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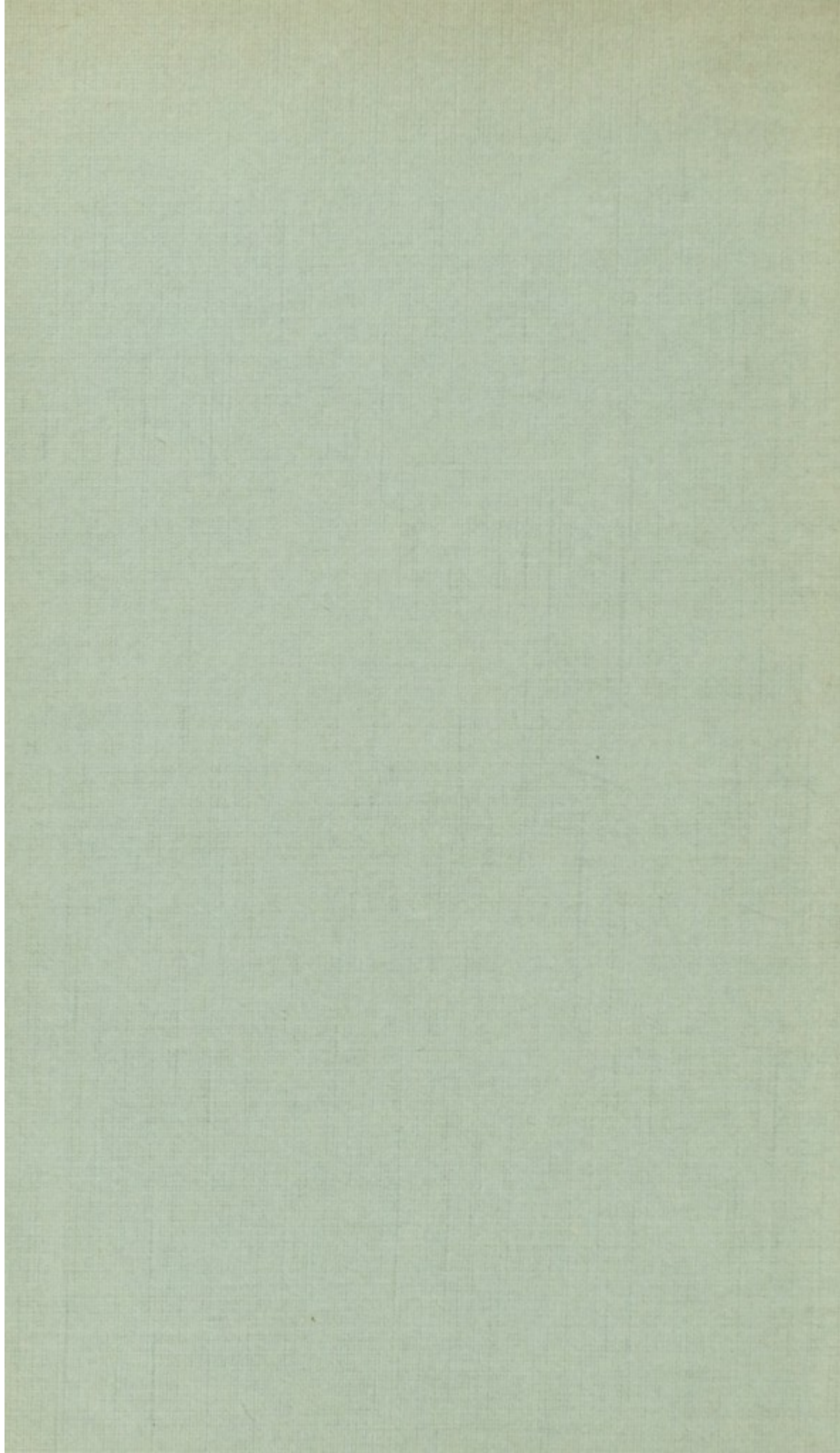
Borough of Shrewsbury



REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR
1942

A. D. SYMONS, M.D., D.P.H.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	}	†A. D. SYMONS, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer		
Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare		
Medical Superintendent of Smallpox and Isolation Hospitals		
Assistant Medical Officer of Health :		†KATHLEEN M. BALL, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary Inspector :		§†*NORMAN HANCOCK.
Housing Inspector :		Vacant.
Temporary Sanitary Inspectors :	{	§†*H. WADDICAR. §†S. MATTHEWS (appointed 4th May, 1942).
Health Visitors :	{	†MISS W. KYD-AITKEN, C.M.B. †MRS. E. GODSON, B.A., C.M.B.
Health Visitor and School Nurse :		†MISS E. L. HUGHES, C.M.B.
School Nurse :		†MISS M. WILLIAMS.
Matron of Isolation Hospital :		MISS A. K. ELLIS.
Chief Clerk and Laboratory Assistant :		†G. NICHOLAS.
Assistant Clerks :	{	†MISS F. C. PUDDLE. MISS B. IRVING. MISS H. WARD. T. YAPP.
Abattoir Superintendent and Meat Inspector :		§*S. R. REED.

PART-TIME OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Ante-Natal Clinic, Obstetric Consultant and Consultant for Puer- peral Pyrexia, etc.	} A. SIMPSON, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S.E.
Dental Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare :	C. LYTH HUDSON, L.D.S.
Sampling Officer :	W. C. HEAS.
Assistant School Nurse :	MRS. W. M. SARGEANT.
Meteorological Observer :	R. GRAY.
Public Analyst :	HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.I.C.

*Qualified Meat Inspectors.

†Contribution towards salary made under Public Health Acts or by
Exchequer grants.

§Qualified Sanitary Inspectors.

HEALTH CENTRE,
MURIVANCE,
SHREWSBURY,

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Shrewsbury.*

June, 1943.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough during the year 1942.

It is the eighteenth Report I have so presented, and though we have endured nearly four years of war, with its attendant anxieties, sorrows and sacrifices, and the dislocation of normal living conditions, yet the health of the town, as partially revealed by statistics, shows 1942 to have been an exceptionally favourable year.

I will enumerate the reasons for the above conclusion :—

- (1) The Birth Rate was the highest for eighteen years.
- (2) The Death Rate was the lowest that has ever been recorded in Shrewsbury.
- (3) The Infant Mortality Rate was only one point above the previous year, which was the lowest but one ever recorded.
- (4) There was not a single maternal death, so that the Maternal Mortality Rate was nil.
- (5) The incidence of Tuberculosis was lower than in the previous year.

There is little doubt that one of the main reasons for the maintenance of health under otherwise adverse circumstances is the excellent work carried out by the Ministry of Food. Shopkeepers may grumble at coupon cutting, and customers may chafe at the necessary controls, but the fact remains that food is fairly distributed, and it is food that matters and is essential for health.

Under peace-time conditions there was complete freedom to eat what one liked or could afford, and as a result, many whose

purchasing power was limited consumed foods that were filling or cheap, and were often of the wrong sort from the nutritional aspect. On the other hand, those who could afford quality or variety could also afford more than was necessary, and indulged themselves. In other words, taking the nation generally, we over-ate in one way or another; the consumption of chocolates during a cinema performance may have been soothing, but it was a luxury!

When this war is over, one of the foremost tasks will be the provision of houses, and very urgent is the need; but neither the provision of brand-new houses nor the Beveridge social security proposals will in their train conduce to greatly improved health if the people return to their gastronomic preferences for wrong or superfluous foods.

It is very much to be hoped, therefore, that certain foodstuffs will be controlled, either in price, so that all may obtain a share, or in quality, such as the abandonment of white bread, and the retention of the flavoursome and nutritious bread we eat to-day.

This plea for some control over the production or sale of food is not a suggestion that everything we eat should be "planned," for food is the most lasting pleasure of life, and as there is truth in the saying that a "little bit of what you fancy does you good," it would be a psychological error to be too coldly scientific and reasonable, when such interference might rob our complicated existence of one of its natural enjoyments.

No one can check Science, which, like Time, marches on, but I confess that future prospects are not without their dangers as regards food. Life is and should be a struggle, whereas modern civilisation is concentrating on comfort, security and leisure, and is tending to regard work as more of a nuisance than as a blessing, which it is when congenial. There is a movement afoot to equip houses with increasing labour-saving devices, many of which are desirable and excellent, provided they are kept within bounds, but in the future also we may witness as a commonplace the labour-saving meal. War has stimulated the inventiveness of scientists to produce synthetic or sophisticated foods such as dried stews in the form of a brick and dehydrated meat, eggs, vegetables, and other articles of food.

No doubt it will be very handy when an unexpected guest arrives to rush to the store cupboard, and in the space of minutes re-hydrate the various briquettes, and so save face ; but human nature being what it is, will there not be a tendency for this to be the routine procedure in certain households ? If women, with their new-found freedoms and career seeking, partially forsake the home, knowing that the refrigerator, the gas cooker, the electric washing-up machine, and other appliances are only awaiting her return for the switch to be turned, and for a selection from the store cupboard to be hastily made, will the mere male meekly submit, or will he as well as his stomach revolt in due course ?

To revert to housing and food as factors that may promote health, I should like to take this opportunity of re-quoting what I wrote in my Annual Report for 1927 of remarks made by Professor Mellanby, one of our leading nutritional experts :—

“ The problem of correct feeding is even of a more fundamental nature than that of general hygiene, for whereas it is possible to bring about good health and perfect development under bad hygienic conditions so long as the food eaten is very good, when the diet is defective, the most perfect hygiene, as we know it, will not prevent bad physical development, ill-health and early death.

“ Good hygienic conditions are those which reduce the chance of infection by micro-organisms, but nothing has been more prominent in recent work than the part played by correct feeding in increasing the individual resistance to infection.”

Public Health work is very largely concerned with the health of rising generations, and the most hopeful outlook for the future is that having provided good houses for the rearing of families under hygienic conditions, we shall also be ensuring that young children obtain a nutritious mid-day meal at school canteens, so that, having experienced an appetising meal, and learnt something of food values, these children, as potential parents, will have had a chance to become healthier citizens than their forbears.

One aspect of war-time conditions that is of concern to those who are interested in moral welfare is the fact that during 1942 the number of illegitimate births was double the average annual number for the past twenty years. There were sixty-one illegitimate births, compared with an annual average of thirty.

Of the developments that have taken place during the year, mention may be made of the opening of a British Restaurant, also used as a School Canteen ; the opening of one of the two War-time Nurseries ; the establishment of a clinic for the treatment of Scabies, and the reopening of the Swimming Baths.

I wish to express my thanks to all my staff, who have worked willingly and steadily under conditions that are trying for all.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. SYMONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1942

Rateable value of the Borough	...	...	...	£302,082	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	£1,190	
Area of the Borough (excluding water) in acres	...				8,034
Population (Registrar General's estimate, middle of 1942)	...	...	...	...	44,860
Persons per acre calculated on above population				5.6	
Inhabited houses (December 31st, 1942)	...				11,550

		MALE.	FEMALE.				
Live Births	{	Legitimate	406	372	}	Total	839
	{	Illegitimate	33	28			
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population						18.7	
Stillbirths						25	
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total Births						28.9	
Deaths						419	
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population						9.3	
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis						Nil	
,, ,, Other Puerperal causes						Nil	
MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 Total Births (live and still)						Nil	
INFANT MORTALITY RATE						38	
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births						32	
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births						114	
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)						74	
,, ,, Measles (all ages)						Nil	
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)						4	
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)						Nil	

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The Climatological Station, which is recognised and approved by the Air Ministry, is situated at Monkmoor Isolation Hospital.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall was 22.08 inches, compared with 23.54 and 32.12 inches in the previous years respectively.

Sunshine.—The number of hours bright sunshine recorded was 1,319.3, compared with 1,203.9 and 1,439.4 in the previous years respectively.

Temperatures.—Extremes of temperature during the year were as follows:—

Warmest Day (Highest Maximum)	June 5th and Aug. 28th	85°
Warmest Night (Highest Minimum)	Aug. 29th	61°
Coldest Day (Lowest Maximum) ...	Jan. 20th and 21st ...	26°
Coldest Night (Lowest Minimum) ...	Feb. 27th	15°

A monthly summary of the readings is set out in the following table.

Weather Statistics. Shrewsbury, 1942.

1942 Month	AIR TEMPERATURE IN SHADE °F			Hottest Day in Sun	SUNSHINE IN HOURS			RAINFALL IN INCHES					
	Barometric Pressure in Inches	Mean Maximum	Highest Maximum and Date		Mean Minimum	Lowest Minimum and Date	Mean Temperatures	Most Sunshine in one Day	Daily Means	Total Hours	No. of Rainy Days	Greatest fall in one Day	Total Rainfall
Jan.	29.980	39.0	50° on 2nd and 3rd	29.5	21° on 11th, 12th and 22nd	34.3	76° on 25th	5.4 on 25th	1.47	44.5	16	0.54 on 31st	2.83
Feb.	30.141	38.5	53° on 3rd	26.4	15° on 27th	32.5	81° on 3rd	7.4 on 14th	1.63	45.7	10	0.31 on 1st	0.81
March	29.916	48.2	61° on 24th	34.8	25° on 7th	41.5	100° on 17th	10.0 on 25th	1.87	56.0	12	0.38 on 4th	1.70
April	29.923	56.8	67° on 12th	40.0	32° on 27th	48.4	106° on 12th	12.8 on 30th	6.60	198.0	9	0.31 on 1st	0.98
May	29.887	61.3	71° on 6th	43.2	29° on 1st	52.3	115° on 7th	13.2 on 9th	6.50	201.6	14	0.75 on 18th	3.93
June	30.133	68.3	85° on 5th	47.5	37° on 14th	57.9	129° on 20th	14.8 on 3rd	7.08	212.4	6	0.42 on 14th	0.72
July	29.972	67.9	76° on 31st	51.0	41° on 28th	59.5	121° on 31st	13.3 on 12th	5.34	165.6	14	0.42 on 26th	2.01
August	29.914	69.0	85° on 28th	53.9	39° on 5th	61.5	122° on 10th and 29th	11.6 on 16th	3.76	116.6	17	1.18 on 2nd	2.75
Sept.	29.897	64.7	75° on 11th	48.6	33° on 27th	56.7	114° on 3rd and 22nd	10.9 on 10th and 13th	4.57	137.2	14	0.24 on 21st	1.18
Oct.	29.917	57.6	71° on 19th	44.0	30° on 28th	50.8	102° on 1st	8.3 on 19th	2.32	72.1	16	0.45 on 20th	1.62
Nov.	30.241	47.4	55° on 6th	34.4	21° on 22nd	42.9	88° on 7th	5.8 on 8th	1.39	41.8	11	0.23 on 5th and 11th	0.94
Dec.	29.862	49.7	56° on 9th, 13th and 21st	39.7	29° on 3rd and 26th	44.7	76° on 22nd	3.4 on 12th	0.90	27.8	19	0.40 on 4th	2.61
										1319.3	158		22.08

VITAL STATISTICS
OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1942 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

YEAR	Population (estimated) each year.		BIRTHS			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT				
	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Un-corrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	of Non-residents registered in the District	of Resi-dents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages		
				Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Rate	
1932	32990		539	481	14.5	439	13.3	143	88	22	45	384	11.6	11.1
1933	33220		572	408	14.9	462	13.9	162	105	22	44	405	12.2	11.7
1934	36316		536	467	12.8	572	15.7	209	96	35	75	459	12.6	11.9
1935	37500		542	519	13.8	545	14.5	223	67	16	31	389	10.4	9.7
1936	37490		564	564	15.0	590	15.7	211	109	26	46	488	13.0	12.3
1937	38120		535	587	15.4	599	15.7	213	104	24	41	490	12.8	12.1
1938	38480		489	587	15.2	608	15.8	232	118	22	37	494	12.8	12.1
1939	39270	40260	531	582	14.7	619	15.4	222	118	33	57	515	12.8	12.2
1940	42070		725	706	16.4	798	18.9	312	104	31	44	590	14.0	14.1
1941	45220		784	753	16.6	747	16.5	330	122	29	37	539	11.9	—
1942	44860		771	839	18.7	641	14.3	298	76	32	38	419	9.3	—

POPULATION.

The Registrar General's estimate of the civil population of Shrewsbury at the middle of 1942 was 44,860.

BIRTHS.

There were 839 live births compared with 753 and 706 in the two previous years respectively.

The birth rate for 1942 was 18.7, compared with 16.6 and 16.4 in the previous years respectively.

In 1842 there were 606 live births, when the population was less than half the present population.

The birth rates elsewhere as compared with Shrewsbury were as follows :—

	BIRTH RATES	
	per 1,000 Population.	
	Live Births.	Stillbirths.
England and Wales	15.8	0.54
London	14.0	0.48
126 Great Towns	17.3	0.66
148 Smaller Towns	18.4	0.62
SHREWSBURY	18.7	0.55

The 839 live births may be analysed as follows :—

	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	} 839
Male ...	406	33	
Female ...	372	28	

Illegitimate Births.

There were 61 illegitimate births compared with 43 and 41 in the previous years respectively.

The illegitimate birth rate was 1.36 per 1,000 population, the illegitimate births being a percentage of 7.2 of the total live births.

Stillbirths.

There were 25 stillbirths compared with 18 and 15 in the two previous years respectively.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 total population was 0.55, the stillbirths being a percentage of 2.9 of the total births.

DEATHS.

The total number of deaths during the year was 419, compared with 539 and 590 in the previous years respectively.

Of the 419 deaths, 200 were males and 219 were females.

The crude death rate was 9.3 per 1,000 population, compared with 11.9 and 14.0 in the previous years respectively.

In 1842 there were 586 deaths when the population was less than half the present population.

Causes of and Ages at Death during the Year 1942

CAUSES OF DEATH	NET DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT													
	Male	Female	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65 and
	200	219	32	2	3	1	2	4	2	5	8	17	101	242
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	7	—
Other forms of tuberculosis ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1
Syphilitic diseases ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Influenza ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute polio-myelitis & polio-encephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute inf. encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of buc. cav. and oesoph. (M.), uterus (F)	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	—
Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	11
Cancer of breast ...	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2
Cancer of all other sites	25	24	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	12	30
Diabetes ...	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	19	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	38
Heart disease ...	39	51	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	10	78
Other diseases of circulatory system ...	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
Bronchitis ...	11	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	13
Pneumonia ...	8	12	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	10
Other respiratory diseases ...	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Diarrhœa under 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ...	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Other digestive diseases	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	7
Nephritis ...	6	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	5
Puerperal and post-abort. sepsis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature birth ...	6	4	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformation, birth injury, infant: dis. ...	6	5	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Road traffic accidents	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other violent causes ...	3	11	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	5
All other causes ...	22	18	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	5	26

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 32, compared with 29, 31 and 33 in the three previous years respectively.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 38 per 1,000 live births, compared with a rate of 37 in the previous year.

The accompanying table shows the causes of death and the ages at death of infants under one year.

Infant Mortality, 1942

Net deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 month and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Congenital Causes	No. 20										
	Prematurity	8	1	—	1	10	2	—	—	—	12
	Congenital Heart Disease	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	Spina Bifida	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
	Atelectasis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	Asphyxia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Debility	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	
Respiratory	No. 5										
	Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	1	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	4	
Infectious	No. 4										
	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
	Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Miscellaneous	No. 3										
	Convulsions	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
	Otitis Media (Cerebral Abscess)	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Intussusception	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Totals	32	13	1	2	2	18	7	4	1	2	32

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

The Pathological Laboratories at the Royal Salop Infirmary, which were opened in 1941, have proved most useful, not only to the Local Authority, but to the medical profession and hospitals in the area.

Diphtheria swabs from the Isolation Hospital are still examined at the Laboratory at the Health Centre.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Ante-Natal Clinic.—Owing to increased attendances, an extra session was inaugurated during the year, so that now five sessions are held monthly.

Treatment of Scabies.—A cleansing station which has been given the title of Dermal Clinic was opened at the end of June.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The Water Engineer, Mr. W. A. Hewitt, has kindly supplied the following notes and a summary of bacteriological and chemical examinations carried out during the year in respect of Shelton and Conduit waters :—

“**River Severn Supply, Shelton.**—Fortunately, the many difficulties due to war-time conditions have not affected the provision of an ample water supply.

“ It will be seen from the annexed summary of all examinations made at the Shelton Laboratory that the excellent results obtained since the inception of the Shelton Scheme in 1935 have been fully maintained. The summary covers over 18,000 examinations and tests concerning the quality of the water during the year.

“**Conduit Water Supply.**—The application of a very slight precautionary chlorine treatment of the Conduit water was continued throughout the year.”

SHELTON WATER SUPPLY.
Summary of examinations at Shelton during 1942.

ITEM	CRUDE RIVER WATER			AFTER STORAGE AND PRECIPITATION			AFTER FILTRATION			FILTERED AND CHLORINATED		
	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average	Highest	Lowest	Average
Colony count of bacteria per ml. at 37° C.	1.580	10	193	516	0	3	3	0	1	2	0	0
Colony count of bacteria per ml. at 20° C.	21.600	552	6.520	2.960	1	233	2.400	1	200	200	0	17
B. Coli (present or absent)	present in .001 ml.	present in 1 ml.	present in .01 ml.	present in 1 ml.	absent in 100 ml.	—	present in 10 ml.	absent in 100 ml.	—	absent in 100 ml.	absent in 100 ml.	absent in 100 ml.
Colour (Hazen)	117.6	12.6	37.8	35.3	2.9	8.0	26.4	2.9	7.1	26.4	2.9	7.1
Turbidity (p.p.m. silica)	460.0	3.9	29.0	60.0	0.5	6.2	5.6	0.05	0.24	5.6	0.05	0.24
pH (hydrogen-ion value)	8.8	6.7	7.4	7.8	5.8	6.8	7.8	5.6	6.8	7.7	6.4	7.1
Alkalinity (Ca Co3)	10.1	0.8	4.8	8.7	0.4	3.8	8.7	0.4	3.8	8.6	1.2	4.3
Chlorides (Cl)	4.43	0.88	2.07	4.31	1.00	2.14	4.31	1.00	2.14	4.32	1.00	2.16
Free ammonia	0.0320	Trace	0.0028	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.0200	Trace	0.0054
Oxygen absorbed (3 hours at 37° C.)	0.880	0.112	0.288	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.286	0.044	0.083
Total hardness	13.3	1.6	7.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Permanent Hardness	4.1	1.4	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Residual Chlorine (p.p.m.)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.20	Nil	0.14

BACTERIOLOGICAL

CHEMICAL (parts per 100,000)

Samples of Shelton and Conduit water were sent to the Royal Salop Infirmary for bacteriological examination.

The results are set out in the following tables :—

Shelton Water.

Source of Sample	Date	Colony Count of Bacteria per c.c. at		Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes Test
		37°C.	20°C.	
Tap at Royal Salop Infirmary	Feb.	2	1	Absent from 100 ml.
Ditto	May	15	5	Ditto
Ditto	Aug.	2	2	Ditto
Ditto	Nov.	4	12	Ditto

Conduit Water.

Source of Sample	Date	Colony Count of Bacteria per c.c. at		Presumptive Coli-Aerogenes Test
		37°C.	20°C.	
Tap at Royal Salop Infirmary	Feb.	1	1	Absent from 100 ml.
Ditto	May	10	35	Ditto
Ditto	Aug.	1	1	Ditto
Ditto	Nov.	14	14	Ditto

Drainage and Sewerage and Closet Accommodation.

No closets were converted from the conversancy to the water carriage system.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Details of the varied work carried out by the Sanitary Inspection Staff, which was depleted after the outbreak of war, are given in the following statistics:—

Inspection Work.

Inspection (including re-inspection) of dwelling houses	...	2876
Visits in connection with Overcrowding	... ..	—
" " " Infectious Disease	... ..	135
" " " verminous premises (including rats and mice)	... ..	17
Drains Inspected	... ..	122
Factories Inspected	... ..	154
Workshops Inspected	... ..	46
Workplaces Inspected	... ..	6
Inspections of Milkshops and Dairies	... ..	58
" Cowsheds and Dairy Farms	... ..	76
Street work in connection with Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders	... ..	31
Inspection of Common Lodging Houses	... ..	24
" Offensive Trade Premises	... ..	74
" Premises used for the preparation and sale of food	... ..	296
Visits for Food inspection	... ..	148
Inspection of Pigstyes and premises used for keeping animals	...	20
" watercourses, ditches	... ..	10
" in connection with accumulations of manure and other refuse	... ..	21
" " " Cesspools, Sewers and Urinals	... ..	29
Inspection of Elementary Schools (Sanitary Survey)	...	23
" of Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	... ..	20
" and visits in connection with Shops Acts	... ..	81
" of offices	... ..	15
" of yards, courts and passages	... ..	15

Other visits unclassified, interviews, no access, miscellaneous, general purpose visits	...	...	...	...	763
Visits made for administration of Council houses (see Report of Housing Inspector)	...	..	...	...	1500
				Total	...
					<u>6560</u>

As a result of these Inspections the following administrative action was taken.

(1) Statutory Notices served	Nil affecting.	Nil premises.
(2) Informal Notices served	35 ,,	35 ,,
(3) Letters sent	112 ,,	123 ,,
(4) Verbal suggestions	60 ,,	70 ,,
	<u>207 notices.</u>	<u>228 premises.</u>

There were 21 notices outstanding at the end of the year, affecting 21 premises.

(5) Prosecutions ... Nil.

The number of complaints received and dealt with during the year was 233.

Details of Sanitary Improvements effected as a result of Inspections made and Notices issued.

Dwelling-houses. (Number affected). 89

Roofs repaired and made weatherproof	...	...	...	31
Rainwater gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	20
,, downspouts repaired or renewed	...	...	...	12
External walls repaired	...	...	...	14
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	6
Wall plaster repaired	...	...	...	24
Ceiling plaster repaired	...	...	...	15
Floors repaired	...	...	...	12
Fire ranges and fire grates repaired or renewed	...	...	...	12

Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	7
Stairs repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	4
Deficient water supply remedied	...	...	...	...	2
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	5
Sinks renewed or provided	...	...	...	...	11
Sink waste pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Washing accommodation provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	6
Paving of yards repaired	...	...	...	...	9

Water Closets. (Number affected 49).

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Basins renewed	...	...	...	...	12
Connections repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Flushing apparatus repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
Seats repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
Proper water supply provided	...	...	...	...	19

Drainage.

New drains constructed	...	...	...	...	4
Existing drains reconstructed	...	...	...	...	9
Defective drains repaired	...	...	...	...	18
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	6
Drains ventilated	...	...	...	...	5
Choked drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	80

Storage of Refuse.

Accumulations of refuse removed	...	...	...	...	8
Defective dustbins renewed	...	...	...	...	10
Accumulations of manure removed or controlled	...	...	...	...	6

Miscellaneous.

Other matters remedied	22
------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

**PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS
CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.**

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 2 Common Lodging Houses and a Municipal Hostel for Men.

Offensive Trades.

The number and type of offensive trades carried on in the Borough are as follows:—

Fried Fish Shops ...	20	Fellmongers	2
Rag and Bone Dealers ...	3	Tanners	2
Tripe Boilers and Gut Scrapers	2	Curriers and Leather Dressers	1
Soap Boiler	1		

Cowkeepers and Milksellers.

The number of Cowkeepers and Milk retailers registered in the Borough is 120.

Premises at which cows are kept, milk being sold wholesale	14
Premises at which cows are kept and from which milk is retailed	27
Premises from which milk is retailed	*43
Milk retailers whose premises are outside the Borough and retail in the Borough ...	36

*This number includes 16 who are registered to sell bottled milk only.

Samples of milk were taken by the Sanitary Inspectors for the following purposes.

Examination for Tubercle Bacilli ...	11 samples.
Pasteurised Milk for Bacteriological count ...	2 ..

SHOPS ACT.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector is also designated as Shops Act Inspector.

The total number of visits made was 81.

Under Section 10 of the Shops Act 1934 (sanitary arrangements in shops), notices were issued relating to 5 contraventions, and these were all subsequently remedied, the number of visits for this purpose being 12.

Offices.

Fifteen inspections were made, and the necessary improvements were carried out as a result of these inspections.

Schools.

The annual sanitary survey of schools was carried out during the Whitsuntide holidays.

CAMPING SITES.

Visits and inspections to the number of 20 were made for the general control and supervision of caravan and similar temporary encampments.

SWIMMING BATHS.

It is satisfactory to report that on June 29th the Swimming Baths were reopened to the public.

HOUSING.

Building Progress during 1942.

- | | | |
|---|-----|-----|
| 1. Houses erected by Local Authority | ... | Nil |
| 2. Houses erected by Private Enterprise | ... | Nil |

Apart from routine inspections or attention given to nuisances or complaints, activities in Housing matters have had to cease.

A few houses subject to a demolition order, but not demolished at the outbreak of war, have been reopened and relet to those coming into the town who have been rendered homeless by enemy action. The terms of reletting are closely supervised and strictly enforced.

Report of Housing Inspector.

The Housing Inspector appointed to supervise all Council houses resigned to take another post elsewhere on September 30th, 1939.

It was decided owing to the war not to replace him, but that his work should be undertaken by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, whose duties in connection with Slum Clearance work have been curtailed.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

Total number of visits and inspections as detailed below	1500
This number is made up as follows :—	
Visits investigating complaints of disrepair, supervising repairs and inspecting completed work	1092

House Inspections.

Inspection of houses <i>re</i> the supply of materials for internal decoration	62
Inspection of vacated Corporation houses	2
Inspections and visits in respect of Application for a Corporation house	14

Verminous Houses.

Inspection of houses on complaint of vermin infestation and visits for fumigation	9
Inspection of houses on complaint of rats	3
Inspection of houses on complaint of cockroaches and crickets, ants, etc.	15

Contravention of Conditions of Letting.

Visits in connection with the keeping of poultry ...	24
„ <i>re</i> condition of gardens and hedges	52
„ <i>re</i> defective or choked drains	49
Miscellaneous visits	178
Total	1500

Municipal Hostel for Men.

Mr. E. A. Andrews (Superintendent) supplies the following figures relating to the admissions to Derfald House Hostel for the year 1942, with those of 1940 and 1941 for comparison.

	1940	1941	1942
Number of Beds	38	38	38
Weekly lodgers (6/-)	1206	1540	1494
Daily lodgers (1/-)	2903	1919	1510
Daily average	31	34	33
Cases of Infectious disease	Nil	Nil	Nil

The work carried out at the Hostel by the Superintendent in connection with Steam Disinfection is given in a later section of this Report under the heading "Disinfection and Disinfestation."

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)	148
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	2876
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses [included under sub-head (1) above] which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(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	148

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	140
--	-----

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 ...	Nil
---	-----

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...					Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

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

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	...	...				Nil
(2) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Sub-Section (3) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	...					Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...			2

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	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

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

(a)	(i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	103
	(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	109
	(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	689
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	Nil
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	Nil
(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	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The work in connection with the milk supply of the town may be summarised as follows:—

Inspection of Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 165 visits or inspections as follows:—

Inspection of Milkshops and Dairies	58
„ Cowsheds and Dairy Farms	76
Street work in connection with Milk and Dairies	
Acts or Orders	31

Verbal warnings or advice were given in 31 cases, resulting in remedy of the condition to which attention had been drawn.

Milk Sampling.

Samples of milk were taken for the purpose of (a) Chemical analysis, (b) Examination for Tubercle bacilli, (c) Bacteriological examination in the case of Designated milks, the results being set out under their respective headings.

Chemical Analysis.

The Sampling Officer took 42 samples of milk during the year, the results being set out in the following table.

Food and Drugs Acts—Analyses of Milk Samples.

NUMBER OF SAMPLES		Result of Analysis	Remarks on samples returned as "Not genuine"
Formal	Informal		
40	2	Formal { 32 genuine 8 not genuine	<p>1. Fat 3.15%. Solids not Fat 8.30%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) normal 0.548° C. Slightly below for Solids not Fat. No evidence of added water.</p> <p>2. Fat 3.05%. Solids not Fat 8.30%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) normal 0.545° C. Slightly below for Solids not Fat. No evidence of added water. Re-sampled and found genuine.</p> <p>3. Fat 3.55%. Solids not Fat 8.40%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) normal 0.570° C. Slightly below for Solids not Fat. No evidence of added water.</p> <p>4. Fat 2.80%. Solids not Fat 9.00%. Deficient of 6% of the Fat. Taken from small quantity in can.</p> <p>5. Fat 4.15%. Solids not Fat 8.4%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) 0.552° C. Slightly below for Solids not Fat. No evidence of added water.</p> <p>6. Fat 5.5%. Solids not Fat 8.3%. No evidence of added water. Slightly below for Solids not Fat.</p> <p>7. Fat 3.70%. Solids not Fat 8.40%. Freezing Point (Hortvet) 0.509° C. Sample contained 1% of added water. Re-sampled and found genuine.</p> <p>8. Fat 3.60%. Solids not Fat 8.30%. Freezing Point normal 0.547° C. Below in Solids not Fat. No evidence of added water. Re-sampled and found genuine.</p>
		Informal { 1 genuine 1 not genuine	<p>Fat 3.35%. Solids not Fat 8.30%. Freezing Point normal 0.570° C. Slightly below for Solids not Fat. No evidence of added water. Slight trace of sediment.</p>

Public Abattoir.

The work carried on at the Public Abattoir conducted by the whole-time Superintendent, who is a qualified Meat Inspector, and inspects all slaughtered animals, is set out in the accompanying tables.

Public Abattoir.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4907	992	2715	43544	2627
Number inspected	4907	992	2715	43544	2627
Dressed carcasses inspected ...	151	—	33	193	82
Total inspected	5058	992	2748	43737	2709
All Diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	6	16	19	64	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	276	124	54	2344	188
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	5.57	14.11	2.66	5.50	7.31
Tuberculosis only :					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	14	62	4	—	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	237	226	14	—	209
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	4.96	29.03	0.65	—	8.01

Diseased and unsound conditions found in the animals dealt with caused the detention and surrender for destruction of a total weight in carcasses and offal of 37 tons 13 cwts. 3 qrs. 11 lbs., details of which are given in the following table :—

	Carcasses	Offal
Beef	45,785 lbs.	} 30,945 lbs.
Veal	1,451 lbs.	
Mutton and Lamb ...	2,700 lbs.	
Pork	3,550 lbs.	

**Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act 1928, Food and Drugs Act 1938,
and Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations 1925
to 1939**

The following 35 samples of Food and Drugs were taken. All but two were reported on as genuine, and free from foreign ingredients.

Numbers indicate number of samples. F=Formal sample ; Inf.=Informal sample.

Glauber's Salt (1 Inf.) ; Epsom Salts (1 Inf.) ; Seidlitz Powder (1 Inf.) ; Caster Oil (1 Inf.) ; Medicinal Liquid Paraffin (1 Inf.) ; Coffee (6 F) ; Cocoa (4 F, 1 Inf.) ; Ground Ginger (1 Inf.) ; Malt Vinegar (2 F) ; Sweets (1 F, 1 Inf.) ; Bi-carbonate of Soda (2 Inf.) ; Refined Borax (1 Inf.) ; Aspirin tablets (1 Inf.) ; Camphorated Oil (1 Inf.) ; Custard Powder (1 F) ; Liquid Mustard (1 Inf.) ; Lard (1 F, 3 Inf.) ; Cheese (3 F).

The two " Not Genuine " samples were sweets (1 F, 1 Inf.), which contained sand due to ground nut not being completely decorticated.

The following foodstuffs other than meat, being unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered for destruction :—

Fish	1,526 lbs.	Vegetables	180 lbs.
Fish Cakes	144	Eggs	300
Bacon	196 lbs.	Cooked Meats	193 lbs.
Cheese	102 lbs.	Tinned Goods	2,451 tins
Beef Sausage	30 lbs.	Dried Fruit	123 lbs.
Sugar	60 lbs.		

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

In reviewing the prevalence of Infectious diseases as a whole, 1942 was, like its predecessor, a favourable year.

There were sporadic cases of several infectious diseases, but no real outbreak of any.

Diphtheria.

There were 32 cases of Diphtheria with 2 deaths, compared with 17 cases and no deaths in 1941.

During the year the scheme for the immunisation of children by general practitioners, which had been in force since 1936, was abandoned, and immunisation was undertaken by the Health Department, except for those cases who prefer to go to their own doctors privately.

Alum-precipitated Toxoid provided by the Government is used, and two doses of 0.2 c.c. and 0.5 c.c. at a monthly interval are given.

All children are subsequently Schick tested.

The work carried out during the year was as follows :—

	Pre Schick Tests		Immunisations	Post Schick Tests	
	Positive	Negative		Positive	Negative
Pre-School Children	—	—	865	41	1279
School Children	6	1	769		

Diphtheria immunisation has now been carried out in Shrewsbury for seven years, during which period 5,521 children have been immunised under Local Authority Schemes, and other children by private doctors.

The work accomplished is as follows :—

Year				Number of Children Immunised	Number of Children Schick tested
1936	...	...	...	162	155
1937	...	...	...	177	171
1938	...	...	...	136	129
1939	...	...	...	1059	728
1940	...	...	...	677	501
1941	...	...	...	1676	718
1942	...	...	...	1634	1320

The sudden increase of immunisation in 1939 was due to a panic rush because there were six Diphtheria deaths, which converted apathy into alarm.

Credit for the high rate of immunisation in 1941 and 1942 must be given to Government propaganda, the authority of which substantially reinforced local efforts, which are now routine and constant.

During the seven-year period 1936–1942 there were 28 cases of mild Diphtheria among the 5,521 immunised children, but not a single death, whereas over the same period there were 226 cases of Diphtheria among non-immunised children, with 19 deaths.

It was estimated that at the end of 1942, 66 per cent of children between 1 and 5 years, and 74 per cent of children between 5 and 15 years had been immunised.

Scabies.

Arrangements were made with the Scheme Making Authority to install two baths at Public Gas Cleansing Centre at the Old Gullet Inn, Hill's Lane.

A suitable name was thought desirable so as not to deter the public from being seen to enter a place baldly labelled as Cleansing Station or Scabies Clinic. It is known by an easy name—Dermal Clinic.

Hot water is provided by gas heaters, and gas fires are also provided.

Women and children are treated by a part-time nurse, who is also employed by the Education Committee to deal with verminous heads.

Men and youths are treated by the Superintendent of the Municipal Hostel.

Kathiolan ointment, which was found to give very satisfactory results before the war, is used, and as a rule one application only is necessary.

Patients are seen 48 hours after treatment, and again at the end of a fortnight.

Children are generally re-admitted to school after the first 48 hours, and others allowed to return to their work.

Benzyl Benzoate Emulsion is used for treatment in certain selected cases.

Arrangements have been made whereby cases from the Atcham Rural District may be treated.

The number of cases dealt with from the opening of the Clinic on June 29th up to December 31st, 1942, was as follows:—

	Men	Women	Children	Total	
Borough of Shrewsbury ...	48	121	263	432	} 451
Atcham Rural District ...	4	6	9	19	

Monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases Notified 1942
(Not including Tuberculosis).

Month	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Primary Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Enteric Fever	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Acute Poliomyelitis	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough
January ...	—	1	—	1	—	5	1	—	1	—	—	16
February ...	2	1	3	2	—	5	2	—	—	1	—	—
March ...	3	2	9	2	—	8	1	—	1	3	2	4
April ...	3	—	4	3	—	4	—	—	1	1	3	10
May ...	1	—	4	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	6	7
June ...	—	2	2	3	—	2	1	—	—	—	4	1
July ...	1	—	1	3	—	5	—	—	—	—	6	8
August ...	1	1	2	—	—	6	—	—	—	6	1	3 ¹ / ₄
September ...	—	1	—	—	—	8	16	1	—	—	3	3 ¹ / ₄
October ...	2	1	4	—	—	11	7	—	1	—	—	—
November ...	—	1	4	2	—	7	1	—	—	—	—	3
December ...	1	2	—	2	2	5	3	—	1	—	1	9
Totals ...	14	12	33	21	2	71	32	1	5	11	26	64

The total number of admissions during the year was 461, compared with 611, 611 and 347 in the previous years respectively.

The respective number of admissions from the undermentioned areas was as follows :—

Borough of Shrewsbury	...	...	112
Atcham Rural District	...	...	19
County of Salop	...	...	211
County of Montgomery	...	...	22
County of Radnor	...	...	20
Military cases (all areas)	...	...	75

The diseases for which patients were admitted and the respective number of patients for each disease were as follows :—

*Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	210
*Diphtheria	...	...	...	162
*Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	...	...	45
*Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	3
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	2
*Dysentery	...	...	...	15
*Measles	...	...	...	4
German Measles	...	...	...	1
*Whooping Cough	...	...	...	4
*Erysipelas	...	...	...	11
Pemphigus	...	...	...	1
*Mumps	...	...	...	2
Chickenpox...	...	...	...	1

*See subsequent heading " Revised Diagnosis."

Revised Diagnosis.

Of the 461 patients admitted, 82, or 18 per cent, after due observation, were found to be suffering from conditions other than those for which admitted.

Sixteen cases sent in as Scarlet Fever were rediagnosed as Erythema of unknown origin (7 cases), Nil disease (3 cases), German Measles (3 cases), Measles (1 case), Urticaria and Impetigo (1 case), Tonsillitis (1 case).

Thirty-five cases sent in as Diphtheria were rediagnosed as Vincents Angina (11 cases), Tonsillitis (17 cases), Quinsy (3 cases),

Scarlet Fever (1 case), Gastro-Enteritis (1 case), Broncho-Pneumonia (1 case), Nil disease (1 case).

Twenty-one cases sent in as Cerebro-Spinal Fever were re-diagnosed as Pneumococcal Meningitis (3 cases), Sub-arachnoid Hæmorrhage (3 cases), Lumbar Myalgia (2 cases), Influenza (2 cases), and one case each of the following : Pleurisy, Rheumatism, Tuberculous Meningitis, Hysteria, Tonsillitis, Encephalitis, Meningismus, Aseptic Meningitis, Constipation, General Debility, Convulsions.

Other diseases re-diagnosed were : 1 case of Measles was German Measles ; 1 case of Erysipelas was Tonsillitis ; 1 case of Mumps was Adenitis ; 2 cases of Dysentery were cases of Simple Enteritis ; 2 cases of Whooping Cough were cases of Bronchitis ; 3 cases of Typhoid Fever were cases of Enteritis, Peritonitis and Pelvic Cellulitis respectively.

The areas from which patients were sent, together with the disease for which they were admitted, are given in the following table.

LOCALITY	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Typhoid Fever	Para- Typhoid Fever	Dysentery	Measles	German Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Pemphigus	Mumps	Chicken- Pox	Totals
SHREWSBURY ...	62	37	5	1	—	—	—	—	2	4	1	2	—	112
Atcham R.D. ...	9	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
County of Salop ...	109	58	18	2	2	12	1	—	2	6	—	—	1	211
County of Montgomery	9	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22
County of Radnor ...	6	11	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20
Military Cases (all areas) ...	15	36	17	—	—	2	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	75
Totals ...	210	162	45	3	2	15	4	1	4	11	1	2	1	461

Treatment.

Scarlet Fever.—There were no deaths among the 194 definite cases of Scarlet Fever.

Scarlet Fever Antitoxin and/or a Sulphanilamide preparation has been administered in the more septic types of this disease. Good results have been obtained in many cases treated with Sulphanilamide preparations, but it cannot be claimed that these drugs provide any specific cure in this disease.

Diphtheria.—Of the 127 true cases of Diphtheria, 6 died, giving a case mortality of 4.7%.

Among the 127 cases of Diphtheria were 27 who had been immunised and 5 partially immunised.

One of the immunised patients died. It was ascertained that the patient was one who had been immunised with faulty material in an adjoining county.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—There were 24 cases of confirmed Cerebro-Spinal Fever, of whom 2 died, giving a case mortality of 8.3%, which is the same case mortality as in 1941, when 48 patients, of whom 4 died, were treated.

Since the outbreak of war, 135 cases of Cerebro-Spinal Fever have been treated, with 18 deaths, or a total case mortality of 13.3%.

Year	Cases	Deaths	Case Mortality
1939	2	Nil	Nil
1940	61	12	21%
1941	48	4	8.3%
1942	24	2	8.3%

Surgical Operations.

One Mastoid operation was performed by the visiting Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist.

Return Cases and Cross Infection.

There was one known return case of Scarlet Fever, giving a return case rate of 0.5%.

There were no cases of cross infection.

Health of Staff.

No member of the nursing or domestic staff contracted any infectious disease.

The following preventive measures were carried out during the year among the Hospital staff:—

Anti-Typhoid Paratyphoid inoculations...	3 cases.
Dick Tests	8 cases.
Schick Tests	8 cases.
Scarlet Fever immunisation	1 case.
Diphtheria immunisation... ..	4 cases.

Bacteriological Work.

All specimens other than swabs from Diphtheria patients are sent to the Pathological Laboratories at the Royal Salop Infirmary.

The number of Diphtheria swabs examined at the Health Centre was 1,337, compared with 2,165 in the previous year.

Deaths.

There were 17 deaths among the 461 patients: 6 from Diphtheria, 3 from Pneumococcal Meningitis, 2 from Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 1 from Tubercular Meningitis, 1 from Typhoid Fever, 1 from Pemphigus, 2 from Whooping Cough, and 1 from Broncho-Pneumonia.

TUBERCULOSIS

The Salop County Council administer the Tuberculosis service, but close co-operation is maintained, chiefly in connection with disinfection of rooms occupied by infectious patients or in re-housing those whose housing conditions are unsatisfactory.

Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	—	2	5	—	—	1	1
15—25	1	4	—	3	1	2	—	—
25—35	7	4	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45	2	—	1	1	2	—	—	—
45—55	6	2	—	—	3	—	1	—
55—65	2	1	2	—	3	1	1	—
65 and upwards ...	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ...	21	11	8	13	10	3	4	1

Of the 18 deaths from Tuberculosis, 1, or 5.5%, was not notified before death.

The Phthisis (Respiratory or Pulmonary Tuberculosis) death rate for the year was 0.29 per 1,000 population, compared with 0.31 in the previous year.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

It was not found necessary to take any action under the above Regulations.

Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

No cause for action.

BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

The following work was carried out during the year in the Laboratory at the Health Centre.

		Number	Positive	Negative	
Swabs for	From {	Isolation Hospital	1337	117	1220
Diphtheria		School cases and			
Bacilli		contacts	195	26	169
		Local Doctors	42	7	35
Swabs for Vincent's Angina organisms			12	8	4

The undermentioned specimens from the Borough, and paid for under the County Council Scheme, were sent to the Infirmary Pathological Laboratory for examination:—

				Positive	Negative
Swabs for Diphtheria Bacilli	...	...	...	4	90
Sputum for Tubercle Bacillus	...	...	...	16	2
Fæces	{ Typhoid	...	...	—	} 21
	{ Dysentery	...	...	2	
Widal Test	...	...	...	1	8

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

A summary of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors in connection with infectious disease, disinfection and disinfestation work is as follows :—

Visits made in connection with Infectious disease	...	...	...	135
Disinfection carried out after	{	Tuberculosis	... ..	12
		Scarlet fever	... ..	6
		Others	... ..	—
Council houses treated for Bug Infestation	...	...	...	9
Other houses treated for Bug Infestation under Inspector's supervision	...	...	...	12
Disinfectant supplied for Infectious disease purposes				30

The methods used and described in the Report for 1936 for eradication of bugs were continued.

At the Municipal Hostel the Superintendent has dealt with a weekly average of 100 blankets, 15 mattresses and 30 pillows.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The routine work of Health Visitors has continued as in the past, with the exception that in the latter part of the year concentrated efforts in the form of home visiting were specially made in the cause of Diphtheria immunisation.

Four Infant Welfare Sessions are held weekly, and are well patronised. Thanks are again extended to those voluntary helpers who, in war-time, have been good enough to find time not only for Welfare Centre work, but also in the distribution of fruit juice and cod liver oil.

Owing to increased attendances at the Ante-Natal Clinics, an extra session was started in the early part of the year, so that now five sessions monthly are held.

The question of the provision of War-time Nurseries was fully considered by the Welfare Authority, and though there was no urgent demand for such in Shrewsbury, anticipation of possible future needs resulted in a decision to set up two Nurseries, but that such Nurseries should be Nursery classes catering for children from 2 to 5 years, and not for babies below 2 years of age.

In those places in which the demand is urgent and pressing, it may be inevitable that women should divorce themselves from their infants. This may be one of war-time's undesirable features, but there is evidence that enthusiastic and busybody planners are fervently hoping to convert a war-time measure into a permanent peace-time part of our social services.

Even if it is a lone voice crying in the wilderness, someone should speak out and give warning before politicians, egged on by Societies, composed chiefly of scheming spinsters, decide that a home and its own parents are unfit for the rearing of infants.

The decay of religion and the reduction in the birth rate are becoming world-wide, and both may be being brought about by a lack of faith in the future, and a lack of interest in family life, and both may partly be due to outside counter-attractions or distractions. Cheap motoring before the present war was one circumstance drawing people away from their homes, and after this war, civil aviation will be still more alluring.

Thousands of women who have been "out into the world" earning wages on war work will want to marry and have a home and children when it is over, but many thousands will not. But some of those who do marry and start a family may think it would be nice once the confinement is over to go back and do part-time work to supplement the husband's earnings, so that pleasures and amusements may be continued as long as their offspring can be parked for the day in a nursery to be looked after by others.

It must be admitted without question that there are many bad homes and feckless mothers (not all confined to the 10 per cent problem group of the community), for the infants of whom a residential or a day nursery would be the best thing, but once the principle is established on any scale, the fashion will spread, and in their most interesting years babies and small children will spend most of their time, not in their own homes, with certain admitted faults of upbringing to which the best of us are liable, but in the theoretical perfection of a scientifically run nursery, where true mother or father-love is missing.

And this is where I come back to the point established earlier as to why Shrewsbury decided not to set up a Nursery for children below 2 years of age.

Experience is showing that psychologically the effects on an infant isolated from its mother may be bad. It has been demonstrated that young infants regimented and supervised by strangers can become lonely and unhappy, which is not surprising.

A tender infant cannot talk, but it can sense its mother, as a kitten does her mother. The infant has been in intimate contact with the mother before and after birth, and though it may not understand whether the mother is good or bad or sensible or silly, yet it knows there is a bond, and depends on it.

The other medical ground on which objection to segregating infants may be made is that of infection, and this is more commonly realised than the former objection.

Let us, even if it is a rearguard action we are fighting, do what we can to foster home life and maintain our children there rather than in communal nurseries.

Firstly, let us house the people decently, and secondly, institute a corps of domestic helps, so that the mother can be helped, not only to look after her house, but also the human inhabitants therein, and let the State busy itself if it likes with the abnormal or the special case, for whom home training is unsuitable.

VISITS OF HEALTH VISITORS

	Under 1 year		1-5 Years Visits	Infant Death Enquiries	Still-birth Enquiries	Infant Life Protection Visits	Totals
	Ante-Natal Visits	First Visits					
January ...	44	91	100	2	1	8	579
February ...	34	68	122	1	4	6	465
March ...	22	53	59	2	—	—	290
April ...	34	75	72	3	1	3	370
May ...	50	69	142	3	—	3	534
June ...	25	69	61	3	2	4	320
July ...	36	51	120	1	1	1	463
August ...	29	51	87	1	1	7	344
September	29	63	116	1	1	2	411
October ...	43	63	136	1	2	2	492
November	19	36	84	1	1	2	385
December	19	48	80	1	1	1	357
Total ...	384	737	1179	20	15	39	5010

WELFARE CENTRES

	Under 1 year		1-5 years		Expectant Mothers	
	Health Centre	White House	Health Centre	White House	Health Centre	White House
New Cases	Borough		179		153	
	County		10		—	
Total Attendances of Old and New Cases	2758 2997		1799 2645		57 208	
	5755		4444		265	

The amount of work done at each session may be gauged from the following average numbers :—

	Health Centre	White House
Average attendance of Mothers each afternoon	39	47
„ „ Children each afternoon	45	56
„ number of children medically examined	18	27

(The above average numbers include mothers and children resident outside the Borough.)

Other activities may be summarised as follows :—

Number of Mothers who received Dental treatment ...	44
„ Children who received Dental treatment ...	29
„ Dentures supplied to expectant or nursing mothers	7
„ Children referred to Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital	24
„ Home Helps provided	1

	Health Centre	White House
Number of Children treated at Minor Ailment Clinics	63	230
„ Children admitted to Orthopaedic Hospital		3
„ lbs. of dried milk supplied		884

Ante-Natal Clinic.

The following figures show the work that has been done :—

Number of sessions held	59
Number of patients examined : Ante-Natally *338	} 344
Post-Natally 6	
Total number of attendances	*636

*16 and 24 respectively of these numbers refer to women resident outside the Borough.

Of the 252 new Borough patients examined, the reference of the patients to the Ante-Natal Clinic was brought about as follows :—

<i>By whom referred</i>	<i>For Ante-Natal Examination</i>	<i>For Post-Natal Examination</i>
Doctors	21	2
Midwives	18	1
Health Visitors	54	2
Own Initiative	153	1

Of the 322 women examined Ante-Natally, 228 were known to have been confined during the year, and the results of the confinements were as follows :—

Number of Live Births	223
„ Stillbirths	4
„ Miscarriages and Abortions	1
No record of birth (<i>e.g.</i> left town, etc.)	22
Not yet confined	72
Confinements at own home	85
„ Maternity Home	143
Deaths as a result of or following confinement	Nil

Maternity Beds.

Beds for normal confinements are provided at the County Council Hospital.

Ante-Natal cases for observation or treatment are also admitted when required.

The number of confinements of Shrewsbury women at the County Council Hospital during the year was 260.

Maternal Mortality and Morbidity.

Cases of abnormal or difficult labour are admitted to the Maternity Department at the Royal Salop Infirmary.

The following brief particulars are recorded :—

Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified	21
Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia removed to Hospital (19 cases already in Hospital or Nursing Home)	1
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis	Nil
Deaths from other Puerperal causes	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate	Nil

The services of the Council's Obstetric Consultant were required on one occasion.

There were no consultations held in respect of Puerperal Pyrexia.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The three Health Visitors act as Infant Life Protection Visitors.

In the majority of cases foster children are brought to the Welfare Centres, as well as being supervised in their homes.

The number of persons receiving children for reward on the register at the end of the year was 19.

The number of children on the register at the same date was 19.

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1942

A. D. SYMONS, M.D., D.P.H.

HEALTH CENTRE,
MURIVANCE,
SHREWSBURY,
March, 1943.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The ordinary routine work of the School Medical Department has been carried out uninterrupted during the year 1942, though on an increased scale compared with former years.

Provision was made by you for an extra Dental Treatment Session each week to keep pace with the demand for treatment.

Although not as many children were immunised against Diphtheria as in the previous year, the reason is that approaching 80 per cent of the present school population has now been immunised, so that for the future, whilst continuing to try and convince apathetic or objecting parents, our work will mainly be concentrated on new entrants, if they have not already been immunised as pre-school children.

The greatest single increase of work during the year has been in connection with Scabies, of which disease 224 cases among school children were diagnosed and treated. The work has been eased as a result of the opening of the Dermal Clinic situated at the Gas Cleansing Centre in Hill's Lane, at which a special nurse engaged by your Committee deals with children and women.

Owing to the treatment adopted, and, except in very badly infested cases, it is not necessary to exclude a child from school for more than about 48 hours.

Bearing in mind that statistics are not always truthful, the results of the assessment of nutrition of children examined at routine medical inspections are much the same as in the previous year, in that both years show a larger percentage of children of sub-normal nutrition compared with former years.

One can only hope, if this assessment is a real indication of some deterioration, that the delay in the provision of further school canteen facilities will not be prolonged.

The opening of a War-time Nursery Class in the annexe to Monkmoor School is worthy of mention, being something new. These children from two to five years come under the care and supervision of the School Medical Department when needed, and share the same benefits as elder school children.

Another circumstance that is worthy of record, both from the point of view of general cleanliness and health, is the reopening of the Public Swimming Baths, which took place in June, 1942.

With so much talk of reconstruction and good things to come in the post-war world to be, I wonder whether foresight and finance will be forthcoming to provide Shrewsbury with an open-air swimming bath!

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. D. SYMONS,
School Medical Officer.

Number of Schools.	Number of Departments.	Accommodation.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance.
15	23	5577	4115	88

STAFF.

The staff establishment is the same as it was in peace-time, and is capable of dealing with the extra work involved by official and unofficial evacuees.

MEDICAL INSPECTION

(Arrangements and Methods).

There has been no alteration as a result of the outbreak of war in the working of the School Medical Service, the evacuees having been absorbed into the general system and dealt with similarly to Shrewsbury children.

FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

Nutrition.

The classification of the state of nutrition as assessed at routine medical inspections of 5, 8, and 12 year old children combined, is set out in the following table with previous years for comparison.

Nutritional Group	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
A (Excellent)	20.5	16.0	17.6	17.3	19.4
B. (Normal)	64.0	69.0	64.8	59.2	57.4
C (Slightly Sub-normal)... ..	14.7	14.7	16.8	22.4	22.1
D (Bad)	0.8	0.3	0.8	1.1	1.0

Uncleanliness.

Each school was visited during the first and second terms by the School Nurse for a cleanliness inspection, the total number of children inspected at these visits being 8,421.

The following table summarises the findings of the inspections of Shrewsbury children in 1942 and for the four previous years.

Percentage of Verminous Children.

	1st Term.	2nd Term.	3rd Term.
1938	2.6	2.8	2.0
1939	2.2	1.9	2.3
1940	3.2	3.3	2.7
1941	2.2	2.5	3.7
1942	3.3	—	3.7

It was found necessary to exclude from school 29 children until passed as clean.

Legal proceedings were taken in one case under the School Attendance Bye-Laws.

MINOR AILMENTS.

Including Skin Disease, External Eye Disease and Ear Disease.

The following minor ailments were found at routine medical inspections at the schools or at special inspections at the School Clinics.

Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	...	...	...	1
" Body	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	224
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	110
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	...	19
Minor injuries (sores, cuts, abrasions)	...	...	...	...	...	548
Ear Diseases (including Otorrhoea)	...	...	...	...	...	50
Eye Diseases (including Blepharitis and Conjunctivitis)	...	...	...	...	...	72

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

At routine or special inspections, 24 children were found to require treatment for Adenoids or Unhealthy Tonsils, or both.

Of this number, 18 suffered from Unhealthy Tonsils, 4 from Adenoids, and 2 from Unhealthy Tonsils and Adenoids.

In addition, 107 other children were kept under observation by means of periodic re-inspections.

Other conditions of the nose or throat, including cases of Acute Tonsillitis, were found to require treatment or exclusion from school in 381 cases.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No cases of Pulmonary or Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered.

DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

At School Medical Inspections 54 cases of Defective Vision and 7 cases of Squint were referred for treatment; in addition, 23 cases of minor degrees of Defective Vision and 5 cases of Squint were kept under observation.

At the School Clinics or other Special Inspections 14 cases of Defective Vision and 2 cases of Squint were also referred for treatment, and 17 cases of Slight Defect of Vision and 6 cases of Doubtful Squint were kept under observation.

DENTAL DEFECTS.

The total number of children inspected by the School Dentist during the year was 5121.

This total number was made up as follows :

Routine Inspections at Schools	...	5020
Special Inspections at Clinics	...	101

CRIPPLING DEFECTS.

Defects under this heading include (1) Major Orthopædic defects, (2) Severe Heart Disease, (3) Minor Orthopaedic defects.

The Cripple Register contains the names of 11 crippled children, there being no cases of Severe Heart Disease.

The following crippling defects, 18 in number, were discovered and referred for treatment during the year :—

Scoliosis	...	...	2 cases.	Claw feet	...	...	1 case.
Flat foot	...	...	8 „	Deformed toes	...	...	1 „
Foot injury	...	...	2 „	Deformity of foot	...	...	1 „
Leg injury	...	...	1 case.	Knock knee	...	...	1 „
				Bow legs	...	...	1 „

VACCINATION.

Of the 613 Infants examined during the year, 345, or 56.2%, had been vaccinated, compared with 52.4% in the previous year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

	NON-NOTIFIABLE			NOTIFIABLE			
	German Measles	Mumps	Chicken Pox	Measles	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria
Jan.	—	—	1	—	8	2	1
Feb.	—	7	5	—	—	3	—
Mar.	—	12	6	2	2	2	—
April	—	28	19	5	2	2	—
May	—	15	2	3	1	3	—
June	—	18	1	1	—	2	1
July	—	20	2	3	—	3	—
Aug.	Schools	Closed	—	—	1	4	—
Sept.	—	3	1	1	—	3	13
Oct.	—	42	3	—	—	4	3
Nov.	—	89	1	—	2	3	1
Dec.	—	82	1	1	6	3	2
Total	—	316	42	16	22	34	21

Of the 34 cases of Scarlet Fever, 3 were diagnosed at School Clinics, and of the 21 cases of Diphtheria, 13 were also diagnosed at School Clinics.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of immunisations among school children has been as follows :

Year.		Number.
1936	...	127
1937	...	135
1938	...	99
1939	...	712
1940	...	407
1941	...	988
1942	...	769

FOLLOWING UP.

The work of the School Nurses during the year may be summarised as follows :

Attendances of children for treatment at Minor Ailment Centres	... ..	11,862
"Following-up" home visits	... ..	179
Number of children examined at Head Inspections		8,421
Visits to homes <i>re</i> Absentees from School	...	12
Visits to Schools with Medical Officer, etc.	...	203

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

School Clinics and Minor Ailment Centres.

A daily School Clinic is held at the Health Centre and the White House, at which the School Medical Officer and the Assistant School Medical Officer attend respectively.

In addition, Minor Ailment Centres, each staffed by a Nurse, are held daily at the Health Centre, the White House and Monkmoor Senior School.

The work carried out by the Nurses at their respective Centres was as follows :—

Defect.	Health Centre.	White House.	Monkmoor School.
Ringworm of Scalp	1	—	—
Ringworm of Body	1	2	—
Scabies	142	82	—
Impetigo	18	100	—
Other skin complaints	14	6	4
Minor Eye Defects	70	43	59
Minor Ear Defects	27	30	25
Miscellaneous (Sores, Cuts, etc.) ...	791	408	664
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1064	671	752
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Attendances made for treatment of above defects	4505	3533	3824
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TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.

Treatment is carried out at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital under the Authority's Scheme.

Under this Scheme 34 children, compared with 26 in the previous year, underwent operation (See Table III, Group III, at end of Report).

TUBERCULOSIS.

All definite or suspected cases of Pulmonary or Glandular Tuberculosis are referred to the County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary, where they are treated or kept under observation by the Tuberculosis Officer.

Cases of Bone or Joint Tuberculosis are referred to the Cripple Care Centre, whence they are admitted to the Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital, if necessary, under the County Council Scheme.

The following table gives the diagnosis and disposal of cases referred to or primarily examined at the County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary during the year.

Number of children who attended during 1942	...	86		
New cases examined	... ..	40		
Diagnosis of New Cases	{	Definite Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	—
		Definite Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	8
		Suspected cases	... ..	10
		Non-Tubercular cases	... ..	22
Number of cases admitted to Sanatorium during 1942		1		
Number of cases treated at Orthopaedic Hospital for Bone or Joint Tuberculosis during 1942	...	Nil		

SKIN DISEASE.

Certain contagious skin diseases, such as Ringworm, Scabies and Impetigo received special treatment at Minor Ailment Centres.

The work done in respect of these particular complaints was as follows. :

Ringworm of Scalp	...	...	1 case
Ringworm of Body	...	...	3 cases
Scabies	...	...	224 „
Impetigo	...	...	118 „
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	24 „

VISION.

Defects of Vision, including Squint, are dealt with at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital under the Authority's Scheme.

The number of children referred for treatment or periodic re-test of vision was 227, with the following results.

Number of children examined at Hospital	...	...	227
Prescriptions for glasses given	...	...	145
Glasses not necessary	...	...	16
Fresh glasses not prescribed	...	...	66
Glasses actually obtained	...	...	133

To this number may be added 11 cases for whom glasses were prescribed in 1941, but glasses not obtained until 1942.

Of the 133 children who obtained their glasses, 113 were provided by parents and 20 wholly or partly by the Local Education Authority.

As soon as children have obtained their glasses, they are sent back to the Hospital to ascertain whether the prescription has been accurately dispensed by the optician and that the frames are a proper fit.

The number of children so referred to the Hospital was 89, and of this number 2 were found to have incorrect lenses and 11 ill-fitting frames. These errors were subsequently adjusted by the optician.

Four children received treatment for Squint at the Hospital.

EAR DISEASE AND HEARING.

Ear cases received treatment either at Minor Ailment Centres or at the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.

The number of children receiving treatment for Ear defects was 82 ; of these 76 were treated at Minor Ailment Centres and 6 at Hospital.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

The part-time School Dentist devoted 252 sessions to treatment during the year.

The number of children whose parents accepted treatment by the School Dentist was 1736, and during the year 1578 received treatment.

Details of the work of the School Dental Service during 1942 are to be found in Table IV at the end of this Report.

The amount received from parents in 1/- fees for treatment during the year was £69 12s. 6d.

CRIPPLING DEFECTS AND ORTHOPAEDICS.

An Orthopædic Clinic is held once a week at the Health Centre, to which major and minor crippling defects may be referred for examination and treatment.

This Clinic is conducted by voluntary helpers provided by a local Cripple Care Committee, in conjunction with a staff of trained nurses sent from the Shropshire Orthopædic Hospital. An orthopædic surgeon visits the Clinic at intervals, when new as well as old cases are brought before him.

The number of children referred to the Cripple Care Clinic during the year was 67.

Eight cases were admitted to the Orthopædic Hospital.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

Routine procedure has been carried on during the year under the restricted facilities available.

SCHOOL BATHS.

The Public Baths, at which swimming instruction is given to school children, were at last made available, and were reopened during the summer.

PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK.

The only additional facilities provided during the year for the supply of school meals were made possible by the opening of the British Restaurant in August.

Places are reserved for school children, whose meal takes place before the admission of the general public. The schools chiefly catered for are St. Michael's Boys', Girls' and Infants'.

Although 230 children can be fed at a sitting, an average of only 140 have so far partaken of the mid-day meal daily.

Plans for the provision of a central kitchen, at which meals could be served and prepared for distribution to schools for whom no meals are yet available, have been submitted to the Board of Education.

The delay in getting on with this project lies not so much in the Guildhall, Shrewsbury, as in Whitehall, London.

Blind or Partially Blind Children.

No Blind children were maintained at Special Schools.

Deaf (including Deaf and Dumb and Partially Deaf) Children.

Two children were maintained at the Birmingham Royal School for the Deaf.

Epileptic Children.

No Epileptic children were maintained at Special Schools.

Mentally Defective and Backward Children.

Six girls and one boy were maintained at the Monyhull Residential School for Mental Defectives at Birmingham, and two boys at the Mary Dendy Home, Sandlebridge, Cheshire.

Under the scheme for the ascertainment of Defective and Backward children, 53 children were specially examined by mental tests.

The grouping of these children as a result of mental testing was as follows :—

Number of Children	Degree of Retardation	Recommended Disposal
1 ...	Imbecile	Notification to Local Control Authority.
3 ...	Mentally Defective ...	Suitable for Special School.
8 ...	3 years or over ...	To be re-examined for Certification purposes.
17 ...	2-3 years retarded ...	Suitable for Special Classes.
25 ...	Under 1 year retarded...	To remain in ordinary Class.

Medical Inspection and Treatment Returns.
Year ended 31st December, 1942.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

(1) No. of Inspections :

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	613
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	501
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	430

Total 1544

(2) No. of other Routine Inspections ... Nil.

Grand Total 1544

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

No. of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... 7353

TABLE II.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED
DURING THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly sub-normal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1544	300	19.4	887	7.4	341	22.1	16	1.0

TABLE III.

GROUP I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Un-
cleanliness).

Total Number of Defects treated or under treatment
during the year under the Authority's Scheme 2487

GROUP II.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

	Under the Authority's Scheme
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including Squint)	227
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)... ..	4
Total	<u>231</u>

Number of children for whom spectacles were :—

(a) Prescribed	145
(b) Obtained	133

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received operative treatment	34
Received other forms of treatment	6
Total number treated	<u>40</u>

TABLE IV.

Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age-groups	5020
(b) Specials	101
(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials)	<u>5121</u>
(2) Number found to require treatment	2631
(3) Number actually treated	1578
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment	2373
(5) Half-days devoted to :—	
Inspection 22	
Treatment 252	Total 274
(6) Fillings :—	
Permanent Teeth 1319	
Temporary Teeth 7	Total 1326
(7) Extractions :—	
Permanent Teeth 594	
Temporary Teeth 2396	Total 2990
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions	368
(9) Other Operations :—	
Permanent Teeth 50	
Temporary Teeth 42	Total 92

TABLE V.**Verminous Conditions.**

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses or other authorised persons...	...	2
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses or other authorised persons	... ..	8421
(iii)	Number of individual children found unclean	... ..	254
(iv)	Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921	... ..	Nil
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—		
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	... ..	Nil
	(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	... ..	1

TABLE VI.**Blind and Deaf Children.**

Number of totally or almost totally blind and deaf children who are **not** at the present time receiving education suitable for their special needs.

	1. At a Public Elementary School	2. At an institution other than a Special School	3. At no School or Institution
Blind Children	—	—	1 (Also M.D.)
Deaf Children	—	—	—

