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Contributors

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KIDDERMINSTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

**ANNUAL
REPORTS**

OF THE


Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1951



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KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1951

Kidderminster Rural District Council

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR A. PARDOE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR H. DOOLITTLE, C.C.

COUNCILLOR C. BLOUNT

„ E. EVANS
 „ T. GRIFFIN
 „ H. HINGLEY, J.P.
 „ A. E. HOBSON
 „ G. LEE
 „ G. N. PERCIVAL-HUMPHRIES, J.P., C.C.
 „ W. H. KIMBERLEE, J.P.
 „ G. F. PRATT
 „ E. SMITH
 „ J. WARDLE
 „ R. P. WILLIAMS, Retired September, 1951.
 „ R. S. WILLIAMS-THOMAS.
 „ T. O. WILSON
 „ H. E. HICKTON, from September, 1951.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health:

R. W. MARKHAM, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer:

R. S. PORTER, Cert.S.I.J.B., C.R.San.I.
 (Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector)

Assistant: C. G. KNOTT.

Public Health Clerk: MISS J. E. MANTLE.

Rats and Mice Destruction Officer: J. BUNN.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1951.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in acres	....	...	....	....	....	...	36,790
Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population							
mid 1951	....	....	....	....	...	...	11,900
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1951						....	3,524
Rateable Value	...	....	....	....	...		£65,922
Sum represented by a penny rate		...	...	....			£269

Social Conditions.

In the main the inhabitants of the district are engaged in agricultural and kindred work, though a certain proportion are employed in industry in Kidderminster, and a number of males are employed at an Iron Works in the district.

Vital Statistics.

				1951	1950
Births.		Males	Females	Total	Total
(a)	Live Births: Legitimate	83	87	170	170
	Illegitimate	5	4	9	9
	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	...	...	15.04	15.9
	Birth rate for England and Wales	...	...	15.5	15.8
		Males	Females		
(b)	Still Births: Legitimate	3	2	5	4
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	0
Deaths.		Males	Females	Total	Total
(a)	No. registered for District	71	64	135	117
	Crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	...	11.3	10.4
	Death rate for England and Wales	...	...	12.5	11.6
(b)	Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	22	15
	Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0	0
	Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	0	0
(c)	Maternal Mortality	...	...	0	0
	Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	0	0
(d)	Infant Mortality (under 1 year of age)	...	...	6	3
	Death rate of Infants under 1 year of age:				
	All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	33.5	16.8
	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	27.9	17.7
	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	111	0
	Infant Mortality Rate for England & Wales per 1,000 live births	...	...	29.6	29.8

Causes of Death.

	m	f
1 Tuberculosis, Respiratory	2	—
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	4	2
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	—
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	1
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	2
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	7
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1
17 Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	6
18 Coronary disease, angina	6	7
19 Hypertension with heart disease	1	—
20 Other Heart diseases	10	12
21 Other circulatory disease	3	—
22 Influenza	1	6
23 Pneumonia ...	8	2
24 Bronchitis	6	8
25 Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	—
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	1
28 Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
31 Congenital malformations ...	2	—
32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	8
33 Motor vehicle accidents	4	—
34 All other accidents ...	2	—
35 Suicide ...	1	—
<hr/>		<hr/>
All causes	71	64
<hr/>		<hr/>

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Staff.

I have the assistance and co-operation of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. S. Porter, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and of Miss J. E. Mantle as Public Health Clerk.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Worcestershire County Council Laboratories are available for the chemical examination of water, milk and foodstuffs, and the work is carried out by the County Analyst.

All clinical bacteriology is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, situated at Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Facilities.

For Infectious Diseases an ambulance is provided by the Regional Hospital Board, and operates from Hayley Green Hospital.

For other cases an ambulance service is provided by the County Council, and operates from Kidderminster.

Nursing at Home.

There are three District Nurses in the area, who also practise as Midwives and act as Health Visitors. In addition two other District Nurses deal with portions of the Area.

Infant Welfare Centres.

There are four Infant Welfare Centres in the Area—at Far Forest, Wolverley, Cookley and Chaddesley Corbett, where Immunisation and Vaccination is carried out.

The Welfare Centres at Wribbenhall and Hagley are also used by residents of the Area.

Hospitals.

The Kidderminster and District General Hospital is available for all residents in our Area.

For infectious Diseases the Isolation Hospital at Hayley Green is available.

Tuberculosis.

This work is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, who arrange sanatorium treatment where possible. Dispensaries are held every Tuesday at 6 p.m., and Thursday at 2 p.m., at the Kidderminster General Hospital, when Dr. R. Cronin attends.

The County Council are responsible for after-care and this work is administered locally by the After-Care Sub-Committee of the Divisional Area Committee.

Venereal Disease.

The Regional Hospital Board arrange for treatment and follow-up of these cases at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Council own approximately 70 miles of water pipes, and the water in the Rural District is supplied by:—

- (1) The Council's Borehole at Cookley.
- (2) The City of Birmingham Elan Aqueduct.
- (3) The Stourbridge Water Board.

The supply is satisfactory both in regard to quality and quantity.

The figures overleaf are approximate. Included in the 779 houses supplied from stand taps are several areas of bungalow development and a "squatters" camp.

At regular intervals throughout the year the Sanitary Inspector submitted samples of water from the three main sources for chemical and bacteriological examination by the County Analyst. All the samples were satisfactory. The following are copies of the Analyst's Certificates on three samples submitted to him.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Borehole water contained in W. Qt. and 8 oz. Bottles Marked Cookley Borehole, 30 Fairfield Lane. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on the 1st March, 1951.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour. None.

Deposit. None. pH 7.0.

SUPPLIES TO HOUSES IN THE RURAL DISTRICT

Parish	From Public Mains				From Private Supplies e.g. wells, springs, etc.	
	Direct to houses		By means of Standpipe			
	No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population	No. of dwelling houses	Population
Wolverley	830	2617	223	713	53	169
Upper Arley	70	224	119	380	107	341
Ribbesford	6	19	—	—	18	57
Churchill and Blakedown	319	1020	5	16	28	89
Rock	389	1244	158	505	112	356
Broome	45	144	—	—	22	70
Stone	72	230	—	—	53	160
Rushock	—	—	—	—	40	126
Kidderminster Foreign	76	243	207	662	77	246
Chaddesley Corbett	358	1145	67	214	70	220
Totals	2165	6925	779	2490	580	1834

The above figures are approximate. Included in the 779 houses supplied from standpipes are several areas of bungalow development and a "squatters" camp.

Chemical Examination. (Results expressed in parts per 100,000)				
Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	...	....	...	None
Solids in Solution (dried at 180°C)	...	...	...	23
Solids in Solution after Ignition	....	...	....	21
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	....	...	....	3.9
Hardness Total	....	...	....	9
Hardness Permanent	.....	....	...	7
Hardness Temporary	....	...	....	16
Free and Saline Ammonia	....	...	....	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia	....	...	....	0.0004
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	...	....	....	0.77
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	....	...	....	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N/80 Per-				
manganate)	....	...	....	None
Toxic Metals	....	...	....	None detected

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

- (a) In two days at 37°C 2 per one m.l.
 (b) In three days at 22°C ... Nil per 100 m.l.
 Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count Nil per 100 m.l.

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

14th March, 1951.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Elan Valley Supply Water contained in W. Qt. and 8 oz. Bottles. Marked Kingsford Lane, Wolverley. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 1st March, 1951.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Very Slight Yellow.

Odour. None.

Deposit Very Slight Brown. pH 6.8.

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	....	... Slight Trace
Solids in Solution (dried at 180°C)	....	5
Solids in Solution after Ignition	....	4
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	....	2.5
Hardness Permanent	....	1
Hardness Temporary	....	1
Hardness Total	....	2
Free and Saline Ammonia	....	0.0012
Albuminoid Ammonia	....	0.0034
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	....	0.04
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	....	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N80 Permanganate)	....	0.15
Toxic Metals	....	None detected

Note.—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

(a) In two days at 37°C 4 per one m.l.

(b) In three days at 22°C 6 per one m.l.

Coli-Aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count Nil per 100 m.l.

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

14th March, 1951.

Report of the County Analyst.

Upon a sample of Stourbridge Water Board water contained in W. Qt. and 8 oz. Bottles. Marked Belbroughton Road, Blake-down. Received from Mr. R. S. Porter, Sanitary Inspector, Land Oak House, Kidderminster, on 28th March, 1951.

I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically and bacteriologically with the following results:—

Physical Characters. Clear.

Odour. None.

Deposit. Very Slight White. pH 7.4.

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per 100,000).

Solids in Suspension (dried at 100°C)	....	... Slight Trace
Solids in Solution (dried at 180°C)	... ..	28
Solids in Solution after Ignition	... ..	27
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt	....	5
Hardness Permanent	... ..	9
Hardness Temporary	... ..	14
Hardness Total	... ..	23
Free and Saline Ammonia	....	0.0004
Albuminoid Ammonia	... ..	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	....	0.72
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	... ..	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C (N/80 Permanganate)	....	Nil
Toxic Metals	... ..	None detected

Note:—To convert the above parts per 100,000 to grains per gallon, multiply by 0.7.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of Colonies developing upon Agar.

- (a) In two days at 37°C Nil per one m.l.
 (b) In three days at 22°C ... 5 per one m.l.

Opinion:—The sample is fit for drinking.

(Signed) M. M. LOVE,

County Analyst.

5th April, 1951.

Drainage and Sewerage.

It is pleasing to report that a start has been made on the main sewerage scheme for the villages of Wolverley and Cookley and that this is progressing steadily.

The situation in the village of Chaddesley Corbett is unchanged since my last report, and it is considered essential for the health of the inhabitants of the village that a satisfactory system of drainage be installed at the earliest possible moment. It will be seen from the Sanitary Inspector's Report that every effort is made to alleviate the unsatisfactory conditions which exist.

In those areas where the provision of a sewerage scheme cannot be forseen work has continued on the conversion of insanitary privies and pail closets to water carriage or some other satisfactory system.

All existing sewerage schemes have proved satisfactory during the year.

Appended herewith is a detailed summary of sewage disposal arrangements for the Rural District.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Parish	No. of dwellings connected to a public sewer	Population served	No. of houses with		
			Pails	Cess pits, etc.	Private installations
Wolverley ..	226	720	480	590	214
Upper Arley ..	—	—	102	152	44
Ribbesford ..	—	—	12	12	12
Churchill and Blakedown ..	207	661	36	63	72
Rock	32	102	226	425	202
Broome	—	—	10	15	52
Stone	12	38	60	73	40
Rushock	—	—	33	33	7
Kidderminster Foreign	16	51	230	101	36
Chaddesley Corbett	68	216	120	242	185
Totals ..	561	1788	1309	1706	864

All shacks, etc., have been included as dwellings. Few of them have drainage arrangements.

HOUSING.**STATISTICS.****1.—Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.**

(1) (a)	Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	727
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	762
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling houses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925	374
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	386
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	187

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	151
---	-----

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	4
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:—	
(a)	By Owners	4
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	11
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	
(a)	By Owners	11
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

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 | ... .. | Nil |

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

- | | | | |
|-----|---|--------|-----|
| (1) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | ... .. | Nil |
| (2) | Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been made fit. | ... .. | Nil |

4.—Housing Act, 1936. Part IV.—Overcrowding.

Although there is still a considerable degree of overcrowding in the Area, the year has seen some improvement. The Council's Housing Programme, as previously stated, cannot keep pace with the demand.

No. of Applications 1st January, 1951	... ..	662
No. of houses erected during the year	... ..	42
No. of Applications 31st December, 1951	... ..	718

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report deals with these matters.

The Food and Drugs Acts are administered by the County Council.

There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning during the year.

**Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases.
Immunisations against Diphtheria.**

The importance of early immunisation of infants against diphtheria, and the necessity for a reinforcing dose on entering school, has been brought to the notice of all parents. The response has been fairly satisfactory, but there is still room for improvement.

Owing to the great reduction in the incidence of diphtheria due to the immunisation of children in infancy, few parents have ever seen a patient suffering from the disease. The result of this is that there is a tendency for some parents not to ensure that their children are protected. There is little doubt that should this tendency continue diphtheria will once more become a prevalent cause of illness and death.

A further 118 children under 5 years and 15 children from 5 to 14 years of age were given primary courses of treatment during the year, and 137 were given booster doses.

No case of diphtheria occurred in the district during the year.

Notifications.

The notifiable infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) which occurred during the year 1951 are set out in the following table.

AGE IN YEARS												
Disease	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	over 65	Total No. of cases	No. of cases admitted to hosp'l	No. of deaths
Measles	3	20	43	82	8	1	—	1	—	158	1	—
Whooping Cough ..	6	16	19	25	2	—	2	—	—	70	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	5	9	2	—	1	—	—	17	10	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	3	10	19	—	10
Total	9	36	67	117	14	1	6	5	10	265	11	10

Tuberculosis.

Five cases were notified during the year.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	4	1	—	—	2	—	—	—

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations) 1925, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

CONCLUSION.

The condition of the older type of property in the District has been the subject of survey during the year. A detailed report on each parish was considered by the Council and it has been decided that provision must be made in the Housing Programme of the immediate future to rehouse families from unfit houses. It was realised that this must be done gradually in order to keep the re-housing programme in balance as there are still a considerable number of families having no home of their own.

During this survey it became obvious that much deterioration of property had taken place due to the inability of smaller owners to finance essential repairs. It is hoped that early legislation will rectify this situation.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and all Officials for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. W. MARKHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

KIDDERMINSTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

FOR

1951

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration within the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1951.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

Gentlemen,

Number of visits made to premises re cases of infectious disease and disinfection: 23.

Disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out where necessary by means of disinfectant and formaldehyde lamps.

MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat.

All meat sold in the shops in the district comes from the Central Slaughterhouse in the Borough of Kidderminster.

Regular inspections have been made at the shops, and it is pleasing to report that it has not been necessary to take any action with regard to any of the supplies.

The Butchers have maintained their premises in a satisfactory condition throughout the year.

The following meat was condemned:—

Tinned Ham	...	...	...	59lbs. 14ozs.
Bacon	....	...	....	6lbs. 4ozs.

Milk.

Close contact has been maintained with all milk distributors in the area and no infringements of the Regulations have been met with.

The supply of heat treated milk by dealers from other districts is rapidly increasing with a consequent reduction in the quantity of raw milk consumed in the district. The majority of the raw milk is now supplied in bottles.

Other Foods.

All food premises in the area have been inspected regularly and it has been found that the shopkeepers have done their best to comply with the Byelaws. The majority of our village shops have been established for many years and their structural conversion to modern standards is very difficult. The Council are progressing with their sewerage schemes for several villages and this will make the position much easier with regard to sanitary accommodation.

Ice Cream.

Having only two small manufacturers of ice cream, the vast majority of ice-cream sold in the district comes from large concerns in other areas. This ice-cream is almost invariably supplied to the customer in cartons or wrappings.

It has not been necessary to draw attention to any infringements during the year.

Cafes, etc.

All cafes, etc. have been inspected and on the whole there has been little of which to complain. The majority of the premises with catering licences are existing country cottages serving occasional meals.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Number of unexpired licences in force	24
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	----

BAKEHOUSES.

Number on register, December, 1951	...	...	8
Inspections	....	....	24
Informal Notices served	...	....	Nil
Statutory Notices served	...	....	Nil

Contraventions Remedied:—

Limewashing	...	....	8
Dirty Floors	...	....	Nil

CANAL BOATS.

The canal which runs through the area is now entirely unused.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Owing to the fact that the new vehicle had not been delivered during the year, the Council continued its old arrangements. Further progress was made, however, and by the end of the year most properties in the district were receiving a fortnightly service. Once again the Wolverley Tip proved invaluable, taking nearly 1,000 loads of refuse.

During the year a total of 1,974 loads, having an estimated weight of 5,313 tons, have been dealt with. The following are the details of the work done by each lorry.

The Council's lorry is dealing with the parishes of Churchill and Blakedown, Broome and part of Wolverley.

Tipped at Wolverley	...	...	644 loads
Tipped at Woodhouse Farm	...	...	111 loads
			<hr/>
Estimated weight: 2,265 tons			755 loads
			<hr/>

One contractor's lorry is dealing with the parishes of Chaddesley Corbett, Stone, Rushock, and part of Wolverley.

Tipped at Wolverley	...	...	332 loads
Tipped at Lodgeford	...	...	287 loads
Tipped at Woodhouse Farm	...	...	137 loads
			<hr/>
Estimated weight: 1,890 tons.			756 loads
			<hr/>

A second contractor has been dealing with the parishes of Rock, Upper Arley, Kidderminster, Foreign and Ribbesford.

Tipped at Gorst Hill Farm, Rock	...	...	158 loads
Tipped at Trimpley	...	...	179 loads
Tipped at Organs Hill, Rock	...	...	126 loads
			<hr/>
Estimated weight: 1,158 tons			463 loads
			<hr/>

Night Soil Collection.

A weekly collection of night soil is made from Chaddesley Corbett Village. The work is done by a local contractor, who uses a motor lorry provided with suitable bins for the carriage of the night soil. No complaints have been received with regard to the manner in which this work is done.

The Council's proposed Sewerage Scheme for the village will render this service unnecessary, but as a temporary measure the system is as efficient as possible.

Number of pail closets emptied per week: 81.

Cesspools.

Pending the installation of the Council's proposed sewers, nuisances from overflowing cesspools have again been dealt with by the use of a hired cesspool emptying vehicle. 194 cesspools have been emptied at the owners' expense, and the service has been considerably extended.

CAMPING SITES.

Number of large sites which were used for camping purposes (approximately)	22
Number of sites in respect of which licences have been issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	2
Estimated number of campers resident in the Area at any one time during the summer of 1951	2500
Inspections made	46

Once again the camping sites were well patronised during the season. Inspections made at the peak periods showed that there was a continued improvement in camping methods. The ready co-operation of the owners of the sites prevented any serious nuisance arising.

WATER SUPPLY.**General.**

Number of samples submitted for analysis	....	...	50
Number of samples found to be unfit or unsuitable	...		21
Number of samples found to be fit	...	....	29

Council's Borehole, Cookley.

Number of samples submitted for chemical examination	....	...	....	...	...	4
Number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination	....	...	...	...	.....	12
Number of samples found to be chemically of good quality and fit for drinking	....	....	...			4
Number of samples found to be bacteriologically of good quality and fit for drinking	...	...	...			12

The water from the Borehole shows little variation in physical character and chemical composition.

For specimens of Analyst's Reports see Medical Officer of Health's Report.

HOUSING.

Although the Council have an excellent record of house building, 1951 proved disappointing in that only 42 houses were completed as compared with 70 in 1950. The future programme however, is so advanced as to warrant hope of much better progress in 1952.

The demand for Council houses shows no sign of decreasing, in fact the number of families living in rooms has increased during the year from 244 to 258.

There is evidence of an increasing demand for two bed-roomed houses for young married couples with up to two children of the same sex, and the Council intend to provide for this demand.

The situation at the end of the year is shown in the following table:—

Parish	No. of houses let	No. of houses occupied	No. of Applications	Service and Ex-Servicemen		Others		Farm Workers	Waiting to get married	Aged
				With homes	In rooms	In rooms	With homes			
Rock	33	33	66	9	21	4	7	15	3	7
Stone	18	16	31	4	6	5	4	10	1	1
Arley	4	4	39	4	15	7	3	7	2	1
Kidderminster Foreign ..	9	9	27	3	12	2	6	2	2	—
Wolverley ..	88	86	166	25	65	26	20	11	6	13
Cookley	75	75	143	35	41	14	28	9	3	13
Churchill and Blakedown and Broome ..	38	38	80	20	21	5	11	13	2	8
Chaddesley Corbett ..	44	39	67	8	17	6	9	14	1	12
Rushock	1	1	9	—	1	—	1	6	—	1
Out of K.R.D. ..	1	1	90	8	40	9	3	7	6	17
Total ..	311	302	718	116	239	78	92	94*	36	73

* Including applications by Employers.

COMPLAINTS.

Number of complaints received	572
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Summary of Complaints.

Housing Defects	102
Defective and choked drainage	171
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	299

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1951.

Particulars of Visits and Inspections are as follows:—

Number of premises inspected	...	...	3668
Bakehouses	...	...	24
Caravans and Movable Dwellings	...	...	76
Dairies	...	...	60
Fried Fish Premises	...	...	8
Infectious Disease	...	...	23
Overcrowding	...	...	336
Premises where animals are kept	...	...	102
Schools	...	...	8
Water Courses	...	...	82
Water Supply	...	...	301
Workshops	...	...	2
Provision of Dustbins	...	...	43
Miscellaneous	...	...	801
Refuse Collection	...	...	1802

SANITARY WORK.**Interior of Houses.**

Dirty houses improved and cleansed by tenants	...	11
Verminous houses dealt with	...	3

Yards and Outbuildings

Dirty yards and W.C.'s cleansed by tenants	...	21
Offensive accumulations removed from yards, etc.	...	176

Drainage

Yard gullies cleansed by tenants	....	...	...	121
Drains opened and cleansed from obstruction	...	...	...	124
Defective drains repaired	....	...	...	78
New drains provided	....	...	...	37
Glazed stoneware gullies provided	...	....	...	22
Inspection chambers provided to drains	...	...	...	16
Overflowing cesspools cleansed and repaired	...	....	...	322
Inspection chambers repaired and provided with new air-tight covers	....	....	...	13
Glazed sinks provided	...	...	...	12
Cesspools abolished	....	....	...	25

Water Closets

New Water Closets erected	....	...	...	14
Additional W.C.'s provided	...	....	...	2
Foul and obstructed W.C.'s cleansed	...	...	....	204
New W.C. cisterns provided, others repaired	...	....	...	16
Water Closets repaired	....	...	...	72
Water Closets provided with new basins	....	...	...	13
Defective water supply to W.C.'s remedied (burst water pipes, defective ball valves, etc.)	....	...	...	98
Conversions:—				
Conversion of privies to W.C.'s	...	....	...	9
Conversion of pail closets to W.C.'s	14

Urinals

Urinals cleansed and repaired	16
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Privies and Pail Closets

New pans provided to pail closets	38
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Ashpits and Dustbins.

Houses provided with new sanitary dustbins	23
Insanitary conditions of dustbins cleansed by tenants	24
Ashpits abolished	....	...	...	7

Various

Nuisances from improper keeping of animals ...	12
Accumulations of manure and refuse removed ...	36
Miscellaneous nuisances dealt with	312
Nuisances on highways	1

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

Infestation ~~Infection~~ Order, 1943.

Appended herewith is a summary of the work carried out during the year.

No. of infestations dealt with at private houses ...	163
No. of infestations dealt with on business premises	24
No. of other infestations dealt with	1
No. of complaints received	130

Sewers.

Acting on the instructions of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the sewers at Blakedown and Wolverley were test baited during the year with satisfactory results.

Worcestershire Agricultural Executive Committee.

The co-operation between this Committee and ourselves has been excellent, and our thanks are due to all concerned.

Worcestershire Planning and Advisory Committee.

I am pleased to be able to report that this Committee has done very useful work during the year.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, may I express my thanks for the interest and support given by the whole of the Council during the year.

I would also express my appreciation of the willing co-operation which I have received from the Clerk, Mr. J. H. Swann, the Surveyor, Mr. A. S. Northover, the Rating Officer, Miss I. M. Mountford, and the whole of the Council's staff.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. S. PORTER,

Sanitary Inspector.

