

[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Kidderminster Borough.

Contributors

Kidderminster (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1949

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/a5eh29rd>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBRARY



**BOROUGH OF
KIDDERMINSTER**

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1949

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

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





**BOROUGH OF
KIDDERMINSTER**

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1949

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

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

INDEX

	<i>Page</i>
Ambulance Facilities	9
Bakehouses and Food Premises	24
Canal Boat Inspection	28
Clinics and Treatment Centres	9
Committee, Members of Public Health	3
Common Lodging Houses	24
Conclusion (Chief Sanitary Inspector)	30
Deaths, Number of, Sex, Disease	8
Defects, Remedy of	25
Disinfection	16
Disinfestation of Premises, Clothing, etc.	16, 24
Domestic and Trade Refuse, Collection of	27
Dwelling Houses, Inspection of	25
Factories Act	11
Food (Medical Officer of Health)	16
Food and Drugs Act, 1938.	
Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food)	
Regulations, 1925 to 1939	22
Food Samples taken and Action	22
Hospitals	10
Housing	12, 17
Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947	23
Infant Mortality	7, 10
Infectious Diseases, Prevalence of and control over	13, 14, 15
Kitchen Waste	26
Laboratory Service	9
Maternity and Child Welfare	10, 16
Meat and Edible Offals Condemned	19
Meat and Food Inspection	18
Meat and Food Inspection, Summary of	19, 20, 21
Milk, Bacteriological Examination	23
Milk Licences Issued	23
Mortuary	30
Nursing in the home	9
Offensive Trades	24
Officers, Public Health	3
Other Foods Condemned	19
Public Cleansing	26
Rainfall	28
Report of Chief Sanitary Inspector	18
Report of Medical Officer of Health	5
Rodent Control	29
Salvage	26, 27
Statistic. Summary of, for 1949 and 1948	4
Statutory Powers, Action under	26
Summary and Conclusion	17
Tuberculosis	15, 16
Vital Statistics of the year 1949	6, 7
Water	12

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman - - - COUNCILLOR DR. R. F. LURRING

Vice-Chairman - - - COUNCILLOR D. KITELEY

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR
(Alderman J. Ferguson, M.M., J.P.)

THE DEPUTY MAYOR
(Alderman A. Smith, J.P.)

Alderman	E. C. ADDENBROOKE.	Councillor	M. K. JENNS.
„	D. SAMUEL.	„	H. G. PARKER.
Councillor	E. T. C. BRINTON.	„	H. B. PRESTON
„	F. BROADBENT.	„	A. C. ROWLEY.
„	S. K. CATTELL.	„	J. TALBOT.
„	R. E. COYLE.	„	G. WASE.
„	A. H. DUDLEY.		

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.

PUBLIC ANALYST :
M. M. LOVE, F.R.I.C.

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

SANITARY INSPECTORS :

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

H. H. COUTTS, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
(Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector).

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1949 and 1948

	1949	1948
Area of district in Acres	4694	4694
Population at Census, 1931	28917	28917
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate	37280	36790
No. of Inhabited Houses, estimated	10700	10500
No. of Persons per House	3.48	3.50
Rateable Value	£195347	£193196
Sum Represented by Penny Rate	£756	£752
Number of Marriages	569	469
Number of Live Births	702	730
Nett Birth Rate	18.82	19.83
Birth Rate for England and Wales (Live Births)	16.7	17.9
Number of Illegitimate Births	53	45
Number of Deaths	471	383
Nett Death Rate	12.63	10.41
Death Rate for England and Wales	11.7	10.8
No. of Deaths under one year of age	23	20
Of these there were Illegitimate	3	1
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births	32.76	27.3
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales	32.00	34.00
Total Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	Nil	Nil
No. of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	15	18
No. of Deaths from Cancer	82	66
No. of Deaths from Influenza	9	Nil
No. of Deaths from Measles	1	Nil
No. of Deaths from Whooping Cough	5	Nil
Rainfall in inches	19.46	27.62

Year	Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths increase
1942	670	384	286
1943	681	430	251
1944	730	418	312
1945	715	424	291
1946	749	396	353
1947	800	453	347
1948	730	383	347
1949	702	471	231

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1949.

TOWN HALL,
KIDDERMINSTER,

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH COMMITTEE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In this report there are a few points of outstanding importance, not so much on account of the actual figures shown for the year 1949, but because they show the pattern of future events.

In the 702 live births for the year, there were the fewest births since 1943.

On the other hand the figure of 471 shows more deaths than the Borough has had for many years. The ratio of births to deaths shows 231 more births than deaths. This is the lowest figure for some years and is likely to decrease in the future.

The overall increase in the town's inhabitants is about 500.

There have been 166 new houses built so that house building has just about kept pace with the increase in population.

The increase in the number of deaths has occurred mainly in the older part of the population and accordingly more deaths are shown due to causes which occur in advancing years, *e.g.* 33 more deaths from "Heart Disease," 16 more deaths from "Cancer" and 14 more deaths from "Strokes, etc.," occurred than in 1948.

With regard to the other Public Health features, Kidderminster shares the excellent position now held by England and Wales as a whole, *e.g.* Maternal Mortality virtually nil; Infant Mortality rate 32.76; Tuberculosis Death rate 0.39 per 1000 living population.

Of the notifiable diseases, Tuberculosis caused 15 deaths; Pneumonia caused 8; Whooping Cough caused 5; and Measles 1 death.

These figures are low for a population of over 37,000 inhabitants.

The ages at which deaths have taken place during 1949 are as follows :—

Under 1 year	23
Between 1 and 2 years	Nil
Between 2 and 5 years	2
Between 5 and 15 years	4
Between 15 and 25 years	6
Between 25 and 45 years	16
Between 45 and 65 years	102
65 years and upwards	318
	471

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
9	Nil	Nil	2	11	6	4	2	Nil	23

The cause of Infant Deaths were as follows :—

Asphyxia	1	Infective Meningitis	1
Cardiac Failure	2	Marasmus	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	Other Causes	2
Congenital Atelectasis	2	Peritonitis	1
Congenital Heart Disease	2	Pneumonia	2
Congenital Syphillis	2	Prematurity	2
Hydrocephalus	1	Whooping Cough	2

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

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

Laboratory Service.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough have also used the laboratory at the General Hospital. Specimens for examination have been referred through an Honorary Physician in the Out-Patients Dept.

Ambulance Facilities.

Since 1st April, 1947, the Ambulance Service has been provided by the Worcester County Council Non-infectious cases and accident cases have been provided for.

Nursing in the Home.

The Kidderminster Nursing Association has provided District Nurses as well as District Midwives in the Borough.

The Home and Domestic Help Scheme which commenced in November, 1947, continued to function under the supervision of the Worcestershire County Council.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Name	Situation and Time of Session.	Average Attendance	Provided by
Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	(1) Prospect Lane, Thursday 2—4 p.m.	—	County
	(2) Mill Street Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	34	
	(3) St. Oswald's Monday, 2—4 p.m.	49	
	(4) Sutton Park Monday, 2—4 p.m.	35	
	(5) Franche Clinic Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.	65	
		18	Council
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster Gen. Hospital Thursday, 2—4 p.m. and at 5.15 p.m.		County Council
Venereal	Kidderminster Gen. Hospital Mon. 2 p.m. Thurs. 5 p.m.		County Council
Ante-Natal	Stanmore Nurses' Home Chester Rd. North. Monday and Friday 2—4 p.m.	14 per session	
Consultative Ante Natal Clinic	Kidderminster Gen. Hospital Weekly at 11 a.m. Wednesday		County Council

Maternity and Child Welfare.

There have been 702 live births in the Borough during the year.

A Third Health Visitor was appointed in May, thus making it possible to carry out the required visits to babies in the area.

The work of the Health Visitors is summarised in the Table below :—

Visits to babies :	First	..	..	..	..	673
	Subsequent	..	..	..	..	3,232
Visits to Children over 1 year	..	..	..	..	..	8,395
Special cases	..	..	..	..	..	242
Infant Life Protection Visits	..	..	..	..	..	33
Diphtheria Immunisations—completed	..	..	..	..	..	556

Attendances at Child Welfare Clinics.

Prospect Lane	..	..	..	..	..	1,629
St. John's, Mill Street	..	..	..	..	..	2,375
St. Oswald's	..	..	..	..	..	1,678
Sutton Park	..	..	..	..	..	3,136
Franche	..	..	..	..	..	850
Ante Natal (99 Sessions)	..	..	..	..	..	1,422
Sewing Class	..	..	..	..	..	457

Total attendances of children at all the centres, 9,668.

Health Talks have been given on :—

- Whooping Cough.
- Treatment for Electric Shock.
- Burns.
- Choking.
- Foreign Bodies in Eyes and Ears.
- The Care of Feet.
- Treatment and Complications of Measles.
- Flies and Summer Diarrhoea.
- Hints for the Hot Weather.
- Infantile Paralysis.

Infant Mortality.

There were 23 babies died before they reached 1 year of age.

11 babies died in the first 4 weeks of life.

12 died after the first 4 weeks, but before they were a year old.

The causes of death have already been shown on another page.

Hospitals

Since 5th July, 1948 the Hospitals and Maternity Home and other Institutions have been administered by the Regional Hospital Board, with the exception of Greenhill Hostel which is still a voluntary Institution.

Prescribed particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspec- tions (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	53	9	9	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	135	15	9	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL		188	24	18	—	

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	1	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)							
(a) insufficient	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	9	9	—	9	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	10	9	—	9	—	60

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 1949.

(Full chemical analysis here).

Samples taken from Borough Main Wells ..	81
Samples taken from taps at various premises ..	97
Samples taken from Reservoir	49
Samples taken from Private Wells	1
	<hr/>
	228
	<hr/>

Housing.

Number of houses built by Private Enterprise ..	10
Number of Prefabricated Houses (temporary, etc.) ..	Nil
Number of Permanent Houses built by Local Authority	86
Number of Wates non-traditional	70

There is a waiting list of about 1,800 applicants for Corporation houses. One hundred and sixty-six have been built in the Borough during the year 1949.

The actual increase in population, not considering immigration, was 231 in 1949. Houses condemned as unfit must still be used because there is no alternative accommodation for their inhabitants.

The necessity to build many more houses as quickly as possible, is outstanding in this Borough. The moral, mental and physical state of many families is being damaged because there are insufficient decent houses available.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS
DISEASES, 1949.

1 case of Para-Typhoid occurred in 1949.

Measles.

427 cases were notified, 3 cases were admitted to hospital, 1 death occurred.

Very little was done to modify attacks of measles in close contact cases. Perhaps in future, prophylactic treatment will save many contacts from developing into severe cases.

Whooping Cough. 97 cases with 5 Deaths.

It is hoped that more children will be immunised against Whooping Cough in the near future.

Scarlet Fever. 53 cases—no deaths.

Scarlet fever has been mild in type. 30 cases sent into hospital were admitted chiefly on account of environmental factors and not essentially because the patient required hospital treatment.

Acute Poliomyelitis. 4 cases.

These cases all recovered but with some degree of residual paralysis.

Diphtheria. 2 cases of Diphtheria occurred in non-immunised children, both recovered.

Immunisation has been carried out at all Clinics where the Medical Officer was in attendance. The numbers inoculated were :—under 5 years, 556 ; over 5 years, 274 ; Total, 830.

Since the first large-scale inoculation was carried out in 1937, there have been only two deaths from Diphtheria, both in un-inoculated children. The following table is noteworthy :—

Table showing Incidence and Mortality of Diphtheria.

Year.	Total Cases.	Deaths.	Mortality rate.	Immunised Children.	
				Cases.	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	—	—	—
1946	11	1	9.0	—	—
1947	2	—	—	—	—
1948	—	—	—	—	—
1949	2	—	—	—	—
	281	24	—	3	—

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

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1949.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Admitted to Hospital</i>	<i>Totals Deaths</i>
Diphtheria	2	2	Nil
Scarlet Fever	53	30	Nil
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ..	1	1	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	Nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pneumonia	34	Nil	8
Anthrax	Nil	Nil	Nil
Erysipelas	11	Nil	Nil
Encephalitis Lethargica ..	Nil	Nil	Nil
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	2	Nil
Acute Polio-encephalitis ..	1	1	Nil
Acute Polio-myelitis	4	4	Nil
Malaria	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	Nil
Whooping Cough	97	2	5
Measles	427	3	Nil
Meningitis	Nil	Nil	Nil

Analysis of Total Notified Infectious Cases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1949.

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis	Measles	Acute Polio-Encephalitis	Diphtheria
0-1 years ...		13		14		
1-3 years ...	8	23		118		
3-5 years	7	35	1	125		1
5-10 years ...	32	24	2	162	1	1
10-15 years ...	6	1	1	4		
15-25 years ...		1		2		
25 & over ...						
Age Unknown				2		
Total ...	53	97	4	427	1	2

Age Groups	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Cerebro Spinal Fever	Para-Typhoid	Pueperal Pyrexia
0-5 years ...	2		1		
5-15 years ...	1		1		
15-45 years ...	10	4			2
45-65 years ...	12	7		1	
65 years and over	8				
Age Unknown ...	1				
Total ...	34	11	2	1	2

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

No cases were notified during 1949.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 22 new cases of Tuberculosis notified in 1949 :—
16 Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 6 Non-Pulmonary.

These figures are not large, but since Tuberculosis is in the category of Preventable diseases, they are too large.

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	
1945	28	22	4	4	.75
1946	24	22	5	1	.64
1947	26	15	2	4	.52
1948	24	15	3	3	.48
1949	22	14	6	1	.39

New Cases and Mortality during 1949.

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 ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
10 to 15 years	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	—
15 to 20 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25 years	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
25 to 35 years	4	2	—	—	1	4	—	—
35 to 45 years	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 55 years	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55 to 65 years	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS	11	5	2	4	7	7	1	—

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Sterilisation of blankets was carried out at the Blakebrook County Hospital.

Disinfestation and disinfection was undertaken by the Health Department, on account of the following :—

Diphtheria .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1 case.
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	2 cases.
Tuberculosis .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	11 cases.
Cancer .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	4 cases.
Dirty premises .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	4 cases.
Bugs .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	62 cases.
Flies and Ants .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	13 cases.
Fleas .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	6 cases.

In addition, the slaughterhouse, the British Restaurant, the School Canteen, Butcher's Premises, Clinics and Offices were sprayed with D.D.T. to protect against flies.

Catering Establishments and Flies.

The Health Department has tried to eliminate flies from food shops, cafes, hotels and other places where food is handled or exposed. The use of D.D.T. has been demonstrated and explained to the owners of such establishments.

Food Preparation.

In spite of radio, press and other propoganda there is still very much carelessness and ignorance shown in the handling of food, both in the homes and in public places.

The Health Department is constantly demonstrating, explaining, urging and even threatening in an endeavour to improve the town's catering. The danger lies in apathy and ignorance of the principles of hygiene, often very elementary, but so often neglected.

CONCLUSION.

A brief summary of the Borough's health shows :—

General Health	..	..	Good.
Epidemics	..	..	Nil.
Birth Rate	..	..	Decreasing.
Death Rate	..	..	Increasing.
Infant Death Rate	..	..	Average for country.
Maternal Mortality	..	..	Nil.
Nutrition of babies and children	..	..	Good.

Housing.

Once more in this report the necessity of building many more houses as quickly as possible cannot be too strongly urged, and coupled with the general housing problem is the care of our old people.

Maternity Service.

There are still many mothers-to-be who cannot enter Maternity Homes because of insufficient accommodation. There is obviously an unsatisfied demand for more maternity beds.

Child Welfare.

Future improvements would be :—

- (a) Short term residential nursery accommodation.
- (b) Nursery schools or classes.
- (c) Convalescent Home for many more sick children, especially after acute illness and surgical operations.
- (d) Increased immunisation against infectious disease.

Food.

There is a great need for more knowledge of and better practice in the clean handling of food.

My thanks are to the members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support throughout the year, and also to my staff at the Health Department for their unfailing work and ever loyal and willing co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE,

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1949.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Nineteenth Annual Report on the work accomplished by my Department for the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Meat and Food Inspection.

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

Set out below is a synopsis of the work for the year 1949.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	1,754	1,063	1,703	9,534	227
Number inspected	1,754	1,063	1,703	9,534	227
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	25	45	95	105	19
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	491	394	13	1,458	17
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	29.4	41.3	6.34	16.4	15.8
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	13	67	5	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	215	165	5	—	12
Percentage of number inspec- ted affected with Tuberculosis	13.0	21.8	0.59	—	5.72

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFALS CONDEMNED DURING 1949.

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Tuberculosis	23	19	50
Johnes Disease and Emaciation	8	0	88
Distomatosis and Cirrhosis	5	13	73
Bruising and Injury	2	19	50
Physiological Poorness	2	18	24
Decomposition (Moribund)	1	15	62
Dropsy and Emaciation	1	12	95
Parasitic Cysts	1	0	89
Bone Taint	1	0	9
Pyogenic Abscesses		16	59
Septic Pleurisy		16	31
Angiomatosis		14	83
Septic Mastitis		12	12
Septic Metritis		11	49
Immaturity		9	104
Parturient Fever		9	75
Strongylosis		5	84
Septic Pneumonia		5	60
Jaundice (Calf)		4	68
Actinomycosis		3	98
Pleurisy		3	12
Pyæmia		2	48
Haemorrhage (Parturition)		2	39
Peritonitis		2	37
Swine Erysipelas		1	107
Melanosis		1	12
Pyæmic Polyarthritus			103
Pericarditis			91
Pneumonia			87
Caseous Lymphadenitis			64
Other Causes			98
Total Weight Condemned	55	8	57

OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED

1959 Tins of Various Foodstuffs.	9 Pigeons.
50 Jars of Pickles and Jams.	701 Bread Rolls.
9 cwt. 103 lbs. of Fish.	399 Buns.
3 cwt. Malted Flour.	244 Sponge Puddings.
2 cwt. 33 lbs. Sausages.	241 Doughnuts.
2 cwt. 8 lbs. Fat.	168 Pikelets.
39 lbs. Cheese.	102 Malt Loaves.
30 lbs. Cake.	28 2lb. Loaves.
14 lbs. Butter.	258 Small Jellies.
14 lbs. Figs.	12 Pkts. Custard Powder.
12 lbs. Luncheon Meat.	3 Boxes of Dates.
12 lbs. Bacon.	2 Gall. Synthetic Cream.
12 Rabbits.	

SUMMARY

	Tons	Cwts.	Lbs.
Grand Total Weight (Meat and Foods) Condemned	56	17	74
Grand Total Weight (Meat) Condemned	55	8	57
Grand Total Weight (Tuberculosis) Condemned	23	19	50

SUMMARY OF MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION (6 YEARS).

1944 — 1945 — 1946 — 1947 — 1948 — 1949

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.
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
1946	4,510	12,231	189	1,433	46	7	2	21	9	2
1947	2,939	7,657	116	1,211	43	1	0	19	4	1
1948	2,725	7,503	125	1,462	36	13	3	17	15	1
1949	2,817	9,534	227	1,703	55	8	2	23	19	2

REMARKS :

These premises were taken over by the Ministry of Food in January, 1940, to serve Kidderminster Borough and four adjoining districts. Previously the premises were used by the local Co-operative Society solely to serve their own shops.

During the peak period of slaughtering (usually from August to December), the premises are used well outside their normal-highest capacity. This congestion with its attendant evils, viz.: insufficient hanging room (meat and offals), accumulations of hides, skins, fat, manure and inedible offal, hopelessly inadequate lairage accommodation, make all attempts at any standard of hygiene and the inspection of Carcasses and Edible Offals difficult in the extreme.

A permanent manager is employed by the Ministry of Food to conduct the well-ordering of the place together with its maintenance.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

1. Until more accommodation is available, restrict the amount of slaughtering to a maximum of 80-90 cattle per week, If possible, no calves should be slaughtered here during " peak " slaughtering.

2. Explore possibility of using subsidiary slaughterhouse on another site for sheep and pigs.

3. Ensure that sound and condemned meat and offals are kept entirely separate.

4. As soon as possible, instal an efficient boiler for hot water supply.

5. Improve lairage.

6. Seek a more suitable site for a new slaughterhouse in near future.

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 ACT, 1938.
PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD)
REGULATIONS 1925 to 1939.

Total Number of Samples taken during the year 1949 .. 195
 Milk, 93 (informal), 8 (formal). Off-ration Sweets, 6.
 Ice-Cream, 78. Sausages, 6. Vinegar, 3. Sugar, 1.

Action taken regarding samples not genuine.

Sample No.	SAMPLE OF	RESULT, ACTION, ETC.
721	Milk (Informal) ...	Formal Samples Genuine.
805	" " ...	Genuine on Basis of "Appeal to Cow."
807	" (Formal) {	Formal samples "follow up" of No. 805. Genuine on Basis of "Appeal to Cow." "Appeal to Cow" as the result of samples Nos. 805, 807, 808.
808	" " }	
815	" " }	
816	" " }	
817	" (Informal) {	Repeat Samples Genuine.
818	" " }	
822	" " }	Repeat Samples Genuine.
832	" " {	Further samples from same source as 805, 807, 808, 815, 816, 817.
833	" " }	
859	" " }	Repeat Samples Genuine.
860	" " }	Repeat Sample Genuine.
872	" " }	Same source as 805, 807, 808, 815, 816, 817. Repeat Sample Genuine.

On the 1st October, 1949, the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949, and The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949, came into force. With the advent of these Regulations, certain changes of duties were imposed, one or two of these I will make brief mention of, viz :—The inspection of and the registration of Dairy Farms passed from the Local Authority to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, (the Borough had a compliment of 6). The Designation "Sterilised" is an addition, thus all shops, etc., selling "Sterilised Milk" must be licensed by the Local Authority. Under Regulation 8 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, all persons carrying on the trade of Milk Distributor or use any premises as a dairy (as distinct from dairy farms), must be registered with the Local Authority. At the end of the year your Department was in the act of completing the re-registration and re-licensing under the Regulations. An entire new register is being commenced.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Sample	No. Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Designated Milks :			
T.T. (Cert.)	3	3	...
T.T.	10	10	...
Accredited	27	27	...
Pasteurised	16	16	...
T.T. Pasteurised	12	12	...
Heat Treated	7	7	...
Sterilised	14	14	...
TOTAL	89	89	0

No. of Licences Issued.

T.T. (Cert.) Milk,	Distribution 1.
T.T. Milk	(a) Bottling 3. (b) Distribution 3.
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	(a) Bottling 1. (b) Distribution 1.
Accredited Milk	(a) Bottling 1. (b) Distribution 2.
Pasteurising Plants	2. Retail Distributors 3.
Sterilising Processing Plant	1.

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS 1947.

Ice Cream.

The operation of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations has resulted in an increased number of samples being taken. It is pleasing to record that of the 78 samples submitted for examination, only 9 were low graded (Bacteriologically), 6 in grade 3, and 3 in grade 4. Action was taken by the Department in each case, and repeat samples submitted. One manufacturer was notified that the Ice-Cream was low in fat.

No. of Registrations for the Manufacture, Storage or Sale of Ice-Cream.

Manufacturers (Heat Treatment)	.. ..	1
„ (Complete cold-mix only)	.. ..	8
Premises (other than above) where bulk ice-cream is sold	.. ..	19
Premises where wrapped ice-cream only is sold	.. ..	49

Common Lodging Houses.

The five registered houses in the Borough are the object of frequent attention and are visited regularly. These houses have accommodation for 105 lodgers. In the case of 2 houses, it was found necessary to draw the attention of the owner and keeper to certain structural defects and insanitary conditions. At the close of the year their remedy was under way.

Bakehouses and Food Premises.

The inspection of the premises used for carrying on the trade, business and preparation of food for human consumption, has again been carried out during the year.

Particular attention has been directed to the sanitary and cleanly conditions and although some improvements have been noted, there is still room for considerable improvement with regard to handling and transport of foodstuffs, cleanly conditions and general practices. The Bakehouses were "singled out" for a rigorous inspection and where required in these places the Department is insisting on the provision of running hot water and sinks. 80 visits have been paid.

Offensive Trades.

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

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

Disinfestation of Premises, Clothing, etc.

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

The method used chiefly is by spraying infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide containing D.D.T. Where possible, such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed, so as to effectually facilitate the work.

It is still the practice of the Department to supply insecticides to the Public, and to loan sprays.

Number of houses disinfested by Local Authority 81.

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)	262
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	680
(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	3
(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 WITH-
OUT THE SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	208
---	-----

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 ..	28
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :—	
(a) By owners	28
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

Summary of Notices Served.

Preliminary notices served (for housing defects) ..	170
Intimation letters sent (<i>re</i> sanitary defects)	28
Statutory notices served (for housing defects) ..	28
Reminder Notices served (for housing defects) ..	4

PUBLIC CLEANSING (Salvage and Refuse Collection and Disposal).

	£	s.	d.
*The cost of collection and disposal of salvage and refuse for the year 1949 was	20224	0	0
*The income was	7270	0	0
The net cost being	12954	0	0

**Financial Year ended 31st March, 1950.*

SALVAGE.

The total WEIGHT of all Salvaged Materials collected and disposed of during the Twelve Months amounted to 1192 TONS of PAPER, METALS, RAGS, BONES, KITCHEN WASTE, etc., etc., the INCOME from the Materials disposed of being £7,099.

Total number of Loads taken to Main Salvage Depots, 2819.

KITCHEN WASTE.

Collected and disposed of for sterilised Pig and Poultry Food.
Weight : 439 tons, 19 cwts., 3 qrs.

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR, 1949.

Month	Weight of Salvage			Income from Sale £ s. d.
	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	
January	114	16	1	708 13 0
February	107	7	2	629 11 4
March	125	9	1	757 2 5
April	89	19	0	527 11 5
May	105	8	3	619 3 0
June	100	11	2	563 9 0
July	96	16	3	576 17 11
August	87	17	0	603 17 8
September	103	3	0	651 13 8
October	85	4	0	512 19 9
November	99	13	2	543 19 2
December	75	11	0	404 8 10
TOTALS	1191	17	2	£7099 7 2

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

Materials	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£ s. d.
Waste Paper	492	6	2	3070 8 9
Heavy Scrap	23	2	1	60 2 0
Light Scrap	6	17	1	8 11 8
Baled Tins	102	18	0	207 7 5
Textiles	53	3	3	557 14 11
Household Bones	4	10	3	26 8 4
Cullet (Broken Glass)	59	19	3	136 1 11
Non-Ferrous Metals		5	1	6 11 3
Bottles and Jars	8	14	1	69 8 3
Miscellaneous				110 9 6
Kitchen Waste	439	19	3	2846 3 2
TOTALS	1191	17	2	£7099 7 2

COLLECTION OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Total No. of loads of Refuse removing (all vehicles)	...	...	...	4886
Closest Pans emptied	...	...	...	4172
Loads of Night Soil removed	...	...	...	52

Disposal of Household Ashes.

Tipped at Broadwaters	...	...	...	1222
Tipped at Puxton	...	...	...	1172
Tipped at Hoobrook	...	...	...	1806
Tipped at Worcester Road	...	...	...	686
Total	...	...	...	4886

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.

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 1948 AND 1949.				RAINFALL FOR PAST TEN YEARS			
Monthly	Inches		Years	Inches			
	1949	1948					
January ..	.53	4.12	1940	28.19			
February ..	.61	1.44	1941	26.44			
March	1.71	1.24	1942	22.01			
April	2.00	1.20	1943	23.43			
May	2.59	2.52	1944	24.50			
June .. ..	.18	1.87	1945	20.45		
July .. ..	.99	1.00	1946	31.80		
August	1.06	3.76	1947	23.41			
September ..	1.31	2.28	1948	27.62			
October	4.53	2.15	1949	19.46			
November ..	2.75	1.58					
December ..	1.20	4.46					
Total ..	19.46	27.62	Average	24.73			

RODENT CONTROL.

The completion of three years of organised Rodent Control at the end of the year sees the populace of this Borough as a very rodent conscious community. Many individual justifiable reports concerning the existence of either rats or mice have been received during the year.

Kidderminster's industry is very largely textiles, and the effective rat proofing of this type of factory is extremely difficult, and to overcome the possibility of expensive damage by rodents, the firms are pleased to enter into yearly contract for the supervision of their premises by our operative and for any required treatment. This method as reported in a previous annual report, has proved invaluable in the control of the greater part of Kidderminster's industrial areas.

Excellent co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Division) has been enjoyed during the year.

Below are some statistics which summarise briefly the work of the Rodent Operative during 1949.

RODENT CONTROL OPERATIONAL STATISTICS FOR 1949.

Premises Surveyed and Treated.	Total No. Treated	Method.	Notes.
Corporation Properties, including Tips	18	Zinc Phosphide or Arsenic	These premises receive treatment every three months.
Corporation Sewers—Manholes	300	Ditto.	Treated twice in the year.
Individual Business Premises on Contract.	17	Ditto.	Including 6 of the largest factories and 6 premises for Mice.
Block Control—Consisting of an average of 50 houses and business premises per block.	47	Ditto.	Approx. 300 bodies picked up. 55 Houses treated for Mice.

Total number of actual bodies picked up during the year :—2000.

Total number estimated killed during the year :—4500.

MORTUARY.

During the year 36 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.

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.



