

[Report 1959] / Medical Officer of Health, Wenlock Borough.

Contributors

Much Wenlock (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1959

Persistent URL

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

License and attribution

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

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

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



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

Library

B O R O U G H O F W E N L O C K

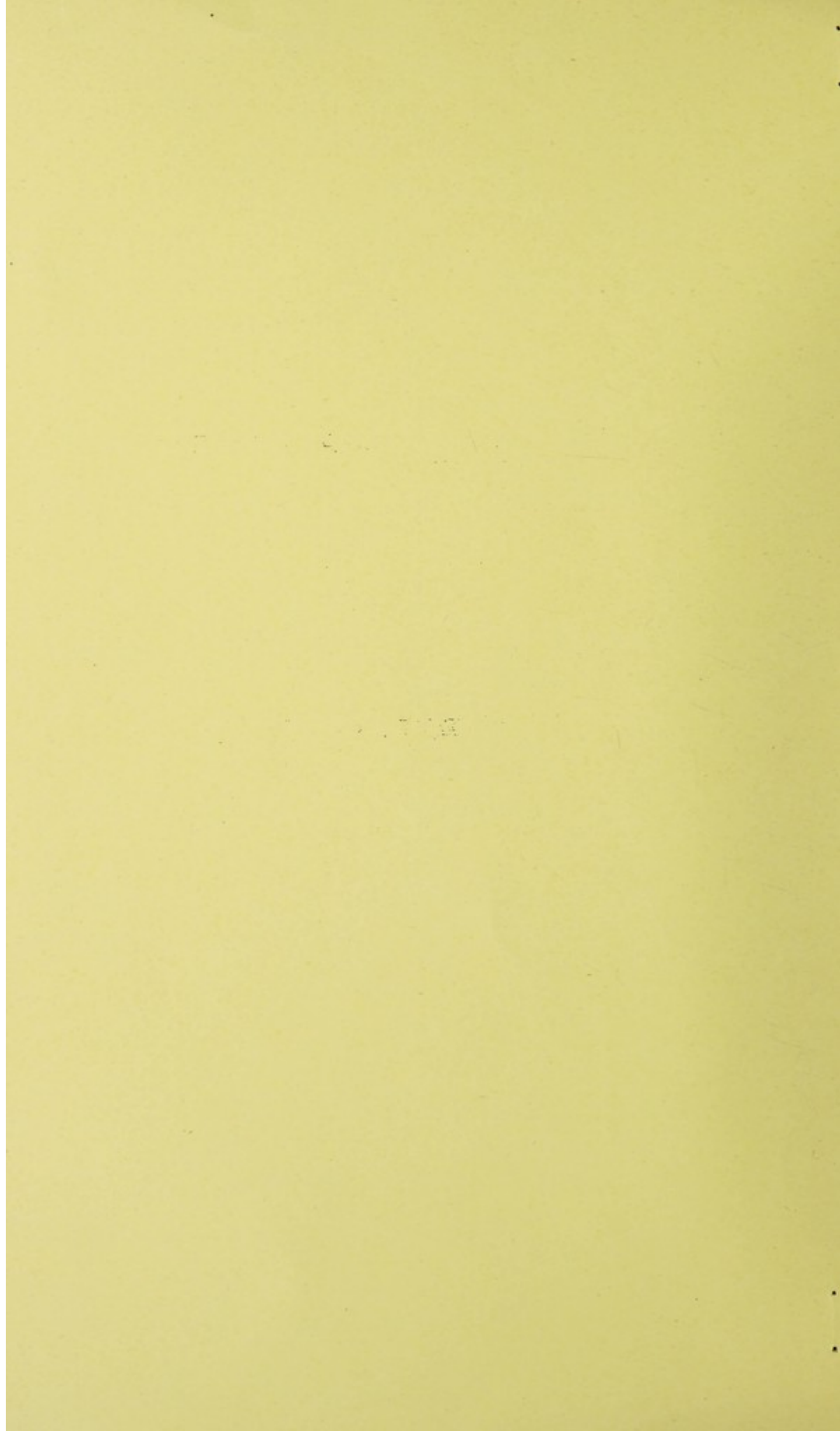
A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E



M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

F O R T H E Y E A R 1 9 5 9 .



PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS, 1959

Medical Officer of Health


Margaret H. F. Turnbull,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

J. L. McFall, M.R.S.E.,
M.P.H.I.A., A.M.I.P.H.E.

CONTENTS OF REPORT.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| Section A | - | Statistics. |
| Section B | - | General Provision of
Health Services. |
| Section C | - | Environmental Hygiene,
Housing, Food, Factories. |
| Section D | - | Infectious Diseases. |



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29805478>

BOROUGH OF WENLOCK

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Wenlock Corporation.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present to you the Annual Report on matters relating to health and environmental hygiene in the Borough for the year 1959.

This follows the same general lines as in previous years, and contains all the data required by the Ministry of Health.

For his valuable contribution towards the preparation of the Report, my very grateful thanks are due to the Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. L. McFall, who provided all the information contained in Section C. The assistance given by our clerical assistant, Miss Griffiths, is also gratefully acknowledged.

I have the honour to be,

Your Obedient Servant,

Margaret H. F. Turnbull,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

1. GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area of District in acres	-	22,657
Estimated Population (mid-1959)	-	15,080
Number of Inhabited Houses	-	4,553
Rateable Value of District (at 1.4.60).	-	£124,369
Estimated Product of id. Rate	-	£485

2. VITAL STATISTICS:

(a) POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district at mid-1959 was 15,080 - an increase of 10 on the corresponding estimate for 1958. This figure is employed in the calculation of the Birth and Death Rates for the area.

(b) BIRTHS.

Live Births, 1959.

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total Live Births
Male	123	6	129
Female	100	4	104
Total	223	10	233
Rate per 1000 of population	14.8	0.6	15.4

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	-	15.4
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	-	15.5
Birth Rate for England and Wales, 1959	-	16.5

There were 233 live births in the Borough during the year (129 males and 104 females) as compared with 222 in 1958. Of the 233, 10 were illegitimate (4.3% of the total).

The 'Crude' Birth-Rate for 1958 was 15.4 per 1,000 of the population, and the Standardised Birth-Rate (with which comparisons may be made with the corresponding rate for other areas) was 15.5. This figure is rather lower than the Birth-Rate for the country in general (16.5), but is slightly higher than our Borough Rate for 1958, which was 14.8 per 1,000 of the population.

Still Births, 1959.

Male	-	1
Female	-	3
Total	-	4

Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births	-	16.9
Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births (England and Wales, 1959)	-	20.7

Four Still-births occurred in the course of the year, two less than in 1958.

The Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 total births (live births plus still-births) was therefore 16.9, which is lower than the corresponding rate for 1958 (26.3). It is also below the average Still-Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1959, which was 20.7.

(3) DEATHS.

Male	-	98
Female	-	83
Total	-	181

Crude Death-Rate per 1,000 of population	-	12.0
Standardised Death-Rate per 1,000 of population	-	11.3
Death-Rate, England and Wales, 1959	-	11.6

181 inhabitants of the Borough died during 1959 (98 males and 83 females). This total is 44 less than that for 1958.

The 'Crude' Death-Rate, per 1,000 of the population, for the year was therefore 12.0, and the Standardised Death-Rate (which can be compared with the corresponding rate for other areas) was 11.3. This is practically the same as the average Death-Rate for the whole country for 1959.

The Registrar-General's annual return gives the causes of deaths in the area during 1959 as follows:--

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1959.

					Male	Female	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	1	1	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other forms	..	..	..	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	..	-	-	-
5.	Whooping-cough	..	..	..	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infection	..	..	..	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	-	-	-
8.	Measles	..	..	..	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	..	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	3	2	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung or bronchus	..	..	..	4	1	5
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	-	1	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	-	3	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	9	4	13
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	-	-	-
16.	Diabetes	..	..	..	1	1	2
17.	Vasculare lesions of nervous system	..	..	..	18	24	42
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	..	10	9	19
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	4	2	6
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	..	15	15	30
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	6	3	9
22.	Influenza	..	..	..	4	1	5
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	..	3	-	3
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	..	11	3	14
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	..	-	2	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	-	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	-	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	1	-	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	..	-	1	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	..	6	7	13
33.	Motor-vehicle accidents	..	..	..	1	-	1
34.	All other accidents	..	..	..	-	2	2
35.	Suicide	..	..	..	1	-	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	-	-	-
All Causes					98	83	181

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total	% of total deaths (all causes)
Malignant Disease (All types)	16	11	27	14.9
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	53	53	106	58.5

As has been usual in recent years, conditions involving the heart and circulatory system account for the greatest number of the deaths - 58.5% of the total number in 1959 (56% in 1958).

Malignant disease accounted for 27 deaths as compared with 43 in the preceding year. It was responsible for almost the same percentage of the deaths as in 1958, however - 14.9% as compared with 14.7%.

There is a drop in the number of lung-cancer deaths this year - 5 cases as compared with 10 in 1958.

(4) INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, 1959.

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	1	-	1
Female	4	-	4
Total	5	-	5
Rate per 1,000 related live births	22.4	-	21.4

Infant mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births - 21.4

Infant mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births
(England and Wales, 1959). - 22.0

Neonatal mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births - 21.4

5 infants under the age of twelve months died during 1959, 2 more than in 1958. Of these, 3 succumbed during the first week of life, and the other 2 during their first month.

The Infant Mortality Rate for the year was therefore 21.4 per 1,000 live births (13.5 in 1958) which is below the England and Wales average of 22.0 deaths per 1,000 live births.

The Neonatal Mortality Rate in the table above refers to those infants dying in the first month of life. It is considerably higher this year than in 1958, when the Rate was 9.0 per 1,000 live births.

(5) MATERNAL MORTALITY.

No deaths associated with pregnancy or childbirth occurred in the Borough during the year under review.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
IN THE AREA.

No material changes in the provision of health services in the Borough took place during 1959. Much that appears in this section has therefore been recorded in previous Annual Reports, but is included again for the sake of completeness.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

The need for an Additional Public Health Inspector in the Borough was dealt with at some length in the Annual Report for 1958.

At the end of that year further consideration of the matter had been deferred until the Organisation and Methods Consultants had submitted their Report. This Report, received during 1959, recommended the appointment of an Additional Inspector but by the close of the year this recommendation had unfortunately not been implemented.

The Public Health Inspector was therefore single-handed throughout 1959, and much routine inspection work had in consequence to be left undone.

HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES.

The Hospital and Specialist Services are provided and administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and its Hospital Management Committees.

The District is well served, being within easy reach of various large general hospitals in the neighbourhood. Consultants from the larger centres hold regular out-patient clinics at the two small general hospitals at Broseley and Much Wenlock.

Cases of Infectious Disease requiring isolation and hospital treatment are generally admitted to Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, and patients with Tuberculosis receive treatment at Shirlett Sanatorium, or at Cross Houses Hospital.

The Beeches Hospital, Ironbridge, takes the elderly and chronic sick, and also has accommodation for mental defectives.

GENERAL MEDICAL, DENTAL, PHARMACEUTICAL AND
SUPPLEMENTARY OPHTHALMIC SERVICES.

The Authority responsible for these services is the Salop Executive Council, Shrewsbury.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES.

Salop County Council as Local Health Authority is responsible for the following services:-

- (a) Health Centres. (Not applicable in this area).
- (b) Care of mothers and young children.
- (c) Domiciliary Midwifery.
- (d) Health Visiting.
- (e) Home Nursing.
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation.
- (g) Ambulance Services.
- (h) Prevention of illness, care and after-care.
- (i) Domestic Help Services.

(a) Maternal and Child Welfare.

There are four Child Welfare Centres in the District where afternoon sessions are held as follows:-

Victoria Institute, Broseley	- 1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays.
Severn Bank House, Ironbridge	- Each Friday.
Welfare Centre, Church Street, Madeley	- Each Wednesday.
British Legion Hall, Much Wenlock.	- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.

An Antenatal Clinic is held in conjunction with the Child Welfare Clinics at Ironbridge and Madeley.

(b) Welfare Foods.

The National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil and Vitamin Tablets) are available at the Welfare Centres during clinic hours, and at various conveniently situated distribution-points throughout the district.

(c) Domiciliary Midwifery, Health Visiting, Home Nursing.

Details of these services may be obtained from the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health.

(d) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Under the County Council's scheme, Vaccination against Small-Pox, and Immunisation against Whooping-Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis may be carried out by arrangement with a general practitioner or at any Child Welfare Centre.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis for the eligible age-groups (6 months to 25 years) continued during 1959, by means of visits to schools and special day and evening sessions at clinics.

Third injections were introduced at the end of 1958 and most of the school children who had had two injections in the preceding few years received their third dose during 1959.

The 15 - 25 year age-group became eligible for vaccination at the end of 1958. The response was rather disappointing until the death of a popular young footballer from paralytic poliomyelitis at the end of March, 1959. This did more than any organised propaganda to bring home to these young people that they too could be the victims of such a tragedy, and that they should avail themselves of the protection offered. To cater for the sudden increased demand, evening sessions at clinics had to continue during the remainder of the year.

It was expected that during 1960 vaccination would become available for those up to the age of 40 years.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

In 1959, vaccination against Tuberculosis was again offered to all 13-year-old children at schools in the District who were found to require this protection.

B.C.G. Vaccine is used for this purpose. This is prepared from a special type of the Tubercle Bacillus which will confer immunity to the disease, but is incapable of producing it.

(e) Ambulance Services.

There were no changes in the Ambulance arrangements during the year. The Central Ambulance Depot for the County is in Shrewsbury (Tel. No. Shrewsbury 6334) and all calls for ambulances are dealt with centrally.

One ambulance is stationed in Much Wenlock for use on local journeys.

(f) Domestic Help Service.

The service of a Home Help is available in the words of the Act for "any person who is ill, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age."

There are no Domestic Help Offices in the Borough of Wenlock. The nearest are at Bridgnorth Welfare Centre (open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons), and at Wellington (42, Tan Bank).

SECTION C.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, HOUSING, FOOD,
FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The information contained in this section has been contributed by the Public Health Inspector, whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

(a) Water Supplies.

The main piped supplies in the Borough are under the control of the East Shropshire Water Board. Complaints were received during the year regarding inadequate water pressure at Benthall and some outlying farms. The complaints were passed to the Board for attention.

The East Shropshire Water Board commenced the supply of water through the private water supply system in the Farley Area, where the private supply was found previously to be badly polluted. The supply is delivered through a meter at the point of connection to the private system.

Complaints were received of an unusual taste which suddenly appeared in the Callaughton Village Private Supply, and investigations were made. The supply was found to have been contaminated by a large quantity of sheep dip discharged on to the ground in the neighbourhood of the spring. The taste disappeared in a few days but a series of samples taken showed that the purity of the supply varied considerably.

58 water samples were taken in 1959 and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory at Shrewsbury.

The results were as follows:

	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Main Supplies	22	19
Private Supplies	0	17

(b) Sewage Disposal.

Night soil is collected weekly in the Madeley Ward only by emptying pails into a removable container placed on one of the Councils' vehicles. The provision of a cesspool emptier with a pail emptying attachment would ensure a more hygienic service and would enable a service for cesspool emptying to be provided for the ratepayers who are not so fortunate as to have main drainage available. At present Dawley U.D.C. empty cesspools in the Borough on request, but the charge is necessarily high.

Work was commenced during the year on the Madeley (Aqueduct) Sewerage Scheme and the question of a major scheme for Ironbridge and Coalbrookdale, parts of Broseley and Barrow Wards, and possibly parts of Dawley, received preliminary consideration.

(c) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Refuse is collected by direct labour weekly throughout the Borough except in the outlying parts where the collection is fortnightly.

Three refuse tips are in use in the Borough and a form of controlled tipping is used.

(d) Rodent Control.

One Rodent Operator is employed, spending two weeks of his time with the Borough of Wenlock and every third week with Bridgnorth Borough. This arrangement means that the Public Health Inspector must deal with infestations needing urgent attention during this week.

Contracts for Rodent Control increased during the year from thirty contracts to thirty-one in respect of forty-one premises.

Refuse tips and sewage works are regularly inspected for the presence of rats and any infestation promptly dealt with. Sewers were test baited twice during the year and the small infestations found were treated.

HOUSING.

Number of inhabited houses at 31.12.59.	-	4,553
" " Council-owned houses	-	1,215
Council houses completed in 1959	-	5
Council houses under construction at 31.12.59.	-	14
No. of application for Improvement Grants in 1959	-	31
No. of applications approved for Grants	-	31

Slum Clearance.

Some progress was made during the year in respect of the following Clearance Areas:-

Broselcy Ward.

Woodhouse Road (5 houses and additional land).

Compulsory Purchase Order confirmed by the Ministry on 26/1/59.

One unfit house was excluded from the Order on technical grounds.

One family was re-housed and the houses demolished.

Church Street (4 houses).

Clearance Order confirmed by the Ministry on 19/12/58.

One family still in occupation.

Birch Row (7 houses).

Clearance Order confirmed by the Ministry on 14/10/58.

One family was re-housed leaving two families in occupation.

Hockley Bank (12 houses).

A renewed Compulsory Purchase Order was submitted to the Ministry on 21/1/59 for approval, agreement having been reached regarding purchase of adjoining land for re-development.

Legges Alley (3 houses).

Clearance Order confirmed by the Ministry on 13/10/58.

One family was re-housed during the year and one family remains.

Madeley Ward.

Wellington Road, Coalbrookdale (10 houses).

Confirmation of the Clearance Order was received from the Ministry on 6/5/59. The families to be displaced are to be re-housed in flats to be erected at School Road, Madeley.

High Street, Coalport (10 houses).

A Clearance Order made in respect of this property was submitted to the Ministry on 15/7/59. The families displaced are to be re-housed in houses to be built at Coalport.

Wenlock and Barrow Wards.

No action was taken regarding Slum Clearance under Part III of the Housing Act, 1957, during 1959.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Action taken in respect of Individual Unfit Houses in the Borough during 1959 was as follows:-

Houses demolished	6
Unfit houses closed	12
Undertakings from landlords to make fit accepted.	4

The condition of many houses throughout the Borough is the cause of many complaints to the Public Health Department. Some of the property is not worth repairing and should be demolished for it seems unreasonable to require landlords to carry out expensive repairs out of all proportion to the value of the property. In these cases the landlord is often persuaded rather than required to carry out repairs.

Further efforts to speed up slum clearance are needed and many new houses are still required. A complete survey of unfit houses in the Borough would reveal the magnitude of the slum clearance problem to the Council. Such a survey is impossible to carry out with only one Inspector in the Public Health Department.

RENT ACT, 1957:-

No. of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	- 7
No. of applications approved	- 6
No. of proposals to Issue a Certificate of Disrepair	- 6
No. of Undertakings received	- 2
No. of Certificates of Disrepair issued	- 5
No. of Repairs completed	- 1
No. of Applications by Landlord for cancellation	- 0
No. of Certificates cancelled	- 0

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

On 31st December, 1959, there were forty-nine caravans in the Borough - each had individual licences under the provisions of the Public Health Act. There was one site licenced for twelve moveable dwellings in the Broseley Ward.

A Ministry enquiry was held in January to consider the appeal by an applicant in respect of a caravan site for fifty caravans for which planning permission had been refused. The appeal was subsequently dismissed. There is a need in the Borough for a caravan site provided with main services.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat Inspection:-

The table below gives details of the animals slaughtered for human consumption in the Borough during 1959:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. Inspected	85	11	1	483	277
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Some part or organ condemned	20	-	-	16	7
Percentage affected	23.5	-	-	3.3	2.5
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Some part or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage affected	-	-	-	-	0.72
<u>Cysticercosis</u>	No carcasses were found to be affected				

The total quantity of meat condemned at the slaughterhouses was 3 cwt. 78 lbs.

All meat is inspected at each slaughterhouse in the district. There is a reciprocal arrangement with Dawley U.D.C. for meat inspection to be carried out in the Borough of Wenlock by the Dawley Public Health Inspector, and vice versa, when either of the Inspectors is on leave.

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS.

It is an offence under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for a retailer to have on his premises food which is unfit for human consumption. It is the usual practice for retailers to report the existence of doubtful food to the Inspector who, if he condemns this, issues a Surrender Certificate enabling the retailer to claim compensation for his loss.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during 1959:-

116 lbs. miscellaneous tinned foods - decomposition or
blown tins.

40 lbs. beef - putrefaction.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

An effort has been made to increase the number of inspections made to see that these Regulations are observed. Most traders are willing to observe these regulations if contraventions are pointed out to them. It is difficult for one Inspector to give sufficient attention to this important work in a Borough the size of Wenlock.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The Council is responsible, by the provisions of Part I of the Factories Act, 1937, for ensuring the adequacy and suitability of sanitary conveniences in all factories in the district, and in the case of factories in which mechanical power is not used, is also responsible for inspecting the premises to ensure that working conditions are satisfactory.

A total of 38 inspections of factories were made during the year, when 2 defects were found.

Part VIII of the Act also gives the Council the responsibility for ensuring that premises in which any persons are employed as out-workers are not injurious or dangerous to health. No persons were notified by their employers as out-workers during 1959.

PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT

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

Premises	Number on on Register	Inspec- tions	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(a) Factories in which Secs. 1 - 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	2	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	32	-	-
(c) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	9	4	-	-
Total	71	38	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more 'cases').

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors(S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	2	-	-	-

SECTION D.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during 1959:-

Measles	135
Acute Pneumonia	25
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	9
Tuberculosis (Non Respiratory)	1
Scarlet Fever	8
Whooping-cough	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	2
Dysentery	1
Erysipelas	1
Acute Encephalitis	1
Total -	<u>188</u>

188 notifications were received during 1959 as compared with 100 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to a higher incidence of Measles, which was prevalent among the child population during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the year.

Tuberculosis.

Nine new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis (6 males and 3 females) were notified during 1959, two more than in the previous year.

Of the male cases, 5 were of middle-age between 50 and 65 years of age, and one was a youth of 18. The female cases were aged 37, 38 and 21 years.

There were 2 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis during the year.

Prevention of Infectious Diseases.

Reference has already been made in Section B to the Immunisation and Vaccination procedures available for the protection of infants and children against various infectious diseases.

Information and advice about vaccination against small-pox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping-cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis are sent to the parents of all infants born in the County, by the County Health Department.

SECTION 2.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during 1959:-

1	Acute Encephalitis
1	Scarlet Fever
1	Whooping-cough
1	Respiratory Pyrexia
1	Dysentery
1	Hypertension
1	Acute Encephalitis
1	Total = 10

108 notifications were received during 1959 as compared with 100 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to a higher incidence of Encephalitis, which was prevalent among the child population during the 3rd and 4th quarters of the year.

Tuberculosis

There was a decrease of Respiratory Tuberculosis (5 males and 3 females) were notified during 1959, two more than in the previous year.

Of the male cases, 5 were of middle-age between 30 and 55 years of age, and one was a youth of 16. The female cases were aged 35, 36 and 37 years.

There were 3 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis during the year.

Prevention of Infectious Diseases

Encephalitis has already been dealt in Section 1 to this document and Vaccination procedures available for the prevention of infant and children against various infectious diseases.

Information and advice about vaccination against small-pox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping-cough, tetanus and poliomyelitis are sent to the parents of all infants born in the County, by the County Health Department.



