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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

RURAL DISTRICT

OF

HEREFORD

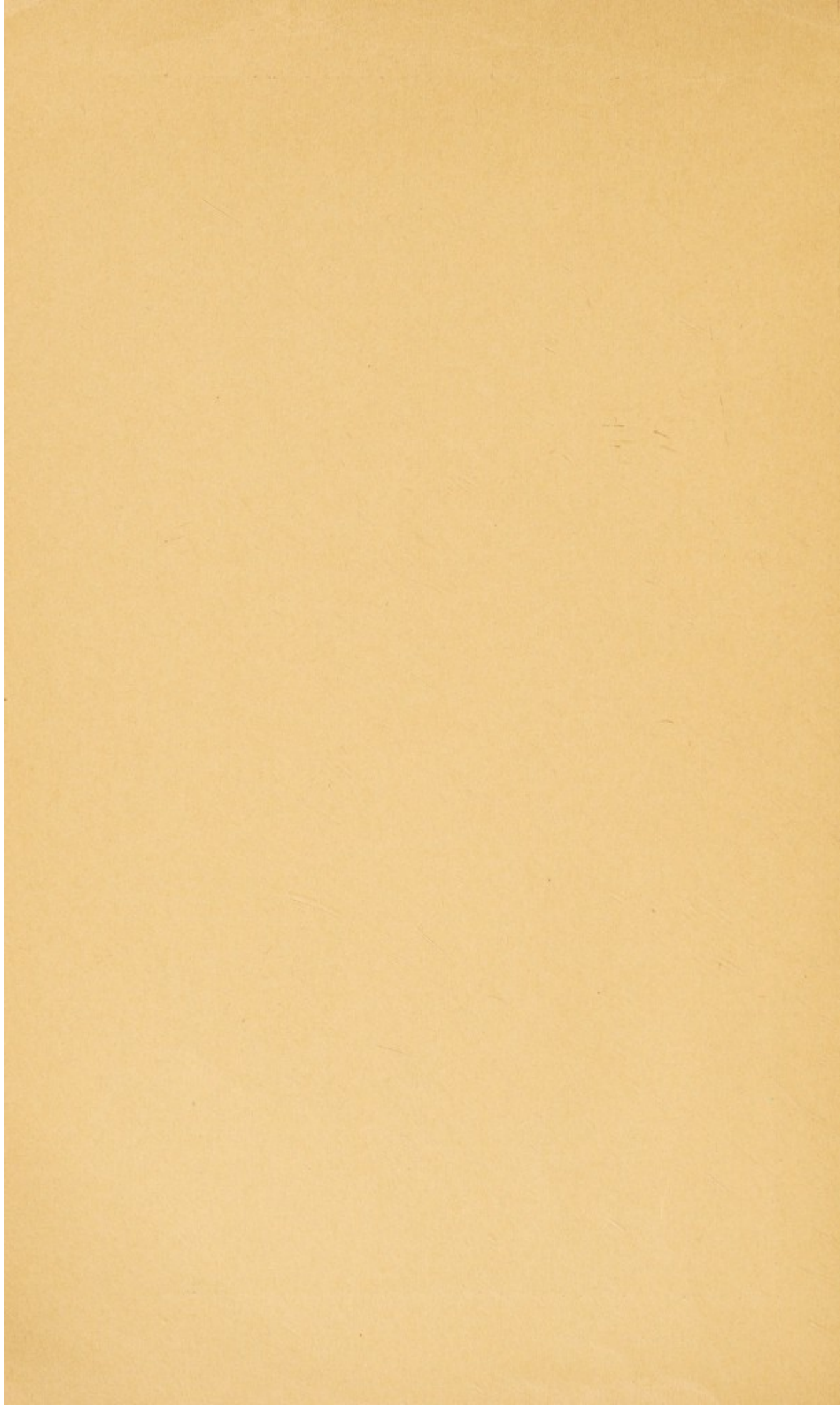
1937

ISSUED, JUNE, 1938.

HEREFORD :

ADAMS & SONS (PRINTERS) LIMITED.

—
1938



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INDEX TO CONTENTS.

Adoptive Acts	8	Inspection of Food	24
Ambulances	12	Isolation Hospital 9-10-11	
Area	5	Laboratory	7
Bakehouses	26	Long, H. F.	3, 15
Birth Rate	4-5	Milk and Dairies Order ...	24
Bulman, J. R.	3, 10	Nursing Arrangements ...	7
Clinics	13	Population	5
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	24	Rateable Value	5
Death Rate	4-5	Schools	19
Death, Causes of	28	School Closing	18
Disinfection	27	Scavenging	14
Hacking, Miss M.	3, 10	Sewerage	14
Hop Pickers	17	Slaughter Houses	24
Hospitals	8, 10	Staff	3
Housing	20	Tents, Vans, etc....	17
Infant Mortality... ..	5, 30	Tuberculosis	31
Infectious Diseases	26-28	Water Supplies	13
Inspector's Report	14	Workshops	16



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HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Telephone 2736.

Telegrams :

WOOD-POWER, 2736, Hereford.

Medical Officer of Health :

R. WOOD-POWER, B.A., F.R.C.S.(Ire.), D.P.H.,

LYNWOOD,

TOWER ROAD,

HEREFORD,

14th June, 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hereford Rural District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to lay before you the Annual Report for the above District for the year 1937.

The birth rate was 14.2 per 1,000. The crude death rate was 12.1 per 1,000 and when adjusted by the Comparability Factor supplied by the Registrar General, was 9.68 per 1,000. The infantile mortality rate 59 per 1,000 births.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R. WOOD-POWER

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Clerk to Council—

R. A. SYMONDS, M.A.Cantab., Solicitor, 8, St. John Street,
Hereford. Tel. 2200. (1932).

Medical Officer of Health—

R. WOOD-POWER, B.A., F.R.C.S.(Ire.), D.P.H. (1927) (Part
time).

Chief Sanitary Inspector—

H. F. LONG, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
Lynwood, Tower Road, Hereford. Tel. 2736. (1911).

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

D. FODEN, A.R.San.I., Cert. S.I.B. (1932).

HEREFORD RURAL ISOLATION HOSPITAL (Tel. Burghill 2) :—

Medical Superintendent : Dr. J. R. BULMAN, M.B. (1926).

Matron : Miss M. HACKING. (1929).

Lay Executive Officer : H. F. LONG. (1926).

One-half of the salary of the Medical Officer of Health and
of the Sanitary Inspectors is contributed from Exchequer grants.

The figures in brackets indicate the date of appointment.

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death Rates, and Case Rates for Certain Infectious Diseases for the year 1937.

England and Wales,
London, 125 Great
Towns and 148 Smaller
Towns.

Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	125 County Boro's and Great Towns Including London.	148 Smaller Towns. (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.	Hereford Rural District.
Rates per 1000 population.					
Births :—					
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3	14.2
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54	0.31
Deaths :—	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3	{ 12.1 † 9.68*
All Causes					
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Small Pox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.00
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.00
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38	0.31
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51	0.45
Notifications :—					
Small Pox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09	1.29
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93	0.76
Enteric Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.00
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44	0.23
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18	0.76
Rates per 1,000 Live Births.					
Deaths under 1 year of age.	58	62	55	60	59
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	} 5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0	5.35
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.97	} Not available			0.00
Others	2.26				0.00
Total	3.23				0.00
Rates per 1,000 Total Births. (i.e.—Live and Still).					
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.94	} Not available			0.00
Others	2.17				0.00
Total	3.11				0.00
Notifications :—					
Puerperal Fever	13.93	17.59	11.52	4.15	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia				14.34	0.00
† Crude Death Rate.					

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT. **STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

	1901	1921	1931	1937
Area in acres	65,669	65,669	65,669	65,669
Population (Census) ...	13,271	13,894	13,448	—
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate) ...	—	—	13,380	13,190
*Structurally separate dwellings occupied (Census) ...	2,877	2,970	3,146	3,505
Private families (Census) ...	2,973	3,012	3,207	—
No. of Parishes	39	39	39	39
Rateable value 31st March ...	£125,283	£135,217	£52,172	£51,576
A penny rate produces ...	£389	£429	£207	£229
" " " Housing (1919 Act)			£206	£228

**The information as to structurally separate dwellings occupied for 1937 has been supplied by Rating Officers.*

			<i>Total. M. F.</i>				
Live Births	[			Legitimate 169	89	80]	Birth rate 14.2
	[			Illegitimate 18	8	10]	
Still Births		4	2	2	Rate 21 per 1,000 births
Deaths		159	83	76	Death rate 12.1
							Death rate adjusted 9.68
Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and childbirth—							
<i>Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births</i>							
From Sepsis	...			0	...		0.00
„ other causes				0	...		0.00
Total	...			0	...		0.00

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 live births	59
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	47
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	167
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER.

The Rural District of Hereford is situated in the middle of the county, and completely surrounds the city of Hereford. It is bounded on the north by the Leominster and Wigmore Rural District, on the north-east by the Bromyard Rural District, on the south by the Ross and Whitchurch Rural District, and on the west by the Dore, and Bredwardine and Weobley Rural Districts. The middle of the district is low-lying.

In the north Dinmore Hill rises to a height of 943 ft., in the south Orcop Hill to 958 ft., and Aconbury Hill 905 ft., on the west Credenhill is 720 ft., while on the eastern side are Dinedor 595 ft., Backbury 738 ft., and Westhide 422 ft.

The district is well watered. The river Wye flows across from west to east in a very tortuous bed, and the rivers Lugg and Frome flow from north to south until they empty into the Wye. In the low-lying portions, following the courses of the rivers, is alluvial deposit.

Geologically the district is Old Red Sandstone. Credenhill, Dinedor, Dinmore, and Callow hills are of Cornstone formation.

The subsoil is gravelly loam in those parishes through which the rivers flow, and in the remainder of the district for the most part marl or clay.

All the 39 parishes are in the Herefordshire Registration District, in the county of Hereford, and in the Hereford Public Assistance Area, but the Rural District is not co-terminous with the Registration District, which includes also the parishes of the city of Hereford.

The population at the census of 1931 in the 39 parishes within the district varied from 18 in Dinmore to 1,553 in Burghill, but if the Mental Hospital residents are deducted, the Burghill population is still the largest in the district. There are collections of houses into villages at Bullingham, Fownhope, Holmer, Little Dewchurch, Lugwardine, Marden, Mordiford, Wellington, and Withington.

INDUSTRIES.

The industries are almost entirely of an agricultural nature, hops and fruit are largely grown, and there is extensive breeding of Herefordshire cattle and dairying. Encaustic tile works are situated in Withington parish. There are flour mills in the parishes of Clehonger, Credenhill, Eaton Bishop, and Wellington; nurseries in Breinton, and munitions in Bullingham.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS AVAILABLE.

Professional Nursing in the home—

- (a) General—A District Nurse is provided by the District Nursing Association for all the parishes in the area.

The Hereford Public Assistance Committee subscribe to the Hereford Nursing Association, by way of General Grant.

- (b) For infectious diseases—none.

The nursing is not provided by the County Council, but by District Nursing Associations, which are affiliated to and receive grants from the County Council through the County Nursing Association. The District Associations are also supported by local voluntary contributions. The Nurses are appointed by the District Association, and are under the supervision of the County Association Superintendent of Nurses, who is also County Supervisor of Midwives.

The Midwives Acts are administered by the County Council.

There are ten trained Midwives practising in the Rural District.

The Notification of Births Act is administered by virtue of the County of Hereford (Notification of Births) Order, 1918, by the County Council.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations are made at the County and City Public Health and Veterinary Laboratories, Bath Street, Hereford. Specimens are also submitted to Dr. W. Stewart, Pathologist, General Hospital, Hereford,

The following examinations were made during 1937 :—

		Positive		Negative		Total
For diphtheria	...	100	...	334	...	434
For tuberculosis	...	2	...	10	...	12
For typhoid fever	...	0	...	2	...	2
For streptococci	...	0	...	1	...	1
For brucellus abortus	...	0	...	1	...	1
Water samples (chemical)	...	0	...	0	...	67*
Water samples (bacteriological)	...	0	...	0	...	25†
Milk for Tubercle Bacilli	...	0	...	0	...	0
Milk for Diphtheria Bacilli	...	0	...	0	...	0

*38 good, 29 bad.

† 8 good, 17 bad.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Adoptive Acts, By-laws and Regulations relating to the Public Health in force within the District.

Urban Powers under the Public Health Act, 1875, with respect to Slaughter-houses and Sections 29, 30, and 31 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, have been in force in the Hereford Rural District since 1920.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, Part III., and the Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, were adopted in 1891.

By-laws with respect to Hop and Fruit Pickers were made in 1909, they were amended during 1937; Tents and Vans in 1912, and New Buildings in 1918.

Slaughter of Animals Act. The Council have passed a resolution making the provision of the Act applicable to Sheep.

HOSPITALS.

Herefordshire General Hospital, Hereford City—

No. of beds available, 152.

Management: Voluntary Agency.

Beds for:

General Medical: 46.

General Surgical: 70.

Maternity: 9.

Orthopaedic: 21.

Isolation: 6.

Facilities available for operative Surgery:

2 Operating Theatres.

7 Honorary Surgeons.

Specialist Departments: X-Ray, Dental, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic, Ear, Nose and Throat, Electro-Therapeutic, Cardiological, Psychiatry.

A pathological department is under the charge of Dr. W. Stewart.

Cottage Hospitals—None.

Public Assistance Infirmaries—

Hereford Public Assistance Institution in Hereford City;
93 beds—males 38, females 40, Children 6, Maternity 4, and
Nursery Cots 4. Lock Wards, 1 male, 2 females.

Special Hospitals—

(Administered by the Hereford Rural District Council).
Hereford Rural Isolation Hospital, Stretton Sugwas, 33 beds.
Burley Hospital, Bromyard, for small-pox patients, 4 beds.

Nieuport Sanatorium, Almeley, for tubercular patients—
62 beds—adults, 34 (male 18, female 16); children, 28.

Camp Meadow Hospital, Ross-on-Wye. 11 beds, under the
supervision of the Medical Superintendent, Nieuport Sanatorium.

Victoria Eye Hospital (Hereford), Incorporated, Hereford City—
No. of beds available: 20.
Management: Voluntary Agency.
Beds for:—Males, 10; females, 7; Private Patients, 2;
Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1.
Facilities available for operative Surgery: Operating Theatre.
Special Departments: Ophthalmic Specialist Hospital.
Pathological work is sent to Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital.

Children's Hospital—None.

For Puerperal Pyrexia.

Since 1st April, 1931, women suffering from this disease have been able to obtain admission to the Hereford General Hospital under the following conditions:—

1. The case has been notified as required by the Regulations to the District Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the patient is residing.
2. Requests for aid must be immediately sent by telephone or telegram to the County Medical Officer of Health.
3. In no case will the County Council accept responsibility for the maintenance of a case in Hospital:—
Where the income of the family exceeds £5 per week.
4. The County Medical Officer of Health causes enquiries to be made into the financial circumstances of the family and decides whether it is a case where the County Council should be held responsible.

For Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Facilities for the treatment of Ophthalmia Neonatorum patients at the Hereford Eye Hospital have been arranged. Parents and Guardians of infants admitted are required to pay such contributions towards the cost as the Public Health Committee of the County Council determine.

Active Anterior Polyomyelitis.

The Herefordshire County Council have made arrangements with the Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital, Oswestry, (Telephone: Oswestry 353), whereby persons suffering from this disease may be treated.

Nursing and Maternity Homes (Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927).

The Register is kept by the County Council.

HEREFORD RURAL ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

On a site of $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres, in the parish of Stretton Sugwas, brick buildings consisting of administrative block, pavilion with two six-bed wards (1,500 cubic feet per person), laundry, and discharge block were erected in 1903. A pavilion of timber with asbestos roof, with accommodation in it for 13 patients, was added in 1921; and during 1933, a further building, was erected, with separate rooms for two nurses in close proximity to the main building. The latter building consists of 8 cubicles, 4 on either side of the administrative portion. The cubicles are so arranged that they can be adapted as separate wards for different diseases, or if required, as 2 wards, when patients suffering from the same disease are being treated. The various buildings are self contained and each block can be administered as a single unit, if required. The whole of the hospital is equipped with electricity, and telephonic communication between each block is provided. The total cost of the hospital, was paid out of rate, and no loans raised in connection with it.

Dr. J. R. Bulman, who practices in Hereford, is Medical Superintendent, and Miss M. Hacking is Matron.

The patients admitted between 1904 and 1930, and the succeeding years, are shown in the following table:—

	<i>Smallpox.</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever.</i>	<i>Typhoid Fever.</i>	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Diphtheria.</i>	<i>Acute Poliomylitis</i>	<i>Cerebro Spinal Meningitis</i>	<i>Chicken Pox.</i>	<i>Contacts.</i>	<i>Observation.</i>	<i>Erysipelas.</i>	<i>Carriers.</i>	<i>Encephalitis Lethargica</i>	<i>Pneumonia</i>	<i>Mumps</i>
1904 } — } 1930 }	10	809	12	6	182	...	...	3	8	4	...	...	...	...	...
1931...	...	77	...	...	41	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
1932...	...	36	3	2	45	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	...
1933...	...	29	1	...	46	3	...	...	...	...	1	8	...	...	...
1934...	...	80	2	3	67	...	1	...	4	...	16	18	...	...	...
1935...	...	48	1	4	71	...	1	...	...	3	3	7	1	...	...
1936...	...	109	1	16	20	...	1	...	...	3	4	8	...	1	1
1937...	...	54	...	2	44	...	...	...	...	...	5	18	...	...	...

The hospital was occupied continuously throughout the year, the highest number of patients on any one day being 22. The daily average for the year was 11.

Since 1904, the Weobley Rural District Council has paid a retaining fee for at least two beds. The following Urban and Rural Councils, in addition, have made similar arrangements, *i.e.* :— The Borough of Leominster, the Urban Districts of Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, and Ross, and the Rural Districts of Bromyard, Dore and Bredwardine, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster and Wigmore, and Ross and Whitchurch.

The Hereford Rural District Council have taken over, from the Bromyard Joint Hospital Committee, the administration of the hospital at Burley. This is retained for the treatment of Small Pox patients, and is available for patients from the Hereford Rural District, and the districts of those Authorities, already named, and under contract with them.

DISTRICTS FROM WHICH PATIENTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Bromyard Urban.</i>	<i>Bromyard Rural.</i>	<i>Dore Rural.</i>	<i>Hereford Rural.</i>	<i>Hereford City.</i>	<i>Kington Urban</i>	<i>Kington Rural</i>	<i>Ledbury Urban.</i>	<i>Ledbury Rural.</i>	<i>Leominster Urban.</i>	<i>Leominster Rural.</i>	<i>Ross Urban.</i>	<i>Ross Rural.</i>	<i>Weobley Rural.</i>	<i>Private.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1904	2	18	22	460	5	...	...	16	207	4	31	39	2	228	...	1034
1930	1	3	8	41	...	...	...	1	10	24	13	10	...	8	...	119
1931	2	4	2	23	...	...	...	2	11	32	13	2	...	2	1	94
1932	8	5	10	22	1	...	...	...	5	23	8	3	...	3	...	88
1933	1	15	1	41	6	1	10	2	36	13	20	11	3	28	3	191
1934	4	11	7	34	3	...	6	1	36	8	14	2	...	9	4	139
1935	4	8	20	53	14	4	3	1	4	7	8	15	21	2	...	164
1936	2	9	8	33	2	2	10	5	5	6	20	5	8	8	...	123
1937	24	73	78	707	31	7	29	28	314	117	127	87	34	288	8	1952

Ambulance Facilities.

A Motor Ambulance owned by the Hereford Rural District Council, stationed at the Isolation Hospital, Stretton Sugwas (Telephone : Burghill 2), is available for the removal of infectious cases on payment of mileage charges.

Two Motor Ambulances provided by the British Red Cross Society, are stationed at Phoenix House, Commercial Road, Hereford (Telephone 3000), and are available for the removal of non-infectious cases on application to the B.R.C.S., at that address. Charges are made according to the mileage and the services required. A system of voluntary contributions by subscriptions of 1/- per annum is in operation, whereby subscribers are entitled to the free use of the Ambulance should occasion arise. The Scheme is at present intended to operate in an area within seven miles of Hereford, so that practically all the residents in the Hereford Rural District may be provided for in this way, should they so desire. Trained attendants are on duty day and night to accompany the Ambulance.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Tuberculosis Clinic provided by the County Council at St. Peter's House, Hereford, is available for the Hereford Rural District. The Tuberculosis Officer attends from 10-30 a.m. to 12-30 p.m. every Saturday. Consultations with the Chief Clinical Tuberculosis Officer are arranged by appointment on Wednesdays, 10-30 a.m. to 12-30.

There is a V.D. Clinic in a building in the grounds of the Hereford Public Assistance Institution. The Medical Officers attend :—
For Males : Fridays, 6—7 p.m. ; for Females : Tuesdays, 6—7 p.m. ; for Males and Females : Wednesdays, 1-30—2-30 p.m.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**WATER SUPPLY.**

There is a combined water supply to some of the houses in the parishes of Allensmore, Bolstone, Credenhill, Dormington, Fownhope, Lugwardine, Much Birch, Much Dewchurch, Stoke Edith, Sutton and Westhide, and a supply for domestic services only is obtained for houses in Lugwardine and Bartestree from the River Lugg. Shallow wells or springs provide supplies elsewhere. Many of these are not actually on the premises. In the parishes of Aconbury, Little Birch and Much Birch, many houses are particularly badly off for water. A scheme for a joint supply for these parishes, prepared in 1925, was not proceeded with. The question was reopened during 1936, and a Scheme for the Joint Parishes is in course of preparation. The provision of a supply for certain houses, etc., in the parish of Eaton Bishop has been considered, and a scheme with estimate has been prepared. Following a Parish Meeting, the District Council were informed that the Parishioners considered the supply should be provided by the owners of the properties concerned. A scheme has also been prepared for a supply of water to houses at Shucknall Hill in the parish of Weston Beggard, with a possible extension to houses in the parish of Westhide, and is likely to be of great benefit when proceeded with. A Ministry of Health enquiry was held in September into the Council's application to borrow the sum of £1,300, the Council's share of the cost of the scheme. The scheme as prepared originally was not approved by the Ministry of Health, and an amended scheme, whereby the supply to Westhide will be eliminated is expected to be commenced at an early date. The Hereford City supply is laid on to Burghill, including the Mental Hospital, and Holmer, and an extension of the City main from which houses in the parish of Breinton may be served,

has been completed. Under the provisions of the Hereford Corporation Act, 1936, powers are now available whereby the City water supply may be extended into the Rural Areas. The necessary agreements have been entered into by the two Councils, and many occupiers are enjoying the benefits now available.

Of the 92 water samples analysed during 1937, 46 were reported as bad and 46 as good.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

There is no general system of sewers in the area.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

None in the district.

SCAVENGING.

Scavenging is not undertaken by the District Council. Trouble is sometimes experienced through want of thought on the part of a few people who have an idea that Commons and waste ground are provided to assist them in getting rid of refuse of all kinds. This practice is growing of late and steps are being taken to prevent it. The great difficulty however, is to fix the responsibility on the delinquents.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No action necessary.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

As required by Article XVII (18) of the Sanitary Officer's (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Inspections under.	No. of Inspec- tions.	Informal Notices served.	Statutory Notices served.	Notices complied with
Housing Regulations ...	1887	270	...	240
Workshops ...	14	9	...	9
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	685	186	...	182
Fruit and Hop-pickers' Quarters ...	213	110	...	110
Bakehouses ...	5	4	...	4
Slaughter-houses and Meat Regulations ...	175	44	...	44
Schools ...	27	20	...	20
Water Supplies ...	281	29	...	29
Infectious Diseases ...	306	150	...	150
Nuisances ...	164	55	...	55

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notified cases inquired into	...	...	...	56
Patients removed to Hospital	...	...	...	32
Rooms disinfected and cleansed	...	...	...	73

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT

15

Lots of bedding, clothing, etc., disinfected	...	...	70
Cases of illegal exposure	...	...	0
Schools disinfected	...	...	3
Infected houses not ready to disinfect	...	...	0

HOUSES.

Erected	...	...	66
Reconstructed and Enlarged	...	...	13
Cleansed and whitewashed	...	...	0

WATER SUPPLY.

New Wells sunk	...	...	8
Wells cleansed and repaired	...	...	12
Wells closed	...	...	0
Samples for analysis	...	...	92

HOUSE DRAINS.

Laid or relaid	...	...	104
Cleansed, trapped and ventilated	...	...	104
Defective waste-pipes rectified	...	...	9
Sinks, urinals, etc., rectified	...	...	5
Septic tanks and cesspits provided	...	...	82

WATER-CLOSETS.

Additional provided...	...	...	67
Repaired, ventilated, etc.	...	...	0

PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

New pail closets and privies provided	...	...	19
New chemical closets provided	...	...	0
Converted to pail and earth closets	...	...	8
Repaired	...	...	23

SCAVENGING.

Privies and ashpits cleansed and removal of offensive refuse	47
--	-----	-----	----

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

On Register	(Registered	...	...	1
	Licensed	...	...	2
Inspected	...	...	...	3
Cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	3

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

On Register	(Wholesale Producers and Dairyman	...	343
	Retail Purveyors	...	138
Letters written	...	...	422

H. F. LONG, Cert. San. Insp.,
Member Sanitary Inspectors'
Association.

Tel. : 2736,
Lynwood, Tower Road,
Hereford.

16th February, 1938.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

From information furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, the Register of the Workshops situated within the Hereford Rural District has been revised.

Attention has been paid during the year to the lime-washing of Blacksmiths' Shops.

The following is a summary of the register of Workshops :—

PARISH.	Blacksmith.	Builder.	Carpenter.	Dressmaker.	Machinist.	Sawmills.	Wheelwright	TOTAL.
Allensmore ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Breinton ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bullingham ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Burghill ...	1	3	0	0	0	0	1	5
Clehonger ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Credenhill ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Dinedor ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eaton Bishop ...	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Fownhope ...	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
Hampton Bishop...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Haywood ...	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Holme Lacy ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Holmer ...	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
Little Birch ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Dewchurch...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lugwardine ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Marden ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Mordiford ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Much Birch ...	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Much Dewchurch ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Pipe and Lyde ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Preston Wynne ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stoke Edith ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stretton Sugwas ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sutton ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Wellington ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Westhide ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Weston Beggard ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Withington ...	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
TOTAL ...	23	4	1	0	1	1	11	41

Number of Inspections of Workshops	...	...	14
Defects found ...	...	...	0
„ remedied	...	...	0
No. of Outworkers	...	...	1

HOP-PICKERS.

The Bye-laws made in connection with accommodation for persons engaged in the gathering of Hops, Fruit and Vegetables made in 1909 have been rescinded and new Bye-laws made by the Council on the 26th June, 1937 were confirmed by the Minister of Health and came into operation on the 20th August, 1937. Copies of the proposed Bye-laws were sent to the Growers in advance and many of the new requirements were thus met during the 1937 season.

About 2,500 pickers came from outside Herefordshire, chiefly South Wales and Staffordshire, to 20 farms; as few as six to one farm and as many as 700 to another. Barns, stables, cowsheds and other outbuildings are utilised for their accommodation, though on an increasing number of farms there are specially erected buildings. There is a much greater regard for the welfare of the pickers on the part of the employers than was formerly the case. No case of infectious disease was notified during the picking.

At some farms in the district arrangements are made whereby it is possible for the pickers to purchase a portion of their food and other supplies from canteens on the premises. Fresh meat, fish, etc., in most cases are obtained from the carts, vans, etc., of tradesmen who visit the yards periodically. Inspection of the goods offered for sale is made, and nothing of an unsound or unwholesome nature was discovered in the 1937 season.

Visits of inspection of the Farms in the Area were made during the Hop Harvest by an Inspector of the Ministry of Health.

TENTS, VANS, &c.

A copy of the Bye-laws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures adopted in 1912 will be found at the end of the 1912 Report, together with a shortened form set out in more understandable terms than the official phraseology of the actual Bye-laws. In order to get these Bye-laws carried out the procedure adopted is for the Inspector to take a copy of the latter form and read it over to the occupier of a tent, &c. A record is kept of those persons who have had the form. After a suitable period a re-inspection is made, in order to see that the Bye-laws are being carried out. The camping habit during the summer months is increasing considerably, particularly in areas in the Rural District adjoining the City. While the open air life of legitimate campers is to be encouraged, much of the good obtained can be nullified unless care is taken to ensure that the question of a good water supply and efficient and well maintained Sanitary accommodation is provided. The question of issuing licenses authorising the use of land for this purpose in accordance with the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 is receiving consideration.

SCHOOLS (25).

The table on page 19 sets out the sanitary condition, etc., of the Schools in the Hereford Rural District. On page 19 of the 1921 Report will be found some general remarks and recommendations with respect to schools.

In one case the water supply has not been satisfactory and steps taken to render the supply fit having failed, an existing piped supply has now been extended.

The supply at one other school is under observation.

The following schools were closed by the School Medical Officer during 1937 :—

Clehonger	...	11th—22nd Jan., 1937	...	Coughs, Colds & Measles.
Sutton	...	20th Jan.—5th Feb., 1937		Measles.
Wellington	...	20th Jan.—12 Feb., 1937	...	Measles & Influenza.
Stretton Sugwas		28th Jan.—5th Feb., 1937		Influenza.
Withington	...	1st—5th Feb., 1937	...	Influenza.
Lower Bullingham		1st—5th Feb., 1937	...	Influenza.
Lugwardine	...	1st—12th Feb., 1937	...	Influenza, Mumps & Measles.
Holme Lacy	...	9th—12th Feb., 1937	...	Influenza.
Lower Bullingham		11th Feb.—5th Mar., 1937		Measles.
Holme Lacy	...	15th Feb.—5th Mar., 1937		Measles & Influenza.
Little Birch	...	19th—26th Feb., 1937	...	Influenza.
Sutton	...	26th Feb.—19th Mar., 1937		Measles.
Marden	...	18th—25th Mar., 1937	...	Measles.
Lugwardine	...	26th Apr.—14th May, 1937		Measles.
Bullinghope	...	28th Apr.—28th May, 1937		Measles.
Lugwardine	...	26th May—4th June, 1937		Measles.
Stretton Sugwas		6th—15th Oct., 1937	...	Diphtheria
Stretton Sugwas		4th—19th Nov., 1937	...	Diphtheria.
Mordiford	...	18th Nov.—10th Dec., 1937		Mumps and Chicken Pox.
Clehonger	...	14th—23rd Dec., 1937	...	Mumps.
Sutton	...	20th—22nd., Dec., 1937	...	Mumps.
Little Dewchurch		20th—23rd Dec., 1937	...	Mumps.

RAG FLOCK ACT.

There are no premises in the district on which Rag Flock is manufactured, used or sold.

TABLE SHOWING THE SANITARY CONDITION, WATER SUPPLY, ETC., AT EACH OF THE SCHOOLS IN THE
HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

School.	Washing Accommodation.	Water Supply.	Cloak Room.	Accommodation.	Feet from School.	Drainage.
Allensmore	Fixed Basins	Pump in House	In Lobby.	Pails. Earth used	...	To Field Ditch.
Much Birch	Portable Bowls	Piped from Reservoir	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Land.
Little Birch	None	None O.P.	Do.	Do. do.	...	Do.
Bullingham, Lr.	Fixed Basins	Piped Supply & Pump	Do.	Water Closets, Pedestals	...	To Septic Tank.
Bullinghope	None	Pump, Teacher's H'se.	Do.	Pails	...	To Land.
Burghill	Fixed Basins	Pump	Do.	Pails. Earth used	...	To Septic Tank.
Breinton	Portable Stand and Bowl, with Bucket.	Pump in House	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Land Sub- Irrigation.
Callow	None	Pump O.P.	Do.	Privies	30	—
Cleghonger	Fixed Basins	Pump in Yard	Do.	Pails. Earth used	...	To soak away.
Credenhill	Do.	Piped Supply	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Land.
Much Dewchurch	Portable Bowls	Piped Supply & Pump	Do.	Do. do.	...	Do.
Little Dewchurch	Portable Bowl	Pump 70 yards	Do.	Do. do.	...	Do.
Eaton Bishop	Portable Bowls	(Temporary) 100 yds.	Do.	Do. do.	...	Do.
Fownhope	Portable Stand and Bowl	Piped from Spring	Do.	Earth Closets, earth used	...	To Road Drain.
Holme Lacy	Portable Bowls	Piped Supply	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Land.
Kenchester	Portable Bowls	Pump School House	Do.	Trough Closets	...	Do.
Lugwardine	Fixed Basins	Piped Supply	Do.	Pails. Earth used	...	Do.
Marden	Fixed Basins	Pump in Yard	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Cesspit.
Mordiford	Do.	Pump in Yard	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Land.
Pipe and Lyde	Do.	Pump in Yard	Do.	Privies.	8	Do.
Preston Wynne	Portable Bowls	Pump in T'ch's H'se.	Do.	Pails. do.	...	To Field Ditch.
Stretton Sugwas	Portable Bowls	Pump in Yard	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Cesspit
Sutton	Fixed Basins	P'mp O.P. & Pip'd S'ply	Do.	Do. do.	...	Do. Land
Wellington	Do.	Do.	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Road Drain.
Withington	Do.	Pump in House	Do.	Do. do.	...	To Land.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Since 1919, 495 new houses have been built. The number of new houses built in the district since 1901 is as under :

1901 ... 1	1910 ... 9	1921 ... 50	1930 ... 9
1902 ... 4	1911 ... 5	1922 ... 39	1931 ... 19
1903 ... 18	1912 ... 11	1923 ... 13	1932 ... 13
1904 ... 8	1913 ... 9	1924 ... 12	1933 ... 21
1905 ... 8	1914 ... 17	1925 ... 30	1934 ... 56
1906 ... 13	1915 } ... 2	1926 ... 13	1935 ... 64
1907 ... 6	to	1927 ... 10	1936 ... 54
1908 ... 6	1919 } ... 2	1928 ... 10	1937 ... 66
1909 ... 7	1920 ... 2	1929 ... 12	

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT.

The District Council applied to the Minister of Health to be made the authority for the administration within their area of the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926. A scheme for the purpose of assisting owners with the improvement of existing cottages was prepared and approved, and the necessary authority for the District Council to be made the Authority was given.

Up to December, 1937 assistance to the extent of £1,247 has been promised in respect of 13 houses. The total cost of the improvements being £3,257.

Grants of £100 were also promised in respect of 2 other houses but the applications were withdrawn on completion of the works.

See pages 20 and 21 for illustrations of 2 Cottages recently restored under the provisions of the Act in the parish of Clehonger and one at Lugwardine.

NEW HOUSES.

No. of New Houses erected during the year :

(a) Total	66
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i) By the Local Authority	0
(ii) By other bodies or persons	0

(1) Unfit Dwelling Houses.**INSPECTION.**

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	382
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	1359
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925	66
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose	66
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2

TWO COTTAGES RESTORED AT CLEHONGER.



BEFORE.



AFTER.



BEFORE.



AFTER.

HOUSES RESTORED AT LUGWARDINE.



BEFORE.



AFTER.



BEFORE.



AFTER.

- (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 57

(2) **Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers *99

**Of this number, repairs to 72 houses were completed in accordance with notices served in previous years.*

(3) **Action under Statutory Powers during the year.**

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 0
- (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

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 0
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
- (a) By owners 0
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners 0

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 1
- (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 1

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- (1) Number of separate tenements of underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
- (2) Number of Closing Orders as above determined 0

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

General Observations.

The standard of houses throughout the area is, considering the type and method of construction, good. A great portion of the cottages are of the timber frame and brick noggin construction, and, when repairs are carried out in good time, they may be well preserved, but if this type of house is neglected it is often found that the cost of the repairs necessary to make them fit for habitation is prohibitive.

During the past 18 years 495 new houses have been erected, 56 by the District Council and the remainder by private enterprise, a few of the latter with the assistance of State subsidy.

Overcrowding.

The Survey under the Housing Act, 1935 was revised during the year—of the 82 cases of overcrowding then discovered, the overcrowding has been abated in 44 instances.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER. 1926.

Registered premises now number 343. The questions of improved methods of production and handling milk continue to absorb quite a substantial amount of the Inspectors' time.

Milkers were suspended at four farms during the year on account of Infectious Disease.

The Veterinary Officers of the County Council have continued to inspect regularly the animals on the Dairy Farms, with beneficial effects.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The work of the examination of the premises, appliances, and methods at the farms, licensed under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, is entrusted to the Council's Chief Sanitary Inspector, on behalf of the County Council, working in conjunction with the County Veterinary Officer. Sampling at these farms is also undertaken on behalf of the County Council. This action prevents overlapping of services, and multiplicity of officials, whose duty it is to visit the various premises where milk production is carried on. There were in operation at the end of the year 28 Licences for the production of Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES (3).

The Allensmore slaughter-house is of brick and wood with concrete floor draining to dumb well. There is water on the

premises. The Lugwardine slaughter-house is a brick building. The drains discharge on to land behind the building. There is a good supply of water on the premises. The construction of the Mordiford slaughter-house is of iron on wood framing, with concrete floor. Water is on the premises and the drainage discharges on to land some distance away.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
Number Killed ...	21	161	276	385	351
Number Inspected ...	20	157	270	378	344
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	1	2	1	9	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	5	47	2	168	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tub- erculosis ...	30%	31%	1%	47%	8%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	3	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned ...	—	22	—	—	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	16%	—	—	.9%

The above figures includes 18 notices of Casual Slaughter received during the year under the Meat Regulations 1924 ; in respect of 26 animals.

BAKEHOUSES (5).

There are public Bakehouses in the parishes of Credenhill, Fownhope (2), Little Dewchurch, Much Birch. They are all structurally good. Attention has been given to the Bakehouses (Welfare) Order during the year.

The Sale of Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Police Superintendents.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Number of Cases Notified. Case-rate per 1,000 living.

	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Typhoid Fever.	Puer-peral Fever.	Puer-peral Pyrexia.	Erysipelas.
Cases ...	0	17	10	0	0	0	3
Case-rate ...	0	1.29	0.76	0	0	0	0.23

SCARLET FEVER.

The seventeen cases occurred in fifteen houses and in eleven parishes. Three cases in one house. Ten cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital. There was no death.

DIPHTHERIA.

The ten cases occurred in four parishes. Eight cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital, as also were 10 persons who were carriers.

Diphtheria anti-toxin was supplied at the cost of the District Council under the terms of the Diphtheria Anti-toxin (outside London) Order, 1910, to seven doctors to the extent of 126,000 units.

TYPHOID FEVER.

Nil.

GENERAL.

The cases of Scarlet Fever notified were with a few exceptions of a very mild nature. In all cases of Diphtheria, Anti-Toxin is administered by the Medical practitioners attending the patient, whether removal to Hospital follows or not.

The requirements of the Pneumonia, Malaria, and Dysentery Regulations are in most cases strictly observed. No case of either of the latter diseases was notified.

No use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests, and no vaccinations or re-vaccinations have been performed. Influenza was not unduly prevalent.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

A modern Steam Disinfector is installed at the Hereford Public Assistance Institution, and is used by the Hereford Rural District Council.

Household disinfection is carried out with Formalin lamps and Formalin spray. The number of rooms disinfected was 73 and the number of lots of bedding, etc., 70.

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1937.

DISEASE.	Sex	All Ages	CASES NOTIFIED.														Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
			Under 1 year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	55-	65- over.			
Small Pox	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	M.	9	...	...	...	1	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...
	...	F.	8	...	1	...	...	1	3	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	4	...
Diphtheria	...	M.	7	...	...	...	1	1	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	6	...
	...	F.	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Typhoid Fever	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
„ Pyrexia	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	M.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	...	M.	8	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	2	...	...	1	1	1	6
	...	F.	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	5
Measles	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
				CASES.														
				Notified.	Treated.		Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.								
					At home.	In hosp'l												
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	M.	2	2	...	2	2	...	...	...					
	...	F.	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...					

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.**CAUSES OF DEATH, 1937.**

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—
2. Measles	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Influenza	3	1
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—
9. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	6
10. Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	1
11. Syphilis	—	—
12. General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	—	—
13. Cancer, Malignant Disease	9	15
14. Diabetes	1	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	1	7
16. Heart Disease	19	23
17. Aneurysm	1	—
18. Other Circulatory Diseases	2	—
19. Bronchitis	3	2
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	6	5
21. Other Respiratory Diseases	—	2
22. Peptic Ulcer	3	1
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	1	—
24. Appendicitis	1	—
25. Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—
26. Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	1
27. Other Digestive Diseases	1	1
28. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	2
29. Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
30. Other Puerperal Causes	—	—
31. Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Mal- formations, etc.	6	1
32. Senility	8	2
33. Suicide	—	1
34. Other Violence... ..	4	2
35. Other Defined Diseases	8	2
36. Causes ill defined or unknown	—	—
Special causes included in 35 above...	—	—
Small-pox	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—
Total, 159.	83	76

HEREFORD RURAL DISTRICT.**INFANT MORTALITY DURING YEAR 1937.**

Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under
One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.
All causes	Certified	...	3	3	...	2	8	...	2	1	...	11
	Uncertified	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature birth	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	2	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	3
Atelectasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prolonged birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spinal Bifida	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Melæna Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Embolism	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Asthma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	3
Accidents of Childbirth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Drowning	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
No evidence of cause	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toxic Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Haemorrhagia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
			3	3	...	2	8	...	2	1	...	11

Nett births in the year of

{ legitimate ... 169
illegitimate ... 18

Nett deaths in the year of

{ legitimate infants 8
illegitimate infants ... 3

TUBERCULOSIS.

Thirteen cases, nine deaths—eight pulmonary, one other forms. The nine deaths occurred among residents in the parishes of Much Dewchurch, Fownhope, Grafton, Holme Lacy, Holmer, Lugwardine, Preston Wynne, Westhide and Withington.

AGE- PERIODS.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non- Pulmonary.</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
5	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	...
10	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
25	1	2	1	...	...	1	...	1
35	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
45	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
TOTALS ...	2	5	3	3	2	6	...	1

In no case was there wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION
AND ACTUAL NUMBER (in Heavier Type).
YEARLY AVERAGE.

1921- 1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
0.8	0.51	0.51	0.68	0.61	0.84	0.74	0.45	0.23	0.69	0.38	0.53	0.61
11	7	7	9	8	11	10	6	3	9	5	7	8

On the 31st December, 1937, there were on the Register the following cases :—

<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
16	11	7	10

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS)
REGULATIONS, 1925 AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925.
SECTION 62.

No action was necessary under either of these enactments during the year.

