MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1958

M A L V E R N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

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

FOR THE YEAR 1958

by

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

and

HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

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MR. A. W. BALLS

MR. T. COOK (CHAIRMAN)

MRS. C. P. ELLIOTT

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MR. W. J. MARSH

MRS. H. LLOYD MORRIS

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MR. A. L. SURTEES

MR. J. V. H. TOMPKINS

MR. R. KING (Ex. Officio)

MR. C. R. LOCKYER (Ex. Officio)

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MR. T. COOK

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MR. C. B. HUGHES

MR. C. R. LOCKYER

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MR. H. W. T. SQUIBB (from November)

MR. A. L. SURTEES (CHAIRMAN)

DR. A. S. WIGFIELD

MR. R. KING (Ex Officio)

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	HUGH L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspectors	JAMES B. FRANKS, C.R.S.H., R.S.H., Meat and Foods
	WILLIAM D. GREY, C.R.S.H., R.S.H., Meat and Foods
Chief Clerk	EDGAR C. BARBER
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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE COUNCIL HOUSE, MALVERN.

Telephone: Malvern 1531

The Council House,

Malvern.

November, 1959

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my last Annual Report I commented upon the cost to the community of one simple and common accident to which old people are liable. The welfare (in its broadest and non-technical sense) of old people presents us with many problems which are by their nature only capable of amelioration. Indeed the problems of old age will never disappear although they may in the future become less burdensome and alter their characteristics. The closest co-operation is required between all the services of local government and many voluntary organisations in order that old people shall not be subjected to undue misery and suffering.

During the year 1958 there were in all ten old people brought to our notice as in need of friendly supervision and were burdensome either to themselves or their neighbours. Information of the existence of a problem may be received from any of the following persons - Health Inspectors who often get to hear of these things in the course of their normal inspections, The Housing Manager, Health Visitors, County Council Welfare Officer, General Practitioners and the Almoners of all the hospitals in the district. Supervision is sometimes direct, maintained by a regular visit on the part of the Health Visitor or some other official, and sometimes indirect in that other means are taken to ensure that we hear early if an old person is getting into difficulties. Of the ten people who came under our notice during the year, two ultimately were admitted to Avonside Hospital, one to Shrub Hill, two to Powick Hospital, one went to live with relatives, two died at home, and two remained under observation at the end of the year. (It should be remembered that most old people prefer to die at home).

A further time consuming aspect of the work carried out from this department is that of the supervision of so called 'Problem Families' in Malvern. Here again the same sources of information are used for the detection of these families. In the ten years that I have been a Medical Officer of Health it has become increasingly obvious that the vast majority of problem families must remain a problem in the sense of requiring continuous supervision and help over very many years.

We know of twenty-three such families in Malvern. In fourteen of those families there has been an underlying mental disability. In seven cases the wife is known to be dull and to have limited intelligence. (A dull husband does not seem to produce so many problems as a dull wife). Those people remain under constant care - it is unlikely that they will make or maintain a good home for themselves entirely unaided. In the other seven cases the underlying factor was mental illness or mental abnormality in either husband or wife. The duration of these cases as problems depends more on the nature of their illness than anything else. The other nine problem families have developed their problems because of some underlying cause which is particular to themselves. When the problem is solved the family has ceased to cause concern to this department.

It will be seen that in dealing with the old and problem families a great deal of time is spent with only a little to show for it unless a really long term survey is undertaken. We, as a department, find ourselves in possession of a good deal of extremely confidential information and I should like to express my appreciation of the tact and of the discretion displayed by all members of the staff. Without this discretion the work would have been impossible.

The Miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the district during the latter half of June and the first half of July. In all, x-ray centres

were set up in eight different parts of Malvern and 5,208 persons were x-rayed. Of these, eleven needed to have their condition watched, two needed close supervision and two were found to be infectious on account of tuberculosis, giving a prevalance of 0.4 per 1,000 examined - the lowest figure barring one in Worcestershire. An intensive survey was carried out at the same time to determine how many of those x-rayed in the Pound Bank Area were already immune or resistant to tuberculosis. Skin testing was undertaken by myself and the results are recorded on the following page although they are essentially of a technical nature. These results suggest that there may be a decrease in the resistance to tuberculosis in woman at about the age of 65. Further work is likely to clarify the picture in years to come. So far as tuberculosis is concerned we may sum up by saying the situation at present is satisfactory but that close observation of the situation particularly in recording the maintenance of immunity and to the development of infectiousness in old people will have to be maintained for many years to come.

So far as other infectious diseases are concerned there is little to report other than an extensive but mild epidemic of measles - 545 cases being notified during the year.

It is a great pleasure to me to thank the staff of the Department for their loyal co-operation during the year, and to record the happy relationship that has grown up with other services and departments, the County Health and Welfare Services and the Hospital Services.

H. F. GREEN

Medical Officer of Health.

ANALYSIS OF COMBINED TUBERCULIN AND MOBILE MASS RADIOGRAPHY SURVEY AT POUND BANK, MALVERN, JULY 1958

96% of those x-rayed volunteered for Tuberculin Testing.

	AGE GROUPS														TOTALS	
	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60	65	70	75	80	ALL AGES	PER CENT
(A) Male																
No. of Positive Tuberculin reactors	4	3	11	27	28	9	6	2	2	-	-	1	1	1	87	80%
No. of Tuberculin Non-reactors	5	-	6	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	16%
No. not tested	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4%
Total x-rayed	12	3	17	32	21	9	6	3	2	-	-	1	1	1	108	
No. of 1st Attenders	6	2	4	12	4	3	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	1	38	42%
(B) Female																
No. of Positive Tuberculin reactors	1	9	38	47	17	12	5	12	3	3	8	4	1	-	160	72%
No. of Tuberculin Non-reactors	3	3	13	11	12	4	2	1	1	-	3	1	-	-	54	24%
No. not tested	1	2	2	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4%
Total x-rayed	5	12	53	60	30	16	9	13	4	3	11	5	1	-	223	
No. of 1st Attenders	2	3	30	30	14	11	3	9	4	2	8	5	1	-	122	55%
(C) Both sexes																
No. of Positive Tuberculin reactors	5	12	49	74	37	21	11	14	5	3	8	5	2	1	247	75%
No. of Tuberculin Non-reactors	8	3	19	16	13	4	2	1	1	-	3	1	-	-	71	21%
No. not tested	4	-	2	2	1	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	4%
Total x-rayed	17	15	70	92	51	25	15	16	6	3	11	6	2	1	330	
No. of 1st Attenders	8	5	34	42	18	14	4	11	5	2	8	6	2	1	160	49%

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

Area of land and inland water	7,400 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	24,900
Number of dwelling houses	7,338
Total number of assessments	8,475
Rateable value at 31.3.59	£316,056
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31.3.59	£1,330

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	16.2
Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births)	10.8
Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	0.16
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	9.9
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	8.2

No deaths in 1958 were attributable to puerperal or maternal causes.

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1958

Live Births (per 1,000 total population)	16.4
Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still-births)	21.6
Death Rate (per 1,000 home population)	11.7
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	22.5

DEATHS

Causes of Death - All Ages	Total	Male	Female
Syphilitic Disease	1	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	1
Measles	1	-	1
Cancer (all forms)	45	22	23
" (of lung and bronchus)	11	9	2
Diabetes	2	-	2
Diseases of Heart & Arteries	157	62	95
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	30	20	10
Gastric and Duodenal Ulcer	3	1	2
Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	3	-
Violence	15	6	9
All other causes	17	8	9

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

Water Supplies

There are two main sources of Malvern Water. First a deep borehole at Bromsberrow which has been sunk in new red sandstone. It provides an abundant and good water supply showing an average total hardness of 17. It is not contaminated in any way. The second is water collected from the hills around the British Camp, the reservoir lying in a hollow in these hills. This supply is more in the nature of a standby than a main supply, and the analysis is typical of hill water, that is, containing few "Solids in Solution" and having a low total hardness.

Regular samples have been taken by your Surveyor and the reports have been uniformly satisfactory. An average report is given below.

MALVERN WATER

Physical Characters	15th December, 1958
Colour	Colourless
Odour	None
Appearance	Clear
pH	7.1

Chemical Examination. (Results expressed in parts per million)

Solids in Suspension	(Dried at 100° C)	------
Solids in Solution	(Dried at 180° C)	225
"	After Ignition	190
Chlorine Present as Chloride		34
Hardness	Non-Carbonate	50
"	Carbonate	130
"	Total	180
Amoniacal Nitrogen		Trace
Albuminoid Nitrogen		Trace
Nitrate Nitrogen		4.2
Nitrite Nitrogen		NIL
Oxygen Absorbed in 4 hours at 27° C (N/80 Permanganate)		NIL
Toxic Metals		None detected
Residual Chlorine	Free	NIL
	Combined	NIL
	Total	NIL

No faecal coli have been found in any waters sampled at source or elsewhere in the piped water system during the year.

The monthly bacteriological examination of water taken from various points in the town was uniformly satisfactory.

Water Supply from Wells.

Only a few houses are supplied with water obtained from shallow wells. Samples are submitted from time to time to the Laboratory for analysis.

Public Cleansing

This work is carried out under the direction of the Surveyor. The disposal of household refuse is undertaken at the Guarlford Sewage Works by means of tipping. Street sweeping in central area daily, elsewhere once weekly. Cesspool emptying by mechanical means as required.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

(a) Public swimming pools and baths - Public pool owned by Local Authority.

(b) Privately owned swimming pools or baths open to public - None

(c) Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of water - Routine Sampling

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Services

Chemical analysis is carried out, as before, by arrangement with the County Laboratory at the County Buildings. Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Clinics

There are none provided by this Authority.

The following clinics are provided by Voluntary Committees in Malvern on behalf of the County Council:-

Infant Welfare Centres

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road.	Tuesdays	2. 0 - 4. 0 p.m.
Free Church Hall, Malvern Link.	Wednesdays	2. 0 - 4. 0 p.m.
Methodist Church Hall, Lansdowne Crescent.	1st. 3rd & 5th. Fridays	2. 0 - 4. 0 p.m.
Village Hall, Lower Wyche	1st. Tuesday in the month	2. 45 - 4. 0 pm.
Sherrards Green Welfare Centre	2nd. & 4th. Fridays	2. 0 - 4. 0 p.m.

The following clinics are provided by the County Council:-

Ante-Natal

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road,	1st. and 3rd. Thursday	2. 0 - 4. 0 p.m.

Eye

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road,	As required (by appointment only)	

Speech Therapy

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road,	Thursdays (cases referred by School Health Service)	10. 0 - 12 noon

Minor Ailments

"Sydenham Villa" Newtown Road,	Fridays (schoolchildren only)	9.30 - 10. 30 am.
Chase County Secondary School.	Wednesdays (during term time)	9.30 - 10. 30 am.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious diseases notified during 1958.

Disease	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	Ages N.K.
Scarlet fever	23	-	-	-	1	1	18	1	1	1	-
Whooping cough	71	6	2	8	6	11	33	3	1	1	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis:											
paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	545	2	43	54	66	49	306	22	1	1	1
Dysentery	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-

	All Ages	0-	5-	15-	45-	65-	Ages N.K.
Ac. Pneumonia	11	2	2	1	2	4	-
Erysipelas	3	-	1	-	-	1	1

	All Ages	0-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	Ages N.K.
Tuberculosis:								
respiratory	9	-	-	1	5	2	1	-
meninges & C.N.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
other	3	-	1	1	1	-	-	-

Puerperal Pyrexia 1 case

PROPHYLAXIS

Diphtheria Immunisation

	Ages 0 - 4 years	Ages 5 - 14 years	Total for Year
Children who received a full course of primary immunisation	352	19	371
Children who received a re-inforcing injection	28	148	176

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1958, (i.e. from 1st January, 1944).

Age at 31.12.58	0 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10 - 14 years	Total under 15
No. of children immunised	1,149	1,567	1,447	4,163

Smallpox Vaccination

293 children under the age of one were vaccinated this year, being 79.6% of the number of children born during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47.

No action was taken under the 1951 amending Act of the National Assistance Act.

The Council House,

Malvern.

November, 1959

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure, and indeed a measure of satisfaction in presenting the following report which records the details of work carried out by your Public Health Inspectors during the year 1958.

In the compilation of statistical records and tables which, in the main, form the basis of our Annual Report, it is usual to comment upon matters of outstanding importance or new trends in any particular field of the various duties pertaining to the Department. The year under review presented nothing significant and calling for special attention, with the exception of the case noted under the heading of Legal Proceedings.

It is of paramount importance for the wellbeing and the health of our community that we should strive diligently to maintain and where possible improve, the standards in every branch of our work. This often calls for much patience, but more often than not the reward is worthwhile, in the light of experience, achievement by a friendly and informal approach in the administration of our powers leads to a better understanding and confidence. Nevertheless, we should be very remiss if we failed to institute legal proceedings when circumstances warranted such action and it is reassuring that your Committee uphold and support this form of policy.

We were sorry to lose the services of Mr. R. Cruddas in January, on his appointment to the office of Chief Public Health Inspector to the Borough of Buxton. He proved himself to be an energetic and valued member of the staff and it gave us pleasure to know that he gained his new appointment to a more responsible post by merit.

Mr. W. D. Grey, formerly District Public Health Inspector with the County Borough of Middlesbrough, was appointed in May to fill the vacancy, thus bringing the strength of our staff back to usual establishment.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Inspections of Movable Dwellings	47
" " Shops	396
" " Factories	243
" " Bakehouses	19
" " Restaurant Kitchens	76
" " Outworkers Premises	20
" " Slaughterhouses	892
" " Butchers Shops, P.H. Meat Regs	760
" " Stables and Piggeries	53
" " Dairies	207
" " Ice Cream Premises	163
" " Food Shops	564
" " Fish Friers Premises	23
" " Places of Public Entertainment	31
" " Schools	32
" " Licensed Premises	46
" " Public Conveniences	112
Special Visits, Advisory Interviews etc., ...	2,337
Visits re Infectious Disease	33
Rat Infestations	307
Atmospheric Pollution	8
Miscellaneous	194
National Assistance Act	70
Housing Including Inspections of Dwelling Houses	974
	7,607

COMPLAINTS

The Register shows that 393 complaints were received during the year under review, these having reference to the following matters:-

Blocked and Defective Drainage	40
Defective Closet Accommodation	4
Insanitary Conditions of Dwelling Houses	31
Smells from Public Sewers	8
Offensive odours from drains	2
Accumulations of Offensive Matter	9
Non-collection of house refuse	6
Verminous premises	40
Wasps nests	30

Infestations of Rats and Mice	167
Miscellaneous	56

RENT ACT, 1957

This Act came into operation in July, 1957. In the main it provides for the decontrol of house rents of privately owned properties the rateable value of which is above certain limits and permits increase of rent of houses which remain under control. The maximum increased rent being twice the gross value when the landlord is responsible for repairs, other than internal decorations. In cases where the landlord is responsible for or has agreed to do internal decorations, the rent may be increased two and a third times the gross value. If the tenant is responsible for all repairs, it is one and a third times the gross value.

The tenant may oppose notice of rent increase if he is of the opinion the house needs repair, and he must acquaint the owner by proper notice. The landlord may then do the repairs forthwith, or give a written undertaking to do the required work, again, by special notice. At the expiration of six weeks, if no agreement has been reached or the repairs have not received attention, the tenant may apply to the Local Authority for a Certificate of Disrepair.

Fourteen applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received. These together with two received at the end of December, 1957 were investigated, inspections of the properties concerned were made and the details reported to the appropriate Committee. Nineteen proposals to issue Certificates of Disrepair were served. Twelve undertakings to execute the needful work were received and Four Certificates of Disrepair were issued.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT

DRAINAGE AND SANITARY FITTINGS

Number of houses and premises redrained	8
Repairs or amendments to existing drains	57
Drains or gullies unstopped or cleansed	79
Length in yards of stoneware drains laid	970
Length in yards of heavy cast iron drains laid	23
Manholes provided	43
Manholes repaired	36
Intercepting traps fixed	8
Fresh air inlets provided or repaired	24
New gully traps fixed	73
Gully curbs provided and repaired	14
New soil pipes and ventilating shafts provided	26
Soil pipes and ventilating shafts repaired	47
Water tests applied	143
Smoke tests applied	42
New W.C. pedestals fixed	86
W.C's. unstopped, cleansed and repaired	29
Existing flushing cisterns repaired	21
New flushing cisterns fitted W.C's.	98
Joints between W.C's. and flush pipes repaired	30
New W.C. apartments provided	35
New urinals provided	2
Lavatory basins provided	58
Baths provided	37
New impervious sinks provided	63
Sinks repaired or refixed	15
New waste pipes fixed	163
Waste pipes trapped, repaired or unstopped	14
Cesspools and stagnant ditches cleansed	5
W.C. apartments cleansed	26
Septic tanks provided	2

MISCELLANEOUS

New roofs	15
Roofs repaired	38
Eaves gutters renewed, cleansed or repaired	51
Rainwater pipes provided, repaired or unstopped	53
Damp walls remedied	56
Walls repointed or repaired	70
Ventilation under floor provided	18
Yards paved	12
Paving of yards repaired	27
Floors of rooms relaid	49
Floors of rooms repaired	77
Rooms cleansed, distempered or repapered	106
New windows provided	48
Windows repaired and/or made to open	53
New sash cords provided	37
Window sills repaired and provided	34
Doors provided or repaired	86
Staircases repaired	16
Workrooms (including bakehouses) cleansed and repaired	12
Water service pipes repaired	30
Movable sanitary dustbins provided	23
Accumulations of refuse removed	2
Accumulations of manure removed	2
New ranges and stoves provided	46
Stoves and ranges repaired	10
Verminous rooms dealt with	51

HOUSING ACT, 1949 (AS AMENDED) - IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

Twenty-nine applications for Improvement Grants were received during the year 1958. Twenty-four of these concerned improvements to small dwellings and five in respect of proposals to provide nine self-contained units of housing accommodation by conversion. Grants were authorised in each case.

The steady increase in the number of applications for Grant aid in the improvement of dwellings is, to say the least, encouraging. Owner/occupiers, especially persons about to purchase a vacant house, are mostly interested in making enquiries about the possibility of an Improvement Grant being made to assist in carrying out a scheme of improvements. In all cases an inspection of the property concerned is made and a letter sent confirming what is considered necessary to bring the house up to the standard of present day requirements. This assists the would be applicant to obtain quotations from builders.

Your Inspectors are often able to make helpful suggestions as to how best the improvements in providing the amenities may be carried out and this advice seems to be much appreciated, as letters of thanks are frequently received. The majority of applicants in receipt of Grants are not to be found lacking in their expression of gratitude to the Council in awarding monitary assistance by way of an Improvement Grant.

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

The following dwelling-houses, thirteen in number, were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders, at the owner's expense:

172, 174, Lower Howsell Road,
100, 102. Lower Howsell Road,
5, 7, Cowleigh Road,
48, 50, Wyche Road,
8, 10, 12 and 14, Pump Street,
69, West Malvern Road,

The Homestead, Half Key, was rendered fit on the execution of works by the owners under the terms of an undertaking accepted by the Council in lieu of a Demolition Order.

As the result of informal action, No. 20, Chase Road, Malvern Wells was demolished by the owner.

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the following properties:

100, 102, Lower Howsell Road,
23, 25, Cowleigh Road,

OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING HOUSES

Twenty-one new cases of overcrowding were either reported or discovered during 1958, compared with twenty in the preceding year. This increased the number to twenty-seven, as six case remained on our records.

The cases mainly refer to overcrowding of rooms normally used for sleeping purposes in excess of the statutory "permitted" number.

During the year twenty-one cases were abated, thus leaving six cases on record. Twenty families were re-housed by the Council and one family found other alternative accommodation. The cases of overcrowding are placed in the following catagories:

(a)	....	Increase where one family are sole occupants	8 cases
(b)	....	Increase where family is in lodgings	8 cases
(c)	....	Families returning from abroad	1 case
(d)	....	Married son or daughter making home with in-laws	9 cases
(e)	....	Family making home with parents as result of Eviction Order	1 case

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 and 1951

The problem of aged persons is now receiving far greater attention nationally than ever before and Local Authorities are providing much needed housing accommodation specially designed to meet the special requirements of the aged members of our community. Reports on the present circumstances of applicants for accommodation by way of bungalows or flats, are prepared and presented to the Housing Committee. Your Medical Officer is informed of cases of aged and infirm persons who may be in need of special care and attention and there exists a mutual understanding in regard to this problem. As in the past, we continue to work in close co-operation with the County Welfare Officer's staff and as a result there is very little possibility of the aged recluse being allowed to dwell in a neglected state.

EXHUMATIONS

Two exhumations were supervised during the year. In both cases these were carried out to meet requests for reinterment elsewhere.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS

Twelve licences were granted under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, authorising persons to station and use movable dwellings, which are usually trailer caravans. Seven licences covered the period of one year and five for only a few months. Liaison with the Surveyor's Department in connection with development approval, required by the Town and Country Planning Act, has been continued.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION

Eight dwelling houses were entirely redrained and the drainage systems of fifty-seven premises were partially reconstructed.

Two dwellings situated in the outlying and unsewered parts of the town were provided with septic tanks and filter disposal units.

The importance of sound and well designed drainage has never been underated in Malvern. This can only be maintained by frequent visits whilst work is in progress and by testing of all new work. Builders comply in notifying the department as required by law when drainage and sanitary work is undertaken.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Routine investigations are made on notification to the Medical Officer of Health of an infectious disease by medical practitioners. Contacts are traced and enquiries made in accordance with the usual practice or to meet the special requirements of the case and nature of the illness.

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The arrangement made with the South Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee for steam disinfection to be carried out at St. Wulstan's Hospital continues to work very well indeed. Articles of clothing and bedding exposed to infection or found to be verminous are put through the steam disinfector and a charge is made on the basis per disinfector load.

The number of rooms fumigated was 6 and 6 loads of bedding etc., were removed for steam disinfection. 3 loads of bedding were destroyed.

Infestations of bed-bugs, cockroaches, beetles, fleas, ants, woodworm, crickets and flies have been dealt with at various premises, including dwelling-houses, a restaurant kitchen, private schools and hospital, a nursing home and hotels.

32 wasps nests were also destroyed.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 - 1948

The provisions of the Factories Act, 1937 - 1948, 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.

(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, Fire Certificates are issued by the Clerk of the Council.

Your Public Health Inspectors liaison with the Chief Officer of the Worcester City and County Fire Service who causes a survey to be made of factory premises and subsequently furnishes this department with a report stating, when applicable, structural alterations and/or equipment needed to fulfil the requirements of the Act and compliance with the details set out in the Fire Officer's Report qualifies a Certificate to be granted.

(4) Sanitary Regulations for Bakehouses.

(5) Homework.

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

Agricultural Engineers	2
Bakehouses	8
Beer Bottle Washing	1
Blacksmiths	2
Boot Repairing	15
Saddlery	2
Builders, Plumber etc.	34
Cabinet Making	4
Concrete Slabs	3
Dairies	5
Dressmakers, Millinery etc.	8
Fireplace Manufacturers	1
Furniture Manufacturing	1
General Engineers	3
Glass Syringes	1
Hemp Drying and Processing	1
Joinery	13
Laundry	1
Marine Dealer	1
Motor Manufacturers	1
Motor Repairs	24
Organ Maker	1
Photographic	2
Picture Framer	1
Plant Repairs	1
Printers	3
Sausage Making	16
Saw Mills	3
Sheet Metal Work	1
Spectacle Makers	1
Stone Crushing	3
Stone Masons	3
Tailoring	3
Tarmac Manufacturing	1
Tinsmiths	4
Tool and Plastic Moulding	1
Upholsterers	5
Vehicle Painting	3
Watch Repairers	5
Welding	3
Wines and Mineral Waters	2
Wireless, T.V. and Electrical Repairs	11

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

Premises	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Factories (Mechanical Power)	89	NIL	NIL
Factories (Non-Mechanical Power)	154	NIL	NIL
Total	243		

Defects found in factories are as follows:-

Particulars	Number of Defects			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:				
Want of Cleanliness	6	6	NIL	NIL
Want of Ventilation	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Other Nuisances	3	3	NIL	NIL
Sanitary Accommodation:				
Insufficient	6	4	NIL	NIL
Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	NIL	NIL
Not Separate for sexes	-	-	NIL	NIL
Offences under Factories Act	-	-	NIL	NIL

SHOPS ACT, 1950

Your Public Health Inspectors are appointed inspectors for the purposes of this Act and the Regulations made thereunder.

The following is a summary of Improvements and Repairs carried out at Shop premises during the year:

Additional Sanitary Accommodation	2
Lavatory Basins Fixed	5
Heating Installations	3

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

MILK SUPPLY

The following is a table of action taken with regard to the administration of:

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 - 1954.
The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 - 1954
The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 - 1953
The Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950

Numbers of Dealers Licences (including supplementary licences) issued during the year in respect of:-

Tuberculin Tested Milk: (1) Bottling - 2 (2) Distribution - 10

Number of Licences issued in respect of Heat Treated Milk:

(1)	Pasteurising Plants	NIL	(2)	Distributors	9
(1)	Sterilised Milk Plants	NIL	(2)	Distributors	NIL

Refusal or revocation of registration of retailers or of licences for graded milk - NIL

Samples of raw milk are taken to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, for statutory, biological and bacteriological examination, details are given in the table following:

Class	Number of samples taken for examination	Satisfactory	Number unsatisfactory
Designated "Tuberculin Tested"	145	145	NIL
"Pasteurised"	38	38	NIL
Ordinary	27	26	ONE

Biological Tests

Biological tests were made in respect of 88 of the samples referred to in this table with negative results.

Statutory examinations were carried out on 84 samples of milk. All but one were found to conform to the required standards.

38 samples of pasteurised milk were subjected to the Phosphatase test with satisfactory results. 35 milk containers, namely glass bottles, were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for rinse tests.

The number of retail dairymen or milk purveyors is now 10. Distribution of milk is kept under observation and may be regarded as generally satisfactory and no complaints have been received.

207 visits were made to dairy premises for the purpose of inspections or to collect samples of milk on arrival from the place of production.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) Order, 1955 came into operation on the 21st March, 1955 which provides that all dairymen who retail milk in any part of the district must sell the milk under special designation, irrespective of whether the premises from which the milk is retailed are inside or outside the district, and, any other milk which is retailed outside the specified area from those same premises must also be sold under special designation.

ICE CREAM

87 premises are now registered for the sale of ice-cream. There was 1 deletion by reason of the sale of this commodity being discontinued and 5 new registrations.

Ice-cream is not manufactured in the district.

Whilst most of the ice-cream is sold pre-packed, inspections are made as to the means of storage and methods of dispensing this article of food. 9 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis, all proved to be satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE - Bye Laws
The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 - 56

Every endeavour is made to stimulate the interest of those concerned in preparing food, to observe the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. This important sphere of our work can become very tedious having due regard to the frequency of contact with persons engaged in food handling. One often feels to be preaching to the already enlightened by the ready understanding shown in reaction to informative conversation, only to be completely exasperated on some future occasion when matters requiring simple attention have been allowed to procrastinate. Despite this, the attitude of mind especially of those in control of food premises in Malvern is that of a conscientious trader with a sense of responsibility and a desire to comply with the standards prescribed by the Regulations.

The following is a list of the various types of business, whilst the list is comprehensive, certain duplications are unavoidable.

Bakers and Confectioners	17
Butchers	21
Canteens	11
Confectionery and Sweets	22
Dairies	5
Fishmongers	10
General Stores	16
Greengrocers	18
Grocers	58
Guest Houses	11
Hotels (Licensed)	11
Hotels (Private)	18
Licensed Premises	43
Restaurant and Refreshment Rooms	16

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The position with regard to slaughtering facilities remains as last year. Six privately owned slaughterhouses are still in operative use. Slaughter of animals is regularly carried out on fixed days including Sunday, and when an emergency arises. Butchers are most co-operative in giving notice as required by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

With the passing of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958 which came into operation on the 1st August one looks forward to the time when policy regarding slaughterhouse provision will reach a satisfactory solution.

Particulars concerning the situation and occupancy of the Slaughterhouses are as follows:-

Name of Occupier	Address of Slaughterhouse
Messrs. G. C. Hewer and Son.	Moorlands Road, Malvern.
Mr. R. Hill	311, Worcester Road, Malvern.
Mr. T. R. Hope	Lower Road, West Malvern.
Mr. T. W. Lane	Old Hollow, West Malvern
Messrs. Leyland Bros.	136, Worcester Road, Malvern.
Messrs. C. Spencer and Son	Wedderburn Road, Malvern.

MEAT INSPECTION

The following table shows the number of animal carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	598	12	58	1,491	475	NIL
Number inspected	598	12	58	1,491	475	NIL
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	NIL	2	NIL	2	4	NIL
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	90	5	NIL	20	13	NIL
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	15.0%	58.3%	NIL	1.5%	3.6%	NIL
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	2	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	NIL	NIL	NIL	4	NIL
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.0%	NIL	NIL	NIL	0.8%	NIL
Cysticercosis Carcasesof which some part or organ was condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Generalised and totally condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

UNSOUND FOOD

The following is a detailed list of the diseased or unsound meat and other food examined by your Inspectors in slaughterhouses and shops and subsequently destroyed. Disposal of unsound food by incineration being no longer possible it has become necessary to bury condemned meat and tinned food. Every precaution is taken and the work is undertaken by our Disinfection Operator.

Tuberculosis

Bovines	Carcase and organs of two heifers	
	Carcase meat	30 lbs.
	Heads	2
	Tongues	2
	Lungs	7 sets
	Livers	6
	Mesenteries	3
	Skirts	3
	Kidneys	2
Swine	Heads	2
	Mesenteries	2

Conditions other than Tuberculosis

Bovines		
Carcase and organs	Septicaemia	1 cow
" " "	Fevered condition	1 cow
Carcase meat	Abscesses	60 lbs.
Heart	Fatty degeneration	1
Livers	Abscesses	9
" (parts)	"	56 lbs.
"	Angiomatosis	1
"	Fatty degeneration	2
"	Cirrhosis	2
" (parts)	Cirrhosis	28 lbs.
"	Distomatosis	13
" (parts)	"	116½ lbs.
" "	Necrosis	½ lb.
"	Echinococcus cysts	1
" (parts)	Hydatid cysts	½ lb.
Spleen	Echinococcus cysts	1
Suet	Abscesses	2 lbs.
Udder	Mastitis	1
SHEEP		
Carcase & organs	Uraemia	1
" "	Emaciation	1
Carcase meat	Bruising	6 lbs.
Head	Bruising	1
Lungs	Emphysema	1 set
"	Bruising	1 set
Livers	Fatty degeneration	3
"	Contaminated with faecal matter	1
"	Toxaemia	1
"	Round worms	3
"	Tennuicollis cysts	2
" (parts)	" "	1¼ lbs.
"	Bruising	1
"	Distomatosis	1
" (parts)	"	2½ lbs.
" (parts)	Abscesses	½ lb.
Mesentery	Tennuicollis cysts	1
SWINE		
Carcase and organs	Septicaemia	1
" "	Uraemia	1
" "	Fever	1
" "	Swine Fever	1
Lungs	Congestion	2 sets

SWINE (Continued)

Lungs	Pneumonia	2 sets
Hearts	Pericarditis	3
Livers	Cirrhosis	4
" (parts)	Tennuicollis Cysts	5 lbs.
"	Parasitic	1
Mesenteries	Tennuicollis Cysts	2
Omentum	" "	1

Meat, Poultry, Fish and Miscellaneous Foods

Frozen Beef	85 lbs.	Veal and Ham Pie	3 lbs.
Chilled Argentine Sirloin		Processed Cheese	30 Boxes
Flank	60 lbs.	Cheese	110 lbs.
Sausages	36 lbs.	Wet Fish	64 lbs.
Suet	1 lb.	Butter	1 lb.
		Flour	18 lbs.

Tinned Meats

13 tins Beef Loaf	10 lbs.
47 tins Luncheon Meat	56 lbs.
26 tins Corned Beef	101¾ lbs.
6 tins Pork	24 lbs.
6 tins Tongue	32¼ lbs.
6 tins Steak and Onions	6 lbs.
6 tins Steak	4¾ lbs.

Tinned Ham

7 tins	44¼ lbs.

Tinned Bacon

1 tin	9¾ lbs.

Tinned Food other than Meat

Fish	13 Tins	Milk	37 Tins
Fruit	233 Tins	Vegetables	218 Tins
Soup	10 Tins	Miscellaneous	14 Tins

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 - 54

The important requirements of these Acts which the Council are required to administer relate to the stunning of animals prior to slaughter and the licensing of persons engaged in slaughtering operations. The licences of fourteen slaughtermen were renewed for the period of one year.

One person was granted a Slaughterman's licence after satisfactory evidence of his efficiency had been supplied.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act is designed to lay down certain standards of cleanliness in the manufacture, use and storage of rag flock and other filling materials, and provides for the registration of upholsterers and certain other businesses, such as toy-makers and the licensing of manufacturers of rag flock etc.

Two premises are registered under the provisions laid down by this Act.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year under review 297 treatments for the destruction of rodents were carried out. The duties of the Operator engaged on this work is supervised by your Inspectors.

The sewerage system of the town was subjected to a test treatment as in the previous year. This was followed up by two maintenance treatments and the results recorded as required by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

It is expedient to take prompt action in dealing with minor infestations which come to our notice by complaint or as the result of surveys carried out, to prevent a build-up of the rodent population. The importance of continual vigilance particularly of the Council's refuse tips, sewage disposal works, streams and hedgerows contiguous with agricultural premises require the special attention of our Operator and I am pleased to record that no infestation of a major character has been allowed to develop.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Legal proceedings were taken on the authority of the Council under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, relating to unsound food. The details of the case are as follows:-

A complaint was received at this office concerning the condition of three Cornish Pasties purchased at one of the Licensed premises in the town. Your Inspectors made investigations which resulted in five pasties exposed for sale on the bar counter of the licensed premises in question and a carton containing 36 pasties in store being seized. These together with the three pasties which had been sold were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

The evidence of the case was p resented by the Deputy Clerk at the Magistrates Court, when the case for the Council was proved and the defendants were fined £10. in respect of the carton of 36 pasties £15. in respect of the five pasties and £15. in respect of the three pasties.

CONCLUSION.

I wish to express thanks to Dr. Green for his kind co-operation and personal interest in all our undertakings; to the Clerk of the Council and the Treasurer, for their invaluable help in matters relating to the department.

I also wish to place on record my gratitude to all members of the staff for their loyal service to the Department and specially for the desire to provide an efficient service to the community.

Sincere thanks are also due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Housing Committee for their continued support and consideration during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH L. WHITWHAM