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BOROUGH OF
KIDDERMINSTER



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
FOR THE YEAR
1945

JAMES R. CRAIG, M.B., Ch.B., M.C.
(Medical Officer of Health)

G. A. NORTH, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.
(Chief Sanitary Inspector)



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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(ALDERMAN A. E. MEREDITH).

THE DEPUTY MAYOR
(ALDERMAN MISS E. C. ADDENBROOKE).

COUNCILLOR DR. R. F. LURRING (Chairman).

ALDERMAN E. G. EDDY, O.B.E., J.P. (Vice-Chairman).

Alderman	A. SMITH	Councillor	J. BRISTOW
"	H. W. CHESHIRE, J. P.	"	F. BROADBENT
Councillor	L. E. GARDNER	"	A. T. DANKS
"	W. H. MICKLEWRIGHT	"	A. H. JUDLEY
"	J. H. POWELL	"	B. J. FOSTER
"	J. E. TALBOT	"	B. THOMPSON
"	C. E. PRICE	"	A. C. ROWLEY
"	H. PARKER		

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
JAMES R. CRAIG, M.B., Ch.B., M.C.

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :
J. CRISP GRIFFITHS, M.D. (Lond.).

MEDICAL OFFICER (INFANT WELFARE CENTRES) :
P. DIGBY GRIFFITHS, M.B., B.Chir.

MEDICAL OFFICER—ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS :
R. HILL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

PUBLIC ANALYST :
H. E. MONK, B.Sc., F.I.C.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTOR :
G. A. NORTH, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

SANITARY INSPECTOR :
J. B. HINTON, Cert. : S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

HEALTH VISITOR :
Miss E. E. MELLOR, S.R.N., C.R.San.I.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1945 and 1944

	1945	1944
Area of District in Acres	4694	4694
Population at Census, 1931	28917	28917
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate	34670	35370
No. of Inhabited Houses, estimated	10207	10204
No. of Persons per House	3.39	3.46
Rateable Value	£190349	£190824
Sum Represented by Penny Rate	£752	£758
Number of Marriages	425	327
Number of Live Births	715	730
Nett Birth Rate	20.62	20.63
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live Births)	16.1	17.6
Number of Illegitimate Births	114	71
Number of Deaths	424	418
Nett Death Rate	12.23	11.81
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.40	11.6
No. of Deaths under one year of age	39	32
Of these there were Illegitimate	10	7
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births	54.54	43.83
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	46	46
Total Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	8	3
No. of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	26	19
No. of Deaths from Cancer	71	68
No. of Deaths from Influenza	1	7
No. of Deaths from Measles	Nil	Nil
No. of Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Rainfall in inches	20.45	24.50

Year	Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths increase
1940	504	492	12
1941	577	471	106
1942	670	384	286
1943	681	430	251
1944	730	418	312
1945	715	424	291

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1945

TOWN HALL,
KIDDERMINSTER,

August, 1946.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE,

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Minister of Health has indicated that the Report for 1945 should follow the same lines as previous war-time reports, providing for the continuity of important vital statistics. A certain latitude in reference to various war-time expansions of local services has been allowed.

Certain features of the vital statistics detailed on the previous page are worthy of special note:—

The Death Rate (12.23) is slightly higher than in 1944, but compares favourably with the country as a whole (11.40) — we have always had a death rate slightly above that of England and Wales.

The Birth Rate has been maintained at the high level of 20.62, although that for England and Wales shows a drop from 17.6 in 1944 to 16.1 in 1945. Of the total live and still births in 1945, viz., 738, there were 114 illegitimate, or just over 15 per cent. This is an enormous increase over pre-war figures and presents a problem that no true social reformer can ignore.

The Infant Mortality Rate has risen from 43.8 in 1944 to 54.5 in 1945 and for the first time for many years is above the average for England and Wales, which was 46 in both these years. Of the 105 live illegitimate births ten died under the age of one. That is, the death rate was nearly double that of legitimate children. This has not been the rule for some years.

During 1945 there were no deaths from measles, whooping cough, or scarlet fever. There was one diphtheria death, an un-inoculated child of just over one year.

INFANT DEATHS. Of the thirty-nine deaths under one year, nine were due to prematurity. Nine were the result of acute gastro-enteritis. Six of the deaths were the subject of inquest by the Coroner, a most unusual number. Ten resulted from broncho-pneumonia.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1945

Total Births (Live and Still)	...	...	...	...	738
Birth Rate	...	...	...	...	21.28
Birth Rate (England and Wales) (Live and Still)	...	...	...	...	16.56
Total Live Births	...	...	...	...	715
Birth Rate (Live)	...	...	...	...	20.62
Birth Rate (England and Wales) (Live)	...	...	...	...	16.1

LIVE BIRTHS :

		Male	Female	
Legitimate	606	315	291	
Illegitimate	109	55	54	
STILL BIRTHS :		Total	...	...
Legitimate	18	10	8	23
Illegitimate	5	3	2	

Deaths	424	Death Rate	...	12.23
Death Rate (England and Wales) 1945	...	...	...	11.40
Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions	...	...	...	39.51
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	...	...	from sepsis	Nil
	...	...	from other causes	2
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births)	...	...	...	2.65
Maternal Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	...	1.79
Deaths of Infants under one year of age:—				
Legitimate	29	Illegitimate	10	Total ... 39
Deaths of Infants under one year, per 1,000 births	...	...	...	54.54
" " " " (England & Wales, 1945)	...	...	...	46.00
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	47.85
Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	91.74
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	71
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	8

The ages at which deaths have taken place during 1945 are as follows:—

Under 1 year	...	...	...	...	39
Between 1 and 2 years	...	...	...	...	5
Between 2 and 5 years	...	...	...	...	2
Between 5 and 15 years	...	...	...	...	1
Between 15 and 25 years	...	...	...	...	4
Between 25 and 45 years	...	...	...	...	32
Between 45 and 65 years	...	...	...	...	114
65 years and upwards	...	...	...	...	227
					424

The following table shows the ages at which the deaths of Infants under 1 year of age occurred :

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
13	3	16	7	9	2	5	39

The causes of infant deaths were as follows :

Prematurity	...	...	9	Intestinal Obstruction	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	10	Icterus Gravis Neonatorum	...	1
Asphyxia	...	...	1	Gastro Enteritis	...	9
Spina Bifida	...	...	1	Marasmus	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	2	Convulsions	...	1
Status Epilepticus	...	...	1	Shock following Burns	...	1
				Multiple Pyaemic Abscesses	...	1

Cause of Death	Male	Female
1.—Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—
2.—Cerebro-spinal fever ...	—	—
3.—Scarlet fever ...	—	—
4.—Whooping Cough ...	—	—
5.—Diphtheria ...	—	1
6.—Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	15	7
7.—Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	2
8.—Syphilitic Diseases ...	1	1
9.—Influenza ...	—	1
10.—Measles ...	—	—
11.—Acute polio-myelitis ...	—	—
12.—Acute Inf. encephalitis ...	1	—
13.—Cancer of b. cav. and oesoph (M) ...	—	—
uterus (F) ...	6	1
14.—Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	4	7
15.—Cancer of breast ...	—	6
16.—Cancer of all other sites ...	21	25
17.—Diabetes ...	—	2
18.—Intra-cran. vasc. lesions ...	25	31
19.—Heart Disease ...	35	47
20.—Other diseases of Circulatory system ...	7	7
21.—Bronchitis ...	18	12
22.—Pneumonia ...	11	5
23.—Other Respiratory diseases ...	—	3
24.—Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	1	3
25.—Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	5	3
26.—Appendicitis ...	1	2
27.—Other digestive diseases ...	8	5
28.—Nephritis ...	6	11
29.—Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis ...	—	—
30.—Other maternal causes ...	—	2
31.—Premature birth ...	6	2
32.—Congenital malformations, birth injuries ...	—	—
infant diseases ...	5	5
33.—Suicide ...	2	—
34.—Road traffic accidents ...	4	1
35.—Other violent causes ...	6	10
36.—All other causes ...	12	20
	202	222

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

(I). The Public Health Officers of the Authority are listed on the first page of this Report for convenient reference.

(II). (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The usual arrangements with the County Public Analyst still exist.

Extended laboratory facilities have been instituted at the Kidderminster and District General Hospital, Bacteriological Department having been opened to which any practitioner may refer cases or specimens. This has proved a valuable help in diagnosis and treatment of disease.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases two motor ambulances are maintained by the Council, staffed by the Borough Police. The highest efficiency is maintained.

(c) Nursing in the Home. No changes have been made in arrangements during 1945.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Name	Situation and Time of Session	Average Attendances	Provided by
Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	(1) Prospect Lane Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	47	190 per session Local Authority
	(2) St. John's Inst. Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	47	
	(3) St. Oswald's Monday, 2—4 p.m.	49	
	(4) Sutton Park Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	47	
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital Thursday, 2—4 p.m. and at 5.15 p.m.	20 per week	County Council
Venereal	Kidderminster General Hospital Males Mon. 2.15 p.m. Females Thur. 5 p.m.	21 per week	County Council
Ante-Natal	Prospect Lane on 1st and 3rd Monday, 2—4 p.m.	4 per session	Local Authority
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital Weekly at 11 a.m. Wednesday.		Local Authority

(e) Hospitals

(1) NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL—For reception of infectious diseases, chiefly diphtheria and scarlet fever; typhoid fever cases also admitted.

(2) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTION

No. of beds (including Children's Beds) ... 225

Maternity Beds 4

The Maternity Block of four beds was kept fully occupied in 1945, total number of cases being 104.

(3) KIDDERMINSTER AND DISTRICT GENERAL HOSPITAL—(Voluntary Hospital—Normal accommodation 145 beds). There is an X-Ray Department, Massage and Sunlight Treatment and Clinics for Dentistry, Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology, Gynaecology, Ear, Throat and Nose, Venereal Diseases and a Fracture Clinic. A Clinic for Diseases of the Skin has been added, and the activities of the Rehabilitation Centre extended.

GREENHILL HOSTEL—Although not owned by your Council, this institution performed an excellent service for the town in 1945, providing maternity accommodation for 156 mothers. The services given by the Staff were highly appreciated.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.—The sources of water as detailed in the Report for 1933 are still in use and constitute the main supply, with an additional supply from the Birmingham Elan Aqueduct, the minimum agreed supply to be 8,000,000 galls. per annum. To connect up the latter three miles of 9 in. main were laid to our service reservoir, with four direct connections along its route into the town distribution.

The water supply to the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year. Regular bacteriological examination of the raw water is made fortnightly (weekly in the hot months). Chlorination is permanently carried out, and its efficacy checked by bacteriological examination of tap samples from various points in the town. The results of examination has always shown the water to be fit for use.

As the local well-water supply is hard (average total hardness about 21) and the subsidiary Elan supply is specially treated at its source, the question of plumbo-solvency does not arise.

TABLE OF ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES DURING 1945

Samples taken from Borough Main Wells	...	136
Samples taken from Taps at various premises	...	55
Samples taken from Reservoir	... ..	5

196

HOUSING, 1945

No. of Houses built by Private Enterprise	...	3
" " " " " Local Authority	...	Nil

Extensive road making and sewer laying operations in connection with Birchen Coppice Estate were got well under way in 1945, and the foundation stone of the first house was laid in October, 1945.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1945

The year was remarkably free from the usual epidemics of Whooping Cough and Measles. Only 10 cases of Measles and 16 cases of Whooping Cough were notified, with no deaths.

Scarlet Fever

No. of Cases Notified	...	...	45
No. of Cases Isolated in Hospital	...	...	25
Case rate per 1,000 living (Borough)	...	...	1.29
" " " " (England & Wales)	...	...	1.89
No. of deaths from Scarlet Fever	...	...	Nil

Diphtheria

No. of Cases Notified	...	...	13
No. of Cases Isolated in Hospital	...	...	12
Case rate per 1,000 living (Borough)	...	...	.37
" " " " (England & Wales)	...	...	.46
No. of Deaths from Diphtheria	...	...	1
The age period of the cases : 3 under 5; 3 between 5 and 15; and 7 over 15 years.			

INOCULATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The Table showing the incidence and mortality from Diphtheria is worthy of study. Locally, inoculation was first carried out on a large scale in 1937. The death in 1945 is the first for seven years. In the six years before the war there were 27 deaths. It is not claimed that inoculation will absolutely prevent diphtheria, but if it does occur the disease is much milder, and the likelihood of a fatal issue remote.

Diphtheria appears from time to time in epidemics of varying virulence. A serious type has been prevalent in other parts of the country, especially in the North and has also raged in Germany and on the Continent generally. It would be foolish to allow the public to be lulled by the excellent figures given below. The danger may recur at any time, so that inoculation should be pursued with increasing intensity.

The inoculation figures for 1945 were : Under 5 years of age : 383. Over 5 years : 132.—Total 515.

TABLE SHOWING INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY OF DIPHTHERIA

Year	Total Cases	Deaths	Mortality rate	Immunised Cases	Children Deaths
1935	74	13	17.5	.....	.....
1936	56	5	8.9	1	.....
1937	35	1	2.8	.....	.....
1938	41	3	6.3	.....	.....
1939	6	.....	.....	.....	.....
1940	7	.....	.....	*2	.....
1941	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
1942	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
1943	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
1944	8	.....	.....	.....	.....
1945	13	1	.....	.....	.....
	266	23	.....	3	.....

* Two "carriers," at the Public Assistance Hospital evacuated from Birmingham after a blitz.

ENTERIC FEVER

Two cases of para-typhoid and one of typhoid were notified in 1945. One case contracted the disease at a seaside town. The other two were infected at a wedding feast in a nearby town. From the same source two non-Borough cases arose. It was not found possible to discover the offending article of food owing to the lapse of time. The person who prepared most of the food was traced, examined, but proved negative.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1945

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	13	12	1
Scarlet Fever	45	25	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	3	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	1	—
Pneumonia	112	—	—
Anthrax	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
Acute Polio-myelitis	3	3	—
Malaria	1	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	—	—
Measles	407	—	—

**Analysis of Total Notified Infectious Cases (other than
Tuberculosis) during the Year 1945**

DISEASES

Age Groups	Malaria	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever Inc. Paratyphoid	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Erysipelas	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Polio-Myelitis	Anthrax	Meningitis
Under 1 year				1				2					
1-2 years				1									
2-3 years			5	1									
3-4 years			3				2						
4-5 years			6				1				1		
5-10 years			20	2			2						1
10-15 years			4	1							2		
15-25 years	1			3	2	2							
25-35 years			2	4	1	1	2						
35-45 years			5			5							
45-65 years							5		2				
65 and over													
Total Cases	1		45	13	3	8	12	2	2		3		1

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Two cases were notified during 1945. There was complete recovery in both cases.

TUBERCULOSIS

Though there has been some increase in the number of new notifications over the previous year and a rise in the number of deaths from Tuberculosis, the position as a whole is not unsatisfactory. It is certainly not so bad as one would have expected after the long tiring hours of war-work, plus the effect of rationing and severe shortage of butter and fats. There is not the same increased incidence amongst young adult workers which followed the first World War. With new housing developments and a gradual return to a more generous diet, the future should show a further decline in the incidence of the disease. The County Tuberculosis Officer informs me that Kidderminster statistics follow much the same line as the rest of the county.

The following table shows the number of notified cases and deaths during the last five years:—

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Death-Rate (all forms) per 1,000 living.
	New Cases	Deaths	New Cases	Deaths	
1941	31	14	5	6	.55
1942	29	19	3	5	.66
1943	27	21	5	4	.70
1944	24	14	4	5	.53
1945	28	22	4	4	.75

New Cases and Mortality during 1945

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
5 to 10 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
10 to 15 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 years ...	2	4	1	—	—	2	—	—
20 to 25 years ...	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
25 to 35 years ...	4	3	—	—	3	2	1	—
35 to 45 years ...	3	2	—	—	3	2	—	—
45 to 55 years ...	3	1	—	—	5	1	—	1
55 to 65 years ...	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	15	13	2	2	15	7	2	2

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

Prior to the war, your Committee had under discussion the provision of a Disinfestation Centre. The outbreak of hostilities rendered any action impossible. The work is still carried out at the Kidderminster Public Assistance Institution, your Committee paying a retaining fee to a retired Officer of that Institution for supervising the work.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Sanitary Inspectors and office staff for their loyal co-operation and hard work during the year, when increased work and staff changes and deficiencies have often made the routine work onerous and irritating.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES R. CRAIG.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1945

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Fifteenth Annual Report on the work accomplished by my Department for the year ended 31st December, 1945.

The normal activities and early publication of the report have been upset because of the war and the report is chiefly confined to essential matters and statistics for record purposes.

Meat and Food Inspection

The duties of Meat Inspection at the Regional Slaughterhouse, Lion Square, have again been pursued during the year to the utmost.

Set out in the following order is a synopsis of the work for the year 1945 :

No. OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED

	Cattle (exclud'g Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2202	1044	1037	8613	489
Number Inspected	2202	1044	1037	8007	489

No. OF WHOLE CARCASES (WITH ORGANS) CONDEMNED

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
107	6	48	19

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFALS CONDEMNED DURING 1945

CATTLE

Physiological Poorness	...	...	...	1953 lbs. — 17 cwts., 49 lbs.
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	40517 lbs. — 18 tons, 1 cwt., 85 lbs.
Cirrhosis and Distomatosis	...	...	...	6635 lbs. — 2 tons, 19 cwts., 27 lbs.
Parasitic Cysts	...	...	...	2351 lbs. — 1 ton, 111 lbs.
Abscesses (Pyogenic)	...	...	...	2413 lbs. — 1 ton, 1 cwt., 61 lbs.
Angiomatosis	...	...	...	1024 lbs. — 9 cwts., 16 lbs.
Actinomycosis	...	...	...	354 lbs. — 3 cwts., 18 lbs.
Septic Metritis and Peritonitis	...	...	...	777 lbs. — 6 cwts., 105 lbs.
Pleurisy	...	...	...	424 lbs. — 3 cwts., 88 lbs.
John's Disease, Emaciation and Dropsy	...	...	...	17972 lbs. — 8 tons, 52 lbs.
Injury, Bruising and Haemorrhage	...	...	...	1010 lbs. — 9 cwts., 2 lbs.
Pericarditis — Septic	...	...	...	152 lbs. — 1 cwt., 40 lbs.
Inflammation	...	...	...	80 lbs.
Melanosis	...	...	...	23 lbs.
Mastitis	...	...	...	819 lbs. — 7 cwts., 35 lbs.
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	29 lbs.
Parturition	...	...	...	360 lbs. — 3 cwts., 24 lbs.
Moribund — Decomposing	...	...	...	1816 lbs. — 16 cwts., 24 lbs.

Total Weight Condemned — 78,709 lbs.

— 35 tons, 2 cwts., 85 lbs.

SHEEP

Distomatosis	...	...	...	674 lbs. — 6 cwts., 2 lbs.
Strongylosis	...	...	...	394 lbs. — 3 cwts., 58 lbs.
Abscesses	...	...	...	43 lbs.
Dropsical and Emaciated	...	...	...	1024 lbs. — 9 cwts., 16 lbs.
Parasitic Cysts	...	...	...	360 lbs. — 3 cwts., 24 lbs.
Injuries, etc.	...	...	...	118 lbs. — 1 cwt., 6 lbs.
Physiological Poorness	...	...	...	415 lbs. — 3 cwts., 79 lbs.
Septic Pleurisy	...	...	...	109 lbs.
Moribund—inefficiently bled	...	...	...	431 lbs. — 3 cwts., 95 lbs.
Decomposing	...	...	...	194 lbs. — 1 cwt., 82 lbs.
Died in Lairage	...	...	...	143 lbs. — 1 cwt., 31 lbs.
Jaundice	...	...	...	60 lbs.

Total Weight Condemned — 3,965 lbs.

— 1 ton, 15 cwts., 45 lbs.

PIGS

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	274 lbs. — 2 cwts., 50 lbs.
Haemorrhage and injury	...	...	...	124 lbs. — 1 cwt., 12 lbs.
Dropsical	...	...	...	462 lbs. — 4 cwts., 14 lbs.
Swine Erysipelas	...	...	...	199 lbs. — 1 cwt., 87 lbs.
Peritonitis	...	...	...	308 lbs. — 2 cwts., 84 lbs.
Pleurisy	...	...	...	98 lbs.
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	23 lbs.
Swine Fever	...	...	...	1265 lbs. — 11 cwts., 33 lbs.
Pneumonia	...	...	...	121 lbs. — 1 cwt., 9 lbs.
Parasitic Cysts	...	...	...	20 lbs.

Total Weight Condemned — 2,894 lbs.

— 1 ton, 5 cwts., 94 lbs.

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

12 lbs. Sausage.	2603 tins of Various Foodstuffs
118 lbs. Bacon.	88 Eggs.
952 lbs. Fish.	70 lbs. Dates.
2580 Pikelets.	14 lbs. Soup Powder.
68 lbs of Cheese.	22 lbs. Biscuits.
24 lbs. of Sugar.	1½ cases of Oranges.
15 Jars Pickles.	154 lbs. Seville Oranges.
28 lbs. Margarine.	479 lbs. Dried Fruit.
189 lbs. Butter.	3 lbs. Coffee.
28 pkts. Dried Egg.	19 lbs. Brawn.
12 Bottles Sauce.	469 lbs. Pudding and Cake Powder
25 pkts. Rolled Oats.	(Flavoured).
1 ton. 1 cwt. Potatoes.	

SUMMARY

*Grand Total Weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned :

40 tons, 8 cwts., 45 lbs.

" " " (Meat) Condemned : 38 tons, 4 cwts.

" " " (Tuberculosis) 18 tons, 4 cwts., 23 lbs.

*Excluding Miscellaneous Condemnations.

SUMMARY OF MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (5 YEARS)

1941 — 1942 — 1943 — 1944 — 1945

In January, 1940, the use of private Slaughterhouses (of which we had 17 in the Borough) was discontinued and a Government Scheme for the Slaughtering and distribution of Meat came into operation. The Slaughterhouse and Allocation Depot is situated at Lion Square. Under the Scheme the centralised premises in this Borough serve the following districts: Kidderminster Borough, Bewdley Borough, Stourport U.D., Kidderminster R.D., and Tenbury R.D.

Year	NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED				AMOUNT OF MEAT CONDEMNED					
	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs	Calves	Weight of Meat and Offal Rejected			Weight Amount Affected with Tuberculosis		
					T	C	Q	T	C	Q
1941	3,372	15,940	1,347	666	21	19	1	11	18	2
1942	2,386	16,020	307	699	26	6	0	14	13	2
1943	2,592	13,829	166	1,122	29	1	0	14	3	2
1944	2,886	12,690	145	966	27	8	1	12	16	1
1945	3,246	8,613	489	1,037	38	4	0	18	4	1

REMARKS :

No food is rejected unless there is definite evidence that it is unfit for HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

No food is destroyed but is disposed of to the Waste Product Merchants (contractors to the Ministry of Food) for Animal Foods or Industrial purposes.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

and

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD)

REGULATIONS 1925 to 1939

Total Number of Samples taken during the year 1945 ... 100

Milk ... 99

Margarine ... 1

12 samples of milk were reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst. All were informal samples and showed a deficiency of Fat in varying quantities. In each case a "repeat" sample was taken.

ICE CREAM

Set out below are the results of samples of Ice Cream taken during the year, viz. :

Sample No.	Bacteria Count per m.l.	B. COLI
218	6,800	Present in 1 m.l. Absent in 1/10 th., 1/100 th., and 1/1000 th. m.l.
219	2,700,000	Present 1/1000 th., m.l.
220	90,000	Present 1/1000 th., m.l.
221	3,200,000	Present 1/1000 th., m.l.
235	2,000	Absent.

Samples Nos. 219, 220, 221 were examined for organisms of the Dysentery group with negative results. Sample No. 235. Dysentery, Typhoid and Salmonella groups of bacilli absent.

In view of the recent publicity given to Ice Cream in the national press, it is interesting to record in this report an Extract from my Report for the year 1932.

"Further legislation is urgently needed enabling all Sanitary Authorities to deal effectively with conditions under which Ice Cream is prepared, stored and sold; in addition, all premises should be registered. A legal standard, both chemical and bacteriological, should be fixed, and also a definition of the term 'Ice Cream'.

I would suggest as a chemical standard that ice cream should contain not less than 10 per cent. butter fat, and not less than 20 per cent. total milk solids. The bacteriological standard should be fixed at not more than 50,000 bacteria per millilitre with no coliform bacillus in one tenth of a millilitre."

MILK (Special Designations) ORDER, 1936.
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

TABLE 1

Sample	No. Taken	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test	
		No. satisfied Test	No. did not satisfy Test	No. satisfied Test	No. did not satisfy Test
Designated Milks :					
T.T. (Cert)	5	5	.....	5	.....
T.T.	9	6	3	6	3
Accredited	5	4	1	4	1
TOTALS	19	15	4	15	4

TABLE 2

Samples	No. Taken	Bacteriological Count Per M.L.				Coliform Organisms Present in				Coli absent	No. did not satisfy Phospha-tase Test
		Under 30,000	Under 200,000	Under 500,000	Over 500,000	1 m l	10th m l.	100th m l.	11,000th m l.		
Designated Milks :											
Pasteurised	27	27				1				26	
T.T. Pasteurised	3	2	1				1			2	
Non-Designated Milks :											
Sterilized	14	14								14	
Loose Milk	16	6	7	2	1	5	1	3	5	2	
Heat Treated	18	10	2	6		1			8	9	
TOTALS	78	59	10	8	1	7	2	3	13	53	9

Common Lodging Houses

The eight registered houses in the Borough are the objects of frequent attention and are visited regularly. These houses have accommodation for 164 lodgers.

Bakehouses

The inspection of bakehouses has again been carried out throughout the year and resulted in the bakehouses being maintained at the same high hygienic standard as previous years.

The following occasional matters required attention :

Lime-washing of bakehouses	...	...	...	...	5
Dirty troughs and floors	...	...	...	...	4

Offensive Trades

The appended list of establishments gives those trades which are scheduled in this area as offensive trades :

Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	23
Gut Scraper	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tripe Boiler	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hide and Skin Trades	...	...	...	...	...	1

Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915

Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926

Under the above enactments we have registered the following :

Retail Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	42
Wholesale Traders of Milk	...	...	...	...	20
Residents, Purveyors of Milk	...	...	...	...	28
Residents, Cow-keepers	...	...	...	...	7

(The above figures are exclusive of small shops selling sealed bottled milk only).

We have seven cow-keepers in the Borough who use thirteen cowsheds for the housing of approximately 90 cows. Frequent visits are made to the premises.

Disinfestation of Premises, Clothing, Etc.

The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority, mainly combating the more common house pests, viz : bed-bugs, fleas, cockroaches, etc.

The method chiefly used is by spraying with insecticide (containing D.D.T.) and wherever possible, such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves, and wall papers are removed, all defective plaster being made good afterwards.

Such articles as blankets, mattresses, pillows or clothing have been subjected to steam disinfection.

Many persons apply to the Department for advice on control and eradication of vermin, and incidental to this it has been the practice to supplement advice by supplying quantities of insecticide, (gratis) and sprays (on loan) to many of such persons with gratifying results in a good number of cases.

1.—INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 179 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 179 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | Nil |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in such a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | Nil |
| (4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the sub-head above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | Nil |

2.—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 143

3.—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 10 |
| (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice:— | |
| (a) By owners | 9 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

Summary of Notices Served

Preliminary notices served (for housing defects)	98
Intimation letters sent (re sanitary defects)	16
Abatement notices served (for housing defects)	9
Reminder Notices served (for housing defects)	2

Infectious Diseases

Notices to School Medical Officer	22
Notices to Head Teachers	32
Notices to Parents	31
Certificates granted for children to attend school	27

PUBLIC CLEANSING (Salvage and Refuse Collection and Disposal)

*The cost of collection and disposal of salvage and refuse for the year 1945 was	£	s.	d.
13890	0	0	
*The income was	7100	0	0
The net cost being	6790	0	0

*Financial Year ended 31st March, 1946.

SALVAGE

The total weight of all Salvaged Materials collected and disposed of during the Twelve Months amounted to 1,528 TONS of PAPER, METALS, RAGS, BONES, KITCHEN WASTE, etc., etc., the INCOME from the Materials disposed of being £5,892.

These figures reflect great credit to the valuable work and enthusiasm of the Salvage Committee and the co-operation of the householders.

KITCHEN WASTE

Collected and disposed of for sterilised Pig and Poultry Food : Weight : 400 tons, 7 cwt., 3 qrs.

LOADS OF SALVAGE

Collected and taken to Main Salvage Depots, 2,658.

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1945

Month	Weight of Salvage			Income from Sale		
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs	£	s	d.
January	87	18	0	356	2	0
February	128	2	0	436	11	0
March	137	3	0	515	3	0
April	158	5	0	492	14	0
May	151	16	0	461	18	0
June	149	4	2	447	1	0
July	149	9	0	602	6	0
August	98	4	0	389	1	0
September	121	18	0	484	10	0
October	126	7	3	520	10	11
November	126	8	2	658	1	4
December	93	17	3	528	14	6
Totals	1528	13	2	5892	12	9

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below :

Material	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	418	10	1	2918	12	5
Baled Tins	260	8	0	449	12	4
Metals	42	6	2	94	18	2
Textiles	45	10	2	603	16	9
Household Bones	14	9	1	93	2	5
Kitchen Waste	400	7	3	1030	11	5
Cullet (Broken Glass)	162	3	2	330	13	6
Non-Ferrous Metals and Rubber	7	7	1	55	7	2
Bottles and Jars	21	15	2	136	19	1
Miscellaneous	155	15	0	178	19	6
Totals ...	1528	13	2	5892	12	9

RECORD OF SALVAGE DURING THE SIX YEARS—1940 TO 1945

Material	Tons
Waste Paper	3498
Heavy and Light Iron and Steel Turnings ...	964
Baled Crushed Tins	2376
Bones	187
Cullet (Broken Glass)	891
Rags and Sacking	311
Non-Ferrous Metals and Rubber	115
Kitchen Waste—Commenced November 1940	1650
Bottles and Jars (In Number, 315,000) ...	76
Total Weight of Salvage ...	10068

VALUE OF SALVAGE £39,094.

COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE

Total No. of loads of Refuse, Night Soil, etc. removed (all vehicles) ... 6065
 Dry Ashpits emptied 9

Night Work

Closet Pans emptied 3350
 Privies and Middens emptied 3
 Cesspools emptied 1
 Loads of Night Soil removed 48

Disposal of Household Ashes

Tipped at Broadwaters 1160
 Tipped at Puxton 2966
 Tipped at Hoobrook 1882

Total 6008

Canal Boat Inspection

During the year frequent visits have been made to the Canal and Wharves, and inspections made in accordance with the Public Health Act, 1936 (Part X) Canal Boats, and the Canal Boat Regulations, 1878.

From observations made, numerous canal boats which ply on the Canal are used for sleeping purposes by the two men in charge of each boat, for two or three nights each week.

The boats are not registered as dwellings in accordance with Section 250 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Canal Boat Regulations of 1878. (No new regulations have yet been issued as empowered by Section 251 of the Public Health Act, 1936).

The position would be clarified if a legal definition of a dwelling was in evidence and I trust that the expression dwelling will be defined in the new regulations.

The following figures are a synopsis of the year's work:—

Total boats on register in the Borough	...	...	4
Number of boats believed to be in use or available	...	...	4
Number of inspections	...	...	2

RAINFALL

YEARS 1944 AND 1945				RAINFALL FOR PAST TEN YEARS			
Monthly		Inches		Years.		Inches.	
		1945	1944				
January ...	...	1.77	2.16	1936 ...	...	31.95	
February ...	...	1.13	1.39	1937 ...	...	34.41	
March ...	...	1.89	.43	1938 ...	...	25.71	
April ...	...	1.10	1.51	1939 ...	...	28.95	
May ...	...	1.16	.56	1940 ...	...	28.19	
June ...	...	2.16	1.18	1941 ...	...	26.44	
July ...	...	1.42	2.03	1942 ...	...	22.01	
August ...	...	1.82	3.63	1943 ...	...	23.43	
September ...	...	1.96	2.17	1944 ...	...	24.50	
October ...	...	3.11	3.13	1945 ...	...	20.45	
November ...	...	.01	4.38				
December ...	...	2.92	1.93				
Total ...	...	20.45	24.50	Average ...	...	26.60	

MORTUARY

During the year 26 bodies were received into the Public Mortuary.

CONCLUSION

The year has been an extremely busy one, and the good progress of the Department has been well maintained.

I wish to express my indebtedness to Mr. J. B. Hinton and the staff for their continued co-operation and loyal service.

MEMBERS OF THE STAFF WHO HAVE JOINED H.M. FORCES

N. J. Williams	-	-	-	Royal Air Force.
R. A. Rogers	-	-	-	Royal Air Force.
R. A. Fitzjohn	-	-	-	Royal Army Medical Corps.
T. A. Hunter	-	-	-	Royal Army Medical Corps.
R. P. S. Cooke	-	-	-	R.E.M.E.
J. Allen	-	-	-	Bevin Boy.

I am, Mr. Chairman Ladies and Gentlemen

Yours obediently,

G. A. NORTH,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TO THE CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND
MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.



