ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR 1946

on the

MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT

by

A. F. TURNER, M.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health

and

HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

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MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

YEAR 1946

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health to your Authority. I took up the combined appointments of Assistant County M.O.H. Worcestershire, and Medical Officer of Health for the Malvern Urban and Upton Rural Districts on the 1st September, 1946, on the retirement of Major M. J. Quirke, I.M.S. It is not easy to work for three different Authorities and the task is made more difficult by the absence of a central office with clerical help. If such an office was established the routine County Council work could then be delegated to the districts and I am sure the Medical Officer could do his work much more efficiently and with more enthusiasm. I mention this matter as I understand a scheme for decentralisation is under consideration.

The health of the district as shown by the vital statistics has been maintained with the exception of the infantile mortality rate which at 79/1000 compares badly with the overall England and Wales figure of 43/1000. The infantile mortality figure is a very delicate index of the health of the population and the increase in this rate may herald more unsatisfactory figures in the general health of the community at a later date. I think much more consideration should be given to the small nucleus of bad housing conditions in Malvern and sanitation should be the yard-stick on which houses are allotted. The vital statistics are discussed later in the Report.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. F. TURNER.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

A R E A of land and inland water	7,672 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population...	20,020
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1946) ... ... according to the Rate Books	Not Known
Total Number of Assessments	5,864
Rateable Value	£154,197
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£648

V I T A L S T A T I S T I C S

LIVE BIRTHS

	Legitimate	Illegitimate
Males	156	18
Females	160	18
Total	316	36

Birth Rate /1000 population 17.5

STILL BIRTHS

	Legitimate	Illegitimate
Males	2	-
Females	3	-
Total	5	-

Still Birth Rate /1000 live and still births 14.0

DEATHS

Males 128 Females 173

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis..... 0
" " other Puerperal causes..... 1
" of Infants under 1 year.... Legit..21 Illog.. 7
" from Cancer 46
" " Measles..... 0
" " Whooping Cough..... 0
" " Diarrhoea under 2 years of age..... 1

COMMENTS ON VITAL STATISTICS.

(i) The birth rate of 17.5 per 1,000 is below the England and Wales figure of 19.1. The large proportion of old people in Malvern accounts for this slight difference. The still birth rate was 14 /1,000 live and still births and they were all legitimate. The actual number was 2 males and 3 females and the rate per 1,000 population is .25 against .53 for England and Wales.

(ii) There were 301 deaths during the year and the rate per 1,000 was 15 against the England and Wales figure of 11.5. Considering the age distribution of the population this is not unsatisfactory.

(iii) The Infant Mortality rate for the year was 79 per 1,000 live births against the England and Wales figure of 43, that is almost double. I have gone into this matter carefully and cannot find any one reason why it should be so high. There are no significant differences in death rates in Hospitals and Maternity Homes compared with children dying at home. There were 9 deaths in premature babies.

To reduce the Infant Mortality rate I think action should be taken as follows:-

(a) Home conditions. Much more attention should be paid to rehousing the really bad families and to remedying defects in bad houses whenever possible.

(b) A scheme for the care and supervision of premature babies.

(c) More refresher courses for the district nurses.

(d) The accommodation and staffing of the Private Maternity Homes in Malvern needs to be revised and brought up to date as far as possible in these difficult times.

At present I am concentrating on the Infant Welfare Clinics and I have received a tremendous amount of help from the Health Visitors and the Womens' Voluntary Committee have also given valuable service. I think another 2 years hard work will show a reduction in this most unsatisfactory figure.

DEATHS IN CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR

TOTAL 28

Died at home.....15		Died in Maternity Homes and Hospitals.....13	
Disease	Age at Death	Disease	Age at Death
Atelectasis	1 day	Prematurity	2 days
Prematurity	1 day	" "	2 days
Hydrocephalus & Spina Bifida	10 mins	Acute Laryngitis and Broncho Pneumonia	4 mths.
Congenital Heart Disease and Spina Bifida	3 days	Inanition	1 week
		Atelectasis	1 week
Broncho Pneumonia and Congenital Heart	7 mths	Prematurity (7 mths.)	7 hrs.
Atelectasis & Prematurity	2 days	Cerebral Abcess, Pyarthrosis of Knee	1 mth.
Otitis Media	1 mth.	Gastro Enteritis and Broncho Pneumonia	2 weeks
Atelectasis	5 hrs.		
Prematurity	12 hrs.	Congenital Debility	5 hrs.
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3 days	Broncho Pneumonia	4 days
Marasmus	3 mths	Prematurity	15 hrs.
Icterus Gravis	8 days	" "	10 weeks
Broncho Pneumonia	12 days	Atelectasis and Prematurity	15 hrs.
" "	5 mths		
Inhalation Pneumonia	14 days		

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(a) Laboratory facilities are available at the County Laboratory in Worcester and are satisfactory. Occasionally the Ministry of Health Laboratory in Hereford is made use of for special investigations such as the typing of streptococci in epidemics of Scarlet Fever.

(b) Ambulance Facilities are unaltered and adequate.

(c) Home nursing is carried on by the District Nursing Associations in an efficient manner. I think it is desirable to send these Nurses on courses at frequent intervals as it gives them a change, possibly a rest from hard physical work, and undoubtedly raises their morale and efficiency.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics. There are 3 Infant Welfare Centres in Malvern, a school clinic for minor ailments and a remedial exercises clinic for school children with orthopaedic defects.

(e) The number of maternity beds in the private nursing homes is decreasing and the only available accommodation will shortly be far removed from Malvern. I know there are many snags in running small maternity hospitals but having given the matter a great deal of attention and heard the arguments of women who want to be confined in a home I think there is a need of a twenty-five bedded hospital and I am sure that if it was not fully booked by cases from Malvern and Upton-on-Severn Districts, it would attract many people from Worcester and other places. Such a hospital would virtually cut out the private homes, but I think a satisfactory arrangement could be come to even going so far as to incorporate some of the present staff and buildings to the benefit of all concerned.

(f) Home Help. A Home Help scheme was started in September, 1946, by the local branch of the W.V.S. and the County Council. This service has run well and an average of 12 Helps has been employed. The success of the service has been largely due to the unflagging energy of Miss Day who has put in a tremendous amount of work to make it go. The Helps are paid at the recommended rate of £3. 3s. 0d. for a 42 hour week and the charge to householders is 1/8d per hour. No uniforms have been issued to the Helps apart from overalls. As the number of maternity beds is decreasing this service will more than ever be required in Malvern.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

1. Water

Periodic analyses are taken by your Surveyor, Mr. C. C. Judson, and show that the mains water is satisfactory. An average report is appended.

Malvern is on a water meter system, and when I came here at first, I thought it was a good idea and that a considerable amount of water which is usually wasted, would be saved. There are, however, some snags, especially in letting houses when the owner pays the water rates, and it sometimes leads to non flushing of lavatory pans and other insanitary practices.

2. There are no rivers or streams in the District.

3. (i) Closet Accommodation

No change from previous Reports.

(ii) Public Cleansing

Conditions remain as detailed in previous Reports. This work is carried out under the direction of your Surveyor.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of Area

See Report of your Chief Sanitary Inspector, commencing on page 9

(iv) Shops

For the details and administration of these Acts, see the Report of your Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(v) Smoke Abatement

No action has been taken under this heading.

(vi) Swimming Baths and Pools

The Public Swimming Bath in Priory Park has a chlorinating plant, and I understand that the result of examinations of samples of the water taken has been satisfactory. The bath is unheated.

There are some six or seven Swimming Baths belonging to private Schools in the District, of which I have no information.

(vii) Eradication of Bed Bugs

See Report of your Chief Sanitary Inspector, page 14.

4. Schools

The Malvern schools are well constructed and there are no outstanding sanitary defects. School meals are served in the majority of schools and the kitchens and diningrooms are adequate in most cases. The central kitchens have been constructed for the purpose and are, of course, excellent.

The health of the school children is well maintained and the incidence of infestation is low. D.D.T. and Benzol Benzoate are being used to treat cases of head lice and scabies respectively, and cases found in school are followed up at home and the family offered treatment if necessary.

A School Clinic is now held at Newtown Road on three mornings a week. Previously, the doctor visited various schools where there were no facilities for treatment. I think that unless all the facilities are available for proper work to be done, a clinic should not be held. The Newtown Clinic is central and within two minutes walk from the bus stop on the main Worcester Road. It is within reasonable reach of any child in the Urban District.

HOUSING

The housing problem is acute in Malvern, as the population has increased during the war years and there are now approximately one quarter more people without anything like a proportional increase in new houses. Although several hostels have been built and houses converted into flats, there are a great many people living under unsatisfactory conditions.

The new housing programme is going on steadily, but I think much greater consideration is required in allocating the houses. One person, preferably a member of the Public Health staff, should see the living conditions of all the applicants under consideration and should prepare a short list.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1946:

Disease	All Ages	0 -	1 -	3 -	5 -	10 -	15 -	25 -	or ages N.K.
Scarlet Fever	32	-	4	6	8	2	7	5	
Diphtheria	17	-	1	-	5	4	5	2	
Whooping Cough	28	2	7	9	10	-	-	-	
Measles	157	4	16	34	76	16	7	4	

	All Ages	0 -	5 -	15 -	45 -	65	or ages N.K.
Acute Pneumonia	79	20	12	21	18	8	
Dysentery	100	15	30	37	10	8	
Cerebro Spinal Fever	5	1	1	3	-	-	
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	1	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1						

APPENDIX

M A L V E R N W A T E R

Physical Characters	13th Feb. 1946	23rd Sept. 1946
Colour	Clear	Clear
Odour	None	Chlorine
Deposit	None	None
	pH 7.4	pH 7.2

Chemical Examination		
Solids in Suspension (Dried at 100°C) ...	None	None
Solids in Solution (Dried at 100°C) ...	21	23
" " " After ignition ...	18	16
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt ...	2.6	2.8
Hardness Permanent	8	8
" Temporary	8	6
" Total	16	14
Free and Saline Ammonia	0.002	0.0008
Albumoid Ammonia	0.003	0.005
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates)	Trace	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrites)	None	None
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C ...	0.013	0.03
Toxic Metals	None detected	None detected
Free chlorine on receipt...	0.006	None

Bacteriological Examination		
Number of Colonies developing upon Agar		
(a) In two days at 37°C	Nil per one m.l.	2 per one m.l.
(b) In three days at 22°C	10 " " "	10 " " "
Coli-aerogenes (Presumptive Coli) count	Nil per 100 m.l.	Nil per 100m.l.
Streptococci	Absent	Absent

Sanitary Inspector's Office

Public Health Department,

The Council House,

Malvern.

July, 1948.

To the Chairman and Members of the Malvern
Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year, 1946, dealing with the work carried out by your Sanitary Inspectors.

Publication of Annual Reports was suspended during the war period, when the energies of your Sanitary Inspector were primarily devoted to the welfare of the civil population in connection with work under the Government Evacuation scheme in billeting and housing of families in requisitioned properties, and in addition, the organisation of three of the Civil Defence services.

The outlook at the commencement of the year under review held great promise; with the prospect of permanent staff returning from service with His Majesty's Forces and the re-appointment of an Additional Sanitary Inspector, one looked forward optimistically in the hope that arrears of work in Public Health matters would soon be overcome.

Progress, however, was disappointingly slow, the burden of extraneous work had not lightened and it seemed that as one responsibility was shed, another was acquired.

Control of Civil Building by Licensing of building work took effect in August, 1945, when the Government asked Local Authorities to undertake this task for an experimental period of six months.

It might be appropriate to mention, if only for record purposes, the considerable damage to property caused by extensive gales during March and April. The terrific gale on the 16th March, caused widespread damage to house roofs and chimneys. In one road alone no fewer than eighteen chimney stacks were blown down, and in many cases, entire roofs were stripped of tiles.

This proverbial "Ill Wind" brought additional repercussion on the Department, materials required for repair were in very short supply and on Priority - labour was inadequate to meet the situation.

Builders and property owners alike made commendable efforts in executing emergency repairs pending stocks of slates, tiles, etc., being available, and it affords some pleasure to state that many expressed their thanks for the assistance the staff of the Department were able to render in various ways.

The total number of inspections and visits was 2,568; full details are shewn on the appended list.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Houses Inspected Public Health Act	137
Works in Progress	128
Reinspections	112
Houses Inspected Housing Act	110
House to House Inspections	Nil
Works in Progress	18
Reinspections	52
Houses Inspected re Rent Restriction Act	Nil
Inspections of Common Lodging Houses	7
" Tents, Vans and Sheds	35
" re Overcrowding	132
" Shops	106
" Workshops	95
" Bakehouses	31
" Restaurant Kitchens	24
" Slaughterhouses	18
" Butchers Shops Public Health Meat Regs.	41
" Stables and Piggeries	14
" Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops ...	37
" Ice Cream Premises	17
" Food Shops	76
" Places of Public Entertainment ...	13
" Schools	5
" Public House Conveniences	4
" Public Conveniences	8
Special Visits, Advisory Interviews, etc.	73
Interviews with persons calling at the Office ...	1,017
Visits re Infectious Disease	48
Rat Infestation	137
Miscellaneous	73
Total	2,568

COMPLAINTS

The Register shows that 147 complaints were received during the year under review, these having reference to the following matters:-

Blocked and Defective Drainage	44
Defective Closet Accommodation	6
Insanitary Conditions of Dwellinghouses	75
Accumulations of Offensive Matter	6
Verminous Premises	7
Miscellaneous	9

Where a nuisance or defect was found to exist, steps were taken to remove the cause of the complaint by drawing the attention thereto of persons responsible, by letter or interview, a procedure which has generally been effective.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT
DRAINAGE AND SANITARY FITTINGS

Number of Houses and Premises Re-drained	15
Repairs or Amendments to existing Drains	18
Drains or Gullies Unstopped or Cleansed	14
Length in Yards of Stoneware Drains laid	473
Manholes Provided	22
Manholes Repaired	5
Intercepting Traps Fixed	12
Fresh Air Inlets Provided or Repaired	8
New Gully traps fixed	23
New Soil Pipes and Ventilating Shafts Provided	20
Soil Pipes and Ventilating Shafts Repaired	5
Water Tests Applied	44
Smoke Tests Applied	12
New W.C. Pedestals Fixed	57
W.C.s Unstopped, Cleansed or Repaired	11
Existing Flushing Cisterns Repaired	51
New Flushing Cisterns Fitted W.C.s	76
Joints between W.C.s and Flush Pipes Repaired	7
New W.C Apartments Provided	12
New Urinals Provided	2
Lavatory Basins Provided	53
Baths Provided	37
New Impervious Sinks Provided	40
Sinks Repaired or Refixed	33
New Waste Pipes Fixed	112
Waste Pipes Trapped, Repaired or Unstopped	11
Cesspools and Stagnant Ditches Cleansed	1
W.C. Apartments Cleansed	19

MISCELLANEOUS

New Roofs	13
Roofs Repaired	106
Eaves Guttering Renewed, Cleansed or Repaired	153
Rainwater Pipes Provided, Repaired or Unstopped	137
Damp Walls Remedied	41
Walls Repointed or Repaired	59
Ventilation under Floor Provided	6
Yards Paved	3
Paving of Yard Repaired	10
Floors of Rooms Relaid	14
Floors of Rooms Repaired	32
Rooms Cleansed, Distempered or Repaired	544

New Windows Provided	19
Windows Repaired and/or made to open	58
Ceilings Repaired or Renewed	59
New Sash Cords Provided	17
Window Sills Repaired or Provided	7
Doors Provided or Repaired	16
Staircases Repaired	21
Factories (including Bakehouses) Cleansed and Repaired	28
Water Service Pipes Repaired	32
Houses Provided with Water Supply from Town's Main ...	9
Movable Sanitary Dustbins Provided	14
Accumulations of Refuse Removed	3
Accumulations of Manure Removed	3
New Ranges and Stoves Provided	48
Fire Grates Repaired or Renewed	39
Stoves and Ranges Repaired	10
Washing Coppers Repaired	4
Verminous Rooms dealt with	16

HOUSING

The Housing Act, 1936, requires the Local Authority to make provision for a thorough inspection to be carried out, from time to time, of dwelling-houses throughout the district. The object of which is to ascertain the state of the houses in relation to the following matters:-

(1) The arrangement for preventing the contamination of the water supply.

(2) Closet accommodation.

(3) Drainage.

(4) The condition of the house in regard to light, the free circulation of air, dampness and cleanliness.

(5) The paving, drainage and sanitary condition of any yard or outhouses belonging to or occupied with the house.

(6) The arrangements for the storage of refuse.

(7) The existence of any room which by virtue of sub-section (2) of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, be a house unfit for human habitation. (This section refers to basement dwellings.)

(8) Any defects which tend to render the house unfit for human habitation.

During the year under review, the work in respect of repairs or improvements to dwelling-houses coming under the Housing Act, 1936, has been greatly reduced owing to the National shortage of building labour and materials, together with the need for concentration of available labour on the erection of new houses. However, preliminary surveys have been made with the object of tackling the problem with vigour, as soon as the supply of building materials and labour allows.

No house to house inspections have been made since 1938, and in the main, inspections made of dwelling houses under the provisions of the Housing Act, were following complaints from occupiers.

The majority of property owners or their agents called upon to execute repairs have been co-operative. No Statutory Notices were served.

Every assistance was given to Builders to obtain required materials to expedite essential repairs.

As a result of inspections made, the following summary of unsatisfactory conditions has been compiled:-

Uncleanly Conditions	2
Dampness	8
State of Repair	71
Drainage	7
Closed Accommodation	5
Paving or Sanitary Condition of any Yard or Outbuilding	2
Any defect in other matters which tend to render the Dwelling-house dangerous or injurious to the Inhabitants	10

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.

Individual Houses

Demolition Orders were made in respect of Nos. 1 & 2 The Glen, Sherrards Green, Malvern.

Reports were presented to the Public Health Committee in respect of these two individual houses found to be unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense. The dwellings had been scheduled for attention for a number of years and were in a deplorable condition.

Demolition of the following dwelling-houses subject to Operative Demolition Orders made in 1941, was carried out in default of the owners:

Nos. 1, 2 & 3 Grafton Place, Happy Valley, Malvern.

Clearance Areas

During the year, the following sites were cleared to complete Clearance Order No. 2, of 1935

Ivy Rock Cottage, Happy Valley, Malvern.
Spring Cottage, Happy Valley, Malvern.
Laburnum Cottage, Happy Valley, Malvern.

The following houses were demolished and the sites cleared - Clearance Order No. 3 of 1935:

Rock Cottage, Happy Valley, Malvern.
Rock House, Happy Valley, Malvern.
Nos. 1 & 2 Ash Cottages, Happy Valley, Malvern.

This work of demolition and clearance of sites was also carried out in default of the owners.

OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING-HOUSES

In order to bring the records of the Department up to date, close co-operation was maintained with the Housing Department.

Lists of applicants for Council houses were checked and records made of all likely cases of overcrowding. A survey of these cases numbering 121 was made, and in 48 instances, the families concerned were found to be living in overcrowded conditions.

During the year, 27 cases of overcrowding were abated by reason of the Local Authority providing alternative accommodation. This left 21 dwelling-houses known to be overcrowded at the end of the year.

REQUISITIONED HOUSES

The responsibility for the conversion, adaptation and maintenance of houses requisitioned has continued to be a duty of your Sanitary Inspectors.

At the beginning of the year, 33 houses were under requisition, providing accommodation for 48 families. At the end of the year, 31 houses remained under requisition, providing accommodation for 50 families.

Routine inspections have been made of these properties and necessary repairs carried out from time to time.

The occupiers have proved satisfactory in the general maintenance and keeping clean of these properties.

The severe winter and terrific spring gales, mentioned previously, put a great burden on the staff of the Department following numerous complaints of damage from the occupiers. However, the Builders in the town were of great assistance and these complaints were speedily remedied.

"SQUATTERS" CAMPS

During August, certain families from the Malvern area and other districts, took advantage of the lead given by families in desperate need of housing accommodation in other parts of the country, especially in the London area. Stimulated by publicity through the National press and radio announcements, they occupied Army hutments for the purpose of "Squatting" on the dis-used Military Camp sites referred to as Camp "A", Pickersleigh Avenue and Camp "B" Pickersleigh Road, Malvern Link. One family also occupied a vacant building known as the T.R.E. Watch Hut, Guarlford Road, Malvern.

Following directions given by the Ministry of Health, arrangements were afforded for the provision of electric lighting, water supply and sanitary services.

The Housing Committee of your Council decided against making structural alterations to the hutments, since they were opposed to the idea of "Squatting" becoming permanent, since the sites on which these camps are situated were earmarked for future building purposes.

40 inspections were made by your Sanitary Inspectors during the year with the object of supervision and the abatement of nuisances.

The camps provided accommodation for 39 families who acquired the accommodation on their own initiative.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There is one Common Lodging House, situated in Belmont Road, Malvern Link, under the control of the owner/occupier. Periodical inspections were carried out, and the premises and general sanitary conditions were regarded as satisfactory. I have to record, however, that there has been some deterioration of the standards during the past few years.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

During the year 16 houses were entirely re-drained and the drains of 31 houses were partially reconstructed. These improvements were kept under strict supervision and plans drawn to scale of all the premises re-drained, together with reports showing full particulars of the work carried out, prepared and filed in the office for future reference.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Investigations following the notification of Infectious Disease to your Medical Officer of Health were rigidly carried out.

The removal of patients to the Isolation Hospital and the disinfection of the homes and clothing of infected persons, was supervised by your Sanitary Inspectors as a routine.

The total number of patients admitted to your Isolation Hospital during the year was 75, of those, 8 were from outside the Urban District. 25 of the patients were admitted as paying patients in accordance with the scale of charges made.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The number of rooms fumigated was 92. 111 loads of bedding, clothing, etc., were removed for disinfection and 12 lots of bedding were destroyed. The number of houses treated for the eradication of bedbugs was 7.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, which your Council has to administer, chiefly relate to the following matters:-

(1) Factories where mechanical power is used.

(a) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes.
(b) The provision of means of escape in case of fire in factories in which more than 40 people are employed.

(2) Factories where mechanical power is not used.

(a) Cleanliness.
(b) Overcrowding.
(c) Ventilation.
(d) Drainage.
(e) Provision and maintenance of Sanitary Conveniences for both sexes.

(3) Provision of means of escape in case of fire in Factories in which more than 40 people are employed.

(4) Sanitary Regulations for Bakehouses.

(5) Homework.

The following table shows the list of Factories on the Register.

Bakehouses	23
Shoemakers and Repairers	22
Builders, etc.	26
Dressmakers and Milliners	6
Tailors	6
Furnishers and Upholsterers	5
Garages, etc.	29
Ironmongers and Tinsmiths	6
Laundries	3
Printers	3
Restaurant Kitchens	12
Various	28
	169

The number of inspections made of Factories are as follows, the table being in accordance with the requirements of the Home Office:-

Premises (1)	Number of Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories (Mechanical Power)	40	2	--
Factories (Non-mechanical Power)	55	1	--
Total	95	3	--

Defects found in Factories are as follows:

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	No. of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts				
Want of Cleanliness	5	5	-	-
Want of Ventilation	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Other Nuisances	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient	3	3	-	-
Unsuitable or defective ...	1	-	-	-
Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-
Offences under Factories Act ...	-	-	-	-
Total	9	8	-	-

SHOPS ACT, 1934

The provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, which your Council are required to administer, relate to the arrangements for Health and Comfort of Shop Workers; these requirements are set out in sub-sections (1) and (2) of Section 10 of the Act, and deal with provisions relating to ventilation and temperature in shops, and to sanitary arrangements.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

Additional Sanitary Accommodation	8
Flushing Cisterns Repaired	1
Lavatory Basins Fixed	6

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Milk Supply

There are now 23 Cowkeepers on the Register, of whom 7 are also Retailers of Milk. In addition, there are 7 Retail Purveyors of Milk who are not Cowkeepers.

12 Dairymen are on the Register of Retail Purveyors of Milk whose premises are situated outside the Malvern area.

During the year, 67 inspections were made of Dairies and Cowsheds to ascertain conditions at the time of milking. Requests for the cleansing and limewashing of Cowsheds were made when the occasion arose.

The distribution of milk within the district is generally good.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 to 1943

Accredited Milk is produced at 3 farms under Licence from the County Council.

(b) Meat and Other Foods

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are 13 private slaughterhouses in the district, but the method of centralising slaughtering employed during previous years, is still carried out at Worcester City Abattoir, and no slaughtering takes place within the Malvern area.

Cross Farm, Leigh Sinton Road, continues to be used by the Midland Wholesale Meat Supply Association, Ltd., as a re-allocation Depot for the benefit of the Malvern butchers.

The premises were inspected on 18 occasions to ensure a satisfactory standard of cleanliness was maintained.

BUTCHERS' SHOPS

The Butchers' Shops in the district, to which some 41 visits were made, were found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition.

There are 20 shops in the district and during the year two changes in occupation were recorded.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following articles of diseased or unsound food have been condemned and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption:

Meat

Beef and Mutton	110 lbs.

Tinned Foods

Luncheon Meat	13½ lbs.
Stewed Steak	2 lbs.
Meat and Vegetable	5 lbs.
Pork	4¾ lbs.
Mixed Loaf	¾ lbs.

Foods other than Meat

Eggs	16 doz.
Fish	294 lbs.
Cheese	9½ lbs.
Fresh Fruit	104 lbs.

Tinned Food (Other than Meat)

Milk	63
Fruit	131
Fish	141
Soups	7
Vegetables	137
Jam	21
Miscellaneous	21

Foods (Other than Meat) in Glass Containers

Sauces	1 bottle
Pastes	6 jars
Vegetables	8 jars
Jam	5 jars

Food Salvage

Where possible, food which has been condemned as unsaleable for human consumption but capable for use for conversion into animal feeding stuffs, has been salvaged.

The under mentioned articles of food were disposed of in accordance with instructions received from the Food Salvage Office, Divisional Office of the Ministry of Food, Birmingham.

Prunes	25 lbs.
Sultanas	39¾ lbs.
Cremola	72 packets
Chocolate	31 lbs.
Flour	180 lbs.
Sage and Onion Stuffing	61 lbs.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919

During the year, 197 treatments were carried out for the destruction of rats, of these 3 were major infestations.

In addition, periodical treatment was carried out on the Council Refuse Disposal tips and Sewage Works.

CONTROL OF CIVIL BUILDING - MINISTRY OF HEALTH CIRCULAR 125

During the year under review, 690 Building Licences were granted authorising work in connection with alterations and repair.

Every application for a Licence was carefully scrutinized and an inspection made of the property at which the work was proposed to be carried out.

In many cases, Builders and property owners were interviewed in connection with the modification of proposals made, in order that the work authorised should be confined to the minimum.

The details of these Licences were reported upon at the monthly meetings of the Public Health Committee.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings during the year.

STAFF

Mr. R. Cruddas, Additional Sanitary Inspector and Mr. R. V. Bullock, Clerk, returned from service with H.M. Forces and took up their duties in March and May, respectively.

By reason of their service in the Territorial Army, these two members of the staff were called up immediately upon the outbreak of war in 1939. They both had distinguished service with H.M. Forces. Mr. Cruddas received a commission and rose to the rank of Captain and saw active service in North Africa, Sicily and France following the invasion of Normandy. He was awarded the M.C. for gallantry on the field during the Sicilian campaign.

Mr. Bullock saw service in France and Belgium during the early part of the war and was in the evacuation at Dunkirk. Later, as a Glider-Pilot, he was on active service in the invasion of Normandy and at "Arnhem". He again went over seas and was stationed in India up to the time of his demobilisation.

Mr. J. B. Franks was re-appointed Additional Sanitary Inspector and commenced duties on the 1st March. He held this appointment previously as a temporary officer, (January 1943 - December 1944), leaving Malvern to take up a post as Additional Sanitary Inspector to the Denton Urban District Council.

CONCLUSION

It is with much pleasure that I take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the invaluable help given by members of the staff and for their keen interest in the work of the Department.

I am indebted to Mr. J. Bulman, the Clerk of the Council, for his kind co-operation and help so freely given during the trying circumstances prevailing throughout the war years. This I gratefully acknowledge.

My thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HUGH L. WHITWHAM.