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NEWCASTLE - UNDER - LYME
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE

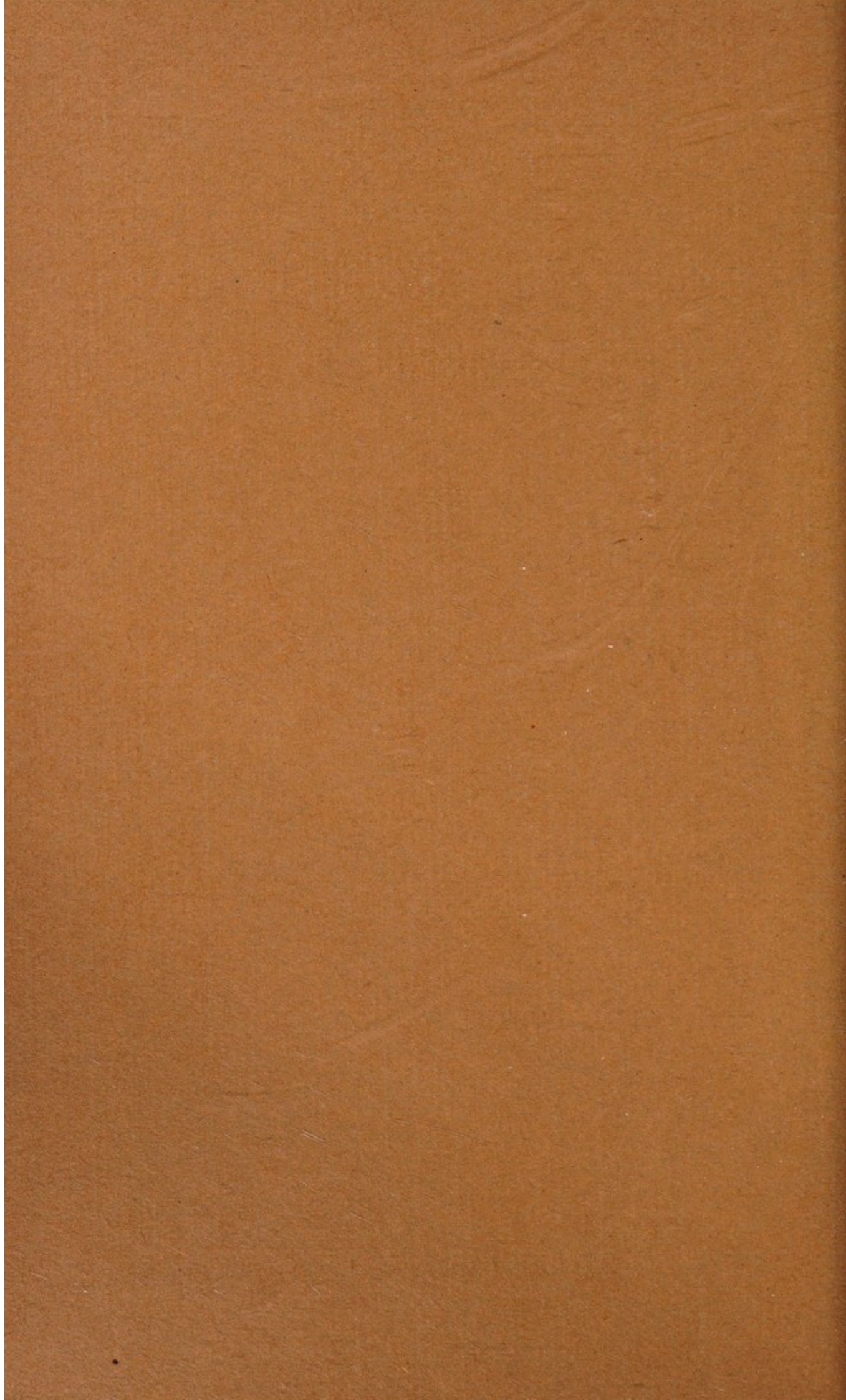
Medical Officer of Health

(W. F. YOUNG, M.B., D.P.H.)

FOR THE YEAR 1938

J. Dodd, Printer, Audley





NEWCASTLE - UNDER - LYME
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ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PRELIMINARY NOTE.

The Annual Report for 1938 has been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's Circular No. 1728 of October, 1938. Since it is of the "ordinary" form, and not a "survey" Report, the information given (except in certain instances) is limited to particulars of the alterations and improvements that have been brought about during the year.

In comparison with the figure for 1937, the Birth Rate for the District (13.9) has risen 0.3 per thousand of the resident population. The crude Death Rate of 12.6 shows a fall of 1.0. The Infantile Mortality Rate has fallen from 50 in 1937 to 49 in 1938.

The Table below compares rates for this district with those for England and Wales as a whole.

TABLE I.

				1938	
				England and Wales	Newcastle under- Lyme R.D.
Birth Rate	...	...	...	15.1	13.9
Death Rate	...	...	...	11.6	12.5 (corrected)
Infantile Mortality Rate	...			53	49

With regard to infectious disease, it may be seen from Table 19 on page 32 that the rate of incidence of the common diseases in the district were considerably lower than those in England and Wales as a whole.

The incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis has risen from 0.62 in 1937 to 0.93 in 1938 (Table 24, page 38); while the death-rate from the same cause has also risen from 0.37 in 1937 to 0.49 in 1938 (Table 25, page 38).

An outstanding feature of the year was the putting into commission of the new water-works at Audley (page 15). With certain minor exceptions the water supply in the district may now be said to be on a thoroughly sound basis.

Increased attention has continued to be given to the analysis of samples and the safeguarding of the purity of supplies generally. (Pages 16 and 17.)

Further attention was given by the Council to the question of the final section of the scheme for the sewerage of Audley parish, but action had to be deferred on account of the high cost.

Action with regard to the reconstruction of Madeley sewage disposal works, a scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal in Ashley parish, and the improvement of conditions at Baldwin's Gate was also deferred on the score of cost. (Page 19.)

Considerable further progress was made with the Council's housing schemes (page 25). It is satisfactory to note that an increased number of houses were reconditioned under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts, and that the Ministry's sanction was received for the erection of a hundred houses to meet the needs of the agricultural population.

I may perhaps take this opportunity of offering my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and support during the year.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area : 40,015 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population, 1938 :—16,150.

NOTE.—Throughout the Report rates *for the Whole District* are calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of the population as at mid-year, 1937, but where rates *by parishes* are given, these (and their sums) are calculated on the populations of the parishes as at April, 1931 (Census). The populations by parishes were supplied by the Registrar-General, due allowance having been made by him for the alteration of the boundaries of the district, and of certain parishes, on 1st April, 1932.

The figures are given in Table 2.

TABLE 2.
REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF POPULATION BY PARISHES
AS AT 1ST APRIL, 1932.

Parish	Population
Ashley	1,027
Audley	8,535
Balterley	217
Betley	699
Chorlton	361
Keele	444
Madeley	2,823
Maer	625
Mucklestone... ..	470
Tyrley	1,141*
Whitmore	530
TOTAL	16,872

*Includes Cheshire Joint Sanatorium.

No figures as to population *by parishes* are supplied for intercensal years, and there is thus no alternative to using the Census figures. Changes in the populations of parishes since the Census are not likely to have a marked effect at present on the rates given, but differences will appear between the rates for the whole district and the rates for the sums of the parishes, and these will tend to increase.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according
to Rate Books 4,522

Table 3 shows the distribution of these houses by parishes.

TABLE 3.

Parish					No. of Houses
Ashley	...	...	...	...	315
Audley	...	...	...	...	2,267
Balterley	...	...	...	...	58
Betley	...	...	...	...	185
Chorlton	...	...	...	...	117
Keele	...	...	...	...	147
Madeley	...	...	...	...	749
Maer	...	...	...	...	166
Mucklestone...	...	...	...	...	124
Tyrley	...	...	...	...	230
Whitmore	...	...	...	...	164
					<hr/> 4,522

Rateable Value :—£55,837.

Sum represented by a penny rate :—£216.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

These have been detailed in previous Reports, and there is no change to record. Although the main portion of Audley Parish is of an agricultural character, the majority of the inhabitants live in the vicinity of coal-mines. Since all the mines except one in this part of the district have been closed, there continues to be a considerable amount of distress.

With regard to the extent of unemployment in the district as a whole, I am indebted to the Managers of the Market Drayton and Newcastle Employment Exchanges for the following particulars:

"In Ashley, Mucklestone, and Tyrley parishes the unemployment position is negative."

"As regards Audley it may be said that the unemployment position shows a slight improvement in the last year. In connection with the other parishes (mainly connected with agriculture) there is very little unemployment."

TABLE 4.
VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS		Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population :
	Legitimate ...	207	105	102	13.9*
	Illegitimate ...	18	8	10	
Stillbirths	...	23	14	9	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births :
Deaths ...	...	204	121	83	92.7*
					Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population :—12.6*
					Corrected Death Rate :—12.5*

NOTE.—The corrected Death Rate is obtained by multiplying the crude Death Rate by the factor 0.99. This factor is supplied by the Registrar-General and serves to make the crude Death Rate for the District comparable, from the mortality point of view, with the crude Death Rate for the country as a whole, or with the mortality of any local area, the crude Death Rate of which has been similarly modified with its own factor for the purpose.

*See note on page 8.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list) :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0
No. 30 Other puerperal causes ...	3	12.1
TOTAL	3	12.1

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	48.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	43.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	111
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ...	28

TABLE 5*

NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS BY PARISHES.

(The Annual Rates by Parishes are given in brackets).

Quarter of Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucclstone	† Tyrley	Whitmore	Total	Birth Rate
1	7	19	—	—	2	1	9	3	—	3	2	46	10.9
2	4	23	—	3	2	2	6	1	—	1	2	44	10.4
3	3	20	—	—	7	1	8	—	2	6	2	49	11.6
4	2	30	—	2	3	—	10	4	1	4	2	58	13.8
For Whole Year	16 (16)	92 (11)	— (—)	5 (7)	14 (39)	4 (9)	33 (12)	8 (13)	3 (6)	14 (12)	8 (15)	197	11.6

*See note on page 8.

†The Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, with a population of about 600, is situated in this Parish.

TABLE 6*.

NUMBER OF DEATHS BY PARISHES.

(The Annual Rates by Parishes are given in brackets).

Quarter of Year	Ashley	Audley	Balte-ley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucclstone	† Tyrley	Whitmore	Total	Death Rate (un- corrected)
1	7	14	1	1	2	2	15	3	2	1	4	52	12.3
2	5	26	—	7	1	—	12	4	3	—	1	59	14.0
3	4	20	1	—	—	3	8	7	2	1	1	47	11.9
4	2	20	1	—	5	—	11	—	—	3	2	44	10.4
For Whole Year	18 (18)	80 (9)	3 (14)	8 (11)	8 (22)	5 (11)	46 (16)	14 (22)	7 (15)	5 (4)	8 (15)	202	11.5

*See note on page 8.

†See note below Table 5.

TABLE 7*.
INFANTILE MORTALITY NUMBERS BY PARISHES.
(The Annual Rates by Parishes are given in brackets).

Quarter of Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucclstone	Tyrley	Whitmore	Total	Infantile Death Rate (per 1,000 live births)
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	43
2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	68
3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	41
4	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	69
For Whole Year	2 (125)	5 (54)	— (0)	— (0)	— (0)	— (0)	2 (61)	2 (250)	— (0)	— (0)	— (0)	11 (0)	56

*See note on page 8.

TABLE 8*.
ANNUAL BIRTH RATES BY PARISHES FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS.

Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucclstone	Tyrley	Whitmore	For Whole District
1933	9	12	—	14	17	11	16	5	15	17	19	12.6
1934	11	10	5	11	19	11	14	11	25	12	8	11.5
1935	11	12	5	6	28	11	17	11	11	14	11	12.6
1936	11	11	—	6	14	16	13	8	6	11	8	10.8
1937	10	10	5	14	17	9	12	13	11	17	9	11.3
1938	16	11	—	7	39	9	12	13	6	12	15	11.6
Average	11	11	2.5	—	22	11	14	10	12	14	12	11.7

*See note on page 8.

TABLE 9*.

ANNUAL DEATH RATES BY PARISHES FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS.

Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucclstone	Tyrley	Whitmore	For Whole District (uncorrected.)
1933	17	12	14	17	19	13	15	10	17	4	9	11.8
1934	11	11	18	21	22	16	13	5	13	5	13	11.7
1935	17	11	9	15	8	13	13	8	19	9	13	12.2
1936	13	11	9	21	8	7	14	21	15	7	11	12.3
1937	20	14	28	15	3	25	11	10	11	8	7	13.1
1938	18	9	11	11	22	11	16	22	15	4	15	11.5
Average	16	11	15	17	14	14	14	13	15	6	11	12.1

TABLE 10*.

ANNUAL INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES BY PARISHES FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS.

Year	Ashley	Audley	Balterley	Betley	Chorlton	Keele	Madeley	Maer	Mucclstone	Tyrley	Whitmore	For Whole District
1933	111	71	—	—	167	—	68	—	286	—	100	70
1934	91	34	—	250	—	—	79	143	—	—	—	52
1935	—	60	—	—	—	—	62	—	—	—	167	47
1936	—	64	—	—	200	—	28	200	—	154	500	71
1937	300	46	—	200	—	—	29	—	—	53	—	58
1938	125	54	—	—	—	—	61	250	—	—	—	56
Average	104	55	—	75	61	—	54	97	48	34	128	59

*See note on page 8.

SECTION B.
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH
SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Particulars of these services were detailed in the Annual Report for 1930. Changes consequent on the alteration of boundaries of the District on 1st April, 1932, were detailed in the Annual Report for that year, and no important change has taken place since.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY. (*See also page 5*)

(a) *Medical.* The Medical Officer of Health is a part-time Officer so far as this Council is concerned, but is engaged whole-time in Public Health work, holding the appointments of Assistant County Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Inspector to the Staffordshire County Council.

In August, 1936, the County Council published their draft Scheme for Air Raid Precautions. In this scheme I was appointed Officer-in-charge for the first-aid treatment of casualties in County District No. 3, which comprises this District, together with the Urban Districts of Kidsgrove and Biddulph.

(b) *Others.* Both Sanitary Inspectors are whole-time officers. The Senior Officer, who is in possession of Meat Inspection and Sanitary Certificates, holds the additional offices of Housing Surveyor and Petroleum Officer.

Under the County Council draft Scheme for Air Raid Precautions, certain duties, chiefly in connection with rescue work and demolition of buildings, were allocated to the Chief Sanitary Inspector in respect of No. 3 District, referred to above.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

The new works near Audley were put into commission in March, 1938, and they were formally opened by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Edwin Latham, J.P., C.C., on the 22nd of June.

These works replace the old ones installed in 1891. The area supplied is unchanged, viz: the parish of Audley and a few properties in Balterley and Keele parishes; the Parish of Talke; and Black Bank and Red Street, in the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme. The parish of Talke was formerly a part of Audley Urban District, the major portion of which was amalgamated with this District in April, 1932, while Talke parish was added to the Urban District of Kidsgrove. The total population now served is approximately 14,700.

The demand from the area served has increased considerably during recent years, chiefly on account of the conversion of a large number of privies to water carriage in Audley parish, where a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme has been carried out. A similar scheme, involving also a large number of conversions, was contemplated in Talke parish, and further, the number of new houses erected and contemplated in the area supplied from the works had become considerable. During this time rainfall was much below the average, and it became clear that measures would have to be taken to augment the supply. As a result of a request by the Joint Water Committee for the areas served this question was taken up by the Council in 1932, and in consequence a report was obtained from the eminent geologist, Professor W. S. Boulton, D.Sc., F.G.S., to the effect that the supply from the works would in all probability be increased by the sinking of new bore holes near to the existing works. The Council then retained the services of Mr. A. H. S. Waters, M.Inst.C.E., of Birmingham, as Consulting Engineer, and work was commenced in August, 1934.

Two bore-holes, first of a calibre of 22 inches and then of 21 inches, were sunk near the old pumping station to respective depths of 363 and 355 feet. Continuous yield tests showed respective average quantities of 616,000 and 575,000 gallons per day, and the results of bacteriological and chemical analysis were highly satisfactory. The geological strata met with were mainly red sandstone and pebbles.

The pumping plant consists of two sets of electrically-driven bore-hole and booster pumps, and each set delivers water from its respective bore-hole to the service reservoirs at Alsager's Bank at the rate of 22,500 gallons per hour, against a total head of 620 feet. The rising main is of ten inches diameter, and about 4,270 yards length.

The total cost of carrying out the scheme was approximately £18,000. The Council were successful in obtaining a grant from the Government's £1,000,000 fund under the Rural Water Supplies Act of 1934, and a further £105 per annum for the loan period of 30 years is to be contributed by the Staffordshire County Council. A contribution of equal amount is also being made from the general fund of the Rural District Council.

The great benefit resulting from the Council's forward policy with regard to the provision of mains supplies has become increasingly apparent. A mains service is now available in every parish of the district except at Whitmore, where there is a privately-owned supply.

With regard to the purity of supplies generally, in March I presented to the Council a summary of the Ministry's Circular No. 1684 of March 12th, 1938, together with certain recommendations in connection with the analysis of samples, inspection of gathering grounds, etc. It was agreed that samples from mains supplies should normally be submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis at monthly intervals, and that the opinion of the Council's Consulting Engineer should be taken with regard to gathering grounds. Early in 1939 the Council approached all public and private undertakers supplying water to the district with a view to the carrying out of the relevant recommendations contained in the Ministry's Circulars.

With regard to the health of the men employed at the Council's water-works at Audley, careful inquiry into their history was made. None had suffered from illness of gastro-enteric nature, and blood examinations in connection with all the organisms associated with this type of disease proved to be negative.

Extensions of mains, of respective lengths of 50 and 300 yards were carried to new Council houses at Ashley and Betley. A main was also carried 100 yards to a private house at Minn Bank, Aston.

ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO CONTAMINATION.

As a result of routine analysis slight contamination was discovered in the Audley water-works main supply shortly after the new sources referred to above were put into commission. It should be added that the whole length of the new main had been treated with highly concentrated chlorine water, followed by thorough flushing with pure water. Automatic chlorination was undertaken at the storage tanks at Alsager's Bank, and after a short period analysis showed that the water had regained its high standard of purity.

At Bowsey Wood in Madeley parish analysis of shallow well-water supplying eight houses gave evidence of marked pollution. Householders were advised to boil water used for drinking purposes and the question of a mains supply was considered by the Council. The nearest main is at a considerable distance, and it was found that an outlay of £900 and a guaranteed annual return of £90 would be necessary. The scheme was accordingly rejected on the score of cost.

At Hook Gate, in Ashley parish, a public well which was found to be polluted was closed and a mains supply substituted.

A polluted supply at Stableford camping ground in Chorlton parish was replaced by a mains supply.

Greatly increased attention has continued to be given to the analysis of samples of water. The results of this are shown in the following table.

TABLE II.

No. of Samples				Bacteriological Analysis	Chemical Analysis
Satisfactory	...	...	...	25	52
Not Satisfactory	...	...	...	58	24
TOTALS	...	...	...	83	76

Report No. 71 of the Ministry of Health suggests that when a supply contains not more than two presumptive coli per 100 ml. the sample may be considered to be reasonably satisfactory, and this standard has been used in compiling the table. As applied to supplies other than public the standard is high.

During the year 30 formal notices were served in connection with polluted supplies. The number of notices complied with was 21.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

As the result of the provisions of piped water supplies throughout the district generally the questions of improved sewerage and sewage disposal are bound to become increasingly important. In a number of parishes the position has for some time been unsatisfactory, and although the Council has given sympathetic consideration to proposals the question of cost, in a district where rates (for rural parishes) are already high, has led to the rejection of schemes.

Grants received in connection with water supply schemes have enabled these to be carried out, but the absence of grant in connection with sewerage and sewage disposal schemes, and the fact that these are non-productive of revenue, have rendered it impossible for the Council to proceed with them. There is an undoubted need for increased financial assistance in connection with such schemes.

As has been explained in previous Reports, the position in Audley parish is particularly difficult. The closing here of all collieries but one has led to a high rate of unemployment, and as there is a considerable amount of distress expenditure leading to an increase in the rates is undesirable. In parts of the parish conditions are very unsatisfactory, and there is a very real need that the nuisance resulting from the gross pollution of water-courses should be dealt with, and that modern methods should be substituted for the existing highly objectionable practice of day-time collection and removal of excreta from dwelling-houses which is still in use in semi-urban parts of the parish.

Work on Sections I and II of the Council's scheme was commenced in 1931, but for financial reasons the area comprised by Wood Lane, Miles Green, Wyn Bank, Halmerend, Alsager's Bank and Scot Hay (Section III), was not dealt with. The older properties here are equipped with privies, while newer houses have been provided with cess-pools. Several of the Council's housing estates are in course of erection in this part of the district, and it is in connection with these that the urgency of the need is considered by the Council to be greatest.

In March, 1939, the Council's Consulting Engineer presented plans for the completion of the entire scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal in Audley Parish. It was considered that attention should first be given to the sewerage of the Council's housing estates, where approximately sixty-two houses are in course of erection, and the total cost of these works was estimated to be £3,200. The present total population for which provision of drainage to the existing disposal works is required is calculated to be 7,400, and the total expenditure on the final part of the scheme for the sewerage etc. of the whole parish is estimated at £46,700.

As the existing disposal works will be of insufficient capacity to deal with the additional flow from the area to be dealt with by Section III. it will be necessary to substitute larger detritus tanks and to provide in addition storm-water tanks, bacteria beds and sprinklers, humus tanks, and improved facilities for dealing with sludge.

At the end of March, 1939, the Council decided to submit an application to the Ministry with regard to the whole of the final part of the scheme, but it was considered that while work should be started at an early date on sewerage, etc. for their own housing estates in the parish, procedure in connection with the remainder of the scheme should be deferred.

A scheme for the reconstruction of the sewage disposal works at Madeley, and for the provision of additional sewers, was prepared by the Council's Consulting Engineer in 1936. During 1938 it was decided that on account of the cost and the absence of financial assistance it was impracticable to proceed with the work.

A scheme for sewerage and sewage disposal for Ashley Parish, including Loggerheads Village, which is mainly in Tyrley Parish, had been prepared in 1938. This was also deferred on the score of cost. This parish has to bear a substantial deficit on the water-supply scheme which has recently been carried out.

There is an urgent need for improvement of conditions at Baldwin's Gate. A sewerage and sewage disposal scheme had been prepared for the locality, which includes parts of the parishes of Madeley, Chapel Chorlton and Whitmore, and at the end of the year the Council were in communication with the County Council

with regard to a contribution towards the cost. Meanwhile the temporary method of periodically emptying septic tanks and cess-pools by mechanical means has been adopted.

A piped water-supply was provided in parts of Betley Parish a few years ago, and there is a certain amount of nuisance from the resulting increased pollution of small streams. No scheme for improvement has yet been prepared.

No important extensions of sewerage were made during the year.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

It may be seen from the foregoing section that important works with regard to the prevention of the pollution of rivers and streams are receiving the continued attention of the Council.

No special action beyond the routine digging out of ditches was taken during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The numbers of conversions of privies during recent years have been as follows :—

1932	...	642	1936	...	8
1933	...	1	1937	...	4
1934	...	0	1938	...	12
1935	...	0			

Details of the numbers of each type of closet in the district are not available, as it has not been found possible to make a complete survey during the year.

As a result of the Council's schemes for clearance areas and the demolition of individual insanitary houses a considerable number of people will eventually be displaced from houses where the closet accommodation consists of dilapidated privies. This improvement has already taken place in the Alsager's Bank clearance area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

No important extensions or improvements were made during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

TABLE 12.

	Number of Inspect'ns	Notices served		Nuisances abated after Notice	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling-houses, etc. ...	625	121	39	169	30
Bakehouses ...	17	—	—	—	—
Cowsheds and Dairies ...	183	29	—	24	—
Slaughterhouses... ..	481	4	—	4	—
Factories and Work-shops	126	4	—	3	—

Visits in connection with infectious disease ... 73

Houses disinfected after infectious disease ... 56

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The Register of Shops for the district shows that there are 200 of these, of which 147 retail meat and provisions, and 57 drapery and general goods.

Periodic inspections were carried out during the year, and as a result six informal notices were served of which five were complied with. All the notices were in connection with either ventilation or water supply.

CAMPING SITES.

1. Number of sites which were used for Camping purposes during 1938 4
2. Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. 4
3. Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1938 220

A large public camping site at Stableford in Chorlton Parish was licensed during the year. Previous to the issue of the licence, alterations in connection with the provision of a main water supply, improved latrine accommodation, etc., disposal of slop-water and of dry refuse had been carried out.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was found necessary during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are none in the district.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No houses were reported to be infested.

SCHOOLS.

There is little change to record as to the sanitary condition of the Public Elementary Schools in the district. Inspection of school premises is carried out two or three times yearly by the County School Medical Staff.

During the year a mains water supply was installed at Ashley School.

In several schools in the more rural parts of the district the offices are of the privy type. Emptying is satisfactorily done, and they are kept as clean as possible.

The measures taken in relation to the health of the scholars have been detailed in previous Reports. The procedure outlined in the Joint Memorandum of the Ministry and the Board of Education on closure of and exclusion from school, 1927, has been carefully followed. In connection with the work of prevention of epidemic diseases the collaboration of Head Teachers has again proved most valuable.

The question of the prevention of the spread of infectious disease in schools is dealt with in Section F.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

TABLE 13.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	625
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	1,029
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under the sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	493
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose...	551
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	78
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	247

2. Remedy of defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	169
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
--	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :—	
(a) By owners	5
(b) By local authority in default of owners	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	33
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	25
(b) By local authority in default of owners	0

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	1

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4. **Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding*** :—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	83
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ...	87
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ...	529
(b) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0

- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 0
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 0
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding 0

*See note on page 27.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Section 25. Clearance Orders.

During the year the following Clearance Areas were confirmed by the Ministry.

Date of Representation	Clearance Order	Houses included in Clearance Area
7/6/37	No. 7 High Street, Halmerend	Nos. 59, 61 and 63
	No. 8 The Rookery, Chapel Chorlton	4 dwelling-houses
	No. 9 High Street, Alsager's Bank	Nos. 133a, 135a, 137a, *Ivy Cottage
	No. 10 Old Road, Wrinehill, Betley	4 dwelling-houses
	No. 11 High Street, Halmerend	Nos. 189, 191, 193, 195
7/7/37	No. 12 Shraley Brook Road, Halmerend	3 dwelling-houses
	No. 13 Aston, Maer	Nos. 193, 194, 195
	No. 14 High Street, Halmerend	Nos. 15 and 17
3/8/37	No. 15 Leycett Road, Scot Hay	Nos. 130 and 132
	No. 16 Charnes Road, Ashley	Nos. 56, 57, 58
16/8/37	No. 17 Boon Hill, Audley	Nos. 27, 29, 31, 33
	No. 18 Knowle Bank Road, Shraley Brook, Halmerend	2 dwelling-houses
31/1/38	No. 19 Ravens Lane, Audley	Nos. 37 and 41

*Ivy Cottage was excluded from the Area by the Ministry.

The total number of houses in respect of which Orders were confirmed was 39.

In April, 1939, thirteen further Clearance Orders were made in connection with 49 houses in scattered parts of the district.

The total number of Clearance Areas in the district declared up to April, 1939, is thirty-two, involving 129 houses.

The number of houses demolished in the district in pursuance of Clearance Area Orders during the year was sixteen.

Section II. Individual Houses.

One house (in Mucklestone Parish), was demolished.

RECONDITIONING.

The Authority under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts is the County Council. Through the courtesy of officials of that Authority I am enabled to give the following particulars of applications under the Acts that were dealt with during 1938.

Parish		No. of houses		Amount of Grant made or promised £
Balterley	...	1	...	100
Madeley	...	2	...	180
Madeley	...	1	...	100
Mucklestone	...	2	...	200
Tyrley ...	...	3	...	300
Tyrley ...	...	2	...	200
Whitmore	...	1	...	100
Totals ...		12	...	£1180

RE-HOUSING.

At the time of writing (April, 1939), eighty-two houses to be provided in connection with slum clearance and the relief of overcrowding were approaching completion.

The distribution of these houses by parishes is as follows :—

Parish				No. of houses
Ashley	...	...	...	8
Audley	...	...	...	52
Betley	...	...	...	6
Maer	...	...	...	4
Mucclestone	...	...	...	4
Tyrley	...	...	...	8
TOTAL				82

Proposals for the erection of approximately thirty more houses has also received the sanction of the Ministry.

During the year application was made to the Ministry with regard to the erection of one hundred houses to meet the needs of the agricultural population. The application was approved.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

PART IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(Note). The estimated requirements of the district were fully detailed in my Annual Report for 1936 (pp 24 *et seq.*).

With regard to the position at the end of 1938, a complete fresh survey would be necessary if accurate figures were to be obtained, and this has not been possible. The statistics given of pages 24 and 25 must therefore be regarded as only approximate.

Provisional estimates of the number of houses required for the relief of overcrowding were given in my Report for 1937 (page 27).

On the completion of the eighty-two houses referred to under the heading "Rehousing" on page 26 of this Report a considerable number of cases of overcrowding should be able to be abated.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year 183 inspections of cowsheds and dairies were made in the district. Twenty-nine informal notices were served, and twenty-four of these were complied with. No formal notices were served.

Samples for the detection of tubercle bacilli and for the estimation of cleanliness are taken by a County Council Inspector, and through the courtesy of the County Medical Officer of Health I am enabled to give the following particulars of the results of examination :

TABLE 14.

	No. of Samples	Cleanliness		T.B. found
		Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	
UNDESIGNATED	69*	46	23 (33%)	4† (5.8%)
DESIGNATED "Accredited"	3	3	—	—
Pasteurised	3	3	—	—

The Pasteurised samples also passed the phosphatase test.

*Two not examined biologically.

†One also unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint.

The proportion of undesignated samples found to be unsatisfactory is most disappointing, particularly as a steady improvement in the standard of cleanliness had been noted in former years. Possibly the smaller number of inspections made, owing largely to the great increase in the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspector's Department, may partly account for the deterioration. It is to be hoped that when the extra work in connection with the Council's housing schemes has been completed more time will become available for the inspection of milk and dairy premises.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Four hundred and eighty-one visits were paid to slaughter-houses and meat shops in the district during the year. Four informal notices were served and all were complied with. The total number of carcasses inspected was 2,898.

Ante-mortem inspection is seldom possible in a district where slaughter-houses are so widely scattered, and an increase in the staff of the Sanitary Inspector's Department would be necessary if this were to be done as a routine procedure.

Particulars of the results of inspection are given in Table 15.

TABLE 15.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	Not known				
Number inspected	15	478	2	1648	755
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBER- CULOSIS—					
Whole Carcasses condemned...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	39	—	84	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis	—	8	—	5	1
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—					
Whole Carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	104	—	—	54
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis	13	22	—	—	7

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
DURING THE YEAR 1938.

TABLE 16.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	24	19	0
Diphtheria	17	15	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	?	0
Pneumonia	9	?	4
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	4	0	—
Erysipelas	3	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	1	1	0

TABLE 17.

ANALYSIS BY AGE-GROUPS OF CASES INCLUDED IN TABLE 16.

Age Period	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Pneumonia*		Erysipelas	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Under 1 year	I	...	...
1 "	I	...	...	...	...	...
2 years
3 "	...	2	I	I	...	...	...	...
4 "	...	I	2	...	I	...	...	...
5 "	...	II	4	...	...	...	...	...
10 "	...	2	3	...	2	I	...	...
15 "	...	5	4	...	2	I	I	...
20 "	...	2	...	...	I	...	...	...
35 "	I	...	I	...	...	...
45 "	...	I	I	...	2	I	2	...
65 " & over
TOTAL-	...	24	17	I	9	4	3	...

*Notifiable cases only.

TABLE 17.—Continued.

	No. of Cases	Ages	No. of Deaths	Ages at Death
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	18, 24, 31	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	9	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—

TABLE 18.
SHOWING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE COMMONER NOTIFIABLE
INFECTIOUS DISEASES BY PARISHES.

The Attack Rates per 1,000 living are given in brackets*.

	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria		Pneumonia†	
Ashley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Audley ...	7	(0.8)	7	(0.8)	1	(0.1)
Balterley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Betley ...	1	(1.4)	1	(1.4)	3	(4.3)
Chorlton ...	1	(2.8)	—	—	1	(2.8)
Keele ...	1	(2.3)	1	(2.3)	—	—
Madeley ...	10	(3.5)	1	(0.4)	3	(1.1)
Maer ...	2	(3.2)	4	(6.4)	—	—
Mucklestone ...	—	—	1	(2.1)	—	—
Tyrley ...	—	—	1	(0.9)	1	(0.9)
Whitmore ...	2	(3.8)	1	(1.9)	—	—
TOTALS ...	24	(1.4)	17	(1.0)	9	(0.5)

*See Note on page 8.

†Notifiable cases only.

TABLE 19.
COMPARISON OF THE RATES OF INCIDENCE OF CERTAIN INFECTIOUS
DISEASES (PER 1,000 POPULATION) IN THE DISTRICT WITH THOSE
FOR ENGLAND, AND WALES IN RECENT YEARS.

		Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever*	Puerperal Pyrexia*
1933	England and Wales ...	0.02	3.21	1.18	0.45	0.04	3.50	9.60
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	0.71	0.24	0.24	0.00	4.20	4.20
1934	England and Wales ...	0.004	3.76	1.70	0.51	0.03	4.00	9.60
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	2.88	0.59	0.12	0.00	4.40	13.20
1935	England and Wales ...	—	2.96	1.60	0.42	0.04	3.60	9.44
	Newcastle R.D.	—	2.17	0.84	0.48	—	—	8.40
1936	England and Wales ...	0.00	2.53	1.39	0.40	0.06	3.27	9.64
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	1.03	0.61	0.49	0.06	0.00	4.65
1937	England and Wales ...	0.00	2.33	1.49	0.37	0.05	13.93	
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	3.02	0.43	0.62	0.00	4.27	
1938	England and Wales ...	0.00	2.41	1.58	0.40	0.03	14.42	
	Newcastle R.D.	0.00	1.49	1.05	0.19	0.00	12.1	

*The Rates for these diseases represent the incidence per 1,000 births registered, *i.e.*, live and still births.

(A). NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

SCARLET FEVER.

The type of this disease has continued to be mild. There were no deaths. The number of cases notified fell from 49 in 1937 to 24 in 1938. It seems likely that cases occurred in which the rash was very slight and transient, and it will be obvious that the difficulty of controlling the disease in these circumstances is very great.

As in previous years a number of cases for which adequate isolation was possible was allowed to remain at home. The proportion of such cases in 1937 and 1938 has been about 20%.

In Table 19 comparison of the incidence has been made with that in England and Wales as a whole.

Table 18 shows that the incidence of the disease throughout the parishes of the district was fairly uniform.

No schools were closed on this account during the year.

One "return" case came to knowledge.

DIPHTHERIA.

The number of cases rose from seven in 1937 to 17 in 1938, and there was one death. The highest incidence was in Maer Parish, where a number of "return" cases came to notice.

Incidence in the district, compared with that in England and Wales as a whole, is shown in Table 19.

Careful investigation has continued to be made in connection with every notified case. Unsuspected "carriers" of virulent bacilli were discovered in a number of instances, and it is clear that the policy of search for these by swabbing the noses and throats of all contacts, and of their prompt isolation when discovered, was an important factor in the control of the spread of the disease.

During the year protective inoculation by the Schick method was offered in the cases of all children of the 5—8 years group at Alsager's Bank, Halmerend, Audley and Raven's Lane.

Table 20 gives particulars of the percentages by schools who received the full dose of three injections.

TABLE 20.
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION
in School Children up to and including the age of
Eight Years.

School	No. of Children aged 5-8 in attendance	No. who received 3 doses of serum	Percentage receiving 3 doses of serum
Alsager's Bank C.	86	56	65
Halmerend C.	73	40	55
Audley C.	84	61	73
Audley Raven's Lane C. ...	71	66	93
TOTALS	314	223	71

The material used was Borroughs Wellcome's "T.A.F." A mild local reaction was reported in the case of one child, and in another vomiting occurred in the evening of the day of the first injection. (It is, of course, not possible to say whether in the latter case this was due to the inoculation). If it is allowed that both of these were genuine cases of reaction, the percentage of the total number immunised showing reaction would be 0.64%.

It will, of course, not be possible to judge the results of inoculation until Schick tests have been carried out on the children.

No pre-school children were immunised.

DISEASES NOTIFIABLE UNDER THE REGULATIONS OF 19TH OCTOBER, 1927.

The number of notified cases of pneumonia has fallen from 21 in 1937 to nine in 1938. There were four deaths.

No cases of malaria or dysentery were notified.

(B) NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

MEASLES.

Large numbers of cases were notified by Head Teachers chiefly during the first half of the year. The schools mainly affected were Audley Infants', Raven's Lane Infants', Wood Lane Infants', Madeley Endowed and Madeley Heath. Leycett and Betley Schools were also affected in July, and they were both closed from the 5th to the 12th of that month.

With regard to the incidence among children of less than school age there is little reliable evidence, but it is satisfactory to be able to record that there was only one death in this group.

WHOOPING COUGH.

A moderate number of cases was notified from Ashley in February and April, and there was a large number at Madeley Endowed Schools and Madeley Heath Schools in December. Both of these schools were closed from the 9th to the 22nd December on this account. No deaths occurred.

MUMPS.

A considerable number of cases was notified from Leycett from February to May.

CHICKENPOX.

A few cases occurred at Raven's Lane in March, and also at Maer in September.

INFLUENZA.

Large percentages of cases were notified from Maer in October, at Chapel Chorlton in November, and at Hales and Wood Lane in December. Maer School was closed on this account from the 24th to the 27th October, the closure thus running into the mid-term holiday. Hales school was closed from the 9th to the 22nd of December, so as to include the Christmas vacation.

LABORATORY WORK.

Of 250 nose and throat swabs examined for diphtheria bacilli, 28 were positive and 222 negative. Eight tests for virulence of these bacilli were carried out, and of these five were positive and three negative.

Fifty-nine specimens of sputum were examined of which nine showed tubercle bacilli. One specimen of pus examined for tubercle was found to be negative.

Of six specimens of cerebro-spinal fluid examined, two were found to be positive to the Influenza bacillus, and three positive to the organism of cerebro-spinal fever.

Eleven swabs were taken from the noses and throats of patients attending Ante-natal Centres. None of these showed diphtheria bacilli nor haemolytic streptococci.

The one specimen of faeces submitted was negative to the enteric, dysentery, etc., groups of organisms.

TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE 21.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods	New cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
5 ...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
15 ...	1	1	...	3	...	1	...	...
25 ...	...	4	...	...	...	3	2	...
35 ...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
45 ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
55 ...	4	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
TOTALS	6	9	...	7	2	6	2	2
Non-notified Tuberculosis Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Ratio to total Tuberculosis Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 : 3	...

Table 22 shows the numbers of cases on the Tuberculosis Register for the District as at the end of the last six years.

TABLE 22*

Year	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1933 ...	42	50	39	26
1934 ...	42	56	37	29
1935 ...	37	53	36	26
1936 ...	46	54	41	26
1937 ...	45	54	41	27
1938 ...	48	54	47	27

*NOTE.—Owing to the readjustment of the boundaries of the district in 1932, comparable figures are not available for previous years.

Table 23 shows the numbers of new cases, and the numbers of deaths, by category and sex, for the years 1933 to 1938.

TABLE 23*

Year	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1933 ...	11	11	2	3	4	1	—	—
1934 ...	7	10	2	2	4	2	3	—
1935 ...	1	3	4	4	1	5	0	1
1936 ...	8	3	5	1	0	1	0	0
1937 ...	4	6	3	2	3	3	1	1
1938 ...	6	9	7	0	2	6	2	2

*See Note to Table 22.

Table 24 gives the numbers of new *pulmonary* cases, by sexes, and the corresponding incidence of new *pulmonary* cases per 1,000 living for the years 1933 to 1938.

TABLE 24*

Year	New Pulmonary cases notified		Total incidence in both sexes (Pulmonary only)
	M	F	
1933	11	11	1.3
1934	7	10	1.0
1935	1	3	0.24
1936	8	3	0.67
1937	4	6	0.62
1938	6	9	0.93

*See Note to Table 22.

Table 25 gives the numbers of *pulmonary* deaths by sexes, and the corresponding Phthisis Death Rate (viz. : the number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis per 1,000 living) for the years 1933 to 1938.

TABLE 25*

Year	Deaths of Pulmonary Cases		Phthisis Death Rate
	M	F	
1933	4	1	0.30
1934	4	2	0.36
1935	1	5	0.36
1936	0	1	0.06
1937	3	3	0.37
1938	2	6	0.49

*See Note to Table 22

Notification of cases of tuberculosis has on the whole been satisfactory. Of the twelve fatal cases, however, four had not previously been notified. The reasons assigned for non-notification are as follow :—

- (1) Misunderstanding as to responsibility for notification.
- (2) Notification "overlooked."
- (3) Onset 25 years ago.
- (4) Tuberculous meningitis, discovered post mortem.

There is no evidence that any particular occupation has had an influence on the incidence of the disease.



MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE WORK IN NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1938.

Health Visitors.

TABLE 26.

Area	FIRST VISITS			RE-VISITS			TOTAL VISITS			No. of cases of insanitary con- ditions reported to M.O.H.
	Expectant Mothers	Children		Expectant Mothers	Children		Expectant Mothers	Children		
		Under 1 yr.	Between 1 5 years		Under 1 yr.	Between 1 & 5 years		Under 1 yr.	Between 1 & 5 yrs.	
Part of Halmerend, etc., Madeley, Betley, Balterley, Keele ...	35	79	11	37	650	1636	72	729	1647	1
Whitmore, etc. ...	12	8	6	21	79	176	33	87	182	—
Hales, Blore Heath, Mucklestone, Tyrley	—	22	4	—	237	527	—	259	531	—
Maer, Ashley, Chorlton ...	19	21	4	32	184	231	51	205	235	1
Part of Halmerend, etc., Audley, Bignall End...	10	54	—	18	544	1448	28	598	1448	1
TOTALS ...	76	184	25	108	1694	4018	184	1878	4043	3

TABLE 27.
WELFARE CENTRES.

Area	Number of Sessions during year	Total Number of Attendances			No. of Cases examined by Doctor
		Expectant Mothers	Children		
			Under 1 year	Between 1 & 5 years	
Madeley ...	49	—	538	841	535
Audley ...	47	12	659	783	552
Halmerend ...	51	29	296	599	533
TOTALS ...	147	41	1493	2223	1620

TABLE 28.
ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS
ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

(1) Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	37	2	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ...	28	2	—
Workplaces (other than Out-workers' premises) ...	61	—	—
TOTAL ...	126	4	—

(2) Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Number of Defects	
	Found	Remedied
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :		
Want of Cleanliness	4	4
Want of Ventilation	—	—
Other nuisances	3	3
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation	2	1
TOTAL	9	8

No cases were referred to H.M. Inspector and no prosecutions were instituted.

TABLE 29.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

IN NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT, 1938.

							M	F
	All causes	...	...	...	...	...	121	83
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
2.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
6.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
8.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
10.	Other Tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
11.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
12.	General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
13.	Cancer, Malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	14	14
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
15.	Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
16.	Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	32	24
17.	Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
18.	Other Circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6	3
19.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
21.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
22.	Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under two years)	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
24.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
25.	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
26.	Other diseases of Liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	0	2
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
29.	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
30.	Other Puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	0	3
31.	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	}				...	3	4
32.	Senility	...	...	...	...	...	5	4
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	0
34.	Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	4	1

						M	F
35.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	20	7
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	0	0

Special causes (included in No. 35 above)—

Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	0

The figures given in Table 29 are those supplied by the Registrar-General, who states that the classification of some deaths is modified in the light of fuller information obtained from the certifying practitioner in response to special inquiries.

This possible source of discrepancy between the figures given in Table 29 and those in the body of the Report must be borne in mind with regard to the causes of death.