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LICHFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Annual

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Annual Report

OF THE


Medical Officer of Health

FOR YEAR 1937

BY

JOHN A. WATT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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Lichfield Rural District Council.

RURAL COUNCIL HOUSE,
LICHFIELD,

22nd July, 1938.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Lichfield Rural District Council.*

Lady and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health, housing and sanitary conditions of the District during 1937—prepared in the form directed by the Minister of Health.

I am glad to be able to report a great reduction of the Infantile Mortality Rate as compared with the previous year. The rate was 44 per 1,000 births and the lowest ever recorded in the District. It is a gratifying result of the schemes set up to improve the care and nurture of infant life.

Apart from the widespread epidemic of Influenza in the early months there was little Infectious Disease. Influenza was responsible for a small rise in the Death Rate. Another important factor now influencing the Death Rate is the greater number of persons living to an advanced age at a period when the Birth Rate is falling. This influence tends to prevent any further fall in the Death Rate and may ultimately cause a rise.

The most urgent sanitary requirement is the completion of sewers and sewage disposal works in populous areas. Without this the sanitary environment of the working classes cannot be raised to a proper standard for the maintenance of health or good housing conditions. The ideal to be aimed at is the provision of a pure and ample water supply, sewers and sewage disposal works, and scavenging schemes in all parishes except the most rural. I trust this work will be pushed on for early completion.

Mr. Illingworth, Senior Sanitary Inspector, has given me valuable assistance in preparing this Report, and I have to thank the Clerk and the Officers of the District Council for their help and co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN A. WATT.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN A. WATT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors:

B. L. ILLINGWORTH, Cert. San. Inst.

G. RICHARDSON, Cert. San. Inst. and J.E.B.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector:

W. E. SHELLEY, Cert. San. Inst. and J.E.B.

Clerk:

K. BLOWER.

Engineer and Surveyor:

J. G. RIMAND, M. Inst. M. & Cy. E.

Clerk to the District Council:

THOMAS MOSELEY.

Medical Officer of the Lichfield Joint Isolation Hospital:

DR. R. E. JOHNSON, Lichfield.

Matron - Miss E. D. DYCHE.

Tuberculosis Officer:

DR. A. H. PARKINSON, Stafford.

(Appointed by County Tuberculosis Joint Committee).

District Medical Officers.

Staffordshire Public Assistance Committee.

Name of Medical Relief District.	Parishes.	District Medical Officer.
Alrewas ...	Alrewas Elford Edingale Harlaston	DR. A. DE LA C. RUSSIAN Ern Lodge, Alrewas.
St. Chad's	Streethay Whittington Fisherwick Swinfen & Packington Weeford	DR. R. E. JOHNSON, West Gate Cottage, Lichfield.
Shenstone	Shenstone (part) Wall	DR. T. D. STUART SHAW, The Red House, Lichfield.
Rugeley ...	Colton Mavesyn Ridware Longdon Armitage-w-Handsacre Brindley Heath	DR. J. H. WHITESIDE, Armitage.
Ogley Hay	Farewell & Chorley Burntwood Hammerwich Shenstone (part)	DR. W. FRASER, Chase Lodge, Chasetown.
Yoxall ...	Hamstall Ridware Kings Bromley	DR. C. J. ARMSON, Brook House, Yoxall.
Tamworth	Wigginton Thorpe Constantine (part)	DR. W. LOWSON, Colehill. Tamworth
Clifton Campville	Clifton Campville Thorpe Constantine (part)	DR. J. R. SALMOND, Lindores, Appleby Magna.
Fazeley ...	Hints (part) Fazeley Drayton Bassett	DR. W. C. WHITESIDE, Fazeley.
Canwell ...	Hints (part)	DR. T. BETTERIDGE, Sutton Coldfield.

Section A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	84,573
Registrar General's estimate of resident population, mid-1937	31,680
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	8,191
Rateable Value, 1st October, 1937 ...	£143,572
Sum represented by a penny rate	£526

The Lichfield Rural District, in the County of Stafford, surrounds completely the ancient city of Lichfield. On its East and South sides it is bounded by the Counties of Derby, Leicester and Warwick. The North and West sides are bounded by the County of Stafford comprising the following county districts in order from the North: Tutbury Rural, Uttoxeter Rural, Stafford Rural, Rugeley Urban, Cannock Urban, Brownhills Urban and Aldridge Urban.

The district is in the main devoted to agriculture. A considerable portion forms part of the valley of the Trent and its large tributary, the Tame. Along the river valley the land is flat—between the 200 and 300 contour level—rising on the West side to an altitude of nearly 700 feet in the parish of Brindley Heath, part of Cannock Chase. The Western section contains coal seams and there is a considerable mining population. There are pottery works in Armitage and tape mills in Fazeley. The parish of Shenstone is largely residential and an overflow from the city of Birmingham.

The soil on the whole is light and porous with a subsoil of gravel or marl and a few islands of clay. In the Cannock Chase district there is a thin layer of peat lying upon gravel and sand, a relic of the old Cannock Chase forest.

There are two large public institutions in the district: (1) The County Mental Hospital, Burntwood, with 1,200 patients and staff; (2) Whittington Barracks.

There is a good deal of short time employment among miners in Cannock Chase, especially during the summer months, and during the winter there is the usual unemployment among agricultural and general labourers.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—		Total.	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated Population
Legitimate	...	490	253	237	15.78
Illegitimate	...	10	5	5	
Total	...	500	258	242	

Still-Births					Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
...	...	20	6	14	38.46

Deaths					Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Resident Populat'n
...	...	353	195	158	11.11

Deaths from Puerperal causes—					Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	0	0
Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	2	3.84

Death rate of infants under one year of age—

All infants, per 1,000 live births (22) ... 44.0

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births
(21) ... 42.85

Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live
births (1) ... 100

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 44

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... 1

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... 1

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ... 1

Table giving comparative Birth, Death, and Infantile Mortality Rates in Lichfield Rural District.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality
1884	33'1	15'2	—
1907	26	12	113
1917	21'3	11'6	61
1927	16'75	10'48	57'69
1931	15'32	11'29	67'68
1932	15'87	10'97	61'70
1933	15'90	9'36	48'21
1934	16'50	10'20	69'30
1935	15'6	9'34	57
1936	14'7	10'7	84'8
1937	15'78	11'1	44'0
England and Wales—			
1937	14'9	12'4	58

The Birth Rate was 15'78 and showed a distinct rise in 1937 with an increase of 40 births. It compares favourably with that of the country as a whole.

The Death Rate was slightly higher at 11'1 owing to an extensive epidemic of Influenza which was prevalent in the early months of the year—18 deaths were assigned to Influenza as against only 3 in 1936. The Death Rate compares very favourably with that of England and Wales as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate at 44 per 1,000 births is the lowest recorded in the district, the average for the whole country being 58.

Deaths from Violence showed a marked increase and were responsible for 27 deaths. This exceeded all deaths from Infectious Diseases including Influenza.

**Causes of Death in the Rural District of Lichfield
during the year 1937.**

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Males.	Females.
(Civilians only)			
All Causes.....		195	158
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	...	...	...
2 Measles .....	...	...	1
3 Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	1
4 Whooping Cough .....	...	...	1
5 Diphtheria.....	...	...	...
6 Influenza	11	...	7
7 Encephalitis Lethargica .....	...	...	...
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	...	...	...
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	...	4
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	1
11 Syphilis .....	...	...	...
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ...	1	...	1
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	20	...	24
14 Diabetes	2	...	3
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	5	...	12
16 Heart Disease	47	...	40
17 Aneurysm ..	...	...	...
18 Other circulatory diseases	11	...	10
19 Bronchitis ..	3	...	3
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	14	...	4
21 Other respiratory diseases	3	...	2
22 Peptic Ulcer.....	2	...	...
23 Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years).....	1	...	...
24 Appendicitis .....	...	...	1
25 Cirrhosis of Liver .....	...	...	...
26 Other diseases of Liver, &c. ....	...	...	1
27 Other digestive diseases	2	...	4
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	8	...	5
29 Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	...	...
30 Other puerperal causes	—	...	2
31 Congenital debility, prem. births, malformations, &c.	9	...	8
32 Senility	6	...	7
33 Suicide	6	...	...
34 Other violence	18	...	3
35 Other defined diseases	11	...	13
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown.....	1	...	...
POPULATION ...		31,680.	

Section B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Staffordshire County Council provide first-class Bacteriological and Chemical Laboratories at Stafford, which are placed at the service of Medical Practitioners, Hospitals and Local Authorities free of charge.

A tabulated list of the work carried out during 1937 is given below.

Swabs sent for Diphtheria Bacillus—

Throat—	Positive	Negative	Total
From Practitioners ...	17	129	146
From Isolation Hospital	19	163	182
Nose—			
From Practitioners ...	—	4	4
From Isolation Hospital	28	151	179
Ear—			
From Isolation Hospital	—	6	6

Other Specimens—

Sputa for Tubercle Bacillus	8	30	38
Blood	1	5	6
Pus	—	2	2
Fæces... ..	—	2	2
Cerebro Spinal Fluid ...	—	2	2
Swabs from Vagina ...	—	7	7
Gums	1	—	1

Samples of Water—

	Fit	Unfit	Total
Chemical Examination ...	6	55	61
Bacteriological Examination	12	49	61

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The District Council owns an Austin 6-cylinder 18 h.p. Ambulance, and has built a garage at the District Council Offices for its accommodation.

The Ambulance is used for the removal of sick persons and accident cases to or from hospital, as well as for the conveyance of Infectious Disease cases to Isolation Hospitals. This arrangement is not ideal but will cease when the proposed new Joint Isolation Hospital for Central Staffordshire is erected and provides its own Ambulance.

The Ambulance responded to 376 calls during 1937, as follows :—

Lichfield Rural District infectious cases	...	71
Residents in the Rural District	... ..	154
Lichfield City Council	... ..	48
Brownhills U.D.C.	... ..	5
Aldridge U.D.C.	... ..	2
Rugeley U.D.C.	... ..	5
Tutbury R.D.C.	... ..	6
Public Assistance Committee	... ..	8
Military Authorities	... ..	12
Police calls for (1) Lichfield Rural District	...	24
(2) Lichfield City	... ..	19
(3) Military Authorities	... ..	2
Private Residents	... ..	20
		376

Total mileage run - 7,270'2

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The following Nursing Associations work in the Lichfield Rural District and are affiliated to the Staffordshire Nursing Association.

<i>Association.</i>	<i>Hon. Secretary.</i>
ARMITAGE— Nurse Micklewright, S.C.M.	Mrs. Holdcroft, The Rectory, Armitage.
ALREWAS— Nurse Cluley, S.C.M.	Mrs. Whitfield, Burton Road, Alrewas.
CHASETOWN— Queen's Nurse Beeston, S.C.M. Queen's Nurse Parker, S.C.M. Nurse Croft.	H. Milton Lees, Esq., Malvern House, Chase Terrace, Walsall.
ELFORD— Nurse Statham, S.C.M.	Mrs. Heath, Fish Pits Farm, Harlaston.
FAZELEY— Nurse F. Statham, S.C.M.	Mrs. Ridsdale, Fazeley, Tamworth.
HINTS & WEEFORD— Nurse Durber, S.C.M.	Mrs. Bourne, Bourne House, Weeford, Lichfield.
SHENSTONE & STONNALL— Nurse Preston, S.C.M.	Miss Seal, Deanfield, New Road, Shenstone, Lichfield.
STREETLY & LITTLE ASTON— Queen's Nurse Brown, S.C.M.	Mrs. Norman Wilson, Maynor, Thornhill Road, Streetly, nr. Birmingham.
THORPE— Nurse Phillips, S.C.M.	Mrs. Paris, The Rectory, Thorpe.
WHITTINGTON— Nurse Darby, S.C.M.	Miss Dyott, Freeford Hall, Lichfield.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following Clinics and Treatment Centres are in operation in the area :

Infants' Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics.

*Alrewas	Oddfellows' Hall	1st and 3rd Tuesdays	2—5 p.m.
Armitage	Primitive Methodist Temple	2nd and 4th Tuesdays	1-30—5 p.m.
Chasetown ...	Social Institute	Wednesday Weekly 3rd Wednesday	1-30—5 p.m. 9-30 a.m.—12-30 p.m.
*Fazeley	Victoria Memorial Hall	Monday Weekly	1-30—5 p.m.
*Shenstone ...	Oddfellows' Hall	2nd Thursday	2—5 p.m.
*Whittington	Girls' Club	3rd Thursday	2—5 p.m.

These are all conducted by the Staffordshire County Council.

* Infant Welfare Centres only.

Ultra Violet Light Clinic.

A Clinic for Ultra Violet Ray Treatment is held in Sandford Street, Lichfield, on Tuesdays and Fridays, at which patients from the Rural District are treated.

School Clinics.

There are no School Clinics in operation within the Rural District, but School Clinics of the County Education Committee are held in Centres bordering on the Lichfield Rural Area.

HOSPITALS.

Isolation Hospital.

The Isolation Hospital, situated at Curborough—provided by the City and Rural District Councils of Lichfield for the reception of cases of infectious disease—is under the management of a Joint Committee of the two Councils. The buildings consist of a converted farm-house and two cottages, and an annexe constructed of wood and galvanised iron, situated about a quarter-of-a-mile away from the other section. This latter building, consisting of two wards—each with four beds—was originally provided for Smallpox but is now used as an overflow for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases.

The official accommodation of the Hospital is : Scarlet Fever, 14 beds; Diphtheria, 9 beds; and 8 in the annexe.

The provision of a modern Isolation Hospital for Central Staffordshire has been under consideration for many years, and negotiations for the Districts to be included have at last been settled by the Ministry of Health. The Authorities comprising the scheme did not at first include Stafford Borough and Stafford Rural District, but the County Council and the Ministry of Health both considered the area should embrace Stafford. To these proposals the Stafford Authorities objected, and after an appeal was made and heard by a Select Committee of the House of Commons, it was decided that the two Stafford Authorities should be included in the hospital district. An Order will now be made by the Ministry of Health for the provision of a new modern Isolation Hospital of not less than 100 beds, for the treatment of patients in the following Constituent Districts :

<i>Name of District.</i>	<i>No. of Members</i>
The City of Lichfield	1
The Borough of Stafford	4
The Urban District of Aldridge	2
The Urban District of Brownhills	2
The Urban District of Cannock	4
The Urban District of Rugeley	1
The Urban District of Uttoxeter	1
The Rural District of Cannock	3
The Rural District of Lichfield	4
The Rural District of Stafford	2
The Rural District of Tutbury	2
The Rural District of Uttoxeter	1

Smallpox Hospital.

The District Council has two representatives on the Smallpox Hospital Joint Board for South Staffordshire.

Section C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA

Report of Senior Sanitary Inspector.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Parishes of Fazeley and Wigginton and part of the parish of Drayton Bassett are supplied by the Tamworth Joint Waterworks Board.

Part of the Parish of Colton is supplied with water purchased from the Rugeley Urban District Council.

The Parishes or parts of the Parishes of Alrewas, Armitage, Brindley Heath, Burntwood, Clifton Campville, Colton, Curborough & Elmhurst, Drayton Bassett, Edingale, Elford, Farewell and Chorley, Fisherwick, Hammerwich, Hamstall Ridware, Harlaston, Kings Bromley, Longdon, Mavesyn Ridware, Shenstone, Streethay, Swinfen and Packington, Thorpe Constantine, Wall, Weeford, and Whittington, are supplied by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

During the year the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company completed the schemes approved by you after consideration of a report on the Water Supply in the district. These schemes necessitated the laying of 10,954 yards of 6" mains, 38,854 yards of 4" mains, 29,966 yards of 3" mains, 4,241 yards of 2" mains and 6,787 yards of 1½" tubing, making a total length of 51·65 miles of mains at a total cost of £43,184.

The Ministry of Health grants for the schemes were £5,025.

The Staffordshire County Council grants were £5,880.

The remaining schemes, viz.: Alrewas (Alrewas Hayes), Clifton Campville (Statfold), Edingale (Croxall), Harlaston (Hog's Hill), and Longdon (Stonywell) are still under consideration.

The Parish of Hints has a private supply which is sufficient and wholesome. The remaining portion of parishes depend on private wells for their supply.

During the year 30 Certificates of Occupation under Section 6 of the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, were granted for New Houses.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERS.

(Prepared by Mr. J. G. Rimand, Engineer & Surveyor).

Generally, throughout the District, all sewage works have shown a reasonably good effluent during the past year—Alrewas, Little Aston, Stonnall and Whittington particularly. Burntwood, Chasetown, Watling Street and Brindley Heath have been satisfactory, and are being kept in condition in an efficient manner by the workmen employed by you.

Armitage-with-Handsacre.—Lengths of sewer have been laid during the past year at Fair View, Handsacre, and Rectory Lane, Armitage. The Disposal Works in this Parish is inadequate, and a Scheme has now been practically completed for the sewerage of the whole Parish, and the construction of a new works. This will shortly be ready for submission to the Ministry of Health, and it is hoped that work will be commenced on same during the coming year.

Longdon.—A scheme has been prepared for the provision of sewers in a considerable portion of this Parish, and the sewage will be disposed of at the proposed new Sewage Disposal Works at Armitage.

Burntwood.—A Scheme has been approved for the construction of a Pumping Station in the portion of the Cannock Road where Colliery subsidence has taken place. This work will be carried out during the coming year.

Streethay.—These works are out of date, but it has been possible to keep the effluent on the safe side. It will be necessary, no doubt, during the next few years to prepare a Scheme for the re-construction of same.

Wigginton.—Conditions in the portion of Wigginton Village which is sewered are quite good, the disposal being carried out by the Tamworth Joint Sewage Board.

Hopwas.—These works are totally inadequate for the present population, since the number of houses has considerably increased during the past year. This is mainly due to the eighteen Council Houses being practically completed. I have a Scheme in course of preparation for the enlargement of the works, which will be followed by another for the sewerage of Hopwas Hill. This sewer may eventually be connected to the suggested Joint Scheme with Fazeley. The existing works will not in any way be affected by the Joint Scheme, since they serve a portion of the Village which could not be included in this Scheme without pumping.

Fazeley.—The sewage from Fazeley is dealt with by the Joint Tamworth Sewage Board, passing from the main sewer down the Watling Street under the Canal to Tamworth. Considerable development has taken place, and the main sewer is in a bad condition. I have a Scheme for providing a new sewer to relieve the flow and the construction of a Disposal Works in course of preparation.

Colton.—Conditions show little change in this Parish. They have had certain repairs carried out to the existing Disposal Tank during the year. The condition of the sewers is somewhat unsatisfactory, and some attention will probably be needed in the next few years.

Wall.—Plans have been approved for the construction of a Disposal Works which will shortly be commenced. Also for the re-construction of the sewer along the Watling Street.

Shenstone.—The lease for this site has been extended to March, 1942, and the Committee have instructed me to prepare a Scheme in the meantime for new works in this District. Conditions on the Chester Road, Stonnall, are very bad and a proposal for sewerage this area will have to again be considered in the near future.

Muckley Corner.—A Scheme has been considered for this area, but it was decided to postpone it on account of the cost, and the uncertainty as to the trend of development.

Newtown.—Conditions are not good in this area, but as development is restricted there is little change since the last report.

Harlaston.—These works are working in a fair manner and giving a reasonably good effluent.

Elford, Edingale, Clifton Campville, Hill and Hamstall Ridware and Kings Bromley.—There is no change to report in the conditions existing in these Parishes, and there appears to be no cause for any change at the present time, although serious attention will have to be given during the next few years to the provision of proper sewers and the construction of Disposal Works due to the development which is taking place, and to the Water Scheme which has recently been completed.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In the Semi-Urban parts of the district, viz., Alrewas, Armitage (part), Burntwood, Fazeley, Hammerwich, Shenstone and Wigginton—the Parishes where sewage works are provided—water carriage system is strictly enforced. In the other Parishes pail system is recommended. Great progress has been made in the provision of separate accommodation for each house.

In the Parishes named, the Closet and Ashpit accommodation are shown below:—

	No. of Houses	Water Carr'ge	Pail Closets	Privy Middens	Ash- bins	Ash- pits	Other recep- tacles
Alrewas	486	191	44	103	227	38	84
Armitage	411	295	79	56	283	37	91
Brindley Heath ...	161	79	36	46	97	20	44
Burntwood	2350	1984	270	48	2165	25	74
Colton	133	7	70	56	—	56	71
Elford	81	10	30	41	8	41	30
Fazeley	782	756	12	14	714	58	10
Fisherwick	44	10	5	26	1	14	26
Hammerwich	455	290	94	58	214	108	87
Hamstall Ridware	74	14	16	44	30	4	40
Kings Bromley ...	146	46	50	50	33	30	83
Longdon	352	83	110	118	163	34	153
Mavesyn Ridware	117	12	58	47	6	14	97
Shenstone	972	774	77	116	814	93	52
Swinfen-and- Packington	44	15	18	11	15	8	21
Wall	79	27	21	31	24	18	37
Weeford	75	8	61	6	2	10	63
Whittington	210	129	28	41	94	64	12
Wigginton	281	205	28	47	132	72	77
Totals ...	7253	4935	1107	959	5022	744	1152

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection and disposal of House Refuse is carried out in the Parishes or parts of the Parishes enumerated below.

The work is done by Contract and the average cost was 6s. 10d. per house per annum.

Under the terms of the Contracts the Contractors send in each week returns of the parts visited and the amount of refuse removed. These returns show that 8,225 loads were collected and disposed of during the year.

During the year a scheme for the inclusion of some 46 houses in the village of Hamstall Ridware into a Scavenging Area was adopted.

Rats again appeared on the Shenstone Wood End, Alrewas, Bangley and Fazeley tips. I notified the Secretary of the North Warwickshire and South Staffordshire Rat Club. The members visited the tips when some 50 rats were caught and destroyed.

I take this opportunity of thanking the President, Secretary and members of the Club for their services in the destruction of the rats on the tips.

Scavenging, 1937-1938.

Scavenging Area	No. of Houses	Contract			No of Houses	Parish. Cost to			Approx. cost per house per annum.
		£	s	d		£	s	d	
Alrewas	539	200	0	0	480	178	0	0	7 5·05
(Streethay).....	—	—	—	—	59	22	0	0	7 5·05
Armitage	408	200	0	0	408	206	10	0	9 8·61
(Longdon)		6	10	0	17				
					425				
Brindley Heath No. 1	106	65	15	0	156	107	15	0	13 9·77
Brindley Heath No. 2	50	42	0	0					
Burntwood	606	150	0	0	2198	665	0	0	6 0·61
Chasetown.....	658	190	0	0					
Chase Terrace	934	325	0	0					
Fazeley	822	252	0	0	792	243	0	0	6 1·5
(Drayton Bassett)...					30	9	0	0	6 1·5
Hammerwich	603	220	0	0	488	177	10	0	7 3·5
(Wall)					80	29	0	0	7 3·5
Longdon.....	339	130	0	0	322	123	10	0	7 8·05
Shenstone	936	300	0	0	936	300	0	0	6 5·4
(In Hammerwich)...					35	13	10	0	
					971				
Whittington	217	50	0	0	209	48	5	0	4 7·0
(Swinfen)					8				
Wigginton	263	88	10	0	252	84	15	0	6 8·67
(Swinfen) ..					11				
Swinfen					19	5	10	0	6 9·47
	6481					2213	5	0	6 10·0

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of houses visited during the year, either in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease, or in the course of complaints, or in course of systematic survey	...	...	...	3264
Number of Final Notices issued	...	...	...	46
Number of Final Notices complied with	...	...	...	40
Number of Informal Notices issued	...	...	...	386
Number of Informal Notices complied with...	...	...	...	373

Particulars of Sanitary Matters referred to in above Notices:—

New drains to be provided or old ones amended in construction	72
Water closets to be provided	58
Pail closets to be provided	10
Ashbins to be provided	120
Offensive accumulations and other nuisances	12
Animals so kept as to form a nuisance	6
Overcrowding	3
Scavenging	18

Milk—

Producers of Milk on register	471
Wholesalers	1
Retailers	204
Number of Inspections	1050
Number of Formal Notices given	86
Number of Formal Notices complied with	70

Slaughter-houses—

Slaughter-houses on Register—Registered	11
Slaughter-houses on Register—Licenced...	16
Number of visits to Slaughter-houses	1346
Number of Formal Notices given	8
Number of Formal Notices complied with	8

Meat Inspection under the Meat Regulations—

Number of visits	1346
Meat and organs condemned:—	
Carcases of Beef...	95
Beef	1049 lbs.
Heads and tongues	66
Hearts	3
Kidneys	10
Livers and part livers	99
Lights	58
Veal (carcases)	10
Mutton (carcases)	6
Sheeps' livers	51
Pork (carcases)	4
Pigs' heads	30
Pigs' plucks	11
Pigs' kidneys	—
Hams and bacon	29 lbs.

Tuberculosis Order—

Number of carcasses inspected under Tuberculosis Order, 1925	79
Carcasses condemned	33

SHOPS ACT.

During the year 79 Shops were entered into a Register which is not yet completed. When this is done full details of the shops and conditions will be recorded.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Observations are made of smoke from the chimneys of the various Pumping Stations, Sanitary Works, United Dairies Creamery, Cannock Chase Colliery (Electric Power Station), and Tolson's Factories at Fazeley. A letter warning Messrs. Tolson as to the continued nuisance from the chimney at the Bleaching Works had the desired effect.

SCHOOLS.

Water Supply.

The following Schools have a piped water supply laid on: Alrewas, Brindley Heath, Burntwood, Chasetown, Chase Terrace, Colton, Chorley, Clifton Campville, Drayton Bassett, Edingale, Elford, Fazeley, Gentleshaw, Hammerwich, Hamstall Ridware, Hill Ridware, Kings Bromley, Longdon, Little Aston, Shenstone, Stonnall, Wall, Whittington and Wigginton.

A supply for Harlaston School is expected to be laid on soon.

Closet Accommodation.

The closets at the following schools are on the water-carriage system: Alrewas, Brindley Heath, Burntwood, Chasetown, Chase Terrace, Fazeley, Hammerwich, Little Aston, Shenstone, Whittington and Wigginton.

In the parishes where there are no sewage systems the Pail or Earth type are recommended, and are principally in use.

In the parishes of Armitage, Brindley Heath and Wall, public scavenging is in operation, and they are now emptied regularly. At Drayton Bassett, Harlaston, Edingale and Clifton Campville the School Managers attend to the cleansing of the schools.

Action taken to prevent the spread of Infectious Disease.

The following schools were closed for short periods with the object of preventing the spread of Infectious Disease:—

<i>School.</i>		<i>Cause.</i>	<i>Period.</i>
Armitage C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 18—22
Armitage Council School	...	Influenza	Jan. 18—22
Drayton Bassett Council School	...	Influenza	Jan. 19—29
Edingale C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 20—27
Clifton Campville C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 21—29
Little Aston Council School	...	Influenza	Jan. 22—29
Elmhurst Council School	...	Influenza	Jan. 23—29
Longdon C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 25—29
Weeford C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 25—Feb. 1
Brindley Village Council School	...	Influenza	Jan. 27—Feb. 3
Fradley Infants' Council School	...	Influenza	Jan. 28—Feb. 5
Stonnall C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 28—Feb. 5
Elford C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 28—Feb. 5
Canwell C. of E. School	...	Influenza	Jan. 29—Feb. 5
Chorley Council School	...	Influenza	Feb. 2—8
Hints Council School	...	Influenza	Feb. 4—10
Whittington C. Infants' School	...	Measles	June 21—30

Section D

HOUSING.

Table of Houses erected and completed by Private Enterprise during 1937.

Alrewas	2 Houses
Shenstone	5 Houses
	1 Engine and Pump House
	1 Workshop
	1 Store
Fazeley	1 Bungalow
	12 Houses
Burntwood	1 Bungalow
	23 Houses
	1 Shop, Bakehouse and Storeroom
Hammerwich	1 Bungalow
Colton	1 House
Drayton Bassett...	1 Bungalow
Haunton	1 Milk Room

Houses erected by the Council during 1937.

The Rookery, Armitage ...	6 houses (4 houses completed Dec., 1936) total number of houses erected is 10
Norton Lane, Burntwood	20
Bradley Lakes, Longdon ...	8
Cartersfield Lane, Stonnall	12
Ironstone Rd., Burntwood	6
Alrewas Rd., Kings Bromley	14

Housing Statistics for 1937.

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Housing during the year.

(1) a. Total number of Dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	1521
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1591
(2) a. Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	678
b. Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	702
(3) Number of Dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	36
(4) Number of Dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	198

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of Defective Dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers...	29
--	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	126
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices—	
(a) By Owners ...	34
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts—	
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	471
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices—	
(a) By Owners ...	423
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	0
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—	
(1) Number of Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	21
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	13
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 ...	0
(2) Number of Tenements or Underground Rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Tenement or Room having been rendered fit ...	0

4.—Housing Act, 1935—Overcrowding.

a. (I.) Numbers of Dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ...	88
(II.) Number of families dwelling therein ...	90
(III.) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	658
b. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	27
c. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	60
Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	383
d. Particulars of any cases in which Dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding...	Nil

**Statement showing Council Houses in May, 1938, and Recommendations
of the Sub-Committee as to the number of Additional Houses required.**

PARISHES	Old Houses (1)	New Houses (2)	Total (exist- ing) (3)	Decided upon (4)	Total (5)	Additional houses recom- mended by Sub-Com- mittee to be erected for:	
						Needs of Parish (6)	Agri- cultural Workers (7)
Alrewas	20	...	20	12	32	6	6
Armitage-with- Handsacre	16	28	44	8	52	16	...
Brindley Heath .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Burntwood	90	104	194	18	212	{ Chasetown 40 Chase Terrace 40 Burntwood ...	...
Clifton Campville	2	...	2	4	6	...	2
Colton .....	...	...	...	12	12	...	6
Curborough-and- Elmhurst .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Drayton Bassett	7	...	7	10	17	...	...
Edingale	4	14	18	...	18	...	...
Elford	8	...	8	12	20	...	...
Farewell-and-Chorley ...	4	...	4	...	4	...	...
Fazeley	238	..	238	8	246	...	...
Fisherwick	2	...	2	...	2	...	...
Hammerwich	21	22	43	...	43	8	4
Hamstall Ridware.....	4	...	4	4	8	...	...
Harlaston	2	4	6	...	6	...	2
Hints .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Kings Bromley	6	14	20	...	20	...	...
Longdon	15	8	23	8	31	...	...
Mavesyn Ridware... ..	4	—	4	14	18	...	...
Shenstone	30	12	42	70	112	{ Chesterfield ... Stonnall ...	4 4
Streethay.....	8	...	8	...	8	...	...
Swinfen-and-Packington	2	...	2	12	14	...	...
Thorpe Constantine .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wall	4	4	8	...	8	...	...
Weeford .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Whittington	14	...	14	8	22	8	4
Wigginton .....	...	18	18	22	40	4	8
TOTALS ...	501	228	729	222	951	122	56

TABLE SHOWING WORK DONE SINCE 1935.

Parish	Situation of Property	No. of Houses	Date of:		Remarks
			Official Representation	Demolition Order	
ARMITAGE	Rookery Site, Handsacre ...	7	11/10/33		Local Authority purchased site—Demolished
	The Wharf, Handsacre ...	1	6/1/37	6/2/37	New void
	Old Y.M.C.A. Hut, Armitage	1	10/3/37	15/6/37	New void
BURNTWOOD	Burton's Cottages, Handsacre ...	8	18/6/37	26/10/37	6 void, 2 still occupied
	Old Road, Armitage ...	3	18/1/38	1/4/38	Undertaking
	Moss Cross Cottages, Burntwood ...	5	14/3/35	11/7/35	Demolished
	Woodhouses, Burntwood ...	3	2/4/35	4/6/35	Demolished
	Elder Lane, Burntwood ...	1	2/4/36	26/6/36	New void
	27, 29, 31, 33 Blue Ball Row, Burntwood ...	4	17/10/36	18/12/36	3 void, 1 occupied
	Rugeley Road, Burntwood ...	1	14/4/37	4/6/37	Demolition Order
	13 Rake Hill, Burntwood ...	1	18/2/38	4/5/38	New void
	Ogley Hay Road, Burntwood ...	1	1/3/38	29/4/38	Undertaking
	4 & 6 Springale Stycha Lane ...	2	17/10/36	8/2/37	Demolished
COLTON	101, 103, 105 Rugeley Rd., Chase Terrace	3	2/12/35	14/1/36	Reconditioned
	20 Birch Terrace, Chase Terrace	1	27/1/38		Demolished
	28 High Street, Chase Terrace	1	30/8/37	22/10/37	Demolition Order—Void
	Bank Top, Colton ...	1	14/5/35	16/12/35	Demolition Order—Void
	The Row, High Street	6	10/5/38	24/6/38	Demolition Order
EDINGALE	New Row, Edingale ...	9	25/3/36	12/5/36 7/6/37 6/8/37	Demolition Orders at different dates 4 still occupied
	Edingale ...	2	22/12/36	8/2/37	Demolition Orders
	Church Hollow, Edingale	3	29/3/38		Demolition Orders
FAZELEY	17 & 19 Atherstone Street	2	31/5/34	9/8/34	Demolished
	Back of 45 Atherstone Street	1	31/5/34	9/8/34	Demolished
	The Clubroom, Lichfield Street	2	2/10/34		Void
	53 & 55 Brook End	2	26/2/35	30/8/35	Demolished
	57 Brook End	1	26/2/35	30/8/35	Demolished
HAMMERWICH	49 & 51 Brook End	2	8/8/35	30/8/35	Void
	41, 43, 45 & 47 Brook End	4	8/8/35		Reconditioned
	96 & 98 Brook End	2	26/2/35		Reconditioned
	100 & 102 Brook End	2	26/2/35	30/8/35	Demolished
	30, 32, 34, 36, 38, and Back of 32 Atherstone Street	6	9/10/37		Undertaking not to be reoccupied
	50 Lichfield Street	1	3/3/38	10/5/38	Demolition Order
	3 & 3 Mill Lane, Fazley	2	19/3/38		Under consideration
	Station Road, Muckley Corner	1	22/12/36		Undertaking
	Bungalows, Howdles Lane	2	30/8/37	26/10/37 17/11/37	Demolition Orders
	4 Cottages, Anglesey Salings, Newtown	4	17/5/38		Under consideration
	3 Houses, Watling Street	3	29/5/35	26/6/36	Demolished
	Birmingham Road, Wood End	3	18/6/35	8/8/35	1 void, 2 still occupied
HINTS SHENSTONE	Main Street, Shenstone	2	31/5/36	7/2/36	Demolished
	Castle Hill, Stomall	2	31/12/35		Deferred
	Caravan, Chester Road, Stomall	1	31/12/35	8/2/36	Removed
	Main Street, Stomall	3	30/1/36 13/2/36	29/4/36 29/4/36	Demolished Demolished
	Bungalows, Packington Lane	2	5/10/35	26/11/35	1 void, 1 still occupied
SWINFEN & FACINGTON WHITTINGTON	Canal Side, Fullen	1	12/9/35		Demolished
	2 Caravans, Huddlesford	2	17/9/36	29/10/35	Undertaking given
	Cottages, Whittington Harle	1	16/3/38	29/4/38	Demolition Order
	Canal Side, Fullen	2	16/3/38		Adjusted for Owner to convert into 1 house
	The Nook, Whittington	2	9/5/38	24/6/38	Demolition Order
WIGGINTON	Canal Side, Hopwas	4	3/3/38	29/4/38	Adjusted for 3 years. Owner not to relet any house becoming vacant

Section E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 471 Producers, 1 Wholesale Trader, and 204 Retailers on the Registers.

Periodical visits are made to Farms, Producers' and Retailers' premises, and it was found necessary in 60 cases to draw the attention of the occupiers to the neglect of limewashing of cowsheds. These were remedied without further action being taken.

Complaints were received from the County Council that the cowsheds or premises of 118 farms did not comply with their requirements for the Accredited Licence. The requirements in these cases were as follows :—

Reconstruction of Floors ...	...	43
Reconstruction of Drainage ...	...	33
Increased Lighting ...	...	74
Increased Ventilation ...	...	31
Improved Manure Pit ...	...	19
Improved Dairies ...	...	50
Provision of Sterilization Plant ...	...	36

I pointed out to the farmers and Estate Agents of the various farms the defects enumerated above, and they have on 100 farms carried out the requirements. On the remaining 18 farms the alterations are in hand and will be remedied in the near future.

During the year 12 Supplementary Licences were issued for the sale of Designated Milk.

Meat Inspection.

During the year some 2,000 visits were made to the slaughter-houses, shops, vans and places where food is prepared. Full details of the condemnation of meat is given in the classified statement in the Sanitary Inspection of the Area and the table below.

There are 11 registered slaughter-houses and 16 licenced slaughter-houses in your district.

The carcasses of 1,166 beasts, 155 calves, 2,715 sheep and 1,350 pigs were inspected, and it was recommended that the carcasses, etc., as detailed in the classified statement under the Sanitary Inspection of the Area, be condemned.

During the summer months the butchers resort to killing in the evenings, and as the slaughtering takes place 5 days in the week—and occasionally on Sundays as well—it causes a lot of night work when the inspection of the meat is done thoroughly.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known) ...	433	663	155	2595	1350
Number inspected	433	663	155	2595	1350
All diseases except TUBERCULOSIS					
Whole carcasses condemned	6	18	10	6	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	13	43	—	58	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	4·38%	9·20%	6·45%	2·46%	·296%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY					
Whole carcasses condemned	16	55	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	28	92	—	—	34
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10·16%	22·17%	—	—	2·66%

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

No licences or renewals were granted as those in force do not expire until December 31st, 1939.

Adulteration of Foods, &c.

Action under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, the Milk and Cream Regulations, and Condensed and Dried Milk Regulations, is carried out by the County of Stafford.

Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884.

During the year 4 boats were inspected and found to be in accordance with the Acts and Regulations.

The total number for which the boats were registered was 12. The total number occupying was 10, viz., 5 adult males, 3 adult females, and 4 children.

Factory and Workshops Act.

The Workshops and Bakehouses have been inspected, and where the periodical limewashing had not been carried out verbal notices were given. The work was carried out without further action being necessary.

Hackney Carriages.

Three licences for hackney carriages, and three drivers' licences were granted during the year.

Knacker's Yard.

The Knacker's Yard at Dunstall Cottage, Fradley, has been inspected at frequent intervals and found to be in a satisfactory condition. No complaints were received as to these premises, therefore the licence was again renewed.

Petroleum Acts.

Four new licences and 87 renewals were granted during the year.

Section F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Smallpox.—No cases notified.

Scarlet Fever.—Cases notified 49, Removed to hospital 40, Deaths 1.

The death assigned to Scarlet Fever was an infant of fourteen months, admitted to Curborough Isolation Hospital with a diagnosis of Scarlet Fever. On admission it was found to be suffering from Pneumonia, and death was due to this cause. The visiting doctor did not consider the child had Scarlet Fever.

The cases were spread out over the district and drawn from the following Parishes :—

Burntwood Parish	...	...	12
Fazeley	...	...	6
Hammerwich	...	...	7
Longdon	...	...	4
Shenstone	...	...	2
Armitage	...	...	4
Brindley Heath	...	...	2
Wigginton	...	...	2
Alrewas	...	...	4
Other Parishes	...	...	6
			49

The average period of residence in Hospital worked out about 40 days, and I think this could be reduced with safety. Removal to hospital is never urged if satisfactory isolation and nursing can be provided at home.

Diphtheria.—Notifications 20, Removed to hospital 17, Deaths nil. The cases occurred in the following Parishes :—

Fazeley	...	...	...	7
Wigginton	...	...	...	4
Burntwood	...	...	...	4
Hammerwich	...	...	...	3
Other Parishes	...	...	...	2
				20

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

At the end of the year an arrangement was made with the County Schools' Medical staff to begin the immunisation of school children in the district. It was decided to offer immunisation in the first place to children in the Infants' Departments. The Education Committee are to give the services of their School Medical Officers for this purpose and the material required will be provided by the District Council. A report of the results will be included in next year's report.

The average period of residence in hospital for Diphtheria cases was 25 days.

Six phials, each containing 8,000 units of anti-toxin, were supplied to practitioners.

Enteric Fever.—One case was notified from and treated in Burntwood Mental Hospital.

Pneumonia.—Cases notified 59. Deaths 12.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—Cases notified 5. Deaths nil. Two cases were removed to Wolverhampton Women's Hospital.

Puerperal Fever.—Cases notified 2. Deaths nil. One case was removed to and treated in the Sutton Coldfield Cottage Hospital.

Cerebro Spinal Fever.—One case was notified of a soldier at the Military Hospital, Whittington Barracks. He was treated at the Victoria Hospital, Lichfield, and recovered.

Tuberculosis.

The notifications received during the year 1937 are shown in the under-noted table, distinguishing between Respiratory and Non-Respiratory cases. The Deaths are similarly classified.

Notification appears to be satisfactory in the District. Only one case was brought to notice from the Death Returns. This was an infant who died in the Children's Hospital, Edgbaston, from Tuberculous Meningitis.

During the year 7 males were sent to Prestwood Sanatorium for treatment, and 1 female to Groundslow. Also 2 males were treated at The Limes, Himley, and 1 female at The Woodlands, Northfield.

New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 years .....	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	1
5-15 years	1	...	4	...	...	1	...	...
15-25 years	3	2	1	1	...	1	...	...
25-35 years	1	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
35-45 years	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	1
45-55 years	5	...	...	...	5	1	...	...
55-65 years	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	13	3	7	4	13	3	0	2

Cancer.

Deaths from Cancer numbered 44 (20 males, 24 females) compared with 43 deaths during 1936.

Notifiable Diseases, other than Tuberculosis, during the year 1937.

DISEASE	AGE PERIOD IN YEARS												Total.	Cases admitted to Hsptl	Total Deaths	
	Under 1 year	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 years & upwards				
Smallpox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	1	1	...	...	2	21	13	4	6	...	1	...	49	40	1	...
Diphtheria ..	...	...	...	2	1	3	8	4	1	1	...	...	20	17	...	...
Enteric Fever including Paratyphoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	1	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	2	...	...
Pneumonia ...	2	1	2	1	1	7	3	5	10	5	16	6	59	2	12	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	8	3	16	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for
on the administration of the Factory and Workshop
and WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY

Premises.	
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	..
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	..
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	..
TOTAL	..

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES

Particulars.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—</i>	
Want of cleanliness	.. ..
Want of ventilation	.. ..
Overcrowding ..	.. ..
Want of drainage of floors	.. ..
Other nuisances ..	.. ..
Sanitary accommodation	{ insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts—</i>	
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	.. ..
Other offences ..	.. ..
(excluding offences relating to outwork and offences mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Labour (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Act, 1901)	
TOTAL	..

1937, for the RURAL DISTRICT OF LICHFIELD,
 1901, in connection with FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS,

WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

	Number of		
	Inspections.	Verbal Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
..	8	..	..
..	70	8	..
..	4	..	..
..	82	8	...

WORKSHOPS and WORKPLACES.

	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
..	9	9	..	..
..
..
..
..
..
..
..
..
..
..
..
..	9	9	..	...

JOHN A. WATT, Medical Officer of Health.



