st December owned 3,930 dwellings.

Three families were rehoused during 1962 on the grounds of tuberculosis, in the interest of the patient and in the hope that the extra accommodation would lessen the risk of infection.

SECTION E

Prevalence of, and control over, infectious and other diseases.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES **SMALLPOX**

No cases were reported during the year.

SCARLET FEVER

Twenty-five cases were reported, as against thirteen for the previous year.

DIPHThERIA

No cases were reported during the year.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics are maintained by the County Council. During the year most babies were being immunised with triple antigen to confer immunity against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. The number of children treated at the clinics and by General Practitioners during 1962 was as follows:—

	<i>Primary Treatment Completed</i>	<i>Boosting Doses</i>
Under five years	594	128
Five to 15 years	12	717
	<hr/> 606 <hr/>	<hr/> 845 <hr/>

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS

In 1961 and 1962 there were no cases of poliomyelitis reported.

ERYSIPELAS

There were no cases reported during the year.

MEASLES

There were ten cases of measles reported this year as against 545 reported the previous year.

MEASLES NOTIFICATIONS

	WARDS					
	<i>North</i>	<i>South</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>Central</i>	<i>Total</i>
January	1	—	—	—	—	1
February	—	—	—	—	—	—
March	—	—	—	—	—	—
April	—	1	—	—	—	1
May	—	—	1	—	—	1
June	—	—	—	—	—	—
July	—	—	—	—	—	—
August	—	—	—	—	—	—
September ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
October	1	—	—	—	—	1
November ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
December ...	—	1	3	1	1	6
	<hr/> 2 <hr/>	<hr/> 2 <hr/>	<hr/> 4 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> 10 <hr/>

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS

There was one fatal case of pneumonococcal meningitis reported during the year, a baby aged three weeks.

FOOD POISONING

There were no cases reported during the year, as against six cases reported the previous year.

WHOOPING COUGH

There were no cases reported during the year, as against six cases reported the previous year.

TUBERCULOSIS

Nine new cases were reported during the year. They were seven pulmonary and two non-pulmonary cases. There were three deaths as against none in 1961. The number of cases remaining on the register for the last two years were as follows:—

	<i>Pulmonary</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1961	117	102	...	7	10
1962	108	99	...	6	11

NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING 1962

<i>Age Periods</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
0-	—	—	...	—	—
1-	—	—	...	—	—
5-	—	—	...	—	—
10-	—	—	...	—	—
15-	1	—	...	—	—
20-	1	—	...	—	1
25-	1	1	...	—	—
35-	2	—	...	—	—
45-	1	—	...	—	1
55-	—	—	...	—	—
65-	—	—	...	—	—
	—	—	...	—	—
	6	1	...	—	2
	—	—	...	—	—

As we see by the following tables, cancer of the lung is now a much more common cause of death than tuberculosis.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

<i>Year</i>		<i>New Notifications</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1950	...	37	14
1951	...	38	8
1952	...	35	9
1953	...	31	4
1954	...	47	2
1955	...	28	3
1956	...	21	1
1957	...	16	3
1958	...	18	2
1959	...	21	—
1960	...	14	3
1961	...	11	—
1962	...	7	3

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF LUNG, BRONCHUS

<i>Year</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1950	...	10	1
1951	...	13	1
1952	...	9	2
1953	...	8	2
1954	...	10	1
1955	...	18	1
1956	...	12	2
1957	...	9	1
1958	...	22	2
1959	...	15	2
1960	...	27	—
1961	...	14	1
1962	...	14	2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1962

Disease	Total									age	
	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	65-	unknown		
Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	2	15	6	2	-	-	-		
Measles ...	2	3	3	-	2	-	-	-	-		
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Poliomyelitis Paralytic ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Poliomyelitis Non-Paralytic ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Pneumonia ...	3	6	1	1	-	1	7	7	-		
Erysipelas ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Meningococcal Infections ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Dysentery ...	-	3	10	16	8	5	9	5	-		
	25										
	10										
	-										
	-										
	-										
	-										
	-										
	26										
	-										
	-										
	1										
	56										

Public Health Department,
Council House,
Halesowen.

July 1963

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

In 1962 the basic work of the Public Health Inspectorate continued to be the inspection of houses, factories, and shops, the inspection of meat and other foods and the inspection of food premises. Special emphasis was paid to slum clearance, the improvement of old houses, and air pollution.

Most of the worst houses have now been demolished and the remainder will be within the next few years. The next important priority will be the improvement of the stock of existing houses. Those which are structurally sound and are large enough should be improved by equipping them with a hot water supply, bath, indoor sanitation and a good food store. Houses with a shorter potential life can still be made into reasonable accommodation by proper repair and such reconditioning as is possible, e.g., the installation of a hot water supply.

Existing legislation relying as it does on voluntary reconditioning is unsatisfactory and no great improvement of rented property will take place until local authorities are armed with compulsory powers.

So far as air pollution is concerned the most serious problem in Halesowen is the emission of smoke, fumes, grit and dust from iron foundries. Legislation and its enforcement is only part of the solution because some of the answers to the various problems are not yet known. More research is needed and greater co-operation between industry, the public health inspector, the factory inspector and the appropriate research associations to find remedies which are efficient and reasonably practical. In the domestic field people are enthusiastic about having clean air. This enthusiasm must not be dampened by any doubts about long term fuel supplies and the time has come when reliable forecasts must be made known of the availability of solid smokeless fuels, gas, and electricity, for several years ahead.

So far as refuse collection is concerned the service is cheap and reasonably satisfactory. Experiments in other districts utilising new methods of collection are being studied and when it is felt that these have passed the trial stage they will be reported on further.

My thanks are due to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee, Alderman C. Willetts, C.C., and all the members for their

interest in the department's activities, to the Town Clerk, Mr. J. B. McCooke and his staff, and to all my fellow officers for their ready help and co-operation. My own staff and all the workmen together form a very able and hard working team.

After a happy, rewarding association which has extended over twenty years it is sad to record the retirement at the end of the year of Dr. R. L. Corlett as Medical Officer of Health. Dr. Corlett, modest, thoughtful, approachable, always appreciative of the slightest help, was popular not only in the department and with all the Council staff, but with members of the public, especially those with whom he came into contact as Medical Superintendent of the Hayley Green Hospital or at clinics where for very many years he met mothers and children in connexion with diphtheria immunisation.

It is fitting that the Council has honoured him by making him a Freeman of the Borough.

A. ARCHER

HOUSING

The inspection of houses went on continuously during the year and details are set out below of the action taken to remove those houses so far below a reasonable standard of fitness that demolition is the only practical answer. The programme will continue until all this type of property is completely removed. During 1963 it is proposed to review the problem and formulate a programme to complete the project.

The total problem (as at 1955)

Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation ...	677
Period in years required for demolition of houses	8

Action in first seven years:—

Number of houses included in clearance areas	462
Number of houses on which demolition or closing orders have been made	173
Number of unfitness certificates issued in respect of Council owned property	28

Inspection of houses during the year:—

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects	216
Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	136
Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	80

Proceedings under Part II of the Housing Act, 1957:—

Houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ...	15
Houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted ...	Nil
Houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ...	50
Houses in respect of which closing orders were made ...	3
Parts of buildings made the subject of a closing order	1

CLEARANCE AREAS

During the year two compulsory purchase orders and two clearance orders were made involving a total of 76 dwellings. The Council also declared two areas, involving 38 dwellings, to be clearance areas but a decision had not been made by the end of the year as to the future of these areas.

<i>Title</i>	<i>Houses</i>
Park Road, Cradley, Clearance Order	4
Richmond Street, Compulsory Purchase Order ...	4
Hill Street/New Street, Halesowen, Compulsory Purchase Order	64
Maypole Hill, Cradley, Clearance Order	4
Foredraft Street, Cradley, Clearance Area	26
Olive Lane, Blackheath, Clearance Area	12

One compulsory purchase order and four clearance orders, involving a total of 60 unfit dwellings, were confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government without modification. Details are as follows:—

<i>Title</i>	<i>Houses</i>
Alexandra Road, Halesowen, Clearance Order ...	5
Butchers Lane, Cradley, Clearance Order	2
Park Road, Cradley, Clearance Order	4
Maypole Hill, Cradley, Clearance Order	4
New Street, Cradley, Compulsory Purchase Order	45

DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS

Dwellings in respect of which demolition or closing orders were made:—

CENTRAL AND SOUTH WARDS

- 69, Islington.
- 34, 35 and 36, Church Street.
- 16, 17 and 18, Forge Lane.
- 6 and 7, Bromsgrove Street.

NORTH AND EAST WARDS

- 5 and 6, Cakemore Road.
- Lower Illey Farm Cottage.
- Left hand cottage Lower Illey Farm.
- Right hand cottage Lower Illey Farm.

WEST WARD

- 6, 8, 16 and 18, Colley Lane.
- Basement room, 35, Intended Street.

HOUSES DEMOLISHED

Houses demolished as the result of demolition orders:—

CENTRAL AND SOUTH WARDS

34, 35 and 36, Church Street.
47 and 49, Blackberry Lane.
110, 112 and 114, Hagley Road.
29, 30 and 31, Summer Hill.
19 and 20, Rumbow.

NORTH AND EAST WARDS

64, Olive Lane.
102, 103 and 104, Narrow Lane.
104, Malt Mill Lane.
103, Malt Mill Lane.

WEST WARD

30, 32 and 34, Maypole Hill.
14, Butchers Lane.
17, 21 and 23, Mogul Lane.
Flats 1 and 2, Netherend Lane.
31 and 33, Toys Lane.
6, Peckingham Street.
34 and 36, Banners Lane.
4 Intended Street.
32, Butchers Lane.
34 and 36, Little Hill.
114, Butchers Lane.
32a, Butchers Lane.
28, Banners Lane.
1, Bridge Street.
29, 31, 33, 35 and 37, New Street.
2, 4, 6 and 8, Lyde Green.

N.B.—Each year there is a carry over from the previous year.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACTS, 1959 IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During 1962, 61 applications were received for improvement grants and 61 grants were approved. The details are set out below:—

(a) *Standard Grants*

<i>Applications</i>			<i>Number of Houses</i>			
<i>Received</i>	<i>Refused</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Grants paid</i>	<i>Total amount paid</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>	<i>Owner/occupied</i>
53	Nil	53	40	£4,846	9	31

Amenities provided:—

Bath	31
Wash hand basin	29
Hot water supply	32
Water closet	28
Food store	25

(b) *Discretionary Grants*

<i>Applications</i>			<i>Number of Houses</i>			
<i>Received</i>	<i>Refused</i>	<i>Approved</i>	<i>Grants paid</i>	<i>Total amount paid</i>	<i>Tenanted</i>	<i>Owner/occupied</i>
8	Nil	8	12	£3,360	—	12

The figures show that far too little use is being made of the improvement grant system. From every point of view it is most important that structurally sound property should be preserved and made into good houses by the provision of amenities such as bath, internal water closet, hot water system and proper food store. Experience suggests that some form of compulsion will be necessary before any large number of tenanted houses are likely to be improved.

In connexion with the review of older property which will be carried out in 1963 note will be made of those houses which ought to be improved and it is proposed to approach owners in selected areas to see whether it might be possible to stimulate interest in the improvement grant schemes.

RENT ACT, 1957

1. Applications for certificates	2
2. Decisions not to issue certificates	Nil
3. Decisions to issue certificates :	
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	1
(b) in respect of all defects	Nil
4. Undertakings given by landlords	1
5. Undertakings refused	Nil
6. Certificates issued	1
7. Applications by landlords for cancellation of certificates	Nil
8. Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	Nil
9. Decision to cancel certificates despite tenant's objection	Nil
10. Certificates cancelled	Nil

COUNCIL OWNED ACCOMMODATION

The Council owns approximately one quarter of the dwellings* in the Borough, the total of 3,930 being made up as follows:—

	4 Bed	3 Bed	2 Bed	1 Bed	Totals
Permanent Houses	139	2,177	1,026	—	3,342
Temporary houses	—	—	86	—	86
Bungalows	—	—	37	171	208
Flats	—	84	165	45	294
	139	2,261	1,314	216	3,930

* Dwellings includes flats.

FOOD MANUFACTURE, PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION

MILK DISTRIBUTION

With the virtual eradication of bovine tuberculosis from the dairy herds in Great Britain, and the fact that nearly all milk sold is heat treated, the risk of disease transmission by milk has been almost eliminated. Twenty-one samples of pasteurised milk and nine of sterilised milk were taken by the County Public Health Officer for examination and were all satisfactory.

From time to time complaint is made about the occasional bottle of milk which contains dirt or other foreign matter. When we consider the enormous number of bottles which have to be cleansed and sterilised each day, and the difficulty in detecting small pieces of foreign matter in the empty bottle, the record of the dairy companies is a good one. It would be even better if people could be educated to rinse bottles with cold water immediately they were emptied and before placing them out for collection, and if people could be made to appreciate that the only purpose for which a milk bottle should be used is to distribute milk.

ICE CREAM

No ice cream is made on premises within the Borough but pre-packed ice cream is sold from a large number of shops. The total number of registrations in force was 124, five more than the previous year. Soft ice-cream, that is, ice cream sold direct from specially designed freezers immediately after production, is finding an increasing sale everywhere and several firms are now operating fleets of vehicles equipped with the necessary apparatus to produce this type of ice cream. So far as Halesowen is concerned none of the firms station their vehicles in the Borough.

It is most important that an efficient system of routine cleansing and sterilisation should be carried out at the end of each day to prevent bacterial contamination of the ice cream.

SAMPLING OF FOOD AND DRUGS

The steady development of the Borough has prompted the Council to consider the desirability of applying to the Minister of Health for a direction that the Council should be made a food and drugs authority. Preliminary discussions have taken place with officers of the Worcestershire County Council and a formal application has been made to the Minister of Health.

Details of the food sampling carried out by the County Council are as follows:—

	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Milk Samples	40	489
Miscellaneous Samples	15	274
Drugs	—	42

There were no prosecutions in regard to any of the samples.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Regular routine inspections are carried out at all premises where food is manufactured, processed, prepared, stored, or sold. Premises are nearly always found to be satisfactory but during inspections special attention is given to food handling methods. These factors are of particular importance where the worker is preparing or cooking meals, or handling such foods as cooked meats, sausages, or cream cakes.

Two interesting aspects of food distribution are the continued development of pre-packaging which has been given fresh impetus by the development of self-service stores, and the continued expansion in the sales of quick-frozen foods. This latter group includes fish, poultry, vegetables, complete meals, and flour confectionery.

The frozen food processor has considerable control over the quality and the processing of the raw food. The basic needs are minimum delay between harvesting and quick freezing, and subsequent storage of the food at 0°F. (minus 17.8°C.) until sale to the consumer. Proper temperature control determines the safety, quality and nutritional value of pre-packed quick frozen foods.

It is most important that the food retailer should appreciate that such foods must be kept at 0°F. until sold and that once they have been thawed out they must not be re-frozen. He must see that his refrigerated cabinet is regularly maintained and defrosted, that it is never stocked above the load line, that stock is so rotated that earlier deliveries are sold first and that non-frozen foods and unwrapped products are not placed in the cabinet.

During the year complaint was made about the following items:—

- (a) loaf of bread with pieces of metal adhering to the surface,
- (b) loaf of bread containing part of a cardboard label,
- (c) loaf of bread with mould growth,
- (d) sausage rolls with mould growth,
- (e) steak and kidney pie with mould growth,
- (f) faggots with mould growth,
- (g) two bread rolls with mould growth,
- (h) wrapped cheese with mould growth.

In the cases of (a), (b), (c), (e) and (f) successful prosecutions were instituted and the firms concerned were fined £15 with costs, £15 with costs, £25, £20 and £20 respectively.

The many difficulties involved in preparing and distributing large quantities of foodstuffs are appreciated and prosecutions are only advised where it is felt that control has been less satisfactory than the circumstances warrant.

Because of the desirability of reducing the time between receiving an allegation of an offence and deciding whether to prosecute, the Council delegated to the Public Health Committee the power to prosecute for offences under sections 1, 2 and 8 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The amounts of food (other than fresh meat) examined and condemned as unfit were as follows:—

fruit	650 cans
vegetables	149 cans
soup	22 cans
milk	63 cans
meat	407 cans
fish	96 cans
rice	34 cans
jam	2 jars
jelly	7 packets
tongues (pressed)	50 lbs.
frozen vegetables	406 packets
frozen fish	318 packets
frozen pastry	23 packets
miscellaneous	51 cans

For her part the housewife should buy only where she is impressed by the obvious cleanliness and tidiness of the premises and equipment, and should use the food she has bought as quickly as possible and in accordance with the instructions printed on the container.

In general, District Inspectors report that the standard of hygiene in food premises is good. When a weakness is noted it is usually in food handling technique. Continuous educational work has to be done to impress on food handlers the need for reducing hand-food contact and for scrupulous personal cleanliness, the need to store cooked meats, sausages and pies where it is cool, the need to rotate stock, and so on. Dirty premises will not be tolerated at any time but clean premises are not in themselves a guarantee of safety.

FOOD INSPECTION

The inspection of every kind of food goes on daily. The District Inspectors check the description of packaged goods, examine cans for soundness and keep a watch on the general freshness of food. Public awareness of the need for food to be free from contamination by mould or by foreign bodies seems to be growing and more housewives are bringing to the notice of the Department instances of unsatisfactory food. This is to be encouraged and welcomed because it often brings to light some unsuspected gap in handling technique or some avoidable carelessness. A matter to which it is proposed to give special attention is the extent to which some foods, especially fruits, might be contaminated by metallic or other residues as the result of crop spraying.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS—INSPECTION OF MEAT

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food appointed 1st January, 1962, as the operative date upon which the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations became operative in the Borough. Three slaughterhouses were able to be used on that date, the owners having carried out the necessary improvements, and three others came into use shortly afterwards. At only three of the six slaughterhouses can cattle be slaughtered since at the other three the owners were not prepared to install stunning pens.

The class of animal handled is very good and as in each case the killing is done by the person who is selling the finished product, great care is exercised to see that the meat is safe, clean, and of good quality. Meat sold by other butchers in the town, also of good quality, comes either from Birmingham, Stourbridge or Brierley Hill.

Tuberculosis which in 1946 was estimated to affect 18 per cent. of all the cattle in Great Britain, and which resulted in the condemnation of so much meat, is now rarely encountered. This is the result of a programme started in 1935 to rid cattle of bovine tuberculosis, a scheme which has met with such success that bovine tuberculosis has been to all intents and purposes eradicated. It is interesting to note that whereas in 1936, the year after the first Attested Herds Schemes were introduced, 23,716 animals were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order in Great Britain, the figure in 1962 was 10.

MEAT INSPECTION

Details of the animals slaughtered and the amount of meat condemned
are shown in the table below

	<i>Cattle excluding cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Animals slaughtered and inspected ...	488	-	16	1,881	604
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	54	-	-	19	45
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11	-	-	1	8
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	-	-
CYSTICERCOSIS:					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	10	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	10	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat condemned was 9 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lbs.

AIR POLLUTION

The Borough of Halesowen has considerable natural advantages so far as clean air is concerned since much of the area is outside the orbit of heavy industry and high housing density characteristic of the Black Country. Halesowen lies to the south west of this area and is bounded for a considerable distance by open country. Apart from some special problems the Borough does not have the serious air pollution problems of some neighbouring areas but the Council has always based its clean air policy on two tenets, namely, that air pollution ought to be substantially reduced because this is important to the citizens of the Borough and secondly, because it constitutes a good neighbour policy.

DOMESTIC POLLUTION

At least half the pollution, and in residential areas a much higher proportion, is caused by the aggregate effect of emissions from domestic chimneys. This form of pollution is emitted at a low level, contains a high proportion of tar, and is worse in autumn, winter and early spring. It is easy to see domestic pollution in many parts of the Borough from the vantage points which surrounding hills offer, and there are frequent opportunities for observing the palls of grey, tarry smoke which hang over housing estates during calm weather. What is not so obvious is the long term effect on health and every general practitioner would no doubt testify to the magnitude of the problem of chest disease and its association with air pollution.

When the use of raw coal on open fires is prohibited the citizen will see a cleanliness of the atmosphere which will surely impress everyone including the relatively small number of sceptics. The freedom to burn raw coal on the domestic grate is the freedom to befoul the air with gases, tar and soot, and the freedom to waste, in the aggregate, thousands of tons of fuel each year.

The following table shows the progress achieved by the end of December, 1962:—

<i>Date of Order</i>			<i>Operative date</i>	<i>Dwellings or proposed dwellings</i>	<i>Acre-age</i>
Lapal No. 1 ...	Oct. 1960		Nov. 1961	487	82
Highfields No. 1	Nov. 1960		Oct. 1961	93	2.6
Howley Grange No. 1 ...	Nov. 1960		Jan. 1962	375	36.9
Central No. 1 ...	Jan. 1962		Nov. 1962	57	5.5
Central No. 2 ...	Jan. 1962		Nov. 1962	14	1.5
Long Innage, Cradley ...	Jan. 1962		Nov. 1962	50	5.4
Dencil Close, Cradley ...	Jan. 1962		Nov. 1962	54	4.2
Holcroft Road, Cradley ...	Jan. 1962		Nov. 1962	24	2.9
Central No. 3 ...	Feb. 1962		Dec. 1962	339	18.6
Furlong Lane, Cradley ...	Feb. 1962		Nov. 1962	30	2.2
Bath Meadow, Cradley ...	Feb. 1962		Nov. 1962	70	3.5
Central No. 4 ...	Mar. 1962		Apr. 1963	31	2.25
Hawne No. 1 ...	Mar. 1962		Apr. 1963	8	.75
No. 14 Cradley Fields ...	July 1962		July 1963	22	2.57
No. 15 Hope Street, Blackheath	July 1962		May 1963	65	5.1
No. 16 Cocksheds Farm ...	July 1962		May 1963	20	1.5
No. 17 Spring Street, Cradley ...	Oct. 1962		Sept. 1963	6	5.3
No. 18 Hayley Green ...	Nov. 1962		Nov. 1963	1,047	520

With regard to the No. 18 Smoke Control Order, a rather artificial boundary has to be accepted at the southern edge of the area because sixty-three of the houses on the Causey Farm Estate lie within the boundaries of Bromsgrove Rural District Council. By the end of 1962 the latter Council were considering a suggestion by the Halesowen Council that the area should be declared a smoke control area.

PROGRAMME FOR SMOKE CONTROL

Circular 60/62 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government refers to Circular 4/62 which asked local authorities to submit revised programmes for smoke control order proposals. The original target date for Halesowen was 1970 and it was not thought possible to revise this date because of the time already taken up in dealing with the work in hand. Each of the District Inspectors carries out inspections but many houses have to be visited several times, and in some cases during evenings or at weekends.

Details of the smoke control programme are as follows:—

	<i>Premises</i>	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Acres</i>
Covered by Orders made up to 31.12.1961	970	965	121
Estimated additions covered by Orders to be made during 1962	1,803	1,784	572
Estimated additions covered by Orders to be made during 1963	1,752	1,714	409
Estimated additions covered by Orders to be made during 1964	1,537	1,482	584
Estimated additions covered by Orders to be made during 1965	2,037	1,977	671
Estimated additions covered by Orders to be made during 1966	2,133	2,003	448
Final objective (the total number it is intended ultimately to cover)	15,650*	15,150*	5,247

* These figures include an estimated increase of approximately 500 premises in the total number within the Borough by 1970.

FUELS AND FUEL SUPPLIES

There is no shortage of British Standard Specification coke (Gloco) in the West Midlands, nor has there been at any time since smoke control began. There is often considerable delay in getting certain named premium fuels because there are only limited quantities of these fuels and indeed there will never be sufficient to supply all demands. The development of smoke control policies at an ever

increasing rate suggests that there are aspects of the supply and distribution of smokeless fuels which need critical appraisal.

In many houses the space for storing fuel is often limited and since most smokeless fuels are considerably more bulky than coal it is most important that there should be a regular delivery service, the more so during very cold weather. This, in turn, means that retail distributors must be able and willing to stock smokeless fuels or have ready access to such stocks.

So far as can be seen the principal solid smokeless fuel for some years to come will be gas coke. In view of the closing of the smaller gas works, the proposed importation by the Gas Council of natural gas, and the projected development of the Lurgi process of gas making, the question naturally arises as to whether the Gas Boards will reduce the amount of gas made by traditional methods and thus reduce coke production. Local authorities are expected to forecast their smoke control development for as long as fifteen or twenty years ahead and they must be assured that not only are there adequate supplies of solid smokeless fuels available at present but that there will continue to be adequate supplies in the foreseeable future. If this is not to be so then present ideas on conversions of appliances may need revision. The smokeless fuel supply position is the key factor in the development of the national smoke control policy and it is suggested that the whole problem needs re-examination on a national basis to provide the best possible forecasts of the availability of all types of smokeless fuels for the next ten year period.

ADMINISTRATION

The task of inspecting properties, advising on the necessary works and adaptations, and ultimately seeing that they are properly carried out is considerable, as is the administrative work involved.

The procedure for making smoke control areas has been streamlined by changes in procedure announced during the year and some questions of grant payment have been clarified. There is, however, one aspect of grant provision which gives rise to needless annoyance and irritation in the Borough. There are several large estates of modern houses which are not supplied by gas mains, Circular 3/62 of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government allows for the purchase of a portable electric fire lighter for ignition purposes only where this forms part of "works" such as, for example, the replacement of $\frac{1}{2}$ in. spaced firebars by $\frac{5}{8}$ in. spaced firebars or the provision of a socket outlet to the electric supply if this is not already available. The purchase of an electric fire lighter does not itself attract grant because such provision does not constitute the carrying out of "works." This distinction is difficult to justify and damages public relations. It is felt that because smoke control is so very desirable and

the ultimate benefits are so great, grant provision should be generous rather than otherwise and more in accordance with the spirit of the house improvement grant scheme where much larger items of money are involved and given with much less detailed control.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

It is important for the rapid progress of smoke control to have a good public relations policy. For some time yet the same objections will be met in each area to be dealt with. They will include:—

- (1) there is a shortage of smokeless fuels,
- (2) coke is not a satisfactory fuel,
- (3) coke gives off harmful fumes,
- (4) sulphur dioxide is the real menace and smoke control does nothing to reduce this pollutant.

There are perfectly good answers to all these points but the points will continue to be made. The method adopted in Halesowen to stimulate interest in the policy of smoke control is as follows:—

- (a) inspections are made by District Public Health Inspectors who are trained in the work and competent to discuss every aspect of it,
- (b) a specially prepared booklet is left with the householder,
- (c) meetings are arranged to which householders affected are individually invited, the Council's policy is explained, and problems are discussed,
- (d) exhibitions have been arranged at the time of declaring the largest areas. At these exhibitions appliances are demonstrated in use and the various organisations connected with smoke control are represented, together with the Council's officers.

One group of people to which special attention must be paid is the old age pensioner often living alone, often living in a bungalow. Many of these people have been used to burning coal very frugally because of their limited means and they are loathe to build a deep fire essential to the proper use of coke. In addition, some types of approved appliances have relatively high fronts and these two factors result in old people complaining that they cannot keep warm when using coke. Some of the resistance to the use of coke revolves round fears that coke emits dangerous fumes into the room and secondly that the burning of coke is detrimental to occupants suffering from bronchitis. It requires a great deal of patience and explanation to show that there is nothing in coke which is not also in coal and

that if the flue is properly constructed the products of combustion should go up the chimney. Nevertheless, every complaint of fumes entering a room must be investigated in case there should be a fault.

Because old people spend so much time at home during colder weather it is suggested that when new dwellings are built consideration be given to providing a higher comfort standard for them by the use of openable stoves to which might be attached one or more radiators to heat a bedroom.

INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION

There are two aspects to the control of industrial pollutants; these are, control of proposed new factories at the planning stage and control of existing premises.

When plans are received for town planning or byelaw purposes they are examined, amongst other things, to see whether any proposed fuel using installations or industrial plant comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act. Some processes such as paint spraying, the grinding of metals, baking cores in foundries, to name only a few, may give rise to difficult pollution problems which cannot be controlled by the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956. When clean air legislation is revised there is a good case for including within its scope all forms of air pollution.

HEIGHT OF CHIMNEYS

Section 10 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, enables a local authority to determine the height of new chimneys so that they shall not create conditions prejudicial to health or a nuisance. On several occasions discussions were held about proposed stacks. In one instance two stacks fifty feet high were proposed but eventually one stack 80 feet high was agreed. In another case a height of 70 feet was proposed but the firm were required to amend this to 100 feet. At a third factory the stack of an incinerator was increased in height from a proposed 27 feet to 43 feet. The owners of a shop voluntarily agreed to increase the height of the proposed stack from 35 feet to 40 feet although they could not be required to do this as shops are exempt from the provisions of the Act. This exemption is unsatisfactory but a weakness in the Act even more important is that no control of height can be exercised either in respect of existing chimneys or in respect of chimneys put into buildings after the plans are approved.

In determining the height of a chimney regard is had to the maximum rated fuel capacity of the plant (and hence the maximum rate of sulphur dioxide emission), the situation of the proposed chimney and the height and shape of the building to which it is to be attached.

A special problem to which particular attention was given was the conversion of a cold blast cupola at a local foundry to a hot blast type. The hot blast process comes under the control of the Alkali Inspectorate and the main basic difference between the two processes is that in the hot blast process the air blast is pre-heated to about 500°C. The temperature of the hot blast process is raised to such an extent that the waste gases contain metallurgical fumes which may amount to as much as 6 lbs. per ton of metal melted, as well as grit

and dust. The problem of preventing nuisance resolves itself in the removal of as much as possible of the solid matter by de-dusting and by discharging the gases at such a height that they do not cause any nuisance.

After considerable discussion between the factory management, the British Cast Iron Research Association, the Public Health Department and the Alkali Inspector, the minimum chimney height was fixed at 136 feet above stockyard level.

Your Chief Public Health Inspector continued as a member of the Working Party on the Dispersal of Chimney Gases set up by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

THE FOUNDRY PROBLEM

The chief cause for complaint so far as industrial pollution is concerned relates to the ironfoundry problem. In many of the operations in a foundry the emission of dust, grit, fumes or smoke and sometimes all of them together, is inevitable. It is important for the worker that he should be protected from the pollutants (this is a matter for the factory inspector) and it is equally important, in achieving this aim, that the pollutants should not be discharged from the foundry until they have been suppressed so far as is practicable. The policy, too often encountered in the past, of making a hole in the roof or walls and getting the dust or fumes outside without regard to community health, will no longer suffice.

The problem resolves itself into the following main divisions:—

- (1) smoke and fumes from general processes, such as heating the foundry, drying ladles and moulds,
- (2) smoke or fumes from the making and baking of cores,
- (3) smoke and fumes from the knock-out,
- (4) dust from the cleaning and dressing of castings,
- (5) dust and fumes from the operation of cupolas.

Foundries differ greatly in size and method, and whilst some are highly mechanised and housed in modern buildings, others are carried on in obsolete buildings built for other purposes and adapted to their present use. Moreover many of the small jobbing foundries are now almost surrounded by dwellinghouses.

The aim in a well managed foundry is to avoid making dust, fumes or smoke. Where this is not practicable, the pollutants must be contained as close to the source as possible, and dealt with in a way which is satisfactory both to the worker and to the community at large.

At a large foundry in the north of the Borough discussions have taken place over the past two years in connexion with the elimination and suppression of fumes and odours. The firm has substituted a process which has resulted in the reduction in the use of oil sand. This has led to a substantial improvement in the amount of fumes and smoke given off during casting and at the various knock-out points, and has reduced the complaints about the smell which tended to pervade the area during certain weather conditions.

So far as cupolas are concerned too many are operated without proper means of grit suppression. Save in exceptional circumstances the usual expansion-deflection type of dry grit arrester does not fulfil the requirements of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and when new cupolas are installed the Department requires that wet type grit arresters must be fitted. It is hoped to carry out a campaign to effect a change-over to wet arresters so far as existing cupolas are concerned especially at those foundries which are in built-up residential areas.

An equally important problem with the cupola is the emission of smoke which may be due to the use of very dirty scrap, i.e., scrap contaminated with oil, grease, or paint, to having the charge too high in the cupola, or to a combination of these factors. When smoke is emitted from boiler plant it is always a symbol of inefficiency and this is a powerful incentive to its suppression. So far as cupola operation is concerned this is not so and the mitigation of nuisance may well lie in burning the smoke as much as possible by an after burner and by high dispersal of what fumes and smoke remains.

There are 35 cupolas being operated in the Borough at 18 foundries and 15 of them are fitted with wet type grit arresters.

The general problem of dust, fume and grit emission needs to be tackled still more vigorously not only within each local authority area but on a regional and a national basis. Amongst other things there ought to be far more joint study of the various problems by the factory inspector who is responsible for conditions inside the foundry and the public health inspector who is concerned with conditions outside.

What has to be accepted at present is that some smoke and odour emission is inevitable if only because in the case of some processes and plant all the answers to the various problems of air pollution are not yet known.

In April, 1962, action was taken against a firm in the Borough for emitting smoke from a cupola in contravention of section 16 (2) of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and an appropriate order was made by the Magistrates' Court.

INDUSTRIAL INCINERATORS

Because space for tipping waste material is so difficult to find in the West Midlands, some firms are burning as much as possible of their waste materials. The Department is occasionally asked for advice on the most suitable types of incinerator. Discussions on this subject took place with four firms during the year. In one instance a relatively simple type of plant incorporating an after burner was fitted, in a second a more elaborate apparatus was agreed upon and in the case of the other firm discussions were still taking place at the end of the year. So far as air pollution is concerned the important requirements are the reduction of smoke to an acceptable degree and the dispersion of gases, odour and fumes, at such a height that they do not give rise to complaint.

RECORDING OF POLLUTION

Since June, 1950, the recording of air pollution has been carried out at five stations in the Borough. These are set out below:—

1. Hayley Green Hospital, Hayley Green, Halesowen.
2. Central Library, Council House, Halesowen.
3. Olive Hill County Primary School, Springfield Road, Halesowen.
4. Cradley County Modern School, Homer Hill, Cradley.
5. County Modern School, Stourbridge Road, Halesowen.

The statistics for 1962 are set out below:—

DEPOSIT GAUGES												
Monthly deposit of total solids in tons per square mile												
Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	9.72	3.59	8.16	6.49	8.43	11.92	6.77	7.02	4.94	5.53		
2	16.00	8.25	—	14.45	18.81	9.68	13.50	12.63	11.23	9.78		
3	8.27	4.60	27.21	8.41	8.67	3.13	—	55.98	12.57	7.17		
4	11.92	3.52	10.96	8.26	12.98	7.57	10.86	6.28	8.90	7.43		Discontinued
5	14.97	7.34	13.28	7.97	18.81	7.20	19.75	20.68	7.77	66.16		

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS												
Weight of sulphur trioxide collected in milligrammes per 100 square centimetres per day												
Station	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1	0.91	1.22	1.24	0.95	0.59	0.30	0.43	0.38	0.31	0.39	1.67	1.80
2	1.28	1.50	1.60	—	0.84	0.43	0.58	—	0.59	0.76	1.82	2.63
3	3.03	2.90	2.49	2.62	1.74	1.38	1.31	0.96	1.29	2.41	3.47	2.59
4	2.54	2.41	2.11	1.65	1.41	1.05	1.02	0.66	1.15	1.46	2.50	3.00
5	1.62	1.68	2.02	1.49	1.03	0.51	1.00	0.25	0.75	1.26	2.50	2.64

The deposit gauge collects the coarse material which settles out of the atmosphere, much of which is dust and grit from the burning of fuel, whilst the lead peroxide instrument absorbs sulphur dioxide most of which again comes from the burning of fuel.

In November, 1960, the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies in the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution to which the Council appoints delegates, considered a report of a Working Party on the methods of measuring air pollution. The report commented that deposit gauge results were of local rather than national significance and that the rough monthly measurements of sulphur dioxide by the lead peroxide method were not sufficiently precise to meet modern national requirements. The real use of the deposit gauge is to give an operator information about grit and dust fall arising, for example, from factories. With regard to the lead dioxide instrument, it was concluded that individual instruments are unreliable in giving the concentration of sulphur dioxide in the neighbourhood and that they are not always reliable in detecting trends in pollution. The national need so far as recording is concerned is for more observations to be made of smoke and sulphur dioxide and the apparatus best suited for the observations is the combined smoke filter volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus.

After consideration of the report of the Working Party it was decided to discontinue the use of the deposit gauges and the lead peroxide instruments except for some special survey. In their place four stations are to be set up using the combined smoke filter-volumetric sulphur dioxide apparatus. The results will be used in the National Survey of air pollution.

PUBLIC HEALTH—GENERAL

LICENSING ACT, 1961

The Licensing Act, 1961, introduced new qualifications for the registration of clubs and allowed for objections to be made to the grant or renewal of registration certificates on certain specified grounds. On the initial application for registration the local authority have rights of inspection and the grounds for objection to the registration of club premises include, amongst other things, unsuitability of the premises.

When applications were received for the registration of the clubs in the Borough opportunity was taken for pointing out in every case that in the interests of good community health the sanitary conveniences at the clubs must be not only adequate but ought to be provided with hot and cold water, soap, nail brushes and towels. In many instances cold water was available but there were no arrangements for supplying hot water. In these cases attention was drawn to this and supplies of hot water have now been made available. This means that the general standards of hygiene in the clubs in the Borough have been raised and are now very satisfactory.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

Complaints which have to be considered under the provisions of the Noise Abatement Act, 1960, fall into two main groups. These are noise and sometimes vibration from factories and noise from various diverse sources such as that made by ice-cream vendors or by groups of people leaving places of entertainment late at night or early morning.

In areas where many of the smaller factories are built amongst houses occasions do arise where because of night working the peace of local residents is disturbed. On the whole people are very tolerant and the exercise of goodwill has prevented the need for legal action.

The provisions of the Act are not easy to enforce partly because the effect of noise varies so much from individual to individual and partly because in many cases there is no easy remedy available. Some people remain unperturbed by noise and vibration caused by heavy drop hammers used in the forging and pressing industry, for example, whilst others are driven to distraction by the chimes of the ice-cream vendor. It is important that when new factories are built the question of possible nuisance from noise or vibration should be considered at the planning stage.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS

Licences were issued in respect of ninety-four installations storing petroleum spirit, thirty of these relating to premises where petrol is offered for sale. Eighteen licences were issued in respect of premises storing petroleum mixtures used in connection with industrial processes.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four licenses were issued for the keeping of pet shops.

PESTS ACT, 1949—RODENT CONTROL

Treatments were carried out at one hundred and fifty-four dwellinghouses and fifty-three business premises. In each case the treatment was for a minor infestation.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937-1959

One hundred and forty-seven visits were paid to factories in connection with matters under sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Act.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

		Number of cases in which defects were found			
Particulars		Found	Remedied	Reference	
				To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	...	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	...	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	...	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	...	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	...	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	...	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	...	-	-	-	3
(b) Unsuitable or defective	...	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	...	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not including offences to home work)	...	-	-	-	-
Total		2	-	-	3

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authority	15	6	-
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	254	141	4
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-
	269	147	4

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Drainage, public sewers	15
Drains	231
Sanitary accommodation	43

Nuisances (Section 93)

Premises	735
Keeping of animals	2
Dust or effluvia	21

Infectious diseases	114
Tuberculosis	Nil
Food poisoning	13

Offensive trades	7
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Pigstyes	4
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Verminous premises

Council houses	11
Other houses	20

Public Cleansing

Dustbins	25
Trade refuse	5
Tips	39
Accumulations	23
Salvage	4

HOUSING ACT, 1957

Overcrowding	Nil
Individual unfit	171
Slum clearance	405

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959	593
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RENT ACT, 1957	13
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CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

Nuisances	11
Observations	15
Visits to plant	15
Smoke control areas	1,153
Atmospheric pollution measurement	121

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

...	Nil
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PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS, 1928 and 1936	80
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PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949	...	92
SHOPS ACT, 1950	...	2
FACTORIES ACTS, 1937-1959		
With power	...	147
Without power	...	-
Outworkers	...	-
FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955		
Butchers' shops	...	92
Bakehouses	...	7
Cafes, canteens, etc.	...	78
Dairies and milk shops	...	-
Fishmongers, poulterers	...	23
Fried fish shops	...	43
Food preparing premises	...	4
Greengrocers, fruiterers	...	84
Grocers	...	158
Ice cream premises	...	8
Markets	...	6
Slaughterhouses	...	596
Other food premises	...	33
Licensed premises	...	108
School canteens	...	36
Street vendors	...	23
LAND CHARGES	...	728
COUNCIL HOUSE APPLICATIONS	...	2
MISCELLANEOUS	...	259

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Public Health Department is responsible for the collection and disposal of refuse and salvage whilst street cleansing, gulley emptying, snow removal and the control of public conveniences is carried out by the Borough Surveyor's Department. The Public Health Department is also responsible for the maintenance and servicing of the Council's vehicles and miscellaneous equipment such as motor mowers.

REFUSE COLLECTION

From January to April refuse continued to be collected by five teams each of four men including the driver, but after that date the number of men per team was increased to five. Three side-loading and two rear loading vehicles were in use and the Council has a bulk loader refuse vehicle on order for delivery in January, 1963. About 16,000 dustbins are emptied each week from domestic and business premises and as an aid to collection and to lighten the work, each team is equipped with bin trollies and three of the lorries are able to tow trailers for the collection of domestic salvage.

All workmen are provided with protective clothing in the form of duffle coats, overalls and gloves, and the Council takes great care to see that the best possible working conditions are maintained. It was possible throughout the year to maintain a full staff and the number of staff changes were the lowest since the war.

FLATS

The removal of refuse from flats with refuse chutes has raised new problems and consultations have taken place with the architects with a view to improving the access roads to blocks of flats under construction in the centre of the town, completion of which is expected in early 1963.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at the tip at Mucklow Hill, Halesowen, and the weekly average collection is 200 tons in summer and 290 tons in winter. The refuse is covered immediately it is tipped by waste foundry sand and road sweepings, the material being then consolidated by the use of a tracked angledozer. Careful control is kept at all times and the tip is visited annually by students from a neighbouring technical college.

SALVAGE

Waste paper is still the only commodity which can be salvaged in sufficient quantities to bring in an appreciable income but even in the case of paper, restrictions from time to time limit the amount which can be sent to the mills. With rising production costs, the smaller local authorities now find the collection of salvage for most types of material uneconomical.

INCENTIVE BONUS

The negotiations between the Council and the National Union of Public Employees on the revision of the incentive bonus scheme begun in late 1961 continued until in April agreement was finally reached as the result of which the Council agreed to increase the team strength to five with a view to achieving a weekly collection. Amendments were also made to the incentive bonus scheme which is now as follows:—

If the average number of bins emptied per man, per team, per day, reaches 100, each man receives 3/-. For each bin between 100 and 136 per man 1½d. is paid and 2½d. for each additional bin over that figure, with a final payment of 10/6d. to each man in a team achieving a weekly collection. This revised scheme has worked extremely well and all areas of the Borough now have a weekly collection of refuse with the men receiving an adequate incentive payment to achieve this.

DUSTBINS

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, section 75, the Council has a scheme by which dustbins are supplied to domestic premises at an annual charge of 6/-, the bin remaining the property of the Council and being replaced when worn out. Since the scheme started in 1950 the number of dwellings supplied with dustbins totals just over 4,000 which when added to the number of bins at Council owned dwellings means that half the dwellings in the Borough now have a Council bin.

As is to be expected the replacement rate has greatly increased due to bins supplied in the early years of the scheme now becoming worn out and it now represents 30 per cent. of the dustbins issued.

VEHICLE REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

The Department carries out all types of repair including major overhauls to vehicles and other mechanical equipment. At the end of 1962 the following vehicles were being repaired and serviced.

Public Health Department :

- 7 refuse freighters.
- 2 trucks.
- 2 vans.
- 2 tractors.

Highways Department :

- 3 trucks.
- 1 van.
- 2 roadsweepers.
- 1 gulley emptier.
- 1 road roller.
- 1 vibrator roller.
- 1 compressor.

Housing Department :

- 2 vans.
- 2 trucks.

Parks Department :

- 1 van.
- 2 tractors.
- 2 autoscythes.
- 1 official car.

In addition a large number of pieces of equipment such as motor mowers and hand mowers are regularly serviced and repaired.

VEHICLE TESTING

The Council provides arrangements for the testing of vehicles in accordance with the Ministry of Transport's vehicle testing scheme. During the year 241 vehicles were examined of which 177 passed the test. The main defects were defective brakes (32), defective steering (43) and defective lighting (24).

PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURN
Cost Statement 1962-63

	Collection	Disposal	Totals	Percentage of total gross expenditure
REVENUE ACCOUNT				
GROSS EXPENDITURE:				
(a) Labour	£ 17,173	£ 1,843	£ 19,016	54
(b) Transport	10,522	964	11,486	33
(c) Plant, equipment, land and buildings	860	3,165	4,025	11
(d) Other items	790	—	790	2
Total gross expenditure	29,345	5,972	35,317	100
GROSS INCOME	1,544	2,121	3,665	
NET COST	27,801	3,851	31,652	
Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above)	—	—	—	
UNIT COSTS				
Gross cost per ton, labour only	s. d. 26 7	s. d. 2 10	s. d. 29 5	
Gross cost per ton, transport only	16 4	1 6	17 10	
Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	43 1	6 0	49 1	
Net cost per 1,000 population	£ 625	£ 86	£ 711	
Net cost per 1,000 premises	1,794	248	2,042	

Net cost of collection and disposal of refuse (including salvage) for each house, per week 1s. 0½d.

Net cost of collection and disposal of refuse (including salvage) for each resident, per week 3.43d.

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area (statute acres) land and inland water	...	...	...	5,247 acres
Population at 30th June, 1962	...	...	...	44,510 persons
Total refuse collected	...	...	...	12,905 tons
What percentage of total refuse collected is weighed	...	...	...	15
Weight per 1,000 population per day	...	...	...	16 cwts.
Number of premises from which refuse is collected	...	...	...	15,500
Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly	...	...	...	100%
Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point	...	...	...	2½ miles
Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection	...	...	...	Nil
Total refuse disposed of (of which none is disposed of for other local authorities)	...	...	...	13,000 tons
Method of disposal (salvage excluded)—controlled tipping	...	...	...	100%

SALVAGE—ANALYSIS OF INCOME AND TONNAGE

SALVAGE:	Income £	Tonnage Tons
(a) Raw kitchen waste	—	—
(b) Scrap metal	5	5
(c) Waste paper	1,849	229
(d) Other salvage	5	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,859	236
	<hr/>	<hr/>

TRADE REFUSE:

Income: £523.

Not weighed.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The tables below show the trends in population, infant mortality, maternal mortality and the incidence or number of deaths in some of the commoner diseases. The figures refer to England and Wales unless indicated otherwise.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Population</i>	
	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>Halesowen</i>
1801	8,893,000	
1851	17,928,000	
1891	29,003,000	18,479 (a)
1901	32,528,000	23,574 (a)
1911	36,070,000	27,061 (a)
1921	37,887,000	28,212 (b)
1931	39,952,000	31,058 (c)
1951	43,758,000	39,903 (d)
1961	46,072,000	44,445 (d)

- (a) Halesowen Rural District—area 6,114 acres.
- (b) Halesowen Rural District—area 5,496 acres.
- (c) Halesowen Urban District—area 5,247 acres.
- (d) Halesowen Municipal Borough—area 5,247 acres.

Private Households and Dwelling, 1961 (Borough of Halesowen)

<i>Private households</i>	<i>Population in private households</i>	<i>Structurally separate dwellings occupied</i>	<i>Rooms occupied</i>	<i>Persons per room</i>
14,584	44,247	14,501	69,534	0.64

Infant Mortality in certain countries Deaths per 1,000 live births of infants under the age of one year

	1931-35	1941-45	1956	1959	1961
England and Wales	62	50	24	22	21
Australia	41	35	22	22	20
Sweden	50	31	17	17	16
U.S.A.	59	41	26	26	25

Maternal Mortality in certain countries
Deaths per 100,000 live births

	1936-38	1950-52	1956	1958	1960
England and Wales	338	82	57	44	39
France	206	81	55	55	52
Sweden	283	69	34	30	37
U.S.A.	496	75	41	38	32

Yearly Deaths from Tuberculosis

<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1891-1900 ...	65,887	1940-1944 ...	26,434
1901-1910 ...	56,516	1950-1954 ...	11,433
1911-1920 ...	51,396	1955 ...	6,492
1921-1930 ...	39,379	1958 ...	4,480
1931-1939 ...	39,231	1961 ...	3,334

Deaths from Lung Cancer

1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
18,097	19,028	19,820	21,063	22,000	22,810

Diphtheria

	Annual Average 1916-25	Annual Average 1933-42	1952	1954	1956	1958	1961
Notifications	51,753	55,125	376	173	53	80	51
Deaths	4,214	2,783	23	8	3	8	8
Scarlet Fever							
	1939	1943	1952	1954	1956	1958	1961
Notifications	78,101	116,034	67,261	43,026	33,103	38,853	19,984
Deaths	181	134	8	4	1	4	3
Measles							
	1940	1943	1952	1954	1955	1958	1961
Notifications	409,521	376,104	389,502	146,995	693,803	259,308	763,465
Deaths	857	773	141	45	174	49	152
Whooping Cough							
	1940	1943	1952	1954	1956	1958	1961
Notifications	53,607	96,136	114,863	105,904	92,407	33,400	24,469
Deaths	678	1,114	181	139	92	27	27

