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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS, 1960.

Medical Officer of Health

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

Public Health Inspector

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

Additional Public Health
Inspector

D. L. Williams, M.P.H.I.A.
(as from 1st August, 1960).

CONTENTS OF REPORT.

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

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BOROUGH OF WENLOCK

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of Wenlock Corporation.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on matters relating to health and environmental hygiene in the Borough for the year 1960.

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

For their valuable contribution towards the preparation of the Report, my very grateful thanks are due to the Public Health Inspectors, Mr. J. L. McFall and Mr. D. L. Williams, 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

BOURNEMOUTH

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

1. GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area of District in acres	-	22,657
Estimated Population (mid-1960)	-	15,060
Number of Inhabited Houses	-	4,593
Rateable Value of District (at 1.4.61.)	-	£126,631
Estimated Product of 1d. Rate	-	£ 491

2. VITAL STATISTICS:

(a) POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district at mid-1960 was 15,060 - an increase of 20 on the corresponding estimate for 1959. This figure is employed in the calculation of the Birth and Death Rates for the area.

(b) BIRTHS.

Live Births, 1960.

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total Live Births
Male	111	4	115
Female	115	1	116
Total	226	5	231
Rate per 1000 of population	15.0	0.3	15.3

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	-	15.3
Standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 of population	-	15.4
Birth Rate for England and Wales, 1960	-	17.1

There were 231 live births in the Borough during 1960 - 2 less than in the previous year. Of this total, 5 were illegitimate (2.2%).

The "Crude" Birth-Rate for 1960 was 15.3 per 1,000 of the population and the Standardised Birth Rate (comparable with the corresponding Standardised Rate for other areas) was 15.4. This is somewhat lower than the average Birth Rate for the whole country for 1960 which was 17.1 per 1,000 of the population.

Still Births, 1960.

Male	-	2.
Female	-	2.
Total	-	4.

Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births	-	17.0
Still-Birth Rate, per 1,000 total births (England and Wales, 1960).	-	19.7

There were 4 Still-Births notified during 1960, the same number as in 1959.

The Still Birth Rate was thus 17.0 per 1,000 total births (i.e. live births and still births combined). This is lower than the average for England and Wales for 1960 (19.7), and virtually the same as our 1959 figure (16.9).

(3) DEATHS.

Male	-	99
Female	-	96
Total	-	195

Crude Death-Rate per 1,000 of population	-	12.9
Standardised Death-Rate per 1,000 of population	-	11.3
Death-Rate, England and Wales, 1960.	-	11.5

195 inhabitants of the Borough died during 1960 (99 males and 96 females). This total is 14 more than that for 1959.

The "Crude" Death-Rate, per 1,000 of the population, for the year was therefore 12.9, 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 1960, which was 11.5, and precisely the same as our own 1959 figure.

The Registrar-General's annual return gives the causes of deaths in the area during 1960 as follows:-

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1960.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	1
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	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung or bronchus ..	4	-	4
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	8	18
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	23	20	43
18. Coronary disease, angina	15	7	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	4	6
20. Other heart disease	7	14	21
21. Other circulatory disease	4	6	10
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	7	5	12
24. Bronchitis	5	2	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	-	2	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	2	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	12	19	31
33. Motor-vehicle accidents	1	1	2
34. All other accidents	1	-	1
35. Suicide	1	-	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	<u>99</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>195</u>

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total	% of total deaths (all causes)
Malignant Disease (All types)	17	11	28	14.3
Diseases of Heart and Circulatory System	51	51	102	52.3

As has been usual in recent years, conditions involving the heart and circulatory system account for the greatest number of the deaths - 52.3% of the total number in 1960 (58.5% in 1959).

Malignant disease was responsible for 28 deaths in 1960 (14.3% of the total). Of these, 4 were due to cancer of the lung or bronchus (5 in 1959).

(4) INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age, 1960.

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
Male	3	-	3
Female	3	-	3
Total	6	-	6
Rate per 1,000 related live births	26.5	-	26.0

Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births	-	26.0
Infant Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births (England and Wales, 1960)	-	21.7
Neonatal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births	-	21.6
Neonatal Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births (England and Wales, 1960)	-	15.6

6 infants under the age of twelve months died during 1960 - 1 more than in 1959. Of these, 5 succumbed during the first week of life.

The Infant Mortality Rate for the year was therefore 26.0 per 1,000 live births (21.4 in 1959). This is slightly above the average figure for England and Wales which was 21.7.

The Neonatal Mortality Rate in the table above refers to those infants dying in the first month of life. It is almost the same as for 1959 and is slightly higher than the 1960 figure for the country as a whole.

(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 1960. 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 Reports for 1958 and 1959. It is therefore pleasing to be able to report the appointment of an Additional Inspector as from August, 1960.

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 Smallpox 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.

During 1960 vaccination against Poliomyelitis became available for those between 25 and 40 years. All between 6 months and 40 years were then eligible for this protection, together with those in certain specified occupations who might be at special risk in the event of an outbreak of Poliomyelitis.

Special evening sessions for adults were held at the clinics throughout the year as the demand required, and infants and young children attended special day clinic sessions.

It was anticipated that during 1961 fourth injections would become available for young school children, and that those over the age of 40 could be vaccinated by their family doctors.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered each year to all children aged 12 - 13 years who are found by preliminary testing to require this protection. Only very few parents refuse their consent for this procedure, which is carried out at the schools.

(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 6331) and all calls for ambulances are dealt with centrally.

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

(f) Domestic Help Services.

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 Inspectors, whose assistance is gratefully acknowledged.

(a) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH.

Water Supplies:

The main piped supplies in the Borough are under the control of the East Shropshire Water Board. A complaint was received during 1960 from Much Wenlock Central Kitchen, and upon investigation a defect was found and subsequently remedied. Several unsatisfactory samples were taken in the Borough during the latter part of the year, and reports of these were passed to the Board for their attention.

55 water samples were taken in 1960 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	27	17
Private Supplies	1	10

The reason why the number of unsatisfactory samples is high is due to the fact that when an unsatisfactory result is received, further samples are immediately taken to check the contamination.

PRIVATE SUPPLIES.

Callaughton Village. Samples have continued to be taken from this water supply and although an improvement was shown at the beginning of the year, further unsatisfactory samples were again recorded.

Willey Estate. Very unsatisfactory water samples were taken towards the latter part of the year at various points of the Linley supply. Several places were discovered where surface water was gaining access to the water pipes, and this was dealt with by the Estate. Further samples taken showed a slight improvement, but samples will continue to be taken next year and the supply thoroughly investigated.

(b) Sewage Disposal.

Night soil is collected weekly in the Madeley Ward by emptying pails into a removable container placed on one of the Council's vehicles. The provision of a cesspool emptier with a pail emptying attachment would be more hygienic, and would enable a service for cesspool emptying to be provided for those 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.

SLUM CLEARANCE.

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

Broseley Ward.

Church Street (4 houses). Clearance Order confirmed by the Ministry on 19/12/58. The one remaining family was rehoused towards the end of the year. The houses are expected to be demolished at the beginning of 1961.

Birch Row (7 houses). Clearance Order confirmed by the Ministry on 14/10/58. One family was rehoused, leaving one family in occupation.

Hockley Bank (12 houses). The Compulsory Purchase Order which was submitted to the Ministry on 21/1/59 was confirmed without modification on 6/1/60. Four houses were unoccupied; one temporarily occupied until August, 1960, and three families were rehoused during the year, leaving four families in occupation.

Legges Alley (3 houses). Clearance Order confirmed by the Ministry on 13/10/58. Two houses are vacant and one family remains.

Madeley Ward.

Wellington Road, Coalbrookdale (10 houses). Clearance Order was confirmed by the Ministry on 6/5/59. Two houses were unoccupied, 7 families were rehoused during the year and one person was removed to a County Council home.

High Street, Coalport (10 houses). Confirmation of the Clearance Order was received from the Ministry on 23/2/60. One house is unoccupied. The other 9 families are to be rehoused in houses to be built at Coalport.

High Street, Coalport (No. 2 Area) (2 houses). A Clearance Order was made in respect of these two houses on 30/5/60, and was confirmed by the Ministry without modification on 8/12/60. The two families displaced are to be rehoused in houses which are to be built at Coalport.

The Lloyds, Coalport (4 houses). A Clearance Order was made by the Council on 30/5/60, and was confirmed by the Ministry, without modification, on 22/12/60. One house is unoccupied, the remaining three families to be displaced are to be rehoused in houses at Coalport.

Wenlock Ward.

Presthoke (Much Wenlock) (6 houses). A Clearance Order in respect of this property was made by the Council on 27/1/60 and submitted to the Ministry. Two houses are unoccupied and the remaining four families are to be rehoused at Much Wenlock.

Barrow Ward.

No action was taken regarding Slum Clearance under Part III of the Housing Act, 1957, during 1960.

Individual Unfit Houses.

Action taken in respect of Individual Unfit Houses in the Borough during 1960 was as follows:-

Houses demolished	-	8
Unfit houses closed	-	10
Undertakings from landlords to make fit accepted	-	4

The condition of many houses throughout the Borough is still 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.

Towards the end of the year efforts have been made to speed up the Slum Clearance problem in the Borough. A preliminary survey has been made of four proposed Clearance Areas and also individual houses have been earmarked for future demolition. It is hoped that in 1961, with two Inspectors in the Public Health Department, further slum clearance can be carried out in conjunction with new housing development plans for the Borough.

RENT ACT, 1957:

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

These figures have dropped considerably from those of 1959, and only an occasional query is received in the Public Health Department. This seems to be the general trend in most authorities in the country.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

On 31st December, 1960, there were fifty-eight caravans in the Borough - each had an individual licence under the provisions of the Public Health Act and the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. There was one site licensed for twelve moveable dwellings in the Broseley Ward.

There is still a need for a large caravan site in the Borough provided with main services. In this case many of the caravans which are scattered over the Borough could be confined to one well-run site, controlled by the Public Health Department.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat Inspection:-

The table below gives details of the animals slaughtered for human consumption in the Borough during 1960:-

	Cattle excluding cows and heifers	Cows and heifers	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. Inspected	86	13	0	491	292
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Some part or organ condemned	11	-	-	5	9
Percentage affected	12.8	-	-	1.02	3.08
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Some part or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Percentage affected	-	-	-	-	0.67
<u>Cysticercosis</u>	No carcasses were found to be affected.				

The total quantity of meat condemned at the slaughterhouses was approximately 1 cwt. 20 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 losse.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during 1960:

- 28 lbs. tinned meat products - decomposition or blown tins.
- 1 lb. 14 ozs. tinned tomatoes - blown tin.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955 and 1960.

An effort has been made to increase the number of inspections especially during the latter part of the year when the Additional Public Health Inspector took up his appointment. Altogether approximately 75% of the food premises in the Borough of Wenlock were inspected and contraventions of the Regulations were remedied.

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 29 inspections of factories were made during the year, when 5 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.

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 (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspection. (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(a) Factories in which Secs. 1 - 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	1	-	-
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	54	24	-	-
(c) Other Premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises	9	4	-	-
Total	71	29	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
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	2	2	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	5	-	4	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT - OUTWORK
(Sections 110 & 111)

Nature of work.	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sec. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Stuffed Toys	1	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION D.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases of Infectious Disease were notified during 1960:-

Acute Pneumonia	13
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	6
Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	2
Whooping-cough	5
Scarlet Fever	2
Measles	2
Erysipelas	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1
	<hr/>
	32
	<hr/>

The number of notifications received in 1960 is much less than in 1959 when the total was 188. This reduction is almost entirely due to the lower incidence of Measles during 1960.

TUBERCULOSIS

The table below gives details of the number of cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register at 31.12.60. and the alterations made during the year.

Respiratory Tuberculosis	Added to Register, 1960.		Removed from Register, 1960.			Total No. on Register at 31.12.60.
	New Cases	Transfers In	Cured	Died	Transfers Out	
Male	3	2	-	1	2	71
Female	3	-	1	1	-	56
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	Added to Register, 1960.		Removed from Register, 1960.			Total No. on Register at 31.12.60.
	New Cases	Transfers In	Cured	Died	Transfers Out	
Male	2	-	-	-	-	15
Female	-	-	-	-	-	17

Six new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis (3 male, 3 female) were notified during 1960, three fewer than in 1959.

Two new Non-Respiratory cases occurred, as compared with one the previous 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.



