

[Report 1947] / Medical Officer of Health, Smethwick County Borough.

Contributors

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1947

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County Borough of Smethwick

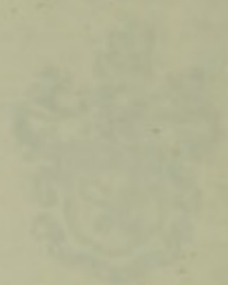
The
Health of the Borough
in
1947

HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health,
Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical Officer
and Medical Superintendent of Joint Isolation
Hospital and Sanatorium

JOHN H. WRIGHT, M.B.E., F.S.I.A.

Chief Sanitary Inspector



County Borough of Salford

Health of the Borough

1947

HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.

JOHN H. WRIGHT, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.P.

County Borough of Smethwick.

COMMITTEES—1946-1947

Health Committee :

Chairman : THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.).

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

ALDERMAN E. CONDON, M.B.	COUNCILLOR E. T. BROWN.
ALDERMAN F. W. PERRY, J.P.	COUNCILLOR W. G. MASON.
COUNCILLOR A. BRADFORD, J.P.	COUNCILLOR D. SHUKER.

Co-opted Members for the purposes of Maternity and Child Welfare :

MRS. CHAMBERS, MRS. M. EDWARDS, MISS S. C. WRIGHT.

Co-opted Member for Mental Deficiency Purposes :

MISS L. N. BROOK.

St. Chad's Hospital Sub-Committee.

Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.).

ALDERMAN F. W. PERRY, J.P.	COUNCILLOR A. BRADFORD, J.P.
	COUNCILLOR E. T. BROWN.

The Hollies and Day Nurseries Sub-Committee :

Chairman : THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.).

ALDERMAN F. W. PERRY, J.P.	COUNCILLOR E. T. BROWN.
COUNCILLOR A. BRADFORD, J.P.	COUNCILLOR W. H. PERRY.

Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital Committee :

Chairman : COUNCILLOR MRS. A. E. LENNARD, J.P.

Deputy Chairman : ALDERMAN S. T. MELSOM, C.C.

Smethwick Representatives :

THE MAYOR	ALDERMAN E. CONDON, M.B.
(ALD. MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.).	COUNCILLOR MRS. M. KIMBERLEY.
COUNCILLOR J. W. ALDER.	COUNCILLOR MRS. E. SEAGER.
COUNCILLOR W. J. DARBY.	

Oldbury Representatives :

ALDERMAN B. T. ROBBINS, J.P.	COUNCILLOR MRS. M. E. GARRATT.
(Mayor).	COUNCILLOR MRS. V. E. ROSE.
ALDERMAN H. H. ROBBINS, C.A.	

Smethwick Representatives on the South Staffordshire Joint Smallpox Hospital Board :

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN MRS. E. M. FARLEY, J.P.).	
COUNCILLOR MRS. M. KIMBERLEY.	COUNCILLOR MRS. A. E. LENNARD, J.P.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

*Medical Officer of Health, Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical Officer,
and Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital:*

HUGH PAUL, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer:

A. WILSON RUSSELL, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health:

R. M. DYKES, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 31/5/47).

H. TABBUSH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 1/8/47).

Assistant Medical Officers:

MARGARET E. McLAREN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CHRISTINA J. McLEAY, M.B., Ch.B.

Consulting Radiologist:

JAMES F. BRAILSFORD, Ph.D., M.D., Ch.B. F.R.C.P.

District Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator:

JAMES SHAW, M.B., Ch.B.

*Chief Sanitary Inspector: †*JOHN H. WRIGHT, M.B.E.*

*Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector: †*F. CADDICK.*

Sanitary Inspectors:

†* R. G. EVANS.

†* K. H. PERRY (to 8/5/47).

†* G. J. ALLEN.

* V. M. LAWTON.

* J. H. MORRIS (from 10/11/47).

* T. H. CUTLER.

Pupil Sanitary Inspectors:

* J. W. M. RIVERS (from 3/11/47). P. HAYNE (to 30/9/47).

*Secretary: *GEORGE H. ROE.*

Clerical Staff:

L. H. DEARNE, Chief Clerk.

J. P. LITTLE, Senior Clerk and

FRANCES K. CALLARD (i/c M.C.W.).

Vaccination Officer).

FLORENCE E. HOWLETT (i/c S.M.S.)

EVELYN M. SMITH (M.O.H.'s Secretary).

KATHLEEN L. WHISTON.

MARY L. WHITEHOUSE.

ANNE E. UNDERHILL.

KATHLEEN M. ASHBY.

CONSTANCE M. LEE (to 6/9/47).

MARJORIE GRUNDON.

LILLIAN PARISH.

MRS. E. MAGGS (to 11/12/47).

BARBARA DANCKERT.

MRS. E. M. GOULDING (to 31/3/47).

KATHLEEN BOWSER (from 1/2/47).

HILDA M. PIMM

GWLDYS SINNETT (from 26/4/47).

(from 19/5/47 to 9/8/47).

MRS. E. DANCE (from 3/9/47).

BARBARA R. EDGINGTON

MRS. I. PALMER (from 3/11/47).

(from 13/10/47).

R. STEVENTON

M. S. CARTER (to 12/4/47).

(from 5/5/47 to 23/8/47).

T. A. GROSVENOR (from 9/8/47).

DOROTHEA M. HYND (to 21/5/47).

EVELYN M. HAFLEY (Telephonist and Receptionist).

*Nursing Staff:**Superintendent Health Visitor:* ‡a||Miss E. WILLIAMS.*Health Visitors:*

†a Miss H. OWEN.	‡a||Miss M. P. O'KEEFE.
†a||Miss J. E. ACKERS.	†a||Miss R. TAYLOR.
†a||Miss E. A. ROBERTS.	†a||Miss J. HIGH.
†a||Miss E. O. CORNS.	†a||Miss G. I. EVANS (to 29/5/47).
†a||Mrs. D. GRAINGER.	||Mrs. M. ISAACS (from 1/5/47
a||Miss M. B. DAVIES	to 28/6/47).
(from 6/10/47).	†a||Miss V. F. GREEN
†a||Miss M. C. ASTBURY	(from 5/5/47).
(from 5/5/47).	†a||Miss M. WAINWRIGHT
	(from 5/5/47).

The work of these nurses is divided between the following Committees—

Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, and Education.

Pupil Health Visitor:

Miss M. LAVIN.

Municipal Midwives:

NURSE A. GROSVENOR.	NURSE B. EWINGS (from 22/2/47).
NURSE L. CONEFREY.	NURSE L. CHATWIN.
NURSE W. KENNY.	NURSE M. A. KING.
NURSE R. J. RIDGER (from 8/8/47).	NURSE F. C. CONEFREY
NURSE N. O. SCRIVENS	NURSE E. SALZER (to 1/6/47).

Matron of Isolation Hospital: Miss L. BENNETT, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Matron of "The Hollies," Miss A. M. ROBINSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Matrons of Day Nurseries:

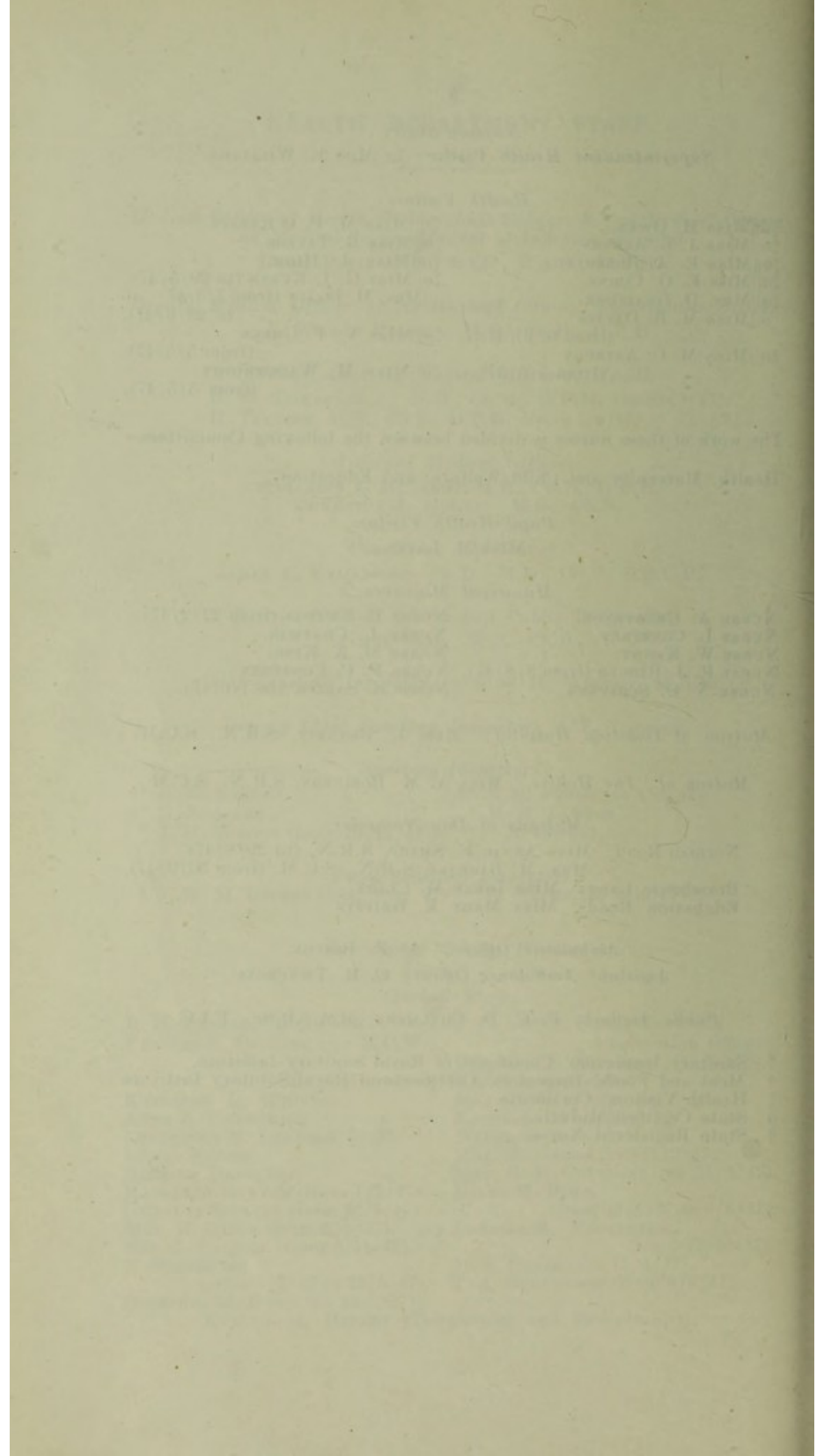
Norman Road: Miss ANNIE F. SHARP, S.R.N. (to 29/8/47)
 Mrs. M. BARRASS, S.R.N., S.C.M. (from 30/9/47).
 Brasshouse Lane: Miss IRENE M. CLARK.
 Edgbaston Road: Miss MARY E. GRIFFIN

Ambulance Officer: A. F. BEACON.

Assistant Ambulance Officer: C. R. TWYCross.

Public Analyst: F. C. D. CHALMERS, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C.

- * Sanitary Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.
- † Meat and Foods' Inspectors' Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute
- ‡ Health Visitors' Certificate.
- a State Certified Midwife.
- || State Registered Nurse.



County Borough of Smethwick

Public Health Department,

"The Uplands,"

Hales Lane,

Smethwick,

December, 1948.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS FOR THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF SMETHWICK.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The year 1947 was an unspectacular one in public health, and very few changes of importance took place. With the National Health Service Act, 1946, on the statute book, much of our energy was devoted to preparations for the great changes which were due to take place in 1948.

As it was exactly twenty years in January, 1947, since I took up my present position as your Medical Officer of Health, I may be excused if I take the opportunity of making some comparison between the two years.

In 1927, the Health Committee of the Council expended on the Public Health Services, including the School Medical Service, the sum of £14,456. In 1947 the comparable figure was £115,133, an increase from just under a shilling in the rates to 5/8d.

When I arrived in Smethwick, the staff of the Health Department consisted of three full-time Medical Officers and one part-time. Mr. Wright, the Chief Sanitary Inspector was assisted by three District Inspectors, and Mr. Roe who was Chief Clerk at that period, had three Clerks and an office boy to assist him. The Nursing Staff comprised nine Health Visitors. In 1947 the staff consisted of nine Medical Officers, a Chief and eight District and Pupil Inspectors, and in addition to the Secretary, a clerical staff of twenty.

It is worth considering whether the results achieved by this vast expansion of staff have been worth while.

It is important to compare like with like, and the first thing that strikes one is the number of functions which were carried out in 1947 which did not concern us even indirectly in 1927, e.g., we had no Municipal General Hospital. St. Chad's was not opened until 1935, and this Hospital entailed an expenditure in 1947 of over £16,000. We had no Day Nurseries, "The Hollies" was not built, "The Firs" Clinic did not exist, and we were not responsible for the institutional care of mental patients. The Ambulance Service was administered by the Council, but was not a function of the Health Committee, and whilst the Blind Persons Act of 1920 was in operation, the expenditure in 1927 amounted to the nominal sum of £200 as compared with approximately £5,000 twenty years later. The prevention of infectious disease now

costs about 75% more than in 1927, but this is mainly due to an increase in salaries and wages. The Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital, in 1947, cost just over £8,000 as compared with £2,328 in the earlier year, although the number of patients admitted was not substantially different. Our Tuberculosis Scheme in 1927 was in its early formative years, and cost £2,724. In the year under review, it cost almost £13,000, but the amount of work performed had increased out of all recognition, e.g., there were thirty-five X-ray photographs taken in 1927, and approximately two thousand in 1947. The amount spent on mental deficiency, mainly on institutional treatment, increased within this period from £1,000 to £8,000, and Maternity and Child Welfare from £1,600 to over £11,000. It should be noted that in 1927 there was no Municipal Midwifery Service.

In endeavouring to strike a balance sheet and to decide whether the great increases in expenditure were economically spent or not, one must first define the aims and objects of the Health Service. Is it merely to reduce deaths? Many of the figures which we give in our Annual Reports relate to death rates, but this is because deaths, being very definite happenings, are easily compared, whereas morbidity or illness being less easy to define and varying more in quantity and quality, cannot so readily be measured in figures. The chief aim of a National Health Service must undoubtedly be first, the prevention of illness, and secondly, the enhancement of health, and although it is difficult to give actual figures, there is little doubt that in both these matters great strides have been made. A few examples might be given. In 1927, 103 babies died before attaining the age of one year; in 1947, the figure was 69, a reduction of one-third. Twenty children died from measles in 1927, none in 1947, 10 from whooping cough in 1927, and 1 in 1947. Diarrhoea and enteritis in young children carried away 13 children twenty years ago, as against 8 in 1947. There were 120 cases of diphtheria with 3 deaths in 1927, but this number has been steadily reduced until in 1947 only 13 cases occurred, all of whom recovered. The year 1927 was an unfortunate one in that a substantial outbreak of influenza resulted in the death of 42 persons, compared with 3 twenty years later, and deaths from other respiratory diseases declined from 174 to 101. Only with regard to tuberculosis and cancer have the results been disappointing. The deaths from cancer rose from 92 to 133, and while those from tuberculosis declined only from 69 to 61, this figure would probably have been reduced much more had it not been for the war with its consequent over-crowding, bad housing conditions, etc. That this is so is suggested by the fact that in 1939, the number of deaths from tuberculosis had fallen to 44, the lowest in the history of our Borough. These figures increased steadily to 1941, and are only now slightly falling once more.

The population in 1927 was only about 1,500 fewer than in 1947, in spite of the extension of the Borough, but the number of houses in occupation rose from 16,312 to 21,338. There were 1,311 births in the former year. This figure decreased steadily during the inter-war period, and recovered once more to its maximum peak of 1,608 in 1947. A noteworthy feature and a rather disturbing one is that the number of illegitimate children rose from 32 to 63. It is significant, however, of the comprehensiveness of our Maternity and Infant Welfare Schemes

that whereas the infant mortality rate for illegitimate babies was 125 in 1927, it had been reduced to 32 twenty years later, and indeed, in 1947 was actually less than the rate for legitimate births. In 1927 the number of deaths over sixty-five years of age was 336 or 36% of the total deaths, compared with 518 or 65% twenty years later. Smethwick is such a small Borough that any comparison of maternal mortality rates would be of little significance, as a single maternal death may cause the rate to be increased by 30 or 40%. It is, therefore, difficult to draw any conclusion from the fact that the 4 deaths in 1927 compare with 3 in 1947. The Ante-Natal Clinics in the earlier year were beginning to attract the mothers of the town, and there were just over 1,000 attendances. In 1947, there were just over 10,000 attendances, and at present well over 90% of the expectant mothers in the town attend one of our Ante-Natal Clinics. In 1927 there were no municipal midwives, but 34 midwives practised privately, including 9 who were untrained. All these have now given up, and their places have been taken by nine municipal midwives and two midwives in private practice, but whereas the 34 midwives in 1927 conducted 840 deliveries, the nine municipal midwives in 1947 conducted 734. The institutional care of mothers during their confinement was not the function of the Smethwick Council in 1927, but in 1947 approximately one-half of the babies of the town were born at St. Chad's Hospital.

So much for figures. It is probably a fair comment to say that during the past twenty years the crippling diseases of public health significance, and by this I mean those diseases which can be prevented by improved social care, were reduced substantially in number and corresponding with this, considerably more attention has been paid to diseases, which in 1927, were regarded as less important but which are now treated earlier. Rickets has not on the whole been a killing disease within the past generation, but it was common in 1927. It is now relatively rare except in its mildest forms, and nowadays can usually only be diagnosed by X-ray. This happy state of affairs has been brought about partly by improvement in the standard of living of the man in the street, and partly by increased knowledge of dietetics and by education in the schools and welfare centres.

Diphtheria, a deadly disease of a generation ago, is now being steadily, unspectacularly, and systematically wiped out by immunisation, and in another generation, it is hoped that whooping cough will disappear. Scarlet fever is an inconvenience rather than a danger at the present time, and the ravages of influenza have ceased for the time, at least, to take that immense toll of death which was common twenty or thirty years ago.

In spite of the increase in tuberculosis during the war, the future with regard to this disease is extremely bright, and it is possible that in another generation it will cease to contribute significantly to our death rate. Tuberculosis is a social disease, and is slowly, only too slowly, being eradicated by social cure, particularly by improved nutrition and by the careful examination of all contacts and the control of infection which is the outstanding contribution of the Chest Clinics. The new drug Streptomycin is at present on trial, but without wishing to make

exaggerated claims, one may fairly say that the results show considerable promise and it is likely that considerable improvements in the treatment of this disease are likely in the future from Streptomycin and other antibiotics.

Cancer remains a problem which so far has baffled medical science, but even here it would appear that the peak in deaths has been reached and passed, and with the immense amount of research being carried on at the present time, it may reasonably be hoped that its incidence will be substantially reduced in the future.

But the health of man is not a matter of disease, and the estimation of health cannot be measured by the number of persons who fall by the wayside. It can only be measured by the well-being and fitness, or "wholeness," of our men, women and children, and it is an undoubted fact that in any system of mass examination such as school medical inspection or recruitment for the Armed Services, each year the number of rejects is less and less, and the standard of physique of the well is growing higher and higher. It is a matter of common observation that the average adolescent child is both bigger and heavier than a generation ago, and there is a greater sense of well being.

Let us hope that equal additions will be made in the next twenty years.

I would like, finally, to express my sincere thanks for the encouragement and help given me by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, for the valuable assistance of my colleagues in other departments, and for the loyal and devoted work of the members of my own staff.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

HUGH PAUL, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

APPROXIMATE NET EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC HEALTH
SERVICES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1948.

	Amount	Rate in the £	
	£	s.	d.
Prevention of Infectious Diseases	924		·55
Notification of Infectious Diseases	130		·07
Smethwick and Oldbury Joint Hospital ...	8,914		5·27
St. Chad's Hospital	22,854	1	1·52
Hospital Provision	2,490		1·47
Day Nurseries	2,850		1·69
" The Hollies "	167		·10
Contributions to Birmingham Hospitals Centre	589		·35
Tuberculosis	18,852		11·15
Venereal Diseases	500		·30
Vaccination	391		·23
Blind Persons Act, 1920	4,958		2·94
Mental Deficiency	9,415		5·57
Mental Hospitals	6,094		3·60
Maintenance of Epileptics	84		·05
Maternity and Child Welfare	10,744		6·36
Midwives' Act	187		·11
Ambulance Service	6,147		3·64
Foods and Drugs Act, 1938	383		·23
Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Order, 1936	13		·01
Smoke Abatement	36		·02
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926 ...	5		·01
Administration	12,011		7·11
Public Assistance:—			
Hospitals	2,150		1·27
Children's Homes	2,150		1·27
Mental Hospitals	23,020	1	1·62
	136,058	6	8·51

Annual Report for 1947

GENERAL STATISTICS.

AREA: 2,500 acres.

POPULATION: Census, 1931—84,406.

Estimated pre-war: 78,290.

Estimated civilian population 1947: 75,670.

RATEABLE VALUE: October, 1947: £432,854.

ESTIMATED PRODUCT OF A PENNY RATE: £1,700.

RATES IN THE £: 19/-d.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF HOUSES IN THE BOROUGH: 21,338.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

						1947	1946		
BIRTHS:	Males	...	...	...	...	814	775		
	Females	...	...	...	...	794	721		
Total						1,608	1,496		
Illegitimate Births included in									
above total						63	55		
Birth-rate per 1,000 population						21.2	20.09		
DEATHS:	Males	...	...	...	...	471	511		
	Females	...	...	...	...	416	403		
* Total						887	914		
Death-rate per 1,000 population						11.7	12.28		
INFANT DEATHS:	Males	...	...	...	...	42	47		
	Females	...	...	...	...	27	27		
Total						69	74		
Infantile Mortality:									
Legitimate						43.3	44.7		
Illegitimate						31.8	127.2		
Total						42.9	50.1		
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks						43	52		
Neo-natal Mortality						26.7	34.7		
						1947	1946		
						No.	Rate per	No.	Rate per
							1,000		1,000
							population		population
DEATHS FROM:									
Enteric Fever						—	—	—	—
Measles						—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough						1	0.01	—	—
Diarrhoea and Enteritis									
(under 2 years)						8	0.10	12	0.16
Diphtheria						—	—	2	0.02
Scarlet Fever						—	—	—	—
Influenza						3	0.03	8	0.1
Cancer						133	1.75	145	1.94
Respiratory Diseases						101	1.33	121	1.62
Pulmonary Tuberculosis						51	0.67	55	0.73
Other Forms of Tuberculosis						10	0.13	4	0.05
Cerebro Spinal Fever						1	0.01	2	0.02
Road Traffic Accidents						9	0.11	8	0.1
Acute Poliomyelitis						2	0.02	—	—
Acute Infective Encephalitis						2	0.02	—	—

	Smethwick.	England and Wales.	County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.	Smethwick.	England and Wales.	County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.
* Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—										
BIRTHS :—										
Live	21.2	20.5	23.3	22.2	22.7	20.09	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5
Still	0.55	0.50	0.62	0.54	0.49	0.34	0.53	0.67	0.59	0.54
DEATHS :—										
All Causes	11.7	12.0	13.0	11.9	12.8	12.28	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Diphtheria	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Influenza	0.03	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.1	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Measles	—	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	—	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—										
Deaths under 1 year of age	42.9	41	47	36	37	50.1	43	46	37	41
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.9	5.8	8.0	3.7	4.8	8.68	4.4	6.1	2.8	4.2
NOTIFICATIONS :—										
Typhoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.17	1.37	1.54	1.37	1.31	1.98	1.38	1.51	1.33	1.42
Whooping Cough	3.47	2.22	2.41	2.02	2.80	5.66	2.28	2.48	2.05	2.22
Diphtheria	0.17	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.44	0.28	0.32	0.31	0.24
Erysipelas	0.19	0.19	0.21	0.18	0.22	0.29	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.27
Smallpox	—	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	10.15	9.41	9.13	9.58	5.29	1.86	3.92	4.73	3.70	7.35
Pneumonia	1.08	0.79	0.89	0.68	0.64	0.68	0.89	1.02	0.74	0.75
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still) :—										
MATERNAL MORTALITY (excluding Abortion) :—										
Puerperal Infection	0.60	0.16	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.	—	—	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.
Others (No. 147)	1.21	0.85	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.	1.33	—	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.
Total	1.81	1.01	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.	1.33	—	Not available.	Not available.	Not available.
NOTIFICATIONS :—										
Puerperal Fever	4.84	7.16	8.99	6.27	1.21	8.02	—	10.35	7.63	1.62
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	6.94	—	—	—	—	9.68
					including Puerperal Fever.					including Puerperal Fever.

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

REVIEW OF VITAL STATISTICS IN SMETHWICK DURING
THE PAST 25 YEARS.

Year	Death rates per 1,000							
	Birth rate per 1,000	Death rate per 1,000	Infant mor- tality rate per 1,000 births	Zymotic death rate	Respiratory diseases	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non- Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Cancer
1923	20.24	10.82	65.49	0.79	1.82	0.93	0.17	1.04
1924	20.19	10.12	74.79	0.41	1.87	0.67	0.17	1.20
1925	18.36	10.36	80.11	0.52	1.91	0.77	0.24	1.10
1926	18.35	10.39	65.86	0.37	1.88	0.79	0.10	1.26
1927	17.0	11.9	78.6	0.61	2.26	0.84	0.05	1.19
1928	17.1	10.0	63	0.28	1.52	0.69	0.10	1.11
1929	17.8	13.4	79.8	0.70	2.58	0.95	0.12	1.23
1930	18.0	10.4	66.4	0.41	1.17	0.67	0.11	1.28
1931	18.0	11.2	69.6	0.57	1.63	0.62	0.10	1.24
1932	15.2	10.5	78.4	0.23	1.36	0.52	0.09	1.53
1933	14.4	10.8	62.0	0.16	1.60	0.62	0.05	1.44
1934	15.7	10.6	56.9	0.22	1.60	0.57	0.14	1.20
1935	14.7	11.1	60.9	0.31	1.10	0.59	0.06	1.56
1936	15.5	10.5	59.9	0.18	1.60	0.54	0.02	1.47
1937	14.6	11.5	52.5	0.27	1.64	0.70	0.02	1.35
1938	15.3	11.0	62.2	0.25	1.28	0.70	0.10	1.59
1939	14.8	10.7	54.5	0.26	1.04	0.52	0.05	1.79
1940	15.3	14.0	41.9	0.14	2.72	0.61	0.07	1.86
1941	15.09	13.9	60.0	0.18	2.10	0.84	0.06	1.89
1942	17.2	12.0	54.5	0.16	1.81	0.70	0.08	1.92
1943	18.6	13.08	64.5	0.24	2.03	0.84	0.05	2.15
1944	20.6	12.2	45.0	0.26	1.14	0.80	0.07	2.05
1945	18.6	12.8	50.4	0.08	1.53	0.79	0.08	1.99
1946	20.09	12.28	50.1	0.18	1.62	0.73	0.05	1.94
1947	21.2	11.7	42.9	0.11	1.33	0.67	0.13	1.75

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

SCARLET FEVER.

The incidence of, and mortality from, scarlet fever during the past five years is as follows:—

Year	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000 population	Number of deaths	Case mortality per cent.
1943	128	1.77	2	1.5
1944	132	1.83	—	—
1945	100	1.39	—	—
1946	148	1.98	—	—
1947	89	1.17	—	—

DIPHTHERIA.

The incidence of, and mortality from, diphtheria during the past five years is as follows:—

Year	Cases Notified	Attack rate per 1,000 population	Number of deaths	Case mortality per cent.
1943	22	0.30	—	—
1944	44	0.61	3	6.8
1945	42	0.58	5	11.9
1946	33	0.44	2	6.06
1947	13	0.17	—	—

The number of children immunised during the past two years is as follows:—

	1947	1946
Under five years of age	895	1,090
From five to fifteen years	1,013	813
Totals	1,908	1,903

At the 31st December, 1947, it was estimated that 3,499 or 51.5 per cent of the child population under five, and 9,359 or 90.6 per cent of children from five to fifteen were protected against diphtheria.

TYPHOID AND PARATYPHOID FEVER.

No case of typhoid or paratyphoid fever was notified during the year.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

Three cases of cerebro-spinal fever were notified, and there was one death. During 1946 the number of cases was 5 with one death compared with 5 and no deaths in 1945.

WHOOPING COUGH AND MEASLES.

Whooping cough was less prevalent during 1947, but showed an incidence 50 per cent higher than for the country as a whole. The notifications of measles showed a great increase over last year, but were fewer than in 1945, the last epidemic year. There was one death from whooping cough, but none from measles.

	Cases Notified		Attack-rate per 1,000 population	
	1947	1946	1947	1946
Whooping Cough	263	422	3.47	5.66
Measles	768	139	10.15	1.86

SMETHWICK AND OLDBURY JOINT ISOLATION HOSPITAL. STATEMENT OF CASES ADMITTED AND DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR 1947.

	Number of Cases in Hospital on December 31st, 1946.				Number of Cases Admitted during 1947				Cases Discharged, or Transferred to other Institutions during 1947.				Number of Cases Died during 1947				Number of Cases in Hospital on December 31st, 1947.			
	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total	Males	Females	Children under 16	Total
SMETHWICK :																				
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculosis ...	7	6	1	14	44	24	5	73	34	19	4	57	6	2	1	9	11	9	1	21
Lobar Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	2	4	...	...	2	5	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broncho Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6	12	4	2	4	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-Infectious ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
OLDBURY :																				
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	2	5	11	18	2	5	10	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastro Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Polio-myelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broncho Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Worcestershire County Council	2	2	...	4	7	5	1	13	6	2	1	9	2	...	...	2	1	5	...	6
Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1947.

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.										Cases removed to Hospital.	TOTAL DEATHS.						
	AGE GROUPS.											AGE GROUPS.						
	All ages	0-1	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards		All ages	0-1	1-5	5-15	15-45	45-65	65 and upwards
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric or Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Paratyphoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Scarlet Fever	89	2	8	20	31	13	6	4	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria	13	...	2	5	4	1	...	1	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Erysipelas	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	...	...	6	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Poliomyelitis	15	...	5	...	1	5	2	2	...	...	14	...	...	...	1	...	...	
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Dysentery	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Acute Pneumonia	82	8	4	6	6	...	4	18	18	18	12	...	...	...	2	7	16	
Whooping Cough	263	32	86	95	45	2	1	2	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Measles	761	44	164	249	278	11	10	4	1	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	
TOTALS	1261	97	269	375	365	37	31	40	21	26	104	43	13	2	2	3	7	16

TUBERCULOSIS.

NOTIFICATIONS.

The following table shows the notifications received and the attack rate with the deaths and death-rate for each year since the commencement of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1912:—

	Notifications received :		Attack Rate per 1,000 of the population :		Deaths		Death rate	
	Pulmon-ary	Other forms	Pulmon-ary	Other forms	Pulmon-ary	Other forms	Pulmon-ary	Other forms
1913	318	50	4.3	0.68	64	20	0.87	0.27
1914	143	167	1.9	2.2	84	14	1.15	0.19
1915	229	103	3.1	1.4	79	15	1.09	0.21
1916	204	117	2.6	1.4	91	12	1.16	0.15
1917	206	126	2.6	1.6	103	6	1.31	0.07
1918	194	80	2.5	1.0	97	11	1.27	0.14
1919	260	60	3.5	0.8	87	9	1.19	0.12
1920	146	31	1.9	0.4	62	24	0.81	0.31
1921	88	14	1.1	0.18	53	17	0.68	0.22
1922	112	17	1.4	0.2	61	25	0.78	0.32
1923	80	18	1.02	0.2	73	14	0.93	0.17
1924	110	18	1.39	0.2	53	14	0.67	0.17
1925	74	24	0.9	0.3	61	19	0.77	0.24
1926	94	16	1.2	0.2	61	8	0.79	0.10
1927	87	38	1.1	0.49	65	4	0.84	0.05
1928	73	25	0.8	0.29	59	9	0.69	0.10
1929	108	34	1.2	0.4	81	11	0.95	0.12
1930	76	19	0.89	0.22	57	10	0.67	0.11
1931	80	29	0.93	0.33	53	9	0.62	0.10
1932	65	20	0.76	0.23	44	8	0.52	0.09
1933	55	16	0.64	0.19	53	5	0.62	0.05
1934	72	19	0.85	0.22	48	12	0.57	0.14
1935	95	19	1.15	0.23	49	5	0.59	0.06
1936	81	21	0.99	0.25	44	2	0.54	0.02
1937	77	4	0.95	0.04	57	2	0.70	0.02
1938	78	20	0.97	0.25	56	8	0.70	0.10
1939	89	15	1.11	0.19	40	4	0.52	0.05
1940	52	15	0.72	0.20	44	5	0.61	0.07
1941	83	10	1.15	0.14	61	5	0.84	0.06
1942	102	28	1.40	0.38	51	6	0.70	0.08
1943	92	20	1.27	0.27	61	4	0.84	0.05
1944	126	17	1.74	0.23	58	5	0.80	0.07
1945	151	26	2.1	0.37	57	6	0.79	0.08
1946	149	16	2.00	0.21	55	4	0.73	0.05
1947	165	12	2.18	0.15	51	10	0.67	0.13

The following table shows the total NEW CASES, i.e., all PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS and also NEW CASES coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health from the death returns, transfers from other areas, etc.

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	1946				1947			
	Pulmonary.		Other forms.		Pulmonary.		Other forms.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 to 1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	1	1	3	—	5	7	2	2
5 to 10	6	9	5	1	16	12	3	—
10 to 15	1	3	1	—	6	3	1	—
15 to 20	8	14	1	1	7	7	3	—
20 to 25	5	7	—	1	5	13	—	—
25 to 35	20	12	—	—	16	10	1	—
35 to 45	16	7	—	—	16	10	—	—
45 to 55	14	4	—	—	17	4	—	—
55 to 65	13	3	—	—	13	2	1	1
65 upwards	5	—	1	—	11	2	—	—
TOTALS	89	60	12	4	112	70	11	3

The deaths from tuberculosis during 1946 and 1947 are shown as follows:—

AGE PERIODS.	1947				1946			
	Pulmonary		Other forms		Pulmonary		Other forms	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5	—	—	1	1	—	1	2	—
5 to 15	1	—	3	1	—	1	1	—
15 to 45	14	10	3	—	25	11	—	—
45 to 65	18	4	—	1	9	4	1	—
65 upwards	3	1	—	—	2	2	—	—
TOTALS ...	36	15	7	3	36	19	4	—

The number of cases remaining on the Dispensary Register on 31st December, 1947, was 806, viz.:—

Pulmonary—Males	307	Non-Pulmonary—Males	30
Females ..	233	Females ..	49
Children .	86	Children .	101
	<u>626</u>		<u>180</u>

Attendances at the Chest Clinic were as under:—

	1947	1946
First examinations	984	900
Re-examinations	1,639	1,102
Consultations	2,012	1,473
Mantoux Tests	193	172
Artificial-pneumothorax	1,264	1,153
Gold Treatment	85	130
Artificial light treatment	56	1,958
Total attendances	<u>6,233</u>	<u>6,888</u>
Number of X-Ray examinations	1,978	1,599
Visits to patients at Home:—		
(a) By Health Visitor	818	1,061
(b) By Clinical T.O.	191	382
Patients admitted to Sanatoria	152	97
Patients discharged from Sanatoria	134	90
Patients died in Sanatoria	11	9
Patients remaining in Sanatoria at end of year	60	53

TABLES SHEWING ADMISSIONS to, and DISCHARGES from, SANATORIA during the Year 1947.

NAME OF INSTITUTION	Number of Cases in Sanatorium on January 1st, 1947.				Number of Cases admitted during 1947.				Cases discharged or transferred to the Chest Clinic.				Number of Deaths				Number of Cases in Sanatorium on December 31st, 1947.			
	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total	Males	Females	Children	Total
Holly Lane Hospital ...	8	5	...	13	47	22	5	74	37	18	3	58	5	1	1	...	13	8	1	22
Romsley Hill Sanatorium ...	8	2	..	10	26	18	...	44	28	15	...	43	1	3	...	...	5	2	...	7
Crossley Sanatorium, Cheshire ...	4	5	...	9	2	6	1	9	1	6	1	8	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	10
Creaton Sanatorium, N'thampton	5	4	...	9	6	8	1	15	7	6	1	14	...	...	...	...	4	6	...	10
Royal Nat. Sanatorium, Ventnor..	...	1	...	1	3	...	...	3	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2
The Woodlands, Northfield ...	...	1	4	5	2	1	2	5	1	1	3	5	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	5
The Forelands, Bromsgrove ...	...	...	5	5	...	...	1	1	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Hospital, Oswestry ..	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Totals ...	26	18	9	53	87	55	10	152	76	47	11	134	6	4	1	...	31	22	7	60

RETURN SHOWING THE WORK OF THE DISPENSARY DURING THE YEAR 1947.

DIAGNOSIS.	PULMONARY.				NON-PULMONARY.				TOTAL.				Grand Total
	Adults		Children		Adults		Children		Adults		Children		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A. (1) Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the beginning of the Year	282	216	16	27	30	47	53	46	312	263	69	73	717
(2) Transfers from Authorities of areas outside that of the Council or Board during the Year	6	7	1	...	1	1	...	...	7	8	1	...	16
(3) Lost sight of cases returned during the Year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
B. Number of New Cases diagnosed as tuberculous during the Year	35	25	27	18	...	...	...	...	35	25	27	18	105
(1) Class T.B. minus	43	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	43	16	...	...	59
(2) Class T.B. plus	...	...	...	...	3	1	6	3	3	1	6	3	13
(3) Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
C. Number of cases included in A. and B. written off the Dispensary Register during the Year as:—	7	8	...	...	2	...	...	1	9	8	...	1	18
(1) Recovered	43	16	...	...	2	...	5	1	45	16	5	1	67
(2) Dead (all causes)	9	7	2	1	...	...	...	...	9	7	2	1	19
(3) Removed to other Areas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(4) For other reasons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
D. Number of definite cases of Tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register at the end of the Year	307	233	42	44	30	49	54	47	337	282	96	91	806

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS MAINTENANCE ALLOWANCES.

On 1st January, 1947, there were 53 cases on the register. There were 46 removals and 44 additions during the year, leaving 51 cases in receipt of allowances at the end of the year. The amount of allowances paid during the year was £4,074 11s. 8d. compared with £3,201 12s. 11d. in 1946, and £2,740 9s. 6d. in 1945.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS.

The following is an extract from the Return of Mental Defectives as on 1st January, 1948, submitted to the Board of Control:—

	M.	F.	Total
Number of cases in Institutions (excluding cases on licence)	38	29	67
Number of cases on licence from Institutions...	4	3	7
Number of cases under Guardianship	6	9	15
Number of cases in " places of safety "	2	—	2
Number of cases under Statutory Supervision...	144	103	247
Number of cases awaiting removal to an Institution	3	3	6
Cases reported by Local Education authorities during the year:—			
Under Section 57 (3)	2	—	2
Under Section 57 (5)	3	—	3
Number of cases on the Registers of Occupation Centres	—	2	2

VENEREAL DISEASES.

By arrangement, treatment is available for Smethwick patients at the General Hospital, Birmingham, and the figures below are taken from the report received from the Medical Director of the V.D. Department:—

A.—Number of Smethwick patients dealt with at, or in connection with, the Out-Patients Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

	1938	1944	1945	1946	1947
Syphilis	13	29	21	33	19
Soft Chancre	—	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhoea	47	9	30	42	26
Conditions other than Venereal	70	96	80	140	107
	<u>130</u>	<u>134</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>152</u>

B.—Total number of attendances at the Out-Patient Clinic of all persons residing in Smethwick 4,973 2,383 2,536 3,061 2,424

ST. CHAD'S HOSPITAL.**STATISTICS RELATING TO THE YEARS 1946—1947.****(A) IN-PATIENTS.**

	1947	1946
1. Total number of admissions (including infants born in hospital)	3,083	3,022
2. Number of women confined in hospital	671	636
3. Number of live births	652	637
4. Number of still-births	25	15
5. Number of deaths among the newly-born (i.e., under four weeks of age)	28	19
6. Total number of deaths among children under one year (including those given under 5) ...	33	32
7. Number of maternal deaths among women admitted to hospital for confinement ...	1	2
8. Total number of deaths	158	185
9. Total number of discharges (including infants born in hospital)	2,932	2,869
10. Duration of stay of patients included in 8 and 9 above. Number of cases whose total stay was for the following periods:—		
(a) Under four weeks	2,824	2,712
(b) Four weeks and under thirteen weeks	226	308
(c) Thirteen weeks or more	40	34
11. Number of beds occupied (excluding cots in maternity wards): average during the year	108·2	119·6
12. Number of surgical operations under general anaesthetic (excluding dental operations)...	836	870

(B) OUT-PATIENTS.

There is at present no out-patients department in connection with St. Chad's Hospital.

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS WHO WERE DISCHARGED
FROM OR WHO DIED IN THE INSTITUTION DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Disease Groups.					Children under 16 years of age		Men and Women	
					Dis- charged	Died	Dis- charged	Died
A.	Acute Infectious Disease	...	...	...	5	1	7	3
B.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	—	2	—
C.	Tuberculosis:—							
	Pulmonary	...	...	...	5	—	14	2
	Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	4	2	3	1
D.	Malignant Disease	...	...	...	—	—	51	23
E.	Rheumatism:—							
	(1) Acute Rheumatism (Rheu- matic Fever) together with sub- acute rheumatism and chorea	...	...	...	5	—	2	—
	(2) Non-articular manifestations of so-called "rheumatism" (mus- cular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica)	...	...	...	3	—	11	—
	(3) Chronic arthritis	...	...	...	—	—	10	1
F.	Venereal Disease	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
G.	Puerperal Pyrexia:—							
	(a) Women confined in Hospital	...	...	...	—	—	4	—
	(b) Other cases	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
H.	Other diseases and Accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth	...	...	...	—	—	133	3
I.	Mental Diseases:—							
	(a) Senile Dementia	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	(b) Other	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
J.	Senile Decay	...	...	...	—	—	2	—
K.	Accidental Injury and Violence	...	...	...	3	—	37	6
In respect of cases not included above:—								
L.	Diseases of the Nervous System and Sense Organs	...	...	...	25	1	35	16
M.	Diseases of the Respiratory System	...	...	...	40	—	69	8
N.	Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	6	—	92	19
O.	Diseases of the Digestive System	...	...	...	381	5	323	17
P.	Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	...	...	...	7	1	120	10
Q.	Diseases of the Skin	...	...	...	8	—	45	—
R.	Other Diseases	...	...	...	38	28	129	6
S.	Mothers and Infants discharged and not included in above figures:							
	Mothers	...	...	...	—	—	666	—
	Infants	...	...	...	633	—	—	—
T.	Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	...	...	...	7	—	5	5
					1,171	38	1,761	120
					3,090			

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St. Chad's Hospital:—

Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	381
Urea concentration tests	...	...	...	...	31
Urea clearance tests	...	...	...	...	8
Zondeck-Asheim tests (sent out)	...	...	...	...	14
Urine for T.B.	...	...	...	...	2
Routine Blood counts	...	...	...	...	545
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	120
Reticulocyte counts	...	...	...	...	17
Blood Cholesterol est. (sent out)	...	...	...	...	2
Widal reactions	...	...	...	...	15
Blood urea estimations	...	...	...	...	152
Blood sugar estimations	...	...	...	...	53
Laevulose tolerance	...	...	...	...	1
Blood groups (recorded)	...	...	...	...	34
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	148
Van-den-Bergh reactions	...	...	...	...	3
Wassermann reactions (sent out)	...	...	...	...	30
Gonococcal fixation tests (sent out)	...	...	...	...	16
Blood Kahn reactions...	...	...	...	...	78
Bleeding and clotting times	...	...	...	...	4
Blood Chloride est. (sent out)	...	...	...	...	5
Blood cultures	...	...	...	...	8
Blood Protein est. (sent out)	...	...	...	...	8
Blood Platelets est.	...	...	...	...	3
Prothrombin estimation	...	...	...	...	18
Faeces for Occult blood	...	...	...	...	46
Faeces for Typhoid/Dysentery	...	...	...	...	61
Faeces for T.B.	...	...	...	...	6
Test Meals examinations	...	...	...	...	37
Sheep Cell agglutination tests	...	...	...	...	1
Fluid for G.P. inoculation (sent out)	...	...	...	...	3
Nose and Throat swabs for Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	19
Vaginal swabs for Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	64
Other swabs for Bacteriology...	...	...	...	...	46
Penicillin sensitivity est.	...	...	...	...	1
Diastatic Index est.	...	...	...	...	2
C.S.F. Routine examinations	...	...	...	...	56
C.S.F. for Wassermann (sent out)	...	...	...	...	3
Sternal Puncture	...	...	...	...	1
Peritoneal/Pleural fluids	...	...	...	...	37
Sperm counts	...	...	...	...	8
Sputum for T.B.	...	...	...	...	136
Sputum for Bacteriology	...	...	...	...	16
Blood Uric Acid est. (sent out)	...	...	...	...	1
Laboratory examinations for sick or new staff	...	...	...	...	46
Post Mortem examinations	...	...	...	...	48
Surgical sections	...	...	...	...	96

2,430

Holly Lane Hospital:—

Sputum for T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	251
Swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	11
Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	18
Faeces for T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Swabs for K.L.B.	...	...	...	...	...	178
Pleural Fluid	...	...	...	...	...	4
C.S.F. routine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	14
Faeces for Typhoid/Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	51
Sheep Cell agglutinations	...	...	...	...	...	1
Widal reactions	...	...	...	...	...	7
Diphth. Virulence (sent out)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	5
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	...	5
C.S.F. for Wasserman (sent out)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood Sugar est.	...	...	...	...	...	1
						554

Chest Clinic, Coopers Lane:

Sputum for T.B.	...	...	...	...	...	23
Swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	5
Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pleural Fluid examinations	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	3
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	3
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	...	2
Widal reactions	...	...	...	...	...	1
						43

"Hollies" Children's Home:—

Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	13
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School Clinics:—

Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	67
Swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	10
Routine Urine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	3
						92

General Practitioners:—

Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blood Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Widal reaction	...	...	...	...	...	1
						6

Cape Clinic:—

Blood Kahn reactions...	...	...	...	...	...	500
Blood Groups	...	...	...	...	...	500
Blood Rhesus factor	...	...	...	...	...	500
Wassermann reaction (sent out)	...	...	...	...	...	22
Urine routine examinations	...	...	...	...	...	18
Vaginal swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	15
Blood Sugar estimations	...	...	...	...	...	4
Blood Urea estimations	...	...	...	...	...	5
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	...	4
Faeces for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	...	1
						1,569

Firs Clinic:—

Vaginal swabs for bacteriology	...	...	...	...	12
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	7
Differential counts	...	...	...	...	2
Blood Kahn reactions	...	...	...	...	728
Blood Rhesus factor	...	...	...	...	728
Blood groups	...	...	...	...	728
Routine urine examinations	...	...	...	...	13
Wassermann reactions (sent out)	...	...	...	...	38
Blood Urea estimations	...	...	...	...	11
Sedimentation rates	...	...	...	...	1
					2,268

TOTAL SPECIMENS FROM ALL SOURCES. 6,975

The demand for laboratory work from the Borough's Isolation Hospital and Clinics has again increased, an increase of 275 examinations for Holly Lane Hospital, 231 examinations for the Firs Ante-Natal Clinic, and 40 examinations for the School Clinics. Further increased requests for laboratory examinations from these sources are anticipated.

The Rhesus factor investigations are carried out with the co-operation of the National Blood Transfusion Laboratory, Highfield Road, Birmingham, under the direction of Dr. Weiner.

All culture media and specimen collecting outfits are prepared. Also Penicillin preparations are dispensed and issued by the Laboratory.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

There are two comprehensive clinics, one at the "Firs," Coopers Lane, and the other at Cape Hill, in premises formerly belonging to the Birmingham General Dispensary. Both are staffed by doctors, dentists, nurses and other workers, and are open for the various services, as follows:—

Infant Welfare Centres.

The "Firs," Coopers Lane	... Monday/Thursday	2—4 p.m.
Cape Hill	... Tuesday	2—4 p.m.
	... Wednesday	9—12 noon
Bearwood Baptist Hall, Rawlings Road	... Monday	2—4 p.m.
Warley, St. Gregory's Church Hall, Wigorn Road	... Friday	2—4 p.m.
Londonderry, Community Hall, Hurst Road	... Tuesday/Thursday	2—4 p.m.
Sandwell, St. Stephen's Church Hall, Cambridge Road	... Wednesday	2—4 p.m.
Oldbury Road, Oldbury Road Schools	... Friday	2—4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

The "Firs": Monday, 9 a.m.—12 noon; Tuesday, 2—4 p.m.; Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.; Friday, 9 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.

Cape Hill: Monday, 2—4 p.m.; Thursday, 9 a.m.—12 noon and 2—4 p.m.; Friday, 2—4 p.m.

New patients are seen at the "Firs" on Monday mornings, and at Cape Hill on Thursday mornings.

Post-Natal Clinic.

The "Firs": Friday, 9 a.m.—12 noon.

Cape Hill: Friday, 2—4 p.m.

Dental Treatment.

For Expectant and Nursing Mothers—

Cape Hill: Every afternoon from 2—4 p.m.

School Children—

The "Firs": Daily (by appointment).

Cape Hill: Daily (by appointment).

*School Clinics.**Inspection Clinic—*

The "Firs": Tuesday, 9.30—12 noon.

Cape Hill: Friday, 9.30—12 noon.

Treatment Clinic—

The "Firs": Monday, 9.30—12 noon; Tuesday, 9.30—12 noon;
Wednesday, 9.30—12 noon; Thursday, 9.30—12 noon;
Friday, 9.30—12 noon.

Cape Hill: Monday, 2—5 p.m.; Tuesday, 2—5 p.m.; Thursday,
2—5 p.m.

Eye Clinic—

The "Firs": Monday, 2—4 p.m.; Thursday, 2—4 p.m. (by
appointment).

Cape Hill: Saturday, 9.30—12 noon (by appointment).

Skin Inspection Clinic—

Cape Hill: Wednesday, 2—5 p.m.

Skin Treatment Clinic—

Cape Hill: Monday, 9.30—12 noon; Tuesday, 9.30—12 noon;
Wednesday, 9.30—12 noon; Thursday, 9.30—12 noon;
Friday, 2—5 p.m.

Ultra-Violet Light Clinic.

The "Firs": Wednesday, 9—12 noon; Friday, 9—12 noon.

Chest Clinic.

The "Firs": Monday, 6—8 p.m. (Workers); Tuesday, 9—10 a.m.
(Children); Wednesday, 2—4 p.m.; Thursday, 9—10
a.m. (Children); Thursday, 2—4 p.m. (Refills only.
No new cases seen); Friday, 2—4 p.m.

X-Rays.

The "Firs": By appointment.

Foot Clinic.

Cape Hill. Daily (by appointment).

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1947.

CAUSE OF DEATH	0-1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1-2 m'ths	2-3 m'ths	3-4 m'ths	4-5 m'ths	5-6 m'ths	6-7 m'ths	7-8 m'ths	8-9 m'ths	9-10 m'ths	10-11 m'ths	11-12 m'ths	Total
Anterior Polio Encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia (Violent Death) ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Atelectasis ...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformation of Heart ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erythroblastosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Gastro-enteritis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hæmorrhagic Disease of New- born ...	...	...	...	2	2	2	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Influenza ...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Intracranial Hæmorrhage ...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Intussusception ...	7	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Otitis Media ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Premature Birth ...	1	2	...	...	3	...	2	1	1	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	10
Spina Bifida ...	15	1	...	2	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Whooping Cough ...	1	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTALS :—	33	4	...	6	43	5	6	3	3	3	3	...	1	1	1	...	69

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1947.

BIRTHS.

The number of births notified during the past five years under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by transferred notifications, was as follows:—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Live Births	1,343	1,501	1,293	1,489	1,605
Still Births	46	43	38	25	43
	<u>1,389</u>	<u>1,544</u>	<u>1,331</u>	<u>1,514</u>	<u>1,648</u>

Comparison with the returns of the local Registrar shows that very few births escape notification.

HEALTH VISITING.

The Council employs a Superintendent and fifteen health visitors who are also school nurses, the equivalent of nine whole-time visitors being engaged in Maternity and Child Welfare work. The number of visits paid during the two years was:—

	1946	1947
(i) To Expectant Mothers	First visits 568	459
	Total visits 1,042	631
(ii) To Children under one year of age...	First visits 1,383	1,582
	Total visits 4,474	4,065
(iii) To Children between one and five years of age	Total visits 7,415	5,683

The total number of visits paid by the health visitors during the past six years is as follows:—

1942	26,349	1945	21,572
1943	30,033	1946	19,355
1944	24,730	1947	15,987

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

The number of centres provided and maintained by the Council is seven, with ten sessions weekly; the total attendance during the past five years was:—

	Under 1 year	1-5 years	Total	
1943	20,119	7,094	27,213	
1944	20,765	6,584	27,349	
1945	20,903	5,729	26,632	
1946	20,804	5,097	25,901	
1947	22,279	3,606	25,885	
			1946	1947
Number of children attending for the first time	Under 1 year ...	1-5 years ...	1,241	1,328
			180	90
		Total	<u>1,421</u>	<u>1,418</u>
Number of children on the registers at end of year	Under 1 year ...	1-5 years ...	1,110	1,210
			1,895	1,807
		Total	<u>3,005</u>	<u>3,017</u>

The number of children under one who attended for the first time equalled 89·7 per cent. of the notified births in 1943, 87·5 per cent. in 1944, 83·2 per cent. in 1945, 83·3 per cent. in 1946 and 82·7 per cent. in 1947.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	1945	1946	1947
Number of cases notified	8	16	9
Cases treated by health visitors	—	1	1
Number of cases treated at Eye Hospital	3	16	9
Cases resulting in impaired vision	—	—	—
Home visits	13	29	19

Notifications during the past ten years:—

1938	14	1943	8
1939	5	1944	9
1940	6	1945	8
1941	14	1946	16
1942	8	1947	9

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

Since the establishment of the first Ante-Natal Clinic in 1920, the total attendances have been as follows:—

1920	42	1934	4,312
1921	107	1935	5,169
1922	127	1936	5,044
1923	241	1937	5,201
1924	275	1938	6,226
1925	537	1939	6,739
1926	1,015	1940	6,336
1927	1,079	1941	7,221
1928	1,465	1942	8,526
1929	2,253	1943	8,988
1930	3,760	1944	10,093
1931	3,859	1945	7,452
1932	3,509	1946	9,755
1933	3,771	1947	10,766

During 1945, 1,455 individual women attended the clinic, during 1946 the number was 1,793, and during 1947, 1,667.

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Individual patients attending	352	500	474	465	580
Percentage of notified births	26	32	35	30.7	35.2
Total attendances	996	1,345	1,255	1,498	1,078

Care of Premature Infants.

During the year 1947 notification was received of 111 babies who weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth. Of these, 56 were born at home, and 55 in hospital. Fifty of those born at home survived at the end of one month; none died during the first 24 hours. Of the babies born in hospital 43 survived at the end of one month, and 5 died during the first 24 hours.

Special provision is made for the conveyance by ambulance of premature infants to hospital.

The follow-up of infants discharged from hospital is secured through the Obstetrics Officer in St. Chad's Hospital, who is also Medical Supervisor of Midwives, and who, as a member of the Public Health Department, is also in close touch with the Health Visitors whom he instructs.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

The Council has an arrangement with the Smethwick Branch of the Birmingham Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare, and makes a financial grant. The local authority and Diocesan Council work very closely together, and the scheme provides for complete liaison.

MUNICIPAL MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Number of bookings ...	729	796	602	740	751
Ante-natal visits ...	4,123	3,426	3,596	4,068	3,379
Cases attended ...	664	716	588	654	734
Nursing visits ...	15,415	14,437	12,959	14,351	15,782

The number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during 1944 was 240; during 1945, 155; during 1946, 184, and during 1947, 184. These figures are in connection with domiciliary cases and include municipal and independent midwives.

MATERNITY TREATMENT.

From the 1st April, 1935, maternity cases were received in St. Chad's Hospital, and the following extracts from the return made to the Ministry of Health relate to the year ended 31st December, 1947.

Number of maternity beds in the Institution (exclusive of isolation and labour beds) ...	27
Number of maternity cases admitted during the year ...	685
Number of expectant mothers admitted during the year ...	100
Average duration of stay (maternity cases)—days ...	11.31
Average duration of stay (expectant mothers)—days ...	6.04
Number of cases delivered by:—	
(a) Midwives ...	614
(b) Doctors ...	57
Number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4
Number of cases of Pemphigus Neonatorum ...	—
Number of infants not entirely breast-fed while in the Institution:—	
Supplementary feed ...	100
Complementary feed ...	300
Wholly breast-fed on leaving hospital ...	560
Number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—
Number of maternal deaths ...	1
Cause of death:—	
Streptococcal peritonitis following Caesarean Section ...	1
Number of Infants deaths:—	
(i) Still-born ...	25
Causes of death:—	
Anacephalic Foetus ...	4
Accidents of pregnancy ...	2
Asphyxia ...	4
Difficult forceps delivery ...	1
Intracranial hæmorrhage ...	2
Macerated foetus ...	5
Prematurity ...	5
Prolapsed cord ...	1
Undefined ...	1
(ii) Within ten days of birth ...	18
Causes of death:—	
Asphyxia ...	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	5
Erythroblastosis foetalis ...	1
Pneumonia ...	1
Prematurity ...	8

Maternal Deaths.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

1944	...	(1) Sepsis	...	—	(2) Other causes	...	6
1945	...	(1) Sepsis	...	2	(2) Other causes	...	1
1946	...	(1) Sepsis	...	—	(2) Other causes	...	2
1947	...	(1) Sepsis	...	1	(2) Other causes	...	2

The Maternal mortality rate for the past twenty years was:—

1928	.....	4.2	1935	.....	3.3	1942	.....	3.9
1929	.....	5.2	1936	.....	2.3	1943	.....	2.1
1930	.....	4.5	1937	.....	2.5	1944	.....	3.9
1931	.....	1.9	1938	.....	3.3	1945	.....	2.1
1932	.....	5.4	1939	.....	3.4	1946	.....	1.33
1933	.....	3.2	1940	.....	2.6	1947	.....	1.81
1934	.....	5.3	1941	.....	2.7			

The rate for England and Wales was 1.46 for 1945, 1.93 for 1944, 1.43 for 1946 and 1.01 for 1947.

Child Life Protection.

One individual foster mother is registered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and at the end of the year had one child in her care. The Health Visitors act as the Child Protection Visitors.

Adoption of Children.

During the year 4 persons gave notice under section 7 (3) of the Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939. Supervision is given by the Child Protection Visitor and at the end of the year one child remained on the register.

Home Helps and Domestic Helps.

Two part-time Home Helps were employed during the year and assisted 10 cases. The Domestic Help scheme which was put into operation in September, 1945, has not been very successful owing to the very great difficulty in securing suitable women to act as domestic helpers. During the year, several women were employed for short periods and assisted in five cases.

DAY NURSERIES.

The attendances at the Nurseries were well maintained throughout the year.

The total of attendances during 1947 was 31,180, a daily average (excluding Saturday) of 121.8. The number of individual children on the register at the end of the year was 176.

Nursery	Number of Places	Total Attend-ances 1946.	Average daily Attend-ances.	Total Attend-ances 1947	Average daily Attend-ances.
Brasshouse Lane (opened 12.1.42)	60	12,395	48	11,564	45
Edgbaston Road (opened 22.6.42)	60	13,634	54	12,231	48
Norman Road (opened 14.12.42)..	40	7,581	29	7,385	29

INFESTATION.

There are three part-time Orderlies, one male and two female employed at the clinics for eight sessions per week.

During 1947 9,837 children were examined in the schools for cleanliness, of whom 566 were found unclean; of these 126 were treated at the "Firs" Clinic with 315 treatments and 103 at the Cape Clinic with 309 treatments.

The source of infection is often the adult members of the families, but it is difficult to prove that this is so, and in many cases where it is known, treatment has been offered, but the necessary co-operation has been difficult to secure.

Baths are also given to children who visit the clinics for other conditions, and are found to be in a filthy state.

The co-operation of the teachers has been excellent, and the help they give is greatly appreciated.

With regard to the parents, their co-operation has been good on the whole, but there have been cases where the mothers have strongly objected to their children being cleansed at the Clinic. Every effort is made to show them that action is being taken in the interests of the child, and in most cases their co-operation is eventually secured.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

I am pleased to be able to report that the progress in sanitary administration alluded to in my last Annual Report has been well maintained. The year 1946 achieved a record up to that time for the volume of sanitary work carried out in the Department. The year under review has beaten this record.

INSPECTIONS:

The inspections made to all types of premises for all purposes are summarised in Table I, and a reference to this Table shows that 23,393 inspections were made compared with 22,371 in the previous year and 12,599 in 1945. This record number of inspections has been made possible by the fact that for the greater part of the year I have had adequate staff to carry them out. It would appear that the present tempo will have to be maintained for some time if the arrears in house maintenance due to neglect during the war years are to be wiped out. The service which the department is able to afford to the public in this connection is becoming more widely appreciated and this is reflected in the complaint rate, from which it will be seen that the number of complaints reaching the department in 1947 was 2,049, the highest number ever recorded.

COMPLAINT RATE

Average for 10 pre-war years	...	...	...	788
1939	...	...	...	667
1940	...	...	...	788
1941	...	...	...	673
1942	...	...	...	752
1943	...	...	...	1,015
1944	...	...	...	1,422
1945	...	...	...	1,480
1946	...	...	...	1,691
1947	...	...	...	2,049

Increasing use has been made of the provision contained in Section 49 of the Smethwick Corporation Act, 1929, under which I am empowered to require a choked or defective drain or W.C. to be remedied within 24 hours, in default of which the Corporation may themselves execute the work and charge the owner with the cost incurred.

During the year under review, work has been carried out in default in 338 instances, as compared with 97 in the previous year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION:

During the year work has proceeded with the reconstruction of a plant for the manufacture of producer gas, in order to bring it into conformity with the recommendations of an eminent consulting gas engineer engaged by the Council. Meanwhile, there has been no reported recurrence of the nuisance.

A serious grit nuisance arising from the use of pulverised fuel in three banks of re-heating furnaces at a large manufactory in the town has been abated by the final completion of a progressive change over to oil firing.

RODENT DESTRUCTION:

The number of rats destroyed during the year closely approximates to the number accounted for in 1946, i.e., nearly four thousand. This figure includes 910 destroyed in the course of five treatments at the Corporation piggeries, and 200 in two treatments of the Cakemore tip.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938:

Work under the Food and Drugs Act has been appreciably stepped up, a greater number and greater variety of samples having been taken than in previous years. The number of samples purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis, viz. 318, shows a substantial increase over the 1946 figure of 231. It is gratifying to record, on the other hand, that the number of contraventions was only 14 as compared with 42 in the previous year. Most of the contraventions were inadvertent offences against the Food Labelling Orders and were dealt with by strong warning letters. In no case did the Council consider it necessary to institute legal proceedings.

STAFF:

The number of inspectors and assistants at work throughout the year has fluctuated between five and seven. An analysis of these staff variations shows that the total man months reached 76, or an average of six and one third inspectors for the whole year compared with an average of five and a half inspectors for the year 1946.

I wish to place on record my own appreciation as well as the appreciation of the Public Health Committee and indeed the whole Council, of the splendid services rendered to the department by Mr. Frederick Caddick, who resigned from the position of Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector at the end of the year. Practically the whole of Mr. Caddick's official life was spent in the Smethwick Health Department, which he joined as a junior clerk in 1930. He passed by stages of promotion through the offices of senior clerk, assistant sanitary inspector and district sanitary inspector to the position of deputy chief sanitary inspector, in which office he gave service which cannot be too highly rated.

Other staff changes which have taken place during the year are as follows:—

Resigned:

Mr. K. H. Perry (District Sanitary Inspector) to take up a similar appointment in Kenya Colony, 8th May, 1947.

Mr. W. P. Hayne (Pupil Sanitary Inspector), to take up the study of medicine at Birmingham University, 30th September, 1947.

New Appointments:

Mr. J. W. M. Rivers (Assistant Sanitary Inspector), 3rd November, 1947.

Mr. J. H. Morris (Assistant Sanitary Inspector), 10th December, 1947.

CONCLUSION:

I wish to express my grateful thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement and support during the year, and especially for the realistic yet sympathetic way in which they dealt with the problem of the male members of the staff returning from H.M. Forces. The rehabilitation scheme has justified itself up to the hilt. Every man has now qualified and all are giving efficient and enthusiastic service to the department. I wish also to thank Dr. Paul for his friendly and co-operative encouragement throughout the year; the Town Clerk, who has been ready at all times to give me any advice and help I have needed, and the chief officers of other departments from all of whom I have had much useful assistance.

Finally, my thanks, as well as the thanks of the Council must go to every member of the staff, inspectorate and clerical. The good record of useful work summarised in the report which follows is their achievement, and it is an achievement of which they may justly be proud.

JOHN H. WRIGHT,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

The total number of visits paid to all premises for all purposes was 23,393 compared with 22,371 in the year 1946, and 12,599 in 1945. These inspections are summarised in the following table:

TABLE 1.

Housing Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	97
Housing Act Re-visits	...	...	...	...	337
Inspections on Complaint	...	...	...	...	4,571
Re-visits re Notices Served	...	...	...	...	12,574
Inspections re Ashes Accommodation	...	...	...	...	764
Re-visits re Ashes Accommodation	...	...	...	...	817
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	163
Meat and Food Shops	...	...	...	...	261
Private Slaughtering	...	...	...	...	122
Markets Inspected	...	...	...	...	54
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	62
Ice Cream Vendors	...	...	...	...	179
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	53
Food Sampling	...	...	...	...	645
Factories	...	...	...	...	297
Pigsties	...	...	...	...	72
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act	...	...	...	...	21
Insect Pests and Vermin	...	...	...	...	228
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	31
Visits re Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	132
Drains Tested	...	...	...	...	71
Visits re Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	546
Visits re Waste Water Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	13
Smithwick Corporation Act, 1929	...	...	...	...	4
Water Sampling	...	...	...	...	9
Visits to Housing Work in Progress	...	...	...	...	307
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	109
Shops Act Inspection	...	...	...	...	6
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	4
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	8
Drain Inspection	...	...	...	...	31
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	4
Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	77
Food Poisoning Visits	...	...	...	...	41
Dirty Premises	...	...	...	...	8
Waste Water Closet Re-visits	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	672
Total					23,393

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS.

The following table gives a summary of the various defects encountered in the course of visits paid to all types of premises together with the number of defects remedied under each heading:—

TABLE II.

	Found	Remedied
Dirty Premises	1,274	1,017
Defective Roofs, Spouting and Eaves Gutters ...	1,721	1,417
Blocked Drains and W.C.'s	281	295
Defective Yard and Passage Surfaces	32	11
Defective Sinks and Waste Pipes	156	123
Accumulation of Offensive Matter	40	39
Defective Plaster of Walls and Ceilings	1,414	1,117
Defective Ashbins	769	645
Defective Water Closets	647	576
Insufficient Lighting and Ventilation	505	356
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	2	2
Defective Water Fittings	223	244
Smoke Nuisances	8	7
Insufficient W.C. Accommodation	13	7
Dampness	546	295
Insufficient Water Supply	106	64
Insect Pests and Vermin Infestations	34	8
Defective or Insufficient Drainage	68	39
Inadequate Food Storage Accommodation	2	5
Inadequate Coal Storage Accommodation	2	2
Insufficient Means of Heating	3	—
Defective or Inadequate Washboiler Accommodation	129	113
Defective External Brickwork and Chimneys ...	802	538
Defective Floors	352	268
Defective Firegrates	239	204
Defective Stairs and Rails	95	45
Defective Rain Water Cisterns	21	20
Defective Woodwork of Windows, Doors, etc. ...	536	368
Waste Water Closets	—	2
Overcrowding	67	47
Dangerous Buildings	19	8
Lack of Sinks	5	5
Rats—Surface Infestation	269	270
Rats—Sewer Infestation	188	188
Miscellaneous Defects	282	294
Total ...	10,850	8,639

WATER SUPPLY.

- (1) The quality and quantity of the water supplied to the town by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company have been well maintained throughout the year.
- (2) Regular bacteriological and chemical analyses are made of the water, both prior to treatment and going into supply.
- (3) The water is derived chiefly from deep boreholes through red sandstone and having a hardness of 16 to 17 parts per hundred thousand has no plumbo-solvent action.

- (4) No cases of contamination have been reported during the year.
- (5) The number of houses in the town now sharing a common water supply remains at 1.1 per cent and the position with regard to water is set out below:

	Houses	Population	Percentage
Internal water supply ...	20,346	69,175	95.9
Separate outdoor supply ...	625	2,125	3.0
Communal water supply ...	247	840	1.1

WORK CARRIED OUT BY THE CORPORATION IN THE OWNERS DEFAULT.

During the year under review the Corporation has executed work at the cost of the owner, and in default of his compliance with Notices, as follows:—

- | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----------|
| (1) Cleansing or repair of blocked or defective drains and repairs to defective W.C.'s under Section 49 of the Smethwick Corporation Act, 1929 | ... | ... | 338 cases |
| (2) The supply of galvanised iron ashbins with covers, under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936 | ... | ... | 247 cases |
| (3) The execution of maintenance repairs under the Housing Act, 1936 | ... | ... | 26 cases |
| (4) The conversion of W.W.C.'s under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936 | ... | ... | 3 cases |
| (5) Abatement of nuisances in default of compliance with Orders of the Court, Section 95, Public Health Act, 1936 | ... | ... | 4 cases |

HOUSING ACT, 1936.—OVERCROWDING.

At the close of the year there were on the register 108 cases of overcrowding, the average size of the overcrowded families being 7.7 persons. The number of overcrowded cases abated during the year was 51, of which 20 were abated by the Corporation providing alternative accommodation for the overcrowded family.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The number of premises cleared of rats and mice during the year was 1,230, and the estimated number of rats killed was 2,756.

The town's sewers were also treated, baits being deposited in 839 manholes. The small number of baits taken—43 complete takes and 145 partial takes, justifies the assumption that the rat population in the sewers is declining.

Five treatments were carried out at the Corporation piggeries in Oldbury, resulting in an estimated kill of 910 rats. Two treatments of the Cakemore tip accounted for approximately 200 rats.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) *Milk Supply.*

During the year seven samples of milk were submitted to the University of Birmingham Public Health Laboratory for biological examination for the detection of Tubercle Bacilli. All gave negative results.

The number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination, viz., 209, is the highest for many years. The results of the examinations are summarised in the following table:

TABLE III.

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	Tests Applied	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised ...	67	Phosphatase ...	67	—
		Methylene Blue ...	52	15
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ...	52	Phosphatase ...	51	1
		Methylene Blue ...	37	15
Tuberculin Tested ...	15	Methylene Blue ...	6	9
Heat Treated ...	5	Phosphatase ...	4	1
		Methylene Blue ...	4	1
Sterilised ...	63	Phosphatase ...	63	—
		Methylene Blue ...	62	1
Raw ...	7	Methylene Blue ...	5	2

Summary:

Milk examined for keeping quality (Methylene Blue)—20.5 per cent unsatisfactory. Milk examined for efficiency of pasteurisation (phosphatase test)—1.07 unsatisfactory.

(b) *Other Foods.*

The articles of food which it has been found necessary to condemn for diseased or unsound conditions are summarised in the table below. In all cases the food was surrendered and destroyed or was so disposed of as to prevent its use for human food.

TABLE IV.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Meat ...	—	8	4	22	13½
Vegetables ...	—	14	2	24	½
Fish ...	—	3	1	22	2
Fruit ...	5	14	1	2	12½
Fats ...	—	12	3	23	4½
Miscellaneous ...	—	13	0	6	14
	8	7	2	17	15

HOME REARED PIGS SLAUGHTERED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION ON PRIVATE PREMISES.

The following table shows the number of pigs slaughtered and inspected, together with a statement as to the amount and nature of disease encountered in such pigs.

TABLE V.

Number of pigs killed ...	89
Number of pigs inspected ...	89
Number found diseased:—	
(a) All diseases except Tuberculosis:—	
(i) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	6
(ii) Percentage of number affected with disease other than T.B. ...	6.74
(b) Tuberculosis only:—	
(i) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3
(ii) Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis ...	3.37

ICE CREAM.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, came into operation on the 1st May of this year. The provisions of the Regulations were published in the local press and also the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, which require that premises used for the manufacture or sale of Ice Cream shall be registered with the local authority. The number of such premises on the register at the close of the year was:—

For manufacture and sale (Hot Mix Process)	5
For manufacture and sale (Complete Cold Mix)	8
For sale only	22
Total	35

Although the Regulations do not lay down any standard of bacterial purity for ice cream, nine samples were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. The reports on these samples were, with one exception, satisfactory.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.

The Borough Analysts, Messrs. Bostock, Hill and Rigby, of Birmingham, carry out chemical analyses of food, drugs, water, air, etc., and bacteriological examination of Ice Cream.

Bacteriological examination of food, including examination of milk for methylene blue reduction test, bacterial count, phosphatase test, and the presence of B. Coli, as well as the biological examination of milk for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli are undertaken at the Department of Bacteriology, The Medical School, Hospitals Centre, Birmingham.

TABLE VI.
SUMMARY OF ARTICLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS SUBMITTED
TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST AND THE RESULTS OF THE
ANALYSES.

Article Analysed	Total Samples	Genuine	Not Genuine
Milk	104	104	—
Fat	44	38	6
Herbs, Spices and Flavourings	39	37	2
Cake Mixtures, Leavening agents, etc.	23	22	1
Sundry Drugs and Laxatives	20	19	1
Miscellaneous Unguents	6	6	—
Cordials and Fruit Drinks	15	15	—
Condiments	9	9	—
Meat and Fish Pastes	9	9	—
Sauces, Relishes, etc.	3	1	2
Gravy Salts and Brownings	11	9	2
Junket Powder	2	2	—
Malt Tablets	2	2	—
Barley	2	2	—
Soup	4	4	—
Jam	1	1	—
Pudding Mixture	6	6	—
Dried Milk	1	1	—
Meat Pies	3	3	—
Sausage Rolls	2	2	—
Ice Cream	9	9	—
Coffee and Chicory	3	3	—
	318	304	14

I. INSPECTIONS OF FACTORIES.
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	18	37	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	182	260	24	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	200	297	25	—

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	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) insufficient	3	3	—	2	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	18	18	—	5	—
(c) not separate for sexes	2	2	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	3	—	—
TOTAL	25	25	3	8	—

**Causes of Death at different Periods of Life in the
County Borough of Smethwick, 1947.**

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages	0—	1—	5—	15—	45—	65—
ALL CAUSES	M	471	42	4	6	38	112	269
	F	416	27	2	4	37	97	249
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	M	36	—	—	1	14	18	3
	F	15	—	—	—	10	4	1
7. Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	M	7	—	1	3	3	—	—
	F	3	—	1	1	—	1	—
8. Syphilitic Disease ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
9. Influenza ...	M	3	1	—	—	1	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0. Measles ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
2. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	M	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M), Uterus (F)	M	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
	F	9	—	—	—	—	5	4
4. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	M	9	—	—	—	—	2	7
	F	11	—	—	—	—	5	6
5. Cancer of Breast ...	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	9	—	—	—	—	4	5
6. Cancer of all other Sites ...	M	58	—	—	—	3	20	35
	F	34	—	—	—	1	12	21
7. Diabetes ...	M	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
	F	4	—	—	—	—	2	2
8. Intra Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	M	45	—	—	—	2	8	35
	F	71	—	—	—	2	12	57
9. Heart Disease ...	M	118	—	—	—	2	21	95
	F	105	—	—	—	4	22	79
0. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	M	22	—	—	—	—	4	18
	F	19	—	—	—	1	4	14
1. Bronchitis ...	M	39	—	—	—	4	15	20
	F	19	—	—	—	1	3	15
2. Pneumonia ...	M	20	7	1	1	—	4	7
	F	18	3	1	—	2	3	9
3. Other Respiratory Diseases...	M	2	—	—	—	—	1	1
	F	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
4. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	M	6	—	—	—	1	3	2
	F	3	—	—	—	1	1	1
5. Diarrhoea under two years ...	M	6	6	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
6. Appendicitis ...	M	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Other Digestive Diseases ...	M	11	2	—	1	1	2	5
	F	8	—	—	—	1	2	5
8. Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	M	5	—	—	—	—	2	3
	F	10	—	—	1	1	3	5
9. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
0. Other Maternal Causes ...	F	2	—	—	—	2	—	—
1. Premature Birth...	M	12	12	—	—	—	—	—
	F	6	6	—	—	—	—	—
2. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	M	11	10	—	—	—	1	—
	F	13	12	—	—	—	1	—
3. Suicide ...	M	4	—	—	—	—	2	2
	F	3	—	—	—	2	1	—
4. Road Traffic Accidents ...	M	5	—	1	—	—	—	4
	F	4	—	—	1	1	—	2
5. Other Violent Causes ...	M	9	2	—	—	2	3	2
	F	8	2	—	—	—	—	6
6. All other Causes ...	M	33	1	1	—	4	2	25
	F	31	—	—	—	6	10	15

