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Borough of Shrewsbury



# REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1951

R. KENNETH HAY, M.D., D.P.H.



SHREWSBURY  
WILDING & SON LTD., PRINTERS  
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# Borough of Shrewsbury



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# BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

## THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

ALDERMAN R. H. URWICK, M.D. (Chairman)

MR. ALDERMAN A. BENNETT	COUNCILLOR MRS. G. M. HUGHES
MR. ALDERMAN H. STEWARD	MR. COUNCILLOR G. W. LANGFORD
MR. ALDERMAN J. M. WEST	MR. COUNCILLOR J. S. MACNAMARA
MR. COUNCILLOR F. W. C. BILL	MR. COUNCILLOR T. W. RICHARDS
COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. COCK (Vice-Chairman)	COUNCILLOR MRS. C. E. THICKPENNY
MR. COUNCILLOR A. H. HOWL	MR. COUNCILLOR L. J. TILLING

## 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.  
(Deceased, 28th August, 1951)

†R. KENNETH HAY, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.  
(Appointed 12th November, 1951)

### Senior Sanitary Inspector

†\*C. STANLEY, Cert. R.S.I.

### Additional Sanitary Inspectors

†\*I. G. GRIFFITHS, Cert. R.S.I.

† C. T. MABBOTT, Cert. R.S.I.

### Chief Clerk

G. T. NICHOLAS

### Assistant Clerk

G. T. ADAMS, Cert. R.S.I.

### Abattoir Superintendent and Meat Inspector

\*S. R. REED, Cert. R.S.I.

### Assistant Meat Inspector

\*N. EDGE, Cert. R.S.I.

## PART-TIME OFFICERS

**Meteorological Observer**

R. GRAY

**Public Analyst**

HAROLD LOWE, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

**Sampling Officer**

R. P. HOLDAWAY.

\* Qualified Meat Inspectors.

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



HEALTH CENTRE,  
MURIVANCE,  
SHREWSBURY,

*June, 1952.*

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

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1951.

However, before passing on to the substance of the Report, mention must first be made of the great loss the town and Corporation sustained during this year by the death on the 28th August, 1951, of Dr. A. D. Symons, your Medical Officer of Health for over 26 years.

This year has also witnessed the drawing to a close of yet another chapter of the Public Health Service of Shrewsbury, which received its first statutory recognition just over a century ago in the Public Health Act of 1848. The first words of this chapter were written in the recent School Health and National Health Service Acts which decreed that many of the Public Health Services, which were formerly administered by the Borough, should pass to other hands, and, in consequence, it has now been found that the full-time services of a Medical Officer of Health are no longer necessary.

It was decided, therefore, that when your present Medical Officer of Health was appointed on the 12th November, 1951, his services should be shared with the Salop County Council on the understanding that the time so apportioned would ensure him sufficient opportunity to perform adequately his duties as Borough Medical Officer.

At present the appointment is of a temporary nature, and if this proves satisfactory, it is proposed to consider the permanent appointment along these lines.

From the statistics supplied by the Registrar-General, the estimated population of the Borough was 45,460, a slight decrease on the previous year.

The birth rate, which has continued to fall since 1944, has remained constant for the past two years, being 14.5 per thousand live births.

The adjusted death rate per thousand population was 13.5 with 602 deaths, compared with a similar rate of 10.8 for the previous year.



The infant mortality rate for the year under review was 20 per thousand live births, compared with the rate of 18, the lowest ever recorded, in 1950. As the total numbers with which we are dealing are comparatively small, this increase is of little statistical significance. In actual numbers, 13 children under one year of age died in 1951, whereas 12 deaths were recorded in 1950.

The number of illegitimate births shows an increase of 7 compared with the previous year.

I am deeply indebted to the members of my own staff for their loyalty and willing co-operation which I have at all times received.

In directing your attention to the features of this Report, I desire to thank my colleagues in other departments for their help, and the members of the Public Health Committee for their interest, consideration, and helpful guidance during the brief period I have been your Medical Officer of Health.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

R. KENNETH HAY.

## GENERAL STATISTICS, 1951

Rateable Value of the Borough ... ..					£333,315
Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ..					£1,300
Area of the Borough (excluding water) in acres ... ..					8,034
Population (Registrar General's estimate, middle of 1951)					45,460
Persons per acre calculated on above population ... ..					5.6
Inhabited Houses (December, 31st, 1951) ... ..					12,705
	MALE	FEMALE			
Live Births	316	308	}	Total	... .. 661
(Legitimate					
Illegitimate	18	19			
BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population					14.5
Stillbirths ... ..					18
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Total Births ... ..					26.5
Deaths ... ..					602
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population ... ..					13.2
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis ... ..					Nil
.. .. Other Puerperal causes ... ..					Nil
MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 Total Births (live and still) ... ..					Nil
INFANT MORTALITY RATE ... ..					20
Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..					21
Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..					Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..					77
.. .. Measles (all ages) ... ..					Nil
.. .. Whooping Cough (all ages) ... ..					2
.. .. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..					Nil



## WEATHER CONDITIONS

As in the past twenty-two years daily readings and weather recording took place at Monkmoor Isolation Hospital, where a Climatological Station, approved by the Air Ministry, is situated.

The particulars regarding 1951 may be summarised as follows :—

**Rainfall.**—The total rainfall was 29.14 inches, compared with 27.82, 20.72 and 26.66 inches in the previous years respectively.

The average rainfall is 25.74 inches.

**Sunshine.**—The number of hours of bright sunshine recorded was 1,413.0 hours, compared with 1,433.0, 1,635.2 and 1,455.6 hours in the previous years respectively.

**Temperatures.**—Extremes of temperature during the year were :

WARMEST DAY (Highest Shade Maximum), July 31st, 80°.

WARMEST NIGHT (Highest Shade Minimum), July 22nd and 31st, 61°.

COLDEST DAY (Lowest Shade Maximum), February 13th, 38°.

COLDEST NIGHT (Lowest Shade Minimum), December 11th, 20°.

The hottest day in the sun was July 21st with 122°.



## Weather Statistics. Shrewsbury, 1951.

1951 Month	Barometric Pressure in Inches	AIR TEMPERATURE IN SHADE °F				Hottest Day in Sun	SUNSHINE IN HOURS			RAINFALL 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. ...	29.702	43.7	53° on 16th and 19th	34.4	21° on 29th	39.0	71° on 19th	5.4 on 13th	1.58	49.1	19	0.37 on 4th	1.89
Feb. ...	29.522	44.4	51° on 8th	33.1	26° on 10th	38.7	87° on 23rd	7.3 on 28th	2.84	79.6	19	0.31 on 4th	2.02
Mar. ...	29.726	45.5	58° on 22nd	33.5	24° on 20th	39.5	94° on 22nd	10.3 on 15th	2.86	88.6	25	0.50 on 23rd	4.15
April ...	29.939	52.5	70° on 24th	37.2	30° on 11th and 22nd	44.8	107° on 24th	11.9 on 26th	6.35	190.5	17	0.30 on 1st	1.84
May ...	29.979	57.5	68° on 24th	42.5	32° on 11th	50.0	111° on 24th	14.3 on 14th and 31st	4.76	147.5	17	0.81 on 26th	3.15
June ...	30.005	65.8	74° on 30th	47.8	37° on 1st and 9th	56.8	114° on 21st	14.5 on 6th	7.12	213.6	14	0.28 on 12th	1.02
July ...	30.074	70.1	80° on 21st	52.9	43° on 30th	61.5	122° on 21st	13.2 on 30th	6.23	193.1	10	0.90 on 22nd	1.63
Aug. ...	29.786	66.2	73° on 1st, 2nd & 4th	51.7	42° on 16th	58.9	119° on 2nd	12.5 on 19th	4.70	145.8	26	0.33 on 16th	3.24
Sept. ...	29.937	64.2	75° on 4th	50.5	36° on 29th	57.3	117° on 4th	8.9 on 8th	3.26	97.7	17	0.62 on 14th	1.98
Oct. ...	30.115	56.2	68° on 16th	41.3	25° on 25th	48.7	96° on 15th and 16th	8.8 on 24th	3.10	96.6	12	0.20 on 31st	0.81
Nov. ...	29.562	51.9	58° on 24th	42.0	30° on 26th	46.9	85° on 1st and 15th	7.1 on 19th	1.82	54.7	25	0.79 on 8th	4.94
Dec. ...	29.896	48.4	56° on 16th	36.2	20° on 11th	42.3	75° on 16th	5.7 on 1st	1.81	56.2	20	0.53 on 27th	2.47
										1413.0			29.14

VITAL STATISTICS  
1951 AND PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Population (estimated) each year by Registrar General	Births		Under 1 Year of Age			Deaths		
		Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Number	At all Ages		Number	Crude	Rate Adjusted
					Number	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births			
1941 ...	45220	753	16.6	29	37	549	11.9	—	
1942 ...	44860	839	18.7	32	38	419	9.3	—	
1943 ...	42890	744	17.3	26	35	509	11.9	—	
1944 ...	42800	866	20.2	21	24	441	10.3	—	
1945 ...	42820	769	17.9	37	48	481	11.2	—	
1946 ...	44070	792	17.9	38	48	542	12.3	—	
1947 ...	44110	797	18.1	26	33	483	10.9	—	
1948 ...	45090	777	17.2	25	32	444	9.8	—	
1949 ...	45360	688	15.2	24	35	524	11.5	11.8	
1950 ...	45820	665	14.5	12	18	488	10.6	10.9	
1951 ...	45 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>60</sub>	661	14.5	13	20	602	13.2	13.5	



## POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the home population of Shrewsbury for 1951, including members of the armed forces stationed in the area, was 45,460, compared with 45,820 in the previous year.

## BIRTHS

The number of live births in 1951 was 661, compared with 665 and 688 in the previous years respectively.

The birth rate for 1951 was 14.5, compared with 14.5, 15.2 and 17.2 in the previous years respectively.

The 661 live births may be analysed as follows:—

		Legitimate	Illegitimate	
Male	... ..	316	18	} 661
Female	... ..	308	19	

### Illegitimate Births

There were 37 illegitimate births, compared with 30, 45 and 60 in the previous years respectively.

The illegitimate birth rate was 0.81 per 1,000 population, illegitimate births being a percentage of 5.6 of the total live births.

### Stillbirths

There were 18 stillbirths, compared with 21, 18 and 19 in the previous years respectively.

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 population was 0.39, the stillbirths being a percentage of 2.6 of the total births.

A comparison between the birth rates and stillbirth rates as between Shrewsbury and the average of other areas is set out in the following table:—

			Rate per 1,000 Population	
			Live Birth	Stillbirth
England and Wales	... ..	...	15.5	0.36
London	... ..	...	17.8	0.37
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	... ..	...	17.3	0.45
148 Smaller Towns	... ..	...	16.7	0.38
SHREWSBURY	... ..	...	14.5	0.39



## DEATHS

The number of deaths during the year was 602, compared with 488, 524 and 444 in the previous years respectively.

Of the 602 deaths, 297 were males and 305 females.

The crude death rate was 13.2, but by applying the comparability factor provided by the Registrar General, the adjusted death rate becomes 13.5.

Of the 602 deaths, 412 persons were 65 years of age or over.

If the main causes of death are grouped, it will be seen that 482 of the 602 deaths can be allocated to four groups as follows:—

(1) Heart disease	... ..	225
(2) Other diseases of the Circulatory System, including Vascular lesions of Nervous System	... ..	114
(3) Cancer (all sites)	... ..	77
(4) Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other Respiratory Disease, including Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... ..	66

There were 2 deaths from suicide and 5 from motor vehicle accidents.

Of the child population, there were 13 infant deaths (under one year of age), 5 deaths of children from one to five years, and 2 deaths of children from 6 to 15 years of age.

## Causes of and Ages at Death during the Year 1951

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 over
	297	305	13	1	2	—	2	—	2	2	5	16	147	412
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ... ..	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	2
Tuberculosis, Other forms ... ..	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1
Syphilitic Disease ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ... ..	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ... ..	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ... ..	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	7
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ... ..	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	18	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	11	21
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diabetes ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of Nervous System... ..	44	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	75
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	52	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	57
Hypertension with Ht. Disease ... ..	11	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	13
Other Heart Disease	38	89	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	13	113
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	10	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	6	10
Influenza ... ..	15	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	7	19
Pneumonia ... ..	13	11	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	15
Bronchitis ... ..	25	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	10	21
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Nephritis & Nephrosis	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defined and ill-defined Diseases ... ..	20	29	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	15	23
M.T. Vehicle Accidents	3	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	1
All other Accidents ... ..	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6
Suicide ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Homicide and operations of War... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—



### INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 13, compared with 12, 24 and 25 in the previous years respectively.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 20 per 1,000 live births, compared with 18, 35 and 32, in the previous years respectively.

This is again a low Infant Mortality Rate and compares very favourably with the rate of 29.6 for the country as a whole.

The causes of infant deaths are set out in the table below.

#### Infant Mortality, 1951

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
	Prematurity ... ..	3	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Pancreas ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erythroblastosis ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Respiratory obstruction ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ... ..	1	1	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	4
Pneumococcal Meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals ... ..	7	2	—	1	10	1	—	1	1	13



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

Mr. J. H. Sabido (Water Engineer) has kindly supplied the following notes on the water supply of the town, accompanied by statistics of laboratory examinations carried out at Shelton Waterworks :—

“ During the year under review Shelton Head Works have supplied the whole of the Undertaking’s water requirements free of all restriction. The average daily quantity supplied amounted to 2,000,136 gallons, which is equivalent to 43.2 gallons per head per day. The rise in the average daily quantity, with the consequent increase in the *per capita* consumption, is largely attributable to increased Trade supplies.

“ Routine daily chemical and bacteriological analyses have been carried out at Shelton on the water at the separate stages in treatment. The averages of the results obtained from these examinations are given in the accompanying table.

“ During the year the practice of making routine bacteriological examinations of drinking water samples drawn from households at random was maintained. One hundred and seventy-four such examinations were carried out during the year and all samples were found to be sterile. The water supplied to the town has maintained the very high standard of purity demanded for public water supplies in this country.

“ As recorded in the 1949 and 1950 reports there was some concern about the water supply, derived from deep wells, to a group of seven houses on the outskirts of the town. The Water Committee decided that if and when Mains were laid in the vicinity of these houses, steps would be taken to ensure them having Town water. A scheme was prepared and the main has been partly laid, although completion of this work is dependent on certain negotiations which are being carried out by the Corporation.

“ The length of new mains laid within the Borough during the year was 2.7 miles, being 0.2 miles of trunk distribution main and 2.5 miles of normal distribution mains.”

The water supply position of dwelling houses in the town as computed in the year 1951 may be summarised as follows :—

Total number of houses	...	...	...	12,705
Total number of houses with a Corporation piped supply	...	...	...	12,629
Houses without a piped supply, <i>i.e.</i> , from wells or streams	...	...	...	76

**SHELTON WATER SUPPLY**  
**Average results of Chemical and Bacteriological Examinations, 1951**

BACTERIOLOGICAL		RIVER WATER UNTREATED	WATER AFTER STORAGE AND PRECHLORINATION	WATER AFTER SEDIMENTATION	WATER AFTER FILTRATION AND STERILISATION
Probable No. of coliform bacteria present per 100 ml. ... ..	...	25+	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colony count per ml. at 27°C. ...	...	604	6	2	Nil
Colony count per ml. at 20°C. ...	...	1,525	5	2	Nil
Colour (Hazen scale) ... ..	...	40	7	3	Nil
pH ... ..	...	7.3	6.8	7.1	7.3
Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) ... ..	...	73.4	50.8	56.2	67.8
Chlorides (as Chlorine) ... ..	...	30.9	30.9	31.2	32.0
Free & Saline Ammonia (NH <sub>3</sub> ) ...	...	0.058	—	—	0.003
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 37°C.)	...	2.24	0.90	0.80	0.41
Total Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) ... ..	...	105.3	—	—	101.5
Permanent Hardness ... ..	...	32.9	—	—	36.4
Free Residual Chlorine ... ..	...	—	0.11	0.08	0.19
Total Residual Chlorine ... ..	...	—	0.16	0.14	0.16

CHEMISTRY Results expressed as  
 parts per 100,000



### Swimming Baths

The general condition and the bacteriological state of the water at the Baths maintained a high standard during the year.

During the bathing season 22 samples of water for bacteriological examination were taken from the two Baths.

Of these 22 samples, 16 showed complete absence of Coliform bacilli or *B. coli*.

Of the remaining 6 samples, the count of Coliform or *B. Coli* organisms was low.

### Drainage, Closet Accommodation, Sewerage and Public Cleansing

The Borough Surveyor (Mr. F. R. Dinnis) has kindly supplied the following information :—

“ Existing houses connected to sewers during 1951     3  
 New houses erected without connection to  
 sewerage system during 1951     ...     ... Nil

“ **Main Drainage.**—The Northern Outfall sewer was completed during the year, together with a Tunnel constructed under the river to connect Sundorne and Harlescott sewerage system direct to the Monkmoor Works.

“ **Refuge Collection and Disposal.**—The refuse tip at Monkmoor has been closed temporarily and refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on land owned by the Shrewsbury Schools at Kingsland.”

The present position as regards sewage disposal in the town as estimated during 1951 is as follows :—

Total number of houses in the Borough     ...     ...     ...		12,705
Number of houses connected to Corporation Sewers     ...     ...	12,258	}
Number of houses connected to independent sewage disposal works, <i>e.g.</i> , cesspits, septic tanks     ...     ...     ...	252	
Number of houses relying on earth, pail or chemical closets     ...     ...     ...		

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Mr. C. Stanley (Chief Sanitary Inspector) submits the following remarks and statements of work carried out during the year :

“ One of the principal problems of post-war years has been that relating to housing conditions. The 1930's saw an increase in the rate of building, and gave local authorities cause for optimism in being able to carry out slum clearance programmes with the



consequent re-housing of the persons displaced. However, these plans had to be abandoned with the advent of a second world war ; and it has been impossible to continue on similar lines since the cessation of hostilities.

Throughout the country there are many houses in which families are condemned to live under conditions which are far from satisfactory, according to present-day housing standards. These properties might be classified into two groups, (1) those for which demolition is the only answer, and (2) those which are sub-standard, but might be reconditioned. The rate of building progress prevents the re-housing of all the persons included in the former group, whilst the landlords of the latter group of properties are, in many instances, placed in an unenviable position.

Net rentals of thousands of houses have remained static over a period of thirty years, while costs of repairs and maintenance have soared rapidly. Prices of building materials are as much as three times their 1939 cost ; whilst certain of these are controlled or not readily available.

Owners are, naturally, loth to spend money on making fit a sub-standard house when there is little possibility of recovering the money expended ; and there are others, no doubt, who can ill-afford the expense involved in executing work calculated to prolong the life of their property.

Consequently, there is an ever-increasing gap between the environmental conditions found in modern houses and those existing in the rapidly deteriorating sub-standard properties.

The ultimate answer to the problem appears to rest at government level, for it is a vital national problem affecting the health and character of the people who are so unfortunately housed.

Housing conditions in Shrewsbury prove to be no exception to the general state of affairs, but an endeavour is being made to regard the problem in its true perspective. Some eight houses, subject to Housing Act procedure, were demolished in 1951. Five houses were closed in pursuance of undertakings given by owners, under the provisions of Section II of the Housing Act, 1936. A housing survey was commenced, and informal intimations to owners resulted in many structural defects being rectified.

The housing shortage was reflected, to a certain extent, in the number of licences granted for the stationing of caravans on various sites. At the end of the year there were eighteen such licences in operation ; more than double the number issued in respect of the previous year. Whilst the licensees may be able to comply with Public Health Act requirements, it is envisaged that a continued increase at this rate may soon present a planning problem.

Food hygiene received its customary amount of attention, and many improvements were effected in food preparation and storage premises. It has been policy to regard this subject as one of primary importance, in an era when there is a marked tendency to drift, more and more, towards communal methods of feeding, and when less food is actually prepared in the home.

Visits to factories, mechanical and non-mechanical, revealed satisfactory conditions generally. The infringements found were those relating to sanitary accommodation only and these shortcomings were rectified speedily by the persons concerned.

The principal Offensive Trade Premises in the Borough were subjected to their usual quota of inspections and the respective proprietors are to be congratulated in carrying out their business in such an exemplary manner.

Due consideration was paid to all the duties required of the Sanitary Inspector, as the following figures indicate. Details regarding these duties will be found under the appropriate headings, with special mention being made where necessary.

My thanks to my colleagues in the Department, through whose endeavours it has been possible to compile such a satisfactory report ; and a word of appreciation to those on the Staffs of other Departments who have always shown a willingness to lend assistance when required."



### Complaints Received during the Year

There were 909 complaints received, and these were investigated in accordance with the following analysis :—

TABLE I

Nature of Complaint	Number Received.
Housing Defects ... ..	147
Defective Dustbins ... ..	19
Choked and Defective Drains and Sewers... ..	144
Accumulations of Offensive Matter ... ..	14
Relative to Unsound Food ... ..	194
Verminous Premises :—	
(a) Bugs ... ..	18
(b) Rats and Mice Infestations ... ..	185
(c) Beetles, Crickets, and Other Insects ... ..	29
Keeping of Animals and Poultry ... ..	9
Unsatisfactory Milk Supplies ... ..	3
Miscellaneous ... ..	147
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>909</b>



**Premises Inspected.**

The following summary indicates the number of inspections of various premises carried out during the year:—

Nature of Inspection	Number of Visits
Dwelling-houses under Public Health Acts ... ..	2,171
Dwelling-houses under Housing Acts ... ..	393
<b>Infected Dwelling-houses :—</b>	
(a) Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) ...	102
(b) Contacts ... ..	34
(c) Fumigations after infectious diseases ... ..	17
(d) Phthisis enquiries and fumigations ... ..	24
Elementary Schools and Church Halls ... ..	4
Business Premises ... ..	66
Cinemas, Dance Halls, Billiard Halls ... ..	33
Fairgrounds ... ..	16
<b>Factories Act, 1937 :—</b>	
Factories, with mechanical power ... ..	257
Factories, without mechanical power ... ..	25
Outworkers' premises ... ..	1
Smoke observations ... ..	191
<b>Premises which can be controlled by Bye-laws :—</b>	
Offensive Trade Premises ... ..	13
Stables, Piggeries, Keeping of Animals ... ..	135
Common Lodging-houses ... ..	—
Houses let in Lodgings ... ..	6
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	198
<b>Drainage : Testing by</b>	
Smoke ... ..	16
Water ... ..	11
Coloured Water ... ..	183
Breaking down ... ..	25
re Public Sewers... ..	545
Drainage Work in Progress ... ..	95
Means of Escape in case of Fire (S. 60, Public Health Act, 1936)	4
Watercourses and Ditches ... ..	66
Land and Tips ... ..	98
Septic Tanks, Cesspools, Urinals... ..	314
Miscellaneous Visits ... ..	577
Visits, not Inspections ... ..	459

Nature of Inspection	Number of Visits
<b>Verminous Premises :—</b>	
(a) Rats and Mice (Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949) ... ..	516
(b) Bug Infestations ... ..	39
(c) Beetles ... ..	12
(d) Other Vermin ... ..	32
<b>Inspections <i>re</i> Supervision of Food :—</b>	
Unfit Foodstuffs other than Meat ... ..	284
Slaughterhouses ... ..	21
Markets ... ..	10
<b>Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (Section 13) :—</b>	
Bakehouses ... ..	149
Butchers' Shops ... ..	205
Factory Canteens ... ..	4
Restaurant Kitchens, etc. ... ..	242
<b>Hotel and Beerhouse Bars and Cellars :—</b>	
Day Inspections... ..	128
Night Inspections ... ..	—
Other Premises ... ..	816
<b>Section 14 :—</b>	
Sausage Manufacturers ... ..	95
Preserved Meat Preparation Premises ... ..	87
Preserved Fish Preparation Premises ... ..	100
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	446
<b>Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :—</b>	
Milk Sampling for Bacteriological Examination and Biological Test for Tuberculosis ... ..	141
Contraventions of Milk and Dairies Regulations ... ..	5
Dairies at Farms ... ..	6
Milkshops and other Dairies ... ..	63
<b>Shops Act, 1950.</b>	
Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938 ... ..	572
<hr/>	
<b>Total Visits by Sanitary Inspectors ... ..</b>	<b>10,052</b>



### Notices Served

Administrative action was taken during the year to secure abatement of nuisances and to enforce the appropriate statutory enactments as follows :—

Subject of Notice	Public Health Acts	Milk and Dairies Regs.	Food and Drugs Act S. 13 and 14	Factories Act, 1937	Shops Acts
Number of Informal Notices served ... ..	155	—	23	2	—
Number of Informal Notices complied with ... ..	149	—	41	2	—
Number of Informal Notices Outstanding (against Premises) ... ..	47	—	38	—	—
Number of Statutory Notices served ... ..	55	—	—	—	—
Number of Statutory Notices complied with ... ..	49	—	—	—	—
Number of Statutory Notices Outstanding (against Premises) ... ..	11	—	—	—	—
Number of Prosecutions ...	—	—	—	—	—



## Sanitary Improvements Effected at Dwelling-houses as a Result of Statutory and Informal Notices Issued

(Number of premises, 176)

	Number Complied with
Defective Drains ... ..	10
Choked Drains ... ..	10
Insufficient Closet Accommodation ... ..	—
Absence of proper sink ... ..	—
Defective water closets ... ..	11
Defective gullies ... ..	1
Defective Sink ... ..	4
Defective sink waste pipes ... ..	3
Defective W.C. cisterns and fittings ... ..	15
Burst water pipes ... ..	1
Insufficient water supply... ..	—
Defective soil pipes ... ..	—
Dampness arising from :—	
Defective roofs ... ..	46
Defective eaves-gutters ... ..	6
Defective down-spouts ... ..	19
Defective brickwork and pointing ... ..	23
Defective damp-proof courses ... ..	4
Defective yard paving ... ..	4
Defective chimney flues ... ..	1
Galvanized metal dustbins provided ... ..	11
Defective window-frames and sash-cords ... ..	22
Defective floors ... ..	20
Defective stairs ... ..	6
Defective plaster to walls and ceilings ... ..	70
Defective Doors ... ..	13
Defective fireplaces ... ..	19
Defective wash-boilers ... ..	12
Defective and dangerous chimney stacks ... ..	2
Defective and bulging external walls ... ..	—
Defective and bulging party walls ... ..	1
Filthy condition of premises ... ..	1
Accumulation of manure or offensive matter ... ..	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	22

### Additional Unsatisfactory Conditions remedied by Verbal Intimations

Nature of Inspection	No. of Premises	Structural Defects	Dirty Conditions
Dwelling houses (Public Health Acts) ...	76	57	21
Restaurant Kitchens ... ..	10	6	4
Food Preparation Premises ... ..	22	12	12
Ice Cream Premises (Sale/Manufacture)	9	9	—
Bakehouses ... ..	5	4	1
Hotel Bars ... ..	10	10	—
Other Dairies ... ..	1	1	—
Shops (Shops Acts) ... ..	6	6	—
Business Premises ... ..	20	18	2
Butchers' Shops ... ..	3	2	1
Smoke Nuisance ... ..	3	—	3
Keeping of Animals ... ..	3	1	3
Hotel Cellars ... ..	2	2	—
Caravans ... ..	3	3	2
Milk & Dairies Regs. 1949 ... ..	1	1	—
Sewage Installations ... ..	3	2	1
Factories (Mech. Power) ... ..	1	1	1

## FACTORY ACTS, 1937 AND 1948

The following statistics, required under the provisions of this legislation, are appended :—

### Part I of the Act

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	86	25	—	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	196	257	2	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	4	—	—	—
Total ... ..	286	282	2	Nil



2. Cases in which **Defects** were found

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

**Part VIII of the Act**  
**Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)**

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (I) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel-making, etc. ...	3	—	—	—	—	—



## HOUSING

## Building Progress during 1951

Houses erected by Local Authority	...	...	...	229	} 263
Houses erected by Private Enterprise	...	...	...	34	

## Municipal Hostel for Men

Mr. E. A. Andrews (Superintendent) gives the following figures and remarks on the above for the year 1951 :—

“ There are 41 beds available, and the daily average number of occupied beds was 39.

“ The number of men paying nightly charges was 663, whereas 1,891 paid weekly charges. The charge made is 2s. 6d. per night or 17s. 6d. per week.

“ The cubicles are mostly occupied by ‘ regular ’ or weekly lodgers, a certain number of beds are, however, reserved for ‘ casual ’ or nightly lodgers.

“ Some 50 per cent. of the residents are native to the town or to the surrounding areas. All the men are employed locally in agriculture, industry or building.

“ Only a few men use the Hostel for one night only, most of the ‘ casuals ’ stay for two or three nights before moving on.

“ Nine of the lodgers are Old Age Pensioners, two of whom were removed to Old People’s Homes within the County.”

## Corporation Housing Estates

The Housing Manager (Mr. E. Woodhead) provides the following information concerning the activities of the Housing Department :—

“ **Applications.**—During the year 1951, 638 applications were received. This is a fall of 73 of the 1950 figure, which now makes a total of 2,833 applications. The existing register has been in operation since January, 1948, and will in all probability, be revised in the not too far distant future. It is usual when a revision takes place that there is a substantial reduction in the number of applications.

“ **Allocations.**—During the year there have been 364 allocations of tenancies. This covers 229 houses completed by this authority, the remaining number being made up by re-lettings and exchanges.

“ **Inspections.**—During the year the Housing Inspector made 4,228 inspections. The analysis is as follows :—

Change of Tenancy Inspections	...	...	135
Inspections for repairs	...	...	4,018
Inspections <i>re</i> House complaints	...	...	45
Inspection of Temporary Buildings	...	...	30
Total	...	...	4,228

“ During the year orders issued for repairs were as follows :—

Direct labour	...	...	...	...	...	3,556
Private contract	...	...	...	...	...	322
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	3,878
						<hr/>

“ **Private Building Licences.**—The number of applications for private building licences, contrary to last year, is falling, and at the end of the year totalled 209. These applications are made up as follows :—

Applicants in lodgings or furnished tenancies :

With children	...	...	...	...	29	
Without children	...	...	...	...	54	
					—	83
Applications from owner occupiers	...	...	...	...	57	
Applications from tenants	...	...	...	...	64	
					—	121
Applications from Export Workers :						
Owner Occupiers	...	...	...	...	4	
Tenants	...	...	...	...	1	
					—	5
					<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	209	209
					<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of licences issued during the year was 21.”



## 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) ... ..	851
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	2,564
(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 ... ..	6
(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 ...	190

### 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 ... ..	130
--	--	-----

### 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 ... ..	45
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	1

#### 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 ... ..	1
-----	--	---

(2) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Sub-Section (3) of Section II of the Housing Act, 1936...	...	...	...	...	...	5
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	...	8

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	...	...	...	...	Not known
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	—
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	...	...	—
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	496
(c)	(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	364
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	910
(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**

Of the 31 milk purveyors, in the Borough, about 12 of these retail small quantities of raw, ungraded milk; but it is safe to say that the majority of supplies are of designated grades, *i.e.*, Tuberculin Tested, Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised), Pasteurised and Sterilised.

Sampling, for biological and bacteriological examination, is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector. The target, for this purpose, is 150 samples per year; with an endeavour being made to obtain biological examination of every raw product retailed within the Borough. The number of samples taken during the last eight years is set out below :—

1944	...	...	...	...	23
1945	...	...	...	...	30
1946	...	...	...	...	46
1947	...	...	...	...	64



1948	...	...	...	...	158
1949	...	...	...	...	156
1950	...	...	...	...	133
1951	...	...	...	...	153

Increased activity in this direction appears to have paid good dividends. There has been a gradual increase in the percentage of good quality milk reaching the Borough consumer ; but vigilance will be always necessary to ensure that this reasonably high standard is maintained.

At the close of the year there were registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :—

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	13
Retail purveyors of milk	...	...	...	...	...	31

#### **Examination for Tubercle Bacilli**

Cultural and animal tests were made on 38 samples—none of which was positive.

#### **Examination for Brucella Abortus**

A notified case of Undulant Fever resulted in attention being directed to a certain milk supply. Examination, however, gave no indication that this particular supply contained the causative organism. Ten samples were examined.

#### **Turbidity Test**

The eight samples proved satisfactory.

#### **Phosphatase Test**

Five samples out of 56 failed on test. The conditions presumed to have caused these failures were speedily rectified by the Dairies concerned.

#### **Methylene Blue Test**

One hundred and forty-three samples were subjected to the methylene blue test. Investigations were made of 21 adverse reports, with satisfactory results being obtained from subsequent samples.

#### **Ice Cream**

Premises registered for sale and manufacture	13
Premises registered for sale only	98

One hundred and fourteen samples of ice cream were taken during the year, and subjected to examination, 5 tests were declared

void owing to laboratory conditions being unsuitable for carrying out the test at the time the samples were submitted.

No. of Samples	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Void
114	73	19	16	1	5

The number of retailers increased from 67 to 98. Many of these vendors dealt in pre-packed ice cream only.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The following 76 samples of Food and Drugs were taken, and 7 were found not genuine.

#### Food

Number of samples	...	...	...	59
Formal	...	...	...	16
Informal	...	...	...	43
Number found genuine	...	...	...	57
Number not genuine	...	...	...	2

Formal Samples : Beef Sausage, 3 ; Pork Sausage, 2 ; Bacon, 1 ; Butter, 1 ; Cheshire Cheese, 1 ; Custard Powder, 1 ; Self-Raising Flour, 1 ; Lemon Curd, 1 ; Meat Pie, 1 ; Prunes, 1 ; Rice, 1 ; Liver Sausage, 1 ; Meat Sausage, 1.

Informal Samples : Ice Cream, 5 ; Sponge Mixture, 5 ; Cream Buns, 2 ; Choc. Ice Cream, 2 ; Almonds, 1 ; Shelled Almonds, 1 ; Aspic Jelly Powder, 1 ; Imported Bacon, 1 ; Butter Buns, 1 ; Chocolate Eclairs, 1 ; Chocolate Ryvita, 1 ; Chocolate Wafers, 1 ; Christmas Pudding, 1 ; Cream Sponge Sandwich, 1 ; Desiccated Coconut, 1 ; Dry Fondant, 1 ; Fish Cakes, 1 ; Iced Sponge Sandwich, 1 ; Irish Sultana Cake, 1 ; Lemonade Powder, 1 ; Mincemeat, 1 ; Nipits, 1 ; Pineapple Cream, 1 ; Pork Pie, 1 ; Sago Creamola, 1 ; Scotch Shortbread, 1 ; Sterilized Cream, 1 ; Sunny Pack, 1 ; Sweet Fudge, 1 ; Smyrna Fancy Figs, 1 ; Synthetic Cream, 1 ; Table Jelly, 1 ; Vinegar, 1.

#### *Remarks on samples returned as not genuine :*

Sponge Mixture : Swarming with live mites ; remainder of stock voluntarily submitted and condemned.

Pork Sausage : Meat content 60 per cent., 5 per cent deficient.

#### Drugs

Number of samples	...	...	...	17
Formal	...	...	...	2
Informal	...	...	...	15
Number found genuine	...	...	...	12
Number not genuine	...	...	...	5



Formal Samples : Compound Liquorice Powder, 2.

Informal Samples : Compound Liquorice Powder, 2 ; Aspirins, 1 ; Blaud's Pills, 1 ; Boracic Acid Crystals, 11 ; Calamine Ointment, 1 ; Cream of Tartar, 1 ; Gee's Linctus, 1 ; Liquid Paraffin, 1 ; Olive Oil, 1 ; Parish's Food, 1 ; Pure Glycerine, 1 ; Tincture of Iodine, 1 ; Vaseline, 1 ; Zinc Ointment, 1.

*Remarks on samples returned as " not genuine "*

Compound Liquorice Powder (Informal)	Sucrose 8% deficient
Compound Liquorice Powder (Formal)	Sucrose 10% deficient
Compound Liquorice Powder (Formal)	Sucrose 9% deficient
Compound Liquorice Powder (Informal)	Sucrose 3.6% deficient
Gee's Linctus (Informal)	Alcohol 12.8% deficient

The attention of the supplier was drawn to the discrepancy in the above " not genuine " samples.

### Chemical Analysis

The Sampling Officer took 47 samples of milk during the year, the results being set out as follows :

Number of Milk Samples	...	...	...	47
Formal	...	...	...	46
Informal	...	...	...	1
Number found genuine	...	...	...	34
Number not genuine	...	...	...	13

*Remarks on samples returned as not genuine*

1. Fat 3.25%. Solids not Fat 8.4%. Below for Solids not fat. Freezing point normal. No added water. Repeat sample taken and found genuine
2. Fat 3.3%. Solids not Fat 8.2%. Below for Solids not fat. Freezing point normal. No added water. Repeat sample taken and found genuine.
3. Fat 9.3%. Solids not Fat 8.0%. Below for Solids not fat. It is possible that the sample contained a little colostrum. Repeat sample taken and found genuine.
4. Fat 4.3%. Solids not Fat 8.3%. Below for Solids not fat. Freezing point normal. No added water. Sample taken from wholesaler (No. 5).
5. Fat 2.90%. Solids not Fat 8.35%. Below for Solids not fat. Freezing point normal. No added water. A further sample taken from retailer after cows had been feeding on grass (No. 6).

6. Fat 2.8%. Solids not Fat 8.6%. 7% deficient in fat. See samples from wholesaler Nos. 7, 8 and 9.
7. Fat 2.35%. Solids not fat 8.6%. 22% deficient in fat.
8. Fat 2.7%. Solids not fat 8.6%. 10% deficient in fat.
9. Fat 2.7%. Solids not Fat 8.6%. 10% deficient in fat.
10. Fat 2.5%. Solids not Fat 8.3%. 17% deficient in fat. Below for Solids not Fat. No added water. Freezing point normal. Repeat sample taken and found genuine.
11. Fat 3.3%. Solids not fat 8.3%. Below for Solids not Fat. No added water. Freezing point normal.
12. Fat 4.1%. Solids not fat 8.0%. Below for Solids not Fat. No added water. Freezing point normal.
13. Fat 3.65%. Solids not Fat 8.4%. Below for Solids not Fat. No added water. Freezing point normal.



**Public Abattoir**

The accompanying table sets out the comprehensive amount of work carried out so ably by the Superintendent (Mr. S. R. Reed) and his assistant :—

**Public Abattoir**  
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	7096	3226	4147	20089	5006
Number inspected ... ..	7096	3226	4147	20089	5006
Dressed carcasses inspected ...	168	483	158	216	321
Total inspected ... ..	7264	3709	4305	20305	5327
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis :</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	12	94	103	110	66
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1448	1048	71	951	529
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	20.09	30.79	4.04	5.22	11.17
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	7	142	10	—	18
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1292	1605	—	—	387
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis ... ..	17.88	47.10	0.23	—	7.60

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 142 tons, 2 cwts, 18 lbs., which are given in the following table :—

	Carcasses	Offal
Beef ... ..	147,269 lbs.	} 143,083 lbs.
Veal ... ..	5,950 lbs.	
Mutton and Lamb ...	7,118 lbs.	
Pork ... ..	14,902 lbs.	

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

Fish	...	...	...	609 lbs.
Bacon and Ham	...	...	...	2,262 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	73 lbs.
Preserved Goods	...	...	...	2,795 tins and jars
Cheese	...	...	...	114 lbs.
Sausage	...	...	...	89 lbs.
Other Foods	...	...	...	212 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

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

The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases in 1951 was again low, with the exception of Measles, of which disease 689 cases were notified.

There were notified 35 cases of Scarlet Fever, 104 of Whooping Cough and 92 of Dysentery. There were 2 deaths from Whooping Cough.

There were 3 cases of Acute Poliomyelitis, of which 2 were paralytic cases, one of whom died.

The outbreak of Sonne Dysentery which commenced during the latter part of 1950 continued during the first few months of 1951. All notified cases were visited and those who were connected with the preparation or sale of foodstuffs were excluded from work until three consecutive negative specimens were obtained.

#### Food Poisoning Outbreaks

During the year 3 cases of food poisoning were notified. There were no deaths.

A single case was notified, which was due to salmonella typhi murium. Enquiries were made, but no evidence was obtained as to the probable source of infection.

The other 2 cases referred to an outbreak which occurred among a party of 20 school boys who had been on holiday to France.

Enquiries were made at the homes of the 10 Shrewsbury boys of the party and it was ascertained that 5 had had diarrhoea and sickness within three days of return, but the remainder were symptomless.

Specimens of faeces were taken and in 2 cases salmonella typhi murium was isolated ; these 2 boys were still suffering from diarrhoea and sickness. All the others had recovered and bacteriological investigation was negative.



No direct evidence was obtained as to the source of infection, but it was suspected that it may have been caused by the consumption of meat pies which were purchased on return to this country in the form of a railway pack, containing a meat pie and sandwiches. These were consumed by the majority of the boys in the party.

One other case was notified in another area of a boy from the same party, but no evidence was obtained of any other case among the 9 boys who resided in various parts of the country.

The Salop County Council, as Local Health Authority, are now responsible for work in connection with Vaccination, Diphtheria Immunisation and Immunisation against Whooping Cough.

The County Medical Officer of Health has provided the following figures relating to the work done in Shrewsbury during 1951.

### Diphtheria Immunisation

		Immunisations	
Pre-School Children :	At Clinic	...	294
	By General Practitioners		221
School Children :	At Clinic	...	26
	By General Practitioners		9
Total		...	550

		Reinforcing Injection	
At Clinic	...	...	265
By General Practitioners	...	...	88
Total		...	353

	Positive	Negative	Total
Post Schick Tests ...	1	57	58
(discontinued June, 1951)			

### Whooping Cough Immunisation

Pre-School Children :	At Clinic	...	53
	By General Practitioners		23
School Children :	At Clinic	...	1
	By General Practitioners		3
Total		...	80

**Vaccination**

Primary	Children under 1 year of age :	At Clinic	...	...	69
		By General Practitioners			125
	Others :	At Clinic	...	...	75
		By General Practitioners			115
Total					384
Re-vaccination :					
		At Clinic	...	...	18
		By General Practitioners			65
Total					83

Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Service Laboratory and the co-operation and willing assistance of the Director of the Laboratory, Dr. A. C. Jones, is much appreciated.



### Monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases Notified, 1951

(Not including Tuberculosis)

MONTH	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Acute Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Acute Poliomyelitis		Acute Encephalitis Infective	Dysentery	Food Poisoning
			Primary	Influenzal					Paralytic	Non-Paralytic			
Jan. ...	1	—	—	2	1	10	8	32	—	—	—	55	—
Feb. ...	—	—	1	1	1	6	6	11	—	—	—	21	—
March ...	—	—	—	—	1	11	12	13	—	—	1	6	—
April ...	—	—	1	—	—	4	46	3	1	—	—	3	—
May ...	2	—	2	—	—	1	195	13	—	—	—	4	—
June ...	—	—	—	—	3	1	192	8	1	1	—	1	—
July ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	125	6	—	—	—	—	1
August ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	94	10	—	—	—	1	—
Sept. ...	—	1	—	—	4	—	10	1	—	—	—	—	2
October ...	1	—	—	—	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	1	—
Nov. ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Dec. ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	6	1	4	3	17	35	689	104	2	1	1	92	3

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1951

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	Number of Cases Notified										Total Cases removed to Hospital
	At all ages	At Ages—Years									
		Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 & upwards	
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2
Scarlet Fever ... ..	56	—	—	4	6	16	7	2	1	—	27
Typhus Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	17	—	—	—	—	—	4	13	—	—	16
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis—											
Paralytic ... ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Non-Paralytic ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia—											
Acute Primary ... ..	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1
Acute Influenzal ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis—											
Infective ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post-infectious ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Malaria... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	92	8	7	14	17	5	8	29	7	2	5
Measles... ..	689	12	140	192	314	17	4	7	3	—	8
Whooping Cough ... ..	104	8	30	34	30	—	—	2	—	—	5
Food Poisoning ... ..	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1
Totals ... ..	959	24	178	244	368	41	24	58	16	6	70

## 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 ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 ... ..	1	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
15—25 ... ..	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	1
25—35 ... ..	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 ... ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
45—55 ... ..	—	2	1	1	3	—	1	—
55—65 ... ..	2	1	1	—	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards ... ..	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	1
Totals ... ..	11	8	4	5	8	1	1	3

Of the 13 deaths from Tuberculosis, 2, or 15 per cent., were not notified before death.

The Phthisis (Respiratory or Pulmonary Tuberculosis) Death Rate for the year was 0.19 per 1,000 population, compared with 0.13 in the previous year.



## DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

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

Visits made in connection with infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	177
Disinfection carried out after :—						
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	14
Other infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	5

Twenty-nine houses were disinfested by Corporation employees working under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector.

The type of infestation was as undermentioned :—

Bugs	...	...	...	...	25 houses
Fleas	...	...	...	...	3 houses
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	1 house

It is interesting to observe that the number of bug infested properties is gradually decreasing. This is due, mainly, to three factors : (1) the close scrutiny made in the case of tenants moving from sub-standard properties into Council houses ; (2) the use of that invaluable ally, D.D.T. ; and (3) the Council's policy of carrying out disinfection free of charge to the householder.

## DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE

Systematic inspections and disinfection proceeded throughout the year. Block control was given where necessary, and the sewers, in the more populous areas, received two treatments.

The contract system operated successfully and, at the end of the year, the number of premises under contract was as follows :—

Business Premises	...	...	...	...	78
Private dwelling-houses	...	...	...	...	13

One notice was served, under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.







