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STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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*Annual Report*

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER *of* HEALTH

W. D. CARRUTHERS, M.B., D.P.H.

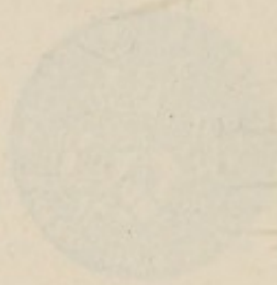
*For the Year 1943*

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1944



STATISTICAL COUNCIL

Annual Report

MEDICAL OFFICER & MEDICAL

W. D. CAMPBELL, M.D.

For the Year 1911



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# STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

### PRELIMINARY NOTE.

The Annual Report for 1943 is again a wartime Report and consequently does not show any special development in public health work, but I am glad to say that in spite of staff difficulties it has been possible to maintain practically all the Services unimpaired by wartime restrictions.

The vital statistics continue to be favourable and, as has been noted in so many years, the birth-rate is higher, and the death-rate lower, than those for England and Wales as a whole. This year records epidemics of influenza, measles and whooping cough, in various parts of the County and there has been an increase in the number of deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia, which has resulted in the general death-rate being slightly higher than in the preceding year.

I must refer readers to the Report for the details of the working of the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme in all its aspects, as well as for the account of the work of the two Laboratories which do so much to safeguard the health of the community.

As was anticipated, there has been an increase—but only a small increase—in the incidence of venereal disease. The arrangements made for treatment have proved adequate, and from the table at the end of the Report it will be noted the actual number of cases, as well as the much larger number of persons who came for examination who were not so suffering.

There has been a comparatively small increase in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified, and a small increase in deaths from this disease, though, compared with our experience in the last Great War, this is almost insignificant, but, having that experience in mind, it is only fair to state that at that time the tuberculosis scheme of treatment was only in its infancy, and in this war the food rationing scheme has enabled everyone to receive an adequate and balanced diet, which is such an important factor in promoting health.

Owing to the length of the war, no housing development has been possible for many years and all interested in the public health of their districts will be actively engaged in considering schemes to improve the environmental conditions of their areas and prevent overcrowding when peacetime conditions obtain, though it will be no easy task that must be faced if the general health is to be maintained in post-war years as it has been during the war.



## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

### 1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

|  |         |                 |
|--|---------|-----------------|
| Area of Administrative County  | .. .. . | (acres) 685,503 |
| Estimated Civilian Population of Area, 1943 (primarily for calculation of Death-rates or incidence of Notifiable Diseases) | .. .. . | 771,600         |
| Rateable Value at 1st April, 1943.   |         |                 |
| General County Purposes)   | .. .. . | £3,408,854      |
| Estimated net product of a penny rate, 1943-44   |         |                 |
| General County Purposes)   | .. .. . | £13,151 3s. 1d. |

### 2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

|                                 |  | Total. | M.     | F.    |                                  |
|---------------------------------|--|--------|--------|-------|----------------------------------|
| Live Births                     | Legitimate ..                              | 14,887 | 7,653  | 7,234 |                                  |
|                                 | Illegitimate..                             | 527    | 285    | 242   |                                  |
|                                 | Total ..                                   | 15,414 | 7,938  | 7,476 | Birth-rate 20.0                  |
| Stillbirths                     | Legitimate ..                              | 505    | 289    | 216   |                                  |
|                                 | Illegitimate..                             | 22     | 9      | 13    |                                  |
|                                 | Total ..                                   | 527    | 298    | 229   | Rate per 1,000 total births 33.1 |
| Deaths                          | .. .. .                                    | 8,515  | 4,403  | 4,112 | Death-rate 11.0                  |
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes :— |  |        |        |       | Rate per 1,000 total births      |
|                                 |  |        | Deaths |       |                                  |
|                                 | Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis .. .. . |        | 13     |       | 0.8                              |
|                                 | Other Maternal causes ..                   |        | 30     |       | 1.9                              |
|                                 | Total ..                                   |        | 43     |       | 2.7                              |

#### Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—

|   |         |       |
|---|---------|-------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births                       | .. .. . | 50    |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births     |         | 49    |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births | .. .. . | 93    |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages)                           | .. .. . | 1,128 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages)                          | .. .. . | 15    |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)                   | .. .. . | 25    |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)          | .. .. . | 73    |



## AREA AND POPULATION.

Since 1934 there has been no alteration in the area of the Administrative County.

The estimated populations have been supplied by the Registrar-General and are primarily given for the calculation of death-rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases amongst civilians, non-civilian deaths and notifications having been excluded from the statistics. Estimates of the numbers and distribution of the non-civilian population are not available and the birth-rates can only be based on the civilian populations of 1943 as used for death-rates.

In the Report for 1939 alterations in the allocation of births and deaths were briefly described.

Until 1940 Areal Comparability Factors supplied by the Registrar-General enabled local death-rates to be adjusted for comparison with the crude death-rate of the Country as a whole or with the similarly adjusted rate of any other local area. Since then, however, the variety and magnitude of local population movements, and the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths, have together combined to frustrate the attempt to secure such comparability, so that the factors cannot be provided under present conditions.

In the following table the census population of the Administrative County for 1931, and the estimated civilian population for 1943, are set forth:—

|              | Census, 1931 | Estimated Population, 1943 |
|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Urban .. ..  | 490,632      | *579,300                   |
| Rural .. ..  | 212,622      | *192,300                   |
| Totals .. .. | †703,254     | 771,600                    |

\*The increase in the population of the Urban Districts, and the decrease in that of the Rural Districts, is due to the changes in Sanitary Districts and boundaries which took place on the 1st April, 1934, under the Staffordshire Review Order, 1934.

†The census population of the Administrative County as constituted at the 31st December, 1943, is less than this figure by 2,902. The estimated population in the portion of the County area transferred to the County Borough of Wolverhampton on the 1st April, 1933, was 5,419, but this decrease was partly neutralised by the fact that on the 1st April, 1932, a portion of the County of



Warwick, with an estimated population of 2,517 was added to the Administrative County.

#### BIRTHS.

The live births registered in the Administrative County for birth-rate purposes numbered 15,414, compared with 14,807 the previous year, the number in the Urban Districts being 11,960 and in the Rural Districts 3,454.

*Stillbirths.*—There were 527 stillbirths registered during the year of which 402 were in Urban and 125 in Rural Districts. The stillbirth rate per thousand of the population for the combined Urban and Rural Districts is 0.68. During the same period the rate for England and Wales was 0.51.

| DISTRICTS  | LIVE BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |                      |                      |
|--|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|  | 5 yrs<br>1889-<br>1893                  | 5 yrs<br>1894-<br>1898 | 5 yrs<br>1899-<br>1903 | 5 yrs<br>1904-<br>1908 | 5 yrs<br>1909-<br>1913 | 5 yrs<br>1914-<br>1918 | 5 yrs<br>1919-<br>1923 | 5 yrs<br>1924-<br>1928 | 5 yrs<br>1929-<br>1933 | 5 yrs<br>1934-<br>1938 | 5 yrs<br>1939-<br>1943 | 1942                 | 1943                 |
| Staffordshire<br>{<br>Combined<br>Urban and<br>Rural<br>Urban ..<br>Rural .. | 33.6<br>35.5<br>30.2                    | 33.2<br>34.7<br>30.5   | 32.5<br>33.6<br>30.2   | 30.3<br>31.5<br>27.0   | 27.8<br>29.2<br>24.4   | 24.0<br>25.0<br>21.6   | 24.1<br>25.0<br>22.0   | 20.2<br>20.7<br>19.0   | 17.6<br>18.1<br>16.6   | 17.1<br>17.5<br>15.7   | 18.3<br>18.9<br>16.7   | 19.0<br>19.5<br>17.4 | 20.0<br>20.6<br>18.0 |
| England and<br>Wales   | 30.8                                    | 29.7                   | 28.7                   | 26.9                   | 24.5                   | 20.4                   | 21.3                   | 17.8                   | 15.6                   | 14.9                   | 15.2                   | 15.8                 | 16.5                 |
| Large Towns in<br>England  | 31.5                                    | 30.7                   | 29.7                   | 27.8                   | 25.2                   | *20.9                  | 22.0                   | 18.2                   | 15.8                   | 14.9                   | 16.3                   | 17.3                 | 18.6                 |

\* 4 years.

# DEATHS.

The number of deaths in the Administrative County amounted to 8,515, the number in the Urban Districts being 6,423, and in the Rural Districts 2,092.

| DISTRICTS                      | DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |              |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
|                                | 5 yrs<br>1889-1893                 | 5 yrs<br>1894-1898 | 5 yrs<br>1899-1903 | 5 yrs<br>1904-1908 | 5 yrs<br>1909-1913 | 5 yrs<br>1914-1918 | 5 yrs<br>1919-1923 | 5 yrs<br>1924-1928 | 5 yrs<br>1929-1933 | 5 yrs<br>1934-1938 | 5 yrs<br>1939-1943 | 1942<br>1943 |
| Combined<br>Urban and<br>Rural | 18.1                               | 16.9               | 16.1               | 14.6               | 14.1               | 15.0               | 12.3               | 11.4               | 11.6               | 11.3               | 11.2               | 10.3         |
| Urban                          | 18.9                               | 17.5               | 16.6               | 15.1               | 14.7               | 15.5               | 12.6               | 11.5               | 11.8               | 11.3               | 11.2               | 10.3         |
| Rural                          | 16.8                               | 15.7               | 15.1               | 13.4               | 12.7               | 13.8               | 11.6               | 11.2               | 11.2               | 11.2               | 11.0               | 10.1         |
| England and<br>Wales           | 19.1                               | 17.4               | 16.9               | 15.3               | 13.9               | 15.2               | 12.5               | 12.0               | 12.3               | 11.9               | 12.6               | 11.6         |
| Large Towns                    | 21.0                               | 19.0               | 18.2               | 15.8               | 14.3               | 15.5               | 12.6               | 12.0               | 12.3               | 12.0               | 14.0               | 13.3         |
| Smaller Towns                  | 17.6                               | 15.9               | 15.7               | 14.9               | 13.6               | 14.1               | 11.5               | 11.0               | 11.2               | 11.4               | 12.4               | 12.1         |



In the following table I have shown the *chief* causes of death for the last ten years, the numbers given for 1943 being 72.4 per cent. of the total deaths:—

TABLE SHOWING CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH.

|   | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| *Zymotic Diseases ..  | 223  | 303  | 217  | 241  | 194  | 193  | 178  | 218  | 187  | 188  |
| Influenza ..  | 139  | 170  | 121  | 359  | 142  | 166  | 207  | 189  | 69   | 263  |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ..                           | 438  | 434  | 358  | 412  | 372  | 368  | 348  | 402  | 373  | 373  |
| Tuberculosis, other forms                                       | 93   | 86   | 74   | 90   | 93   | 75   | 74   | 121  | 92   | 75   |
| Cancer ..   | 963  | 981  | 968  | 989  | 1033 | 1046 | 1096 | 1095 | 1183 | 1128 |
| †Cerebral Hæmorrhage  | 443  | 457  | 477  | 505  | 472  | 492  | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| †Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ..                              | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | 808  | 799  | 756  | 818  |
| Heart Disease ..  | 1556 | 1618 | 1846 | 2006 | 2003 | 2246 | 2024 | 1889 | 1752 | 1898 |
| Bronchitis ..   | 311  | 377  | 366  | 329  | 262  | 273  | 797  | 631  | 439  | 575  |
| Pneumonia ..  | 570  | 562  | 540  | 603  | 633  | 403  | 474  | 514  | 387  | 423  |
| Premature Birth ..  | 412  | 415  | 472  | 482  | 428  | 466  | 217  | 224  | 237  | 212  |
| Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases .. |      |      |      |      |      |      | 231  | 243  | 234  | 210  |

\*Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers, Measles, Small-pox, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria and Diarrhœa.

† Change of Classification.

# MORTALITY AT DIFFERENT AGES FROM VARIOUS CAUSES.

The following table gives the mortality from various causes in different age groups in the Administrative County during 1943:—

| Causes of Death  | Age at Death |               |                |                 |                 |             | TOTAL |
|--|--------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-------|
|  | Under 1      | 1 and under 5 | 5 and under 15 | 15 and under 45 | 45 and under 65 | 65 and over |       |
| 1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .. ..                                | —            | —             | —              | —               | —               | —           | —     |
| 2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. ..  | 6            | 2             | 4              | 3               | 1               | —           | 16    |
| 3. Scarlet Fever .. ..   | —            | 3             | 2              | 2               | —               | —           | 7     |
| 4. Whooping Cough .. ..  | 9            | 16            | —              | —               | —               | —           | 25    |
| 5. Diphtheria .. ..  | 2            | 28            | 26             | 11              | 1               | —           | 68    |
| 6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. ..                            | 2            | 2             | 4              | 231             | 122             | 12          | 373   |
| 7. Other forms of Tuberculosis .. ..                                   | 7            | 21            | 9              | 21              | 12              | 5           | 75    |
| 8. Syphilitic Diseases .. ..   | 1            | —             | —              | 6               | 12              | 8           | 27    |
| 9. Influenza .. ..   | 18           | 7             | 4              | 15              | 78              | 141         | 263   |
| 10. Measles .. ..  | 4            | 9             | 2              | —               | —               | —           | 15    |
| 11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis .. ..                    | —            | 1             | —              | —               | —               | —           | 1     |
| 12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis .. ..                                | —            | 1             | —              | 4               | 1               | 1           | 7     |
| 13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (M) Uterus (F) .. ..        | —            | —             | —              | 6               | 37              | 64          | 107   |
| 14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum .. ..                               | —            | —             | —              | 13              | 91              | 105         | 209   |
| 15. Cancer of Breast .. ..   | —            | —             | —              | 11              | 65              | 49          | 125   |
| 16. Cancer of all other sites .. ..                                    | —            | 7             | 4              | 59              | 245             | 372         | 687   |
| 17. Diabetes .. ..   | —            | 1             | 1              | 11              | 14              | 44          | 71    |
| 18. Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions .. ..                               | 1            | 1             | 1              | 20              | 217             | 578         | 818   |
| 19. Heart Disease .. ..  | —            | —             | 11             | 105             | 408             | 1374        | 1898  |
| 20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System .. ..                         | —            | 1             | —              | 9               | 38              | 184         | 232   |
| 21. Bronchitis .. ..   | 30           | 7             | 1              | 28              | 154             | 355         | 575   |
| 22. Pneumonia .. ..  | 131          | 34            | 15             | 53              | 78              | 112         | 423   |
| 23. Other Respiratory Diseases .. ..                                   | 2            | —             | 4              | 14              | 50              | 48          | 118   |
| 24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum .. ..                                 | —            | —             | —              | 7               | 30              | 31          | 68    |
| 25. Diarrhoea under 2 years .. ..                                      | 72           | 1             | —              | —               | —               | —           | 73    |
| 26. Appendicitis .. ..   | 1            | 2             | 2              | 12              | 16              | 5           | 38    |
| 27. Other Digestive Diseases .. ..                                     | 14           | 11            | 8              | 19              | 55              | 74          | 181   |
| 28. Nephritis .. ..  | 1            | 2             | 4              | 42              | 76              | 89          | 214   |
| 29. Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis .. ..                           | —            | —             | —              | 13              | —               | —           | 13    |
| 30. Other Maternal Causes .. ..  | —            | —             | —              | 29              | 1               | —           | 30    |
| 31. Premature Birth .. ..  | 212          | —             | —              | —               | —               | —           | 212   |
| 32. Congenital Malformations; Birth Injuries; Infantile Diseases .. .. | 198          | 4             | 1              | 4               | 3               | —           | 210   |
| 33. Suicide .. ..  | —            | —             | —              | 21              | 29              | 14          | 64    |
| 34. Road Traffic Accidents .. ..                                       | —            | 8             | 19             | 25              | 20              | 15          | 87    |
| 35. Other Violent Causes .. ..   | 16           | 19            | 18             | 57              | 39              | 62          | 211   |
| 36. All other causes .. ..   | 48           | 22            | 25             | 93              | 112             | 674         | 974   |
| Totals .. ..   | 775          | 210           | 165            | 944             | 2005            | 4416        | 8515  |



The following table has been prepared covering the last 24 years, in which the percentage of deaths under 45 years of age is worked out in relation to the total deaths at all ages, and in the table the sexes are divided. Speaking generally, in 1943 24.6 per cent. of all deaths occurred under the age of 45.

DEATHS UNDER 45 YEARS OF AGE—MALE AND FEMALE—SHEWING  
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS (ALL AGES).

| YEAR | MALE               |                    |               | FEMALE             |                    |               |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
|      | Deaths<br>all ages | Deaths<br>under 45 | % of<br>Total | Deaths<br>all ages | Deaths<br>under 45 | % of<br>Total |
| 1920 | 4626               | 2295               | 49.61         | 4084               | 1935               | 47.38         |
| 1921 | 4545               | 2120               | 46.64         | 3985               | 1759               | 44.14         |
| 1922 | 4534               | 1943               | 42.58         | 4191               | 1793               | 42.78         |
| 1923 | 4197               | 1816               | 43.27         | 3788               | 1556               | 41.08         |
| 1924 | 4332               | 1795               | 41.43         | 3906               | 1520               | 38.91         |
| 1925 | 4556               | 1919               | 42.12         | 4161               | 1724               | 41.43         |
| 1926 | 4148               | 1658               | 39.97         | 3808               | 1441               | 37.84         |
| 1927 | 4458               | 1766               | 39.61         | 4082               | 1564               | 38.31         |
| 1928 | 3965               | 1449               | 36.54         | 3563               | 1180               | 33.12         |
| 1929 | 4813               | 1827               | 37.96         | 4293               | 1453               | 33.84         |
| 1930 | 4100               | 1473               | 35.92         | 3672               | 1211               | 32.98         |
| 1931 | 4376               | 1472               | 33.64         | 3933               | 1272               | 32.34         |
| 1932 | 4190               | 1425               | 34.01         | 3824               | 1174               | 30.70         |
| 1933 | 4213               | 1415               | 33.59         | 3900               | 1207               | 30.95         |
| 1934 | 4105               | 1261               | 30.72         | 3655               | 1054               | 28.84         |
| 1935 | 4284               | 1354               | 31.61         | 3802               | 1159               | 30.48         |
| 1936 | 4203               | 1266               | 30.12         | 4022               | 1100               | 27.35         |
| 1937 | 4793               | 1484               | 30.96         | 4075               | 1041               | 25.55         |
| 1938 | 4497               | 1296               | 28.82         | 3915               | 1065               | 27.20         |
| 1939 | 4498               | 1223               | 27.19         | 4038               | 973                | 24.10         |
| 1940 | 4899               | 1315               | 26.84         | 4246               | 1069               | 25.18         |
| 1941 | 4882               | 1436               | 29.41         | 4110               | 1086               | 26.42         |
| 1942 | 4257               | 1150               | 27.01         | 3742               | 970                | 25.92         |
| 1943 | 4403               | 1090               | 24.76         | 4112               | 1004               | 24.42         |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE  
AREA.

*Local Government Act, 1929.*

In view of the war, the question of hospital provision remains in abeyance and there has been no further development during 1943.

*Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.*

There has been no alteration in this scheme.



### *Institutional Provision for the Care of Mental Defectives.*

On the 1st January, 1944, the following certified cases were chargeable to the County Council:—

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Great Barr Park Colony .. .. .                            | 440   |
| Stallington Hall .. .. .                                  | 50    |
| Other Institutions (including State Institutions) .. .. . | 48    |
|   | <hr/> |
|   | 538   |
|   | <hr/> |

Of the above, 49 cases were on licence from Great Barr and 7 from Stallington Hall.

In addition, there were 5 certified patients under guardianship chargeable to the County Council.

### NURSING IN THE HOME.

#### *(a) General Nursing.*

The only development in this service during the year was the establishment of an independent Nursing Association at Rushall. At the 31st December, therefore, general nursing was provided in the Administrative County by 100 local Associations affiliated to the County Nursing Association, and 9 which work independently.

In addition to the Administrative County, the County Nursing Association have six affiliated Associations working in the City of Stoke-on-Trent and the County Boroughs of Walsall and Wolverhampton.

#### *(b) Infectious Diseases.*

During 1943, no application was received for the nursing facilities available in the County Health Visiting Area in the event of an epidemic of measles or diarrhoea.

### MIDWIVES ACT, 1936.

There is nothing of an exceptional nature to report regarding the salaried midwifery service, inaugurated in 1937, which continued to be satisfactorily administered by 92 of the local Nursing Associations affiliated to the County Organisation and the independent Association at Stafford. In addition, the work of whole-time midwives in four areas is directly controlled from the County Nursing Association Headquarters. Two changes only occurred in the nursing personnel, viz., (1) at Chasetown it was decided not to replace a whole-time State Certified Midwife who had



resigned, and (2) owing to the continued growth of midwifery in Coseley, it was agreed that the whole-time staff be increased from 5 to 6, the district to be wholly self-supporting for relief purposes.

Great difficulty is still experienced in filling vacancies, but, whenever possible, the practice of appointing trained nurse midwives to fill posts vacated by midwives holding the Certificate of the Central Midwives' Board only is put into effect.

In my last Report I mentioned that during 1942 the County Council, under the powers given by Regulation 33 of the Defence Regulations, 1939, had made Orders temporarily restoring to the Midwives' Roll the names of four women who had surrendered their Certificates and claimed compensation under the Midwives Act, 1936, and six similar applications, affecting five women, were acceded to in 1943. Two were permitted temporarily to join the whole-time staff of Nursing Associations, two the service of the County Public Assistance Committee and the other to undertake duty at a private Maternity Home. The remaining Order permitted one of the women subsequently engaged by the Public Assistance Committee to attend a private patient in the first instance. One of the two women desirous of being employed by Nursing Associations had been granted an Order during the previous year, but it became invalid inasmuch as she was not appointed at a County Public Assistance Institution.

I give below a summary of the staff placed in districts, *i.e.*, excluding relief nurses, at the end of the year. In addition, there were four unfilled vacancies on the staffs of affiliated Associations, two whole-time caused by the resignations of State Certified Midwives only, and two part-time, a Queen's Nurse-Midwife and a Village Nurse-Midwife having terminated their engagements.

|  | WHOLE-TIME MIDWIVES |                   |        | PART-TIME MIDWIVES |                   |        |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|--------|--------------------|-------------------|--------|
|  | Queen's             | S.R.N.,<br>S.C.M. | S.C.M. | Queen's            | S.R.N.,<br>S.C.M. | S.C.M. |
| Affiliated Associations ..                       | 5                   | 21                | 37     | 24                 | 7                 | 43     |
| Unaffiliated Association ..                      | 3                   | 1                 | 1      | —                  | —                 | —      |
| County Nursing Association<br>Headquarters .. .. | —                   | 2                 | 15     | —                  | —                 | —      |
| Totals ..  | 8                   | 24                | 53     | 24                 | 7                 | 43     |

S.R.N.—State Registered Nurse. S.C.M.—State Certified Midwife.

As will be seen, there were 159 midwives, 85 whole-time and 74 part-time.



The central relief staff at the close of 1943 consisted of 11 nurses, viz., 3 Queen's, 2 S.R.N., S.C.M., and 6 holding the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board only.

The Parish of Tutbury (Tutbury R.D.) which is the only area not included in the scheme, is served by an entirely independent unaffiliated Nursing Association.

### MIDWIVES ACTS, 1902—1926.

The area for which the County Council is the Local Supervising Authority for the purpose of the Midwives Acts is the whole of the Administrative County with the exception of the Municipal Boroughs of Rowley Regis and Tipton. There are 23 Urban Districts and 10 Rural, with an estimated population of 690,560. In addition to the two districts mentioned, the area in which the County Council is responsible for maternity and child welfare purposes, does not include the Municipal Boroughs of Bilston, Newcastle, Stafford and Wednesbury, and the Urban Districts of Cannock and Coseley, so that the population in this respect is reduced to 461,630.

For inspection purposes the area is divided into three districts, North, Central and South, and there is a non-medical Supervisor resident in each. With the supervision of midwives are combined the inspection of Health Visitors and School Nurses, other activities in connection with the Child Welfare Scheme, etc. During the year 1,287 visits and interviews were undertaken for midwifery purposes.

On the 31st December there were 209 domiciliary midwives resident in the County area who were actually practising, 159 district (85 whole-time, 74 part-time) and 11 relief midwives employed by Nursing Associations under the Scheme, and 39 in independent practice. Included in the latter figure are 7 midwives who were also engaged at registered Maternity Homes, and in addition, there were 18 maternity home midwives who do not undertake domiciliary cases. The Assistant Superintendent of the County Nursing Association and 2 salaried General Nurses also notified to cover probable rare relief duty. Ten out-of-area midwives including two employed by a Nursing Association whose area extends into Staffordshire, were in active practice at the end of the year. Eleven other midwives, 9 resident within the County and 2 outside, notified their intention to practise but attended no cases. None of the midwives resident within the County is *bona-fide*.



Since the Act came into operation in 1902, the names of 115 midwives have been removed from the Roll in consequence of action taken by the Local Supervising Authority.

No applications were received during the year from independent midwives for compensation for loss of practice consequent upon suspension from duty, they themselves not being in default, after contact with infection.

As will be seen from the following table, the majority of the midwives resident in the County area are under 45 years of age :—

| Salaried :—                  | 21-44 | 45-64 | 65 and upwards. |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| District .. .. .             | 82    | 75    | 2               |
| Relief Staff .. .. .         | 7     | 4     | —               |
| Independent .. .. .          | 18    | 18    | 3               |
| Maternity Home Midwives only | 7     | 11    | —               |
|                              | —     | —     | —               |
|                              | 114   | 108   | 5               |
|                              | —     | —     | —               |

During the year, 11,127 cases, 10,776 live and stillbirths and 351 miscarriages and abortions, were attended by domiciliary midwives, and the following summary indicates the numbers taken by each class of midwife :—

| Salaried :—                                    | Cases. |
|--|--------|
| Whole-time .. .. .                             | 7,436  |
| Part-time .. .. .                              | 2,452  |
| Independent resident in the County .. .. .     | 1,135  |
| Out-of-area, including Association midwives .. | 104    |
|  | —      |
|  | 11,127 |
|  | —      |

Roughly, the average individual number of cases taken by whole-time salaried midwives, based on the normal staff of 87, was 85.

In the table which follows more detailed information of the cases attended is given :—



|                            | Registered Births (Live and Still-born) | *As Midwives |            | †As Maternity Nurses |            | ‡ Births in respect of which no record is available |            |
|----------------------------|---|--------------|------------|----------------------|------------|---|------------|
|                            |   | Births       | % of total | Births               | % of total | No.   | % of total |
| Live and Stillbirths       | 14,093                                  | 8,552        | 60.7       | 2,224                | 15.8       | 3,317   | 23.5       |
| Abortions and Miscarriages | —                                       | 226          | —          | 125                  | —          | —   | —          |

\* Doctors not having been engaged for the confinements.

† Doctors having been engaged by the patients.

‡ These figures are in respect of births which (i) were attended by doctors, no midwife having been engaged; (ii) took place outside the Administrative County; (iii) took place in Institutions.

Five hundred and ninety live and stillbirths, together with 7 abortions or miscarriages, occurred at Public Assistance Institutions, and 1,118 at Maternity Homes, 1 abortion or a miscarriage also occurring at the latter.

The rules of the Central Midwives Board require certain notifications by midwives, and particulars are given in the following table. The last six years only have been included in view of the curtailment of the area in 1937.

| Year. | * No. of Births attended by Midwives. | Medical Aid Notices. | Stillbirths. | Death of Mother. | Death of Child. | Contact with Infection. | Laying out the Dead. | Artificial Feeding. |
|-------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1938  | 8730                                  | 4283                 | 222          | 9                | 174             | 158                     | 44                   | 249                 |
| 1939  | 8778                                  | 4297                 | 222          | 5                | 206             | 161                     | 38                   | 262                 |
| 1940  | 8714                                  | 3822                 | 206          | 8                | 176             | 157                     | 31                   | 253                 |
| 1941  | 9101                                  | 3966                 | 220          | 8                | 187             | 151                     | 38                   | 280                 |
| 1942  | 9325                                  | 3811                 | 214          | 7                | 161             | 118                     | 28                   | 331                 |
| 1943  | 9190                                  | 3546                 | 172          | 3                | 159             | 125                     | 17                   | 374                 |

\* Including midwifery cases in Maternity Homes

The percentage of doctors' calls to the number of births attended by midwives in 1943 was 38.6. In 1915 the corresponding figure was 10.7 per cent, and the large gradual increase since can be ascribed to the trained type of midwife now practising.



The following figures show the causes which occasioned the sending for medical assistance :—

PREGNANCY :

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Disproportion .. .. .                       | 86  |
| Query Presentation .. .. .                  | 31  |
| Threatened Abortion .. .. .                 | 70  |
| Puffiness of face and hands .. .. .         | 36  |
| Varicose Veins .. .. .                      | 15  |
| Fits .. .. .                                | 7   |
| Vaginal Discharge .. .. .                   | 12  |
| Unsatisfactory condition and general health | 211 |
| Excessive Sickness .. .. .                  | 11  |
| Loss of Blood .. .. .                       | 69  |
| Sugar .. .. .                               | 1   |
| Albuminuria .. .. .                         | 103 |
| Blood Pressure .. .. .                      | 24  |
| Cardiac .. .. .                             | 7   |
| Sores of Genitals .. .. .                   | 1   |
| Total .. .. .                               | 684 |

LABOUR :

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Premature Birth .. .. .                 | 29    |
| Abnormal Presentation .. .. .           | 141   |
| Delayed or Difficult .. .. .            | 583   |
| Placenta Prævia .. .. .                 | 7     |
| Hæmorrhage Ante-partum .. .. .          | 42    |
| Ditto Post-partum .. .. .               | 72    |
| Eclampsia .. .. .                       | 4     |
| Prolapse of Cord .. .. .                | 5     |
| Lacerated Perinæum .. .. .              | 929   |
| Retained Placenta and Membranes .. .. . | 67    |
| Unsatisfactory Condition .. .. .        | 95    |
| Inertia .. .. .                         | 79    |
| Abortion .. .. .                        | 136   |
| Albuminuria .. .. .                     | 6     |
| Purulent Discharge .. .. .              | 3     |
| Total .. .. .                           | 2,198 |

LYING-IN :

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| High Temperature .. .. .                  | 112 |
| Inflamed and painful Leg .. .. .          | 30  |
| Abdominal Swelling and Tenderness .. .. . | 1   |
| Unsatisfactory Condition .. .. .          | 60  |

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Offensive Lochia .. .. .              | 1     |
| Unusual Swelling of Breasts .. ..     | 30    |
| Excessive or Prolonged Bleeding .. .. | 2     |
| Total .. ..                           | 236   |
| CHILD :                               |       |
| Deformities .. .. .                   | 25    |
| Convulsions .. .. .                   | 14    |
| Inflamed and discharging eyes .. ..   | 135   |
| Feebleness and prematurity .. ..      | 92    |
| Unsatisfactory Condition .. ..        | 114   |
| Rash .. .. .                          | 11    |
| Pemphigus .. .. .                     | 9     |
| Spina Bifida .. .. .                  | 8     |
| Hare Lip and Cleft Palate .. ..       | 1     |
| Jaundice .. .. .                      | 11    |
| Hæmorrhage—Bowel .. ..                | 4     |
| Do. —Mouth .. ..                      | 3     |
| Do. —Navel .. ..                      | 1     |
| Total .. ..                           | 428   |
| Grand Total .. ..                     | 3,546 |

During the financial year ended March, 1944, 3,482 notifications of sending for medical help were received, and, out of this number, Medical Practitioners claimed their fees from the County Council in 1,267 cases, that is, 36.4 per cent. of the possible claims.

In the last five financial years the fees paid by the County Council were as follows :—

| Finan-<br>cial<br>Year | No. of<br>Notifications<br>of sending for<br>Medical Aid | No. of<br>Claims<br>received | Percentage<br>of claims<br>received to<br>Notifications | Total<br>amount paid<br>to Doctors<br>during year | Amounts<br>recovered<br>from Patients<br>during year |
|------------------------|--|------------------------------|---|---|--|
|                        |  |                              |   | £ s. d.   | £ s. d.  |
| 1938-39                | 4402   | 2424                         | 55  | 3513 18 9   | 1593 16 0  |
| 1939-40                | 4256   | 2319                         | 54  | 3614 6 6  | 1576 17 10   |
| 1940-41                | 3944   | 1959                         | 50  | 3167 16 0   | 2026 16 2  |
| 1941-42                | 3920   | 1870                         | 48  | 3420 8 4  | 1939 8 3   |
| 1942-43                | 3883   | 1680                         | 43  | 3067 0 0  | 2273 17 7  |
| 1943-44                | 3482   | 1267                         | 36  | 2322 2 6  | 1548 3 0   |



As from the 13th February, 1943, the scale for necessitous cases, adopted in 1934, was amended to provide for deductions of—(1) 9s. 6d. per week for the first child, 8s. 6d. for the second and 7s. 6d. for the third and subsequent children up to 14 years of age or receiving full-time education, and (2) in respect of earnings other than of the husband. The amounts included in the previous scale were 5s. 0d. and 4s. 0d. per week, respectively.

#### INFLAMED AND DISCHARGING EYES.

| Year | CASES    |         |                       |            | Vision Un-impaired | Vision Impaired | Total Blindness | Deaths |
|------|----------|---------|-----------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
|      | Notified | TREATED |                       |            |                    |                 |                 |        |
|      |          | At Home | In Hospital In-pat'nt | Out-pat'nt |                    |                 |                 |        |
| 1938 | 193      | 166     | 11                    | 16         | 191                | —               | —               | 2      |
| 1939 | 203      | 180     | 20                    | 3          | 203                | —               | —               | —      |
| 1940 | 162      | 145     | 12                    | 5          | 160                | —               | —               | 2      |
| 1941 | 183      | 165     | 11                    | 7          | 181                | —               | —               | 2      |
| 1942 | 167      | 149     | 14                    | 4          | 167                | —               | —               | —      |
| 1943 | 135      | 117     | 13                    | 5          | 135                | —               | —               | —      |

The 135 cases in 1943, 116 of which were not severe, include medical aid calls for all unsatisfactory eye conditions and not notified cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum only. The County Council are concerned with the notification and treatment of the latter condition in their Health Visiting Area, which is dealt with later in the Report.

#### STILLBIRTHS.

In the area now administered by the County Council under the Midwives Acts, 469 stillbirths were registered during the year.

As already indicated, 172 were reported by midwives, a figure which has varied little during the last 20 years, and the causes were as follows:—

|                                    |    |    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage             | .. | .. | 2  |
| Cord round Neck                    | .. | .. | 6  |
| Cord Prolapse                      | .. | .. | 3  |
| Deformities                        | .. | .. | 17 |
| Difficult Labour                   | .. | .. | 12 |
| Fall and Shock                     | .. | .. | 1  |
| Maceration                         | .. | .. | 66 |
| Malpresentation                    | .. | .. | 6  |
| Premature                          | .. | .. | 43 |
| Spina Bifida                       | .. | .. | 5  |
| Unsatisfactory Condition of Mother | .. | .. | 7  |
| Placenta Prævia                    | .. | .. | 3  |
| Precipitate Labour                 | .. | .. | 1  |



## PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS.

Puerperal Pyrexia is defined as any febrile condition occurring in women within 21 days after childbirth or miscarriage, in which a temperature of 100.4 or more has been sustained during a period of 24 hours, or has recurred during that period.

The following are particulars of the notifications from the Administrative County during 1943:—

|                    | In area of County<br>Local Supervising<br>Authority. |    | In areas of<br>other<br>Authorities. |    | Total. |
|--------------------|--|----|--------------------------------------|----|--------|
| Urban Districts .. | 85   | .. | 2                                    | .. | 87     |
| Rural Districts .. | 18   | .. | —                                    | .. | 18     |
|                    | —  |    | —                                    |    | —      |
|                    | 103  |    | 2                                    |    | 105    |
|                    | —  |    | —                                    |    | —      |

The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia per thousand total births (live and still) for Staffordshire is 6.59, as compared with 11.68 for England and Wales.

As will have been observed from a previous table, in the area administered by the County Council as Local Supervising Authority the midwives summoned medical assistance for rises of temperature on 112 occasions. These were specially investigated by the Supervisors, and it was found that in 67 instances the unsatisfactory conditions were due to abnormalities which could be said to arise directly from childbirth.

The facilities provided in the Health Visiting Area are mentioned in the appropriate section of the Report.

## MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

The County Council are responsible for the registration and inspection of these Homes in their area as Local Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts.

At the end of the year the number of premises registered, viz., 25, was the same as at the end of 1942. In 1943, of four applications for registration received three were granted, and three Homes were given up. Of the Homes registered 8 only have more than two beds each, and 21 are solely for midwifery and maternity cases. In addition, four exemptions previously allowed were continued.

The County Council have not delegated any of their powers under Section 194 of the Public Health Act, 1936, or earlier provisions, nor have any applications been received for such delegation.



## COUNTY COUNCIL MATERNITY UNITS.

The only variation to report is that on the 1st January, 1943, the special maternity unit at the Wordsley Hospital, which had been suspended owing to the operation of the Emergency Hospital Scheme, was returned to its normal use, which meant an extremely useful addition to the maternity provision of the County.

At the 31st December, therefore, the maternity beds (exclusive of those for isolation and labour) available at Public Assistance Institutions were as follows:—

|                               |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Cannock                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5  |
| Leek                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Lichfield                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Sedgley : House               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8  |
| Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home |    |    |    |    |    | 11 |
| Stafford..                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5  |
| Wordsley                      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 |

The arrangements made by the County under their Health Visiting Scheme are dealt with in the appropriate section of the Report. In addition, however, arrangements exist at the Mrs. Legge Memorial Home, Wolverhampton, for the reception of prospective unmarried mothers. In 1943, three cases were admitted.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In the accompanying table the maternal mortality rate for the Administrative County, showing the deaths per thousand (live and still) births in the last ten years, is given.

| Year | Total<br>(Live and Still)<br>Births | DEATHS FROM         |  | Maternal Mortality<br>per 1,000 (Live and Still)<br>Births |                      |
|------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|--|--|----------------------|
|      |                                     | Puerperal<br>Sepsis | Other<br>Diseases<br>and<br>Accidents<br>of<br>Parturition | Staffs.  | England<br>and Wales |
| 1934 | 12,497                              | 28                  | 27   | 4.4  | 4.4                  |
| 1935 | 12,751                              | 20                  | 35   | 4.3  | 3.9                  |
| 1936 | 12,995                              | 14                  | 33   | 3.6  | 3.6                  |
| 1937 | 13,485                              | 15                  | 33   | 3.6  | 3.1                  |
| 1938 | 13,834                              | 12                  | 28   | 2.9  | 3.0                  |
| 1939 | 13,874                              | 13                  | 28   | 3.0  | 2.8                  |
| 1940 | 14,069                              | 8                   | 28   | 2.6  | 2.2*                 |
| 1941 | 14,372                              | 16                  | 31   | 3.3  | 2.2*                 |
| 1942 | 15,351                              | 14                  | 31   | 2.9  | 2.0*                 |
| 1943 | 15,941                              | 13                  | 30   | 2.7  | 2.3                  |

\* Abortions excluded.



The position this year is quite satisfactory for the present downward tendency, which commenced last year, continues, and with approximately six hundred more births than in 1942 there were two less maternal deaths. The rate of 2.6 in 1940 was the lowest ever recorded in the Administrative County, and it is gratifying to see that the current one is only slightly in excess of that figure.

This year, for the first time since 1939, the rate for England and Wales is complete, for deaths following abortions have been included, and can properly be compared with that for the County. In view of the nature of our area, it is always anticipated that the national rate will be the lower, but this year the difference is not exceptionally marked.

From the information available it is not possible to arrive at an exact national mean rate for the ten year period shown in the table, but the mean rate for the County is 3.3.

Forty of the maternal deaths occurred in the area of the Local Supervising Authority. Three were reported by midwives in accordance with their rules, *i.e.*, the deaths occurred whilst they were actually in attendance as midwives or maternity nurses.

The services provided by the County Council in connection with the efforts to reduce maternal mortality are detailed in the Health Visiting Section of the Report.

### **INFANTILE MORTALITY.**

The infant mortality rate for 1943 was 50 per thousand live births, as against 52 in the previous year. The rate in Urban Districts was 52 compared with 55 last year, and in the Rural Districts 45 compared with 41. In England and Wales in 1943 the infant mortality rate was 49 which was similar to that for the previous year. In the table which follows are shown the rates for the last ten years and also those for England and Wales as a whole. Also shown in this table are the various causes of infantile deaths in Staffordshire for the same period.



| CAUSES OF DEATH.   | TOTAL DEATHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE. |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|  | 1934                                | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| Measles .. .. .  | 13                                  | 8    | 7    | 7    | 2    | 6    | 1    | 7    | 5    | 4    |
| Scarlet Fever .. .. .  | —                                   | —    | —    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | 1    | —    |
| Whooping Cough .. .. .   | 21                                  | 29   | 18   | 19   | 14   | 15   | 10   | 29   | 20   | 9    |
| Diphtheria .. .. .   | —                                   | 3    | 4    | 2    | 2    | —    | 1    | —    | 1    | 2    |
| Influenza .. .. .  | 3                                   | 5    | 3    | 13   | 5    | 7    | 13   | 10   | 7    | 18   |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. .. .   | —                                   | 4    | 9    | 6    | 3    | 1    | 6    | 7    | 4    | 6    |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. .. .                           | —                                   | 2    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 2    | 2    |
| Other Forms of Tuberculosis .. .. .                                  | 7                                   | 12   | 8    | 8    | 15   | 8    | 4    | 10   | 8    | 7    |
| Syphilitic Diseases .. .. .  | 2                                   | 2    | 2    | —    | 4    | 1    | 3    | 3    | 2    | 1    |
| Cancer .. .. .   | —                                   | 4    | —    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions .. .. .                               | —                                   | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | 1    | —    |
| Heart Disease .. .. .  | —                                   | 1    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Other Circulatory Diseases .. .. .                                   | 1                                   | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Bronchitis .. .. .   | 27                                  | 42   | 31   | 29   | 25   | 34   | 31   | 56   | 26   | 30   |
| Pneumonia .. .. .  | 90                                  | 127  | 121  | 115  | 120  | 103  | 116  | 162  | 100  | 131  |
| Other Respiratory Diseases .. .. .                                   | 1                                   | 1    | 5    | 2    | 4    | 2    | 5    | 4    | —    | 2    |
| Diarrhoea .. .. .  | 55                                  | 78   | 66   | 52   | 52   | 55   | 65   | 63   | 83   | 72   |
| Appendicitis .. .. .   | —                                   | 1    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | 1    |
| Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .   | —                                   | —    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .                                     | 10                                  | 10   | 11   | 6    | 5    | 14   | 8    | 12   | 9    | 14   |
| Nephritis .. .. .  | 1                                   | —    | 2    | —    | 1    | —    | 1    | 2    | —    | 1    |
| Premature Birth .. .. .  | 401                                 | 403  | 465  | 474  | 415  | 454  | 216  | 224  | 237  | 212  |
| Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases .. .. . | 15                                  | 17   | 20   | 17   | 18   | 14   | 13   | 223  | 211  | 198  |
| Violence .. .. .   | 42                                  | 58   | 58   | 35   | 63   | 54   | 40   | 28   | 15   | 16   |
| Other Defined Diseases .. .. .                                       | —                                   | 1    | —    | 1    | —    | —    | —    | 38   | 31   | 48   |
| Causes Ill-defined or unknown .. .. .                                | —                                   | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    | —    |
| TOTALS .. .. .   | 689                                 | 808  | 837  | 789  | 751  | 770  | 748  | 879  | 763  | 775  |
| Death Rates per 1,000 Live Births.                                   | 57                                  | 66   | 67   | 61   | 57   | 58   | 55   | 63   | 52   | 50   |
| Staffordshire .. .. .  | 59                                  | 57   | 59   | 58   | 53   | 50   | 55   | 59   | 49   | 49   |
| England and Wales .. .. .  | ..                                  | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   | ..   |



There is a further improvement in the infantile mortality rate which, during the period under review, was reduced to 50, the lowest ever recorded in the Administrative County. This is a most satisfactory result as it was obtained during the fourth year of war. As regards England and Wales as a whole, it will be observed that the rate is similar to that of the previous year, so that the comparison with the Staffordshire result is more favourable. As remarked last year, it is hoped that the future will see continued improvement, but there can be no certainty in view of the many factors involved. As will be seen from the introduction to this section, there was an improvement in the Urban Districts but, unfortunately, a less favourable result in the Rural areas. In 8 only of the 25 Urban Districts were higher infant mortality rates recorded as compared with 1942, whereas 6 of the 10 Rural Districts produced increases.

It will be observed from the previous table that there was an increase in the deaths from respiratory diseases but that less toll was taken by infectious diseases, diarrhoea, and the group described as "Premature Birth, Congenital Malformations, etc." Whilst the figure for diarrhoea is still far from satisfactory, it is gratifying to see some improvement and probably the hope I expressed last year, when the number of deaths from this cause was the largest since 1932, that the adverse position—probably partly due to unsatisfactory social conditions which are inevitable in some areas in time of war—would be a passing phase, will materialise.

As stated on previous occasions, the largest group of deaths each year due to the causes "Premature Birth, Congenital Malformations, etc." is not altogether unexpected, as the number has been fairly constant for many years. With more children born during 1943, however, a reduction of 38 deaths, compared with the previous year, and the lowest total since 1935, must be considered satisfactory. The following table has been prepared to show the statistics relating to this group for the last decade.

| Year. | Live Births. | Deaths of Children under one year of age from Congenital Debility, Malformations, Premature Birth, &c. | Death-rate per 1,000 Live Births. |
|-------|--------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1934  | 11,951       | 401  | 33.5                              |
| 1935  | 12,174       | 403  | 33.1                              |
| 1936  | 12,441       | 465  | 37.4                              |
| 1937  | 12,885       | 474  | 36.8                              |
| 1938  | 13,252       | 415  | 31.3                              |
| 1939  | 13,324       | 454  | 34.1                              |
| 1940  | 13,570       | 430  | 31.7                              |
| 1941  | 13,861       | 447  | 32.2                              |
| 1942  | 14,807       | 448  | 30.3                              |
| 1943  | 15,414       | 410  | 26.6                              |



One hundred and fifty-nine deaths were reported by the midwives, having occurred whilst they were in attendance. Eighty-four of these were due to feebleness and prematurity, and 31 to deformity and malformation.

### **HOSPITALS.**

In my 1930 and subsequent Annual Reports details and developments of the County's Hospital Services were given, and I have already mentioned that in view of the war the question of hospital provision under the Local Government Act, 1929, still remains in abeyance.

At the County Council's Standon Hall Orthopædic Hospital 120 beds are still available for patients of the various Committees, the war having postponed the contemplated extensions. During 1943, 153 cases were treated for the Joint Board for Tuberculosis, 61 for the Education Committee, 6 for the Public Assistance Committee, 24 under the Health Visiting Scheme, 3 for outside Authorities, and 1 under the Emergency Hospital Scheme.

### **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**

The number of Clinics and Treatment Centres was set out in detail in the 1930 Report, and the changes in each subsequent year have been stated in my Annual Report.

The changes in Infant Welfare Centres which have taken place during 1943 are given in the section of the Report below, dealing with the Health Visiting Scheme.

### **HEALTH VISITING SCHEME.**

As I have already mentioned, the County Health Visiting Area consists of 17 Urban and 10 Rural Districts which have an estimated total population of 461,630.

This year there is nothing of an exceptional nature to report on the scheme generally, and the following are brief details of the various activities :—

#### **INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.**

One new Welfare Centre was established during 1943, at Forest Road (Tutbury R.D.) where fortnightly sessions on Wednesday afternoons commenced on the 16th June. At Tettenhall new premises were occupied in October, when the Centre again became combined with a School Clinic. At the close of the year, therefore, there were 37 Combined Centres (*i.e.*, Minor Ailments Clinics and Welfare Centres) and 30 Welfare Centres only. In addition, there is one voluntary Welfare Centre.



The only other changes in this well-developed Service were weekly, in place of fortnightly, sessions at Walton (Stone) as from the 7th July, and new accommodation at Kidsgrove, which was occupied from the 1st March.

In total, 3,941 Welfare Centre sessions were held in 1943, against 3,926 in the previous year, 67,770 attendances being made by children under one year of age, and 50,494 by children between one and five years. The numbers of children in these groups who attended for the first time during the year were 5,367 and 1,763, respectively. At the end of the year the number of children on the books at the Centres was 4,602 under one year, and 5,934 over one and under five.

#### ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

In order to overcome travelling difficulties in the Brierley Hill area a special clinic on Thursday mornings weekly was established at Kingswinford, and sessions commenced in February. At the same time, the Brierley Hill Clinic, which formerly occupied one whole-day each week, was reduced to afternoon sessions only. With the change of premises at Tettenhall full ante-natal equipment was provided and special sessions on alternate Thursday mornings commenced in October. In view of these developments, at the end of 1943 there were 38 Centres fully equipped for ante-natal purposes, special sessions being held at 23 of them. This compares with 37 and 21, respectively, at the close of the previous year.

During 1943, 3,224 expectant mothers attended the Clinics, with a total attendance of 11,558.

Where treatment is required, the patient is referred to her own doctor, through the medium of the midwife, if one has been engaged, except for unsatisfactory dental conditions. Treatment of the latter can be given under the County Council Scheme, and the patients are offered the facilities provided.

#### RURAL ANTE-NATAL SCHEME.

Under this scheme, which operates mainly in rural areas where there are no Ante-natal Clinics, 543 expectant mothers were examined by their own doctors, compared with 655 in 1942.

As a result, it was found that 449 confinements could safely be conducted by the midwives at the patients' homes, but in 25 instances special advice was necessary.

In 54 cases, further examination only was considered desirable, but in other instances this requirement was coupled with additional



recommendations, as follows:—Attendance of doctors at confinements 5, and specialists' opinions 4.

In the remaining cases the following recommendations were made as a result of the initial examinations:—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| A doctor to be present at the confinement  | 4  |
| Confinement in hospital .. .. .  | 11 |
| Specialist opinion and hospital .. .. .  | 3  |
| Specialist opinion only .. .. .  | 10 |
| Confinement in institutions because of<br>physical condition and unsatisfactory<br>home surroundings .. .. . | 3  |

In addition, 11 of the women were found to require dental treatment, which was offered under the County Council Scheme.

#### CONSULTING OBSTETRICIANS.

Under this important service the General Practitioners can, where necessary, obtain the assistance of a Specialist at any time during pregnancy, labour or the puerperium. The facility is frequently sought and in 1943 the Consultants were concerned with 450 cases, as against 392 in the previous year.

#### MATERNITY HOME AND HOSPITAL TREATMENT.

Arrangements exist at many hospitals and maternity homes for the reception of women whose physical condition or environment is such that confinement at home is unsafe or undesirable.

During the year, 283 patients were dealt with in this way, and 90 were admitted to the maternity wards of Public Assistance Institutions, compared with 263 and 113, respectively, last year.

In addition, 40 women were admitted to a Maternity Home but paid their own fees, the County Council merely giving a guarantee against default.

Towards the middle of 1943 anxiety was expressed in certain quarters as to the adequacy of the existing maternity home provision, particularly in view of the increased overcrowding of ordinary living accommodation caused presumably by the presence of evacuees, the curtailment of housing schemes, etc., and the dearth of home help usually given by relatives and neighbours caused by the direction of women to work of national importance, or their preference for other employment.

At that time the County Council schemes operating in their Maternity and Child Welfare Area included facilities for the hospital treatment of abnormal cases and for maternity home treatment, afforded mainly at the Public Assistance Institutions, for those



women who, through lack of convenience, viz., unsuitable accommodation, etc., could not safely be confined at home. All such treatment was given free of charge to the patient, and arrangements had been made for every case brought to our notice. It should be mentioned, however, that no attempt had been made to provide for those women who could have their babies at home, but preferred not to do so.

The Public Health Committee requested a survey of the Health Visiting Area, and a report was submitted at the November meeting of the County Council. The inquiry made through the medium of the Health Visitors and Midwives, which was thought to be the best source for information of this nature, revealed that in 8 of the 17 Urban Districts, and in portions of 4 of the 10 Rural Districts, a demand for additional maternity accommodation could be said to exist, so ways and means were next considered. In view of the state of the war at that time, building was out of the question, and the acquisition of large houses for adaptation as small maternity units was contrary to the then accepted policy of the Ministry of Health, who favoured additional provision at existing larger institutions in order to avoid heavy overhead charges, and to ensure that any complicated cases which might arise could be more adequately dealt with, the latter being preferable from a medical point of view. The maternity units at the Public Assistance Institutions situated at Cannock, Leek, Lichfield, Sedgley, Stafford and Wordsley, the majority of which were already receiving private patients, were therefore the natural avenue for exploration, and it was recommended that the Committee controlling them should be asked to second to the Public Health Committee a number of the existing beds for use by women from the County Health Visiting Area. The maternity accommodation at the Sedgley Institution (Rosemary Ednam Maternity Home) was about to be extended, the Ministry of Health having agreed that a hut built under the Emergency Hospital Scheme could be utilised for the purpose, and, including the extra beds thus provided, it was proposed at the onset to take over a total of 53 beds at the Institutions mentioned. Then, later on, also by arrangement with the Ministry, it was hoped to utilise emergency hospital beds to increase the maternity accommodation at the Leek, Lichfield and Wordsley Institutions, the Public Health Committee to have the additional beds provided in this way. As it was known that the Stafford Corporation, a separate Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, were contemplating establishing a Municipal Maternity Home, it was also suggested that, if they obtained the requisite consent, the County Council should negotiate for two beds for patients from the surrounding rural areas.



The foregoing proposals were considered sufficient at the time, particularly in view of the fact that the Health Visiting Area contained a hospital and a number of small maternity homes providing 34 beds for private patients, and that it was known other women made their own arrangements at private establishments in neighbouring districts.

The County Council adopted the report, a summary of which was as follows :—

1. That, in addition to the existing facilities for abnormal cases and women who, because of unsatisfactory accommodation cannot safely be confined at home, provision be made for those who, through lack of domestic help, must have institutional confinements.
2. That the Public Health Committee confer with the Public Assistance Committee to see if beds can be allotted on the lines suggested.
3. That consideration be given to the question of recovering costs from the patients.

The problem was therefore pursued on these lines, and the preliminary negotiations were still proceeding at the close of the year.

#### MATERNITY OUTFITS.

I have mentioned previously that, since the war began, the diminishing demand for these outfits had been noticeable, and the position did not improve during 1943, five outfits only being disposed of.

#### PAYMENT OF MIDWIVES' FEES.

In order to retain the very essential ante-natal co-operation by the independent midwives, a compensation fee of 10s. 0d. is allowed where a case is lost as a result of County Council activities.

During 1943, two such payments only were made.

#### PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

In the Health Visiting Area a Consultant and Hospital Service is at the disposal of the General Practitioners. During the period under review, 76 cases were notified, compared with 68 last year. Under the Scheme a Specialist's opinion was obtained in three instances, and 32 patients were sent to hospital. In addition, it was ascertained that 22 women from the area were sent to hospital through other agencies.



#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Forty-four cases were notified from the Health Visiting Area, compared with 53 in 1942, and in 31 instances home nursing was carried out by the Health Visitors. Six children attended hospital as out-patients and 8 were admitted for treatment. In all cases the vision was unimpaired.

The County Council provide hospital treatment.

#### OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT.

One hundred and twenty-six children under 5 years of age were referred to the County Ophthalmic Surgeon from the Welfare Centres, mainly on account of an actual or suspected squint. Glasses were prescribed for 66 cases: in 6 instances the County Council provided them. Generally, where there was unilateral squint the sound eye was occluded, but if this was found to be impracticable, atropine was inserted weekly until it was found possible to have the eye occluded. These children were kept under constant supervision. Operative treatment was recommended for a case of Glioma in a boy aged 2 years 7 months—this was carried out a week later—and for a case of anterior Polar cataract. The appropriate treatment was advised for cases of Hordeoli (styes) and lachrymation (watering of the eyes). During the year, three cases were certified as blind.

Patients seen in previous years were re-examined during 1943, and the total number of attendances at the Clinics, including both old and new cases, was 335.

#### ORTHOPÆDICS.

The County Council have not established any Orthopædic Clinics, but have arrangements with voluntary bodies who have established Clinics at Leek, Stourbridge, Hartshill, Birmingham, Stafford, Lichfield, Tamworth, Walsall and Dudley, where cases are received on payment.

Two hundred and fifteen new cases, as against 197 last year were sent to Orthopædic Clinics for out-patient treatment in the first instance, as follows:—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Bow Legs .. .. .                       | 30 |
| Deformities of Feet .. .. .            | 79 |
| Deformities of Hands .. .. .           | 2  |
| Fractures .. .. .                      | 5  |
| Knock Knees .. .. .                    | 49 |
| Paralysis .. .. .                      | 13 |
| Rickets .. .. .                        | 3  |
| Torticollis (Wry-neck) .. .. .         | 3  |
| Miscellaneous .. .. .                  | 20 |
| Examined but treatment not necessary.. | 11 |



It will be noted that only three cases of rickets are given in this list, but of course there are many more conditions classified under other headings, of which rickets has probably been the primary cause.

I give below details of the out-patient attendances, etc., during the year :—

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Number of children on books at 31.12.42.. | 299   |
| New cases referred during 1943 .. ..      | 215   |
|   | <hr/> |
|   | 514   |

Removals on account of :—

|                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Discharged cured.. ..               | 80    |
| Left the area .. ..                 | 9     |
| Attained school age .. ..           | 68    |
| Treatment refused .. ..             | 41    |
| Died .. ..                          | 4     |
| Transferred to Joint Board for T.B. | 1     |
| No treatment found necessary ..     | 11    |
|                                     | <hr/> |
|                                     | 214   |

|                                      |       |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Number of cases at end of year .. .. | 300   |
|                                      | <hr/> |

The total number of attendances at Out-patient Clinics during the year was 3,432.

Twenty-four children received in-patient treatment at Standon Hall Orthopædic Hospital, 19 of whom were admitted during the year. As mentioned in previous Reports, pending the extension of accommodation at Standon Hall, the Health Visiting Committee have authorised the use of five beds at outside institutions. These are used mostly for short stay cases. In this way two children under five years of age were admitted to the Hartshill Orthopædic Hospital during 1943.

#### ARTIFICIAL LIGHT TREATMENT.

Since the war began and the Treatment Centre provided by the County Council at Lichfield was suspended, there has been little activity in this direction. The work is now confined to the Leek area and during 1943, 9 children only were treated, 6 of whom were new cases. The total attendance was 363 and the conditions were as follows :—

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Cervical adenitis .. ..         | 1 |
| Debility and malnutrition .. .. | 7 |
| Heart disease (congenital).. .. | 1 |



## DENTAL TREATMENT.

The facilities under this scheme, which has now been in operation for seven complete years, are available for expectant and nursing mothers, and children under 5 years of age, in the County Health Visiting Area; they are referred for treatment by the Medical Officers of the Ante-natal Clinics and Welfare Centres, and by General Practitioners under the Rural Ante-natal Scheme. A similar service is undertaken, at an agreed payment, on behalf of the Stafford Corporation Welfare Committee.

During 1943, 1,215 County patients were treated, compared with 1,140 last year, and the following are particulars supplied by Mr. W. H. Jones, the County Dental Officer :—

### *Expectant and Nursing Mothers.*

Of 891 patients recommended dental treatment for the first time under the scheme, 756 accepted. In addition, the treatment of 267 women which had been commenced in the previous year, was completed, giving a total of 1,023 patients dealt with during 1943. The number of attendances made for treatment was 5,090, but no less than 638 further appointments were not kept, the latter representing 11.1 per cent. of the total. The number of half-day sessions devoted to the treatment of these cases was 798.

There has been an improvement in the percentage of broken appointments, for last year the corresponding figure was 19.4. This satisfactory feature means not only a saving of the time of the Dental Staff, but also in travelling expenses and the cost of hiring premises.

It has been noticed that more patients are anxious to have teeth filled, which is probably due to a general fall in the average age of the mothers who accept, as the majority had conservative treatment at school. The subsequent break in continuous supervision and treatment, which so often occurs, results in many mouths being allowed to lose the benefit of the care given during school life, and if this difficulty could be overcome the dental health of the nation would be greatly improved.

Last year it was mentioned that in view of the shortage of trained women, as a war-time expedient the Dental Nurses were being replaced by unqualified Attendants. Several of the trained nurses were diverted to other work, and later resignations made it possible to make the requisite changes, so that now the complete staff attached to the Dental Surgeons consists of Attendants. As was anticipated, the loss of the fully qualified women has been very noticeable in this branch of the dental scheme, where the



confidence of the expectant mother has to be gained, and where the recognition of clinical signs is sometimes desirable. These remarks are in no way intended to reflect on the Dental Attendants, who are giving loyal and willing help to the best of their ability.

The following are particulars of the operations completed during the year :—

|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| Extractions .. .. .         | 6,017 |
| Fillings .. .. .            | 199   |
| Scalings .. .. .            | 166   |
| Sundries .. .. .            | 2 457 |
| New Dentures .. .. .        | 555   |
| Repairs to Dentures .. .. . | 16    |
|                             | <hr/> |
|                             | 9,410 |

In 5,225 instances the extractions were completed with injections of local anæsthetics and 10 patients were admitted to Institutions for the administration of general anæsthetics, the dental treatment being given by the County staff.

The artificial dentures, together with repairs, were all completed in the County Dental Laboratory. Owing to the rubber shortage, the base for new dentures had to be changed from Vulcanite to Acrylic Resin, which raised the cost of production and caused an increase of charges to those patients in a position to pay who commenced treatment after the 16th March.

#### *“ Toddlers.”*

One hundred and ninety-two “ toddlers ” were dealt with during the year, and 25 half-day sessions were devoted to their treatment, the total attendances being 204. On 187 occasions the child was accompanied by a parent.

The treatment comprised :—

|                                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Extraction of temporary teeth .. .. . | 221   |
| Dressings of Silver Nitrate .. .. .   | 163   |
| Fillings in temporary teeth .. .. .   | 16    |
| Sundries .. .. .                      | 3     |
| Advice .. .. .                        | 63    |
|                                       | <hr/> |
|                                       | 466   |

There is a general consensus of opinion that the teeth of these war-time infants are distinctly better than the corresponding groups in previous years, an observation which, I think, was made elsewhere during the first Great War. This improvement may be



due—(1) to the war-time restrictions of sugar and sweet confectionery, a more nutritive bread supply and a more even distribution of milk, together with other necessities, and (2) to an improved nutrition of the expectant mother and the education of the nursing mother in infant care and nurture. So far the lack of fruit has not been attended by an increase of dental disease.

It is hoped the experience mentioned above will be acted upon in the future, for this, combined with adequate propaganda stressing how important it is that the temporary teeth should be kept in a hygienic and efficient state to ensure the proper development of the jaws and permanent teeth, and the maintenance of general good health, together with an efficient scheme for treatment and supervision, will go a long way to bring about the result those in the dental world have sought for so long. Needless to say no branch of the Public Dental Service is more important than that which deals with the mothers and infants of the race.

#### EXTRA-NOURISHMENT.

During the period under review there has been no change in the County Council's policy which has existed since 1941, when, in view of the presence of National half-cream and full-cream milks, they decided temporarily to dispense with Welfare Centre stocks of ordinary branded dried milks suitable for normal children, previously kept for sale at cost price, or for free issue in necessitous cases. As stated in previous Reports, this decision was made to avoid conflict between the County and National Schemes, and on the assumption that should a shortage of milk supplies be experienced the latter would be given priority.

Full co-operation with the local Milk Officers, who, in the majority of districts, distribute their supplies at the Welfare Centres, still exists. The arrangement also continues under which the County Council provide the additional quantity of dried milk required for a child, whose parents' circumstances are found to be necessitous after applying the Government scale, where the Medical Officer of a Welfare Centre is of opinion that the normal free supply, which is equivalent to one pint of raw milk per day, is insufficient.

During 1943, the totals of the free issues were branded dried milks 173 lbs., National Dried Milks 3,504 lbs., and 16 eight-ounce bottles of emulsion. In addition, 15,983 lbs. of branded dried milks were disposed of at cost price at the Welfare Centres.

In the previous year, the free issues consisted of 412 lbs. of branded dried milks, 3,386 lbs. of National Dried Milk and 136 bottles of emulsion, whilst 12,970 lbs. of branded dried milks were sold at cost price.



## NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

During 1943, 8,295 live births and 280 stillbirths were notified in the Health Visiting Area, 8,277 by midwives and 298 by parents and doctors. The births registered during the year, *i.e.*, 8,953 live births, and 319 stillbirths, cannot strictly be compared with those notified because of the period allowed by law for each purpose

## INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

The work carried out by the Health Visitors under this scheme is shown in the following table :—

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Number of children on Register at the end of December, 1943 .. .. .                                    | 36  |
| Number of reports on visits to children received during the year 1943 .. ..                            | 226 |
| Number of new cases during 1943, for which preliminary reports were sent in by Health Visitors .. .. . | 22  |
| Number of foster-parents on Register at end of 1943 .. .. .  | 34  |

## ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (REGULATION) ACT, 1939.

In March the Minister of Health intimated that an Order in Council had been made appointing 1st June, 1943, as the date on which this Act would come into operation. The legislation regulates the adoption of children and evidence had been accumulated showing the special need for the provisions of the Act in war-time.

Briefly, following the appointed day it is not lawful for any body of persons, other than a Local Authority, to make arrangements for the adoption of a child unless the body is a Registered Adoption Society, and only charitable associations can be so registered. In this connection, the County Council is the Registration Authority for the Administrative County, and one application was received and acceded to during the year, The Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare Work becoming a Registered Adoption Society.

It is still permissible for an individual to make arrangements for an adoption. The Act lays down, however, that where a child under nine years of age is being placed with a person who is not closely related to him, and a third party, *i.e.*, a person who is not the parent or guardian of the child, or the person into whose possession he is to be placed, participates in the arrangements, that third party must give notice in writing to the Welfare Authority of the



area where the proposed foster parent resides not less than seven days before the placing is effected. In a case of this nature if a foster parent or any other person gives or receives, or agrees to do so, any remuneration or reward whatsoever, he shall be guilty of an offence. On receiving such a notice the Welfare Authority are required to arrange for supervision of the child until he attains the age of nine years or is legally adopted, whichever event occurs first. The Act also provides for the removal of a child from overcrowded, insanitary, dangerous premises, etc., or from the care of a person who, for prescribed reasons, is unfit to have charge of it. As far as the cases covered by this paragraph are concerned, the County Council are responsible in their capacity as a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority.

At the onset a press notice was prepared and issued. The attention of the Health Visitors was drawn to the relevant points and procedure, which includes a preliminary inspection of the proposed home and monthly visits during the period of supervision. They were also requested constantly to be on the look out for any child, not officially notified to them, in respect of whom they consider notice should have been given, and for cases in which it appears that arrangements are being made by a body of persons other than a Registered Adoption Society. In addition, as it is not lawful to offer or seek a child for adoption by advertisement, they were asked to keep a watch on local newspapers.

Two notices only were received in 1943, and in one instance the child was legally adopted before the end of the year. The other remained under supervision.

#### HEALTH VISITORS.

There has been no change in the normal complement of Health Visitors, which consists of 60 whole-time, two of whom are lecturers on mothercraft, and 42 part-time, *i.e.*, District Nurses employed by local Associations whose work is mainly in the rural districts. There was a slight re-allocation of areas during the year, for on the 1st October the Parish of Blithfield (Utttoxeter R.D.), formerly served by the whole-time staff, was added to the Abbots Bromley Nursing Association for health visiting purposes. The whole-time Health Visitors serve a population of approximately 379,170 out of a total of 461,630.

Great difficulty has again been experienced in obtaining fully qualified whole-time Health Visitors, undoubtedly due to other war-time demands, and at the 31st December five vacancies remained unfilled as compared with three at the close of 1942.



The visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year were as follows:—

To expectant mothers:—

|                    |    |    |    |       |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| (1) First visits.. | .. | .. | .. | 1,961 |
| (2) Total visits.. | .. | .. | .. | 5,166 |

To infants under one year:—

|                    |    |    |    |        |
|--------------------|----|----|----|--------|
| (1) First visits.. | .. | .. | .. | 8,525  |
| (2) Total visits.. | .. | .. | .. | 61,967 |

To children—one-five years:—

|              |    |    |    |        |
|--------------|----|----|----|--------|
| Total visits | .. | .. | .. | 85,585 |
|--------------|----|----|----|--------|

In 1943 the Health Visitors reported to local Medical Officers of Health 97 instances of insanitary conditions.

#### LECTURES ON MOTHERCRAFT.

The lectures to mothers which were instituted twelve years ago, have continued at the Infant Welfare Centres. During the year talks were given by the two Lecturers at 376 sessions of 50 Centres in various parts of the Health Visiting Area, the total attendance being 10,310.

#### INFESTATION BY HEAD-LICE.

In July, 1943, a circular was issued from the Ministry of Health on this subject, making certain suggestions, particularly in respect of children under 5 years of age, to deal with the possible increase of infestation caused by war-time conditions, viz., overcrowded homes, the absence of mothers on work of national importance, etc. The Public Health Committee considered the matter at their October meeting, and immediately afterwards a supply of special combs was ordered, but they could not be supplied until early in 1944.

In the County Maternity and Child Welfare Area the Health Visitors' work is combined with that of School Nursing, so that the staff were already aware of the conditions existing in their districts, and, where necessary, were actively concerned with infestation occurring in older children. On the school side slightly more cases were experienced in 1943 than in the previous year, and, unfortunately, staffing difficulties, *i.e.*, unfilled vacancies for Health Visitor-School Nurses and absences on account of illness, were unavoidable, so that the full attention demanded could not be given throughout the area.

At the beginning of 1944 the Health Visitors were instructed appropriately regarding the children under 5 years of age, being asked to include the hair in examinations at the homes and Welfare Centres. It was emphasised, of course, that extreme tact would



be necessary to avoid any possibility of the mothers becoming prejudiced against further calls. Where the infestation is found advice as to treatment is given, and the recommended preparation, viz., Lethane Hair Oil (384—"Special"), suggested for severe cases. Sacker Hygienic Combs are also available at cost price, but the demand for them has been negligible.

In addition to the work of the Health Visitors, the Lecturers on Mothercraft were asked to include in their talks to groups of mothers at the Welfare Centres at least one on the care of the hair.

#### WARTIME NURSERIES.

By the end of 1942 the following war-time Day Nurseries had been established :—

| <i>Situation.</i>           |    |    |    | <i>Places provided.</i> |
|-----------------------------|----|----|----|-------------------------|
| Brierley Hill (Hill Street) | .. | .. | .. | 40 (part-time).         |
| Darlaston                   | .. | .. | .. | 60 whole-time).         |
| Leek                        | .. | .. | .. | 40 (part-time).         |
| Rugeley                     | .. | .. | .. | 25 (part-time).         |
| Tamworth                    | .. | .. | .. | 40 (whole-time).        |
| Willenhall                  | .. | .. | .. | 45 (whole-time).        |

Negotiations regarding others were proceeding at the close of the year, and during 1943 the under-mentioned commenced to receive children :—

| <i>Situation.</i>         | <i>Date opened.</i> | <i>Places provided.</i> |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Brierley Hill (Pensnett)  | 10th March.         | 40 (whole-time).        |
| Kidsgrove (Liverpool Rd.) | 3rd May ..          | 50 ( .. .. ).           |
| Kidsgrove (Butt Lane)     | 1st June ..         | 50 ( .. .. ).           |
| Wednesfield               | .. .. 6th Sept.     | 50 ( .. .. ).           |

Part-time—for children from 2—5 years of age.

Whole-time—for children of all ages to 5 years...

As regards war-time Residential Nurseries, as stated last year, at the instigation of the Ministry of Health two small units, each with twelve places, were established at Gorsty Hall, situated on the Newcastle R.D.—Cheshire boundary and Hoar Cross Hall (Tutbury R.D.) to receive the children of women employed in Birmingham. The former was closed in August, 1943, and the County Council continue to supervise the other. In addition, certain supervision is still exercised at the Waifs' and Strays' Residential Nursery at St. Mary's Mount, Uttoxeter.

#### DENTAL LABORATORY.

There was no further development of this Laboratory during 1943, which continued with its reduced complement of three mechanics throughout the period under review.



The question of materials was likely to cause some anxiety, but a change over from vulcanite to acrylic resins, necessitated by rubber shortage, was successfully completed. It is probably that increasing difficulty in obtaining supplies of teeth, etc., will be encountered, and meanwhile the stocks in hand are being depleted.

The output of completed work during the year was as follows :—

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| New dentures .. .. .                       | 850   |
| Repairs to dentures .. .. .                | 40    |
| Orthodontic appliances and repairs ..      | 52    |
| Repairs to equipment for dental clinics .. | 28    |
|  | <hr/> |
|  | 970   |
|  | <hr/> |

### COUNTY BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

Dr. J. L. Edwards, the County Bacteriologist and Pathologist, reports that during 1943, 123,640 investigations were conducted at the County Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory. Of these, 91,258 were of a general bacteriological and serological nature, 5,297 in respect of biochemical and pathological investigations, and 27,085 were for the diagnosis of venereal diseases, and tests for cure. The total numbers of investigations made in 1942 and 1941 were 117,012 and 92,972, respectively.

The general bacteriological and serological work was for the most part from the Administrative County, but of the milk examinations 1,642 were undertaken for the City of Stoke-on-Trent.

The tests for venereal diseases were from patients resident in the following areas :—

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| Administrative County (General) ..                    | 10,418 |
| „ „ (Emergency Hospitals) .. .. .                     | 521    |
| Members of His Majesty's Forces ..                    | 1,592  |
| City of Stoke-on-Trent .. .. .                        | 9,351  |
| County Borough of Dudley .. .. .                      | 787    |
| County of Worcester .. .. .                           | 691    |
| Kesteven Division of Lincolnshire ..                  | 1,325  |
| County Borough of Walsall .. .. .                     | 915    |
| County of Nottingham .. .. .                          | 363    |
| City of Nottingham .. .. .                            | 610    |
| Other areas outside the Administrative County .. .. . | 512    |



The details of the general bacteriological and serological work are as follows :—

#### GENERAL BACTERIOLOGY AND PATHOLOGY.

|   | First<br>Quarter | Second<br>Quarter | Third<br>Quarter | Fourth<br>Quarter | Totals |
|---|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Water Examinations .. ..                                    | 88               | 105               | 87               | 79                | 359    |
| Milk Examinations .. ..                                     | 3597             | 4341              | 4873             | 3689              | 16860  |
| Diphtheria .. ..  | 15149            | 7378              | 8422             | 9723              | 40672  |
| Tuberculosis .. ..  | 1660             | 1767              | 1646             | 1580              | 6653   |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever .. ..                                  | 13               | 3                 | 8                | 26                | 50     |
| Streptococcal Infections ..                                 | 1636             | 2124              | 1813             | 1846              | 7419   |
| Ringworm .. ..  | 8                | 5                 | 5                | 7                 | 25     |
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid<br>Fever .. ..                      | 381              | 445               | 457              | 580               | 1863   |
| Brucella Infections (human) ..                              | 70               | 64                | 64               | 88                | 286    |
| Dysentery (all types) .. ..                                 | 292              | 415               | 295              | 408               | 1410   |
| Food Poisoning .. ..  | 208              | 166               | 130              | 175               | 679    |
| Veterinary Work (other than<br>Milk, including Research) .. | 1722             | 2139              | 2276             | 2644              | 8781   |
| Other Research Work .. ..                                   | 644              | 76                | 43               | —                 | 763    |
| Medico-Legal Work .. ..                                     | 1                | 5                 | —                | 6                 | 12     |
| Other Examinations .. ..                                    | 1155             | 1319              | 1531             | 1421              | 5426   |
| TOTALS .. ..  | 26984            | 20352             | 21650            | 22272             | 91258  |

The 16,860 "Milk Examinations" were constituted as follows :—

|  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Cleanliness and Phosphatase Tests .. ..          | 14,313             |
| Biological Tests .. ..                           | 2,508              |
| Investigations for Brucella infections .. ..     | 5                  |
| Cultures for Streptococci, etc. .. ..            | 6                  |
| Examinations of washings from churns .. ..       | 3                  |
| Examinations of Milk Bottles for Sterility .. .. | 12                 |
| Other Examinations .. ..                         | 13                 |
|  | <hr/> 16,860 <hr/> |

As regards the biological, cleanliness and Phosphatase examinations, the purposes of the tests are shown in the accompanying



table, and it will be specially noted that 2 samples of "Pasteurised" milk, 7 of "Accredited" and 1 of "Tuberculin Tested" gave positive biological reactions for tuberculosis.

|   | * Coli and/or Reductase ;<br>or Count and Phosphatase. |                 |        | Biological Tests. |           |        | Grand Total. |
|---|--|-----------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|--------|--------------|
|   | Satisfactory.  | Unsatisfactory. | Total. | Negative.         | Positive. | Total. |              |
| For "Accredited" Standard and Licence .. ..   | 7549   | 1604            | 9153   | 141               | 7         | 148    | 9301         |
| For "Tuberculin Tested" Standard and Licence .. ..                                      | 178  | 37              | 215    | 179               | 1         | 180    | 395          |
| For "Tuberculin Tested" (Pasteurised) Standard .. ..                                    | 12   | 2               | 14     | 13                | —         | 13     | 27           |
| For Pasteurised Standard .. ..  | 238  | 115             | 353    | 123               | 2         | 125    | 478          |
| Food and Drugs Act, 1938 .. ..  | 1193   | 876             | 2069   | 1479              | 75        | 1554   | 3623         |
| School Milks .. ..  | 80   | 29              | 109    | 99                | 1         | 100    | 209          |
| Submitted by farmers, retailers and others, for their own information .. ..             | 15   | 5               | 20     | 3                 | —         | 3      | 23           |
| Submitted by Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries under Tuberculosis Order, 1938 .. .. | —  | —               | —      | 264               | 52        | 316    | 316          |
| Totals .. ..  | 9265   | 2668            | 11933  | 2301              | 138       | 2439   | 14372        |

\* The above figures represent the number of *samples* examined.

The following tests were involved :—

|                         |        |
|-------------------------|--------|
| Count and/or Coli .. .. | 2,394  |
| Reductase .. ..         | 11,430 |
| Phosphatase .. ..       | 489    |
| Biological .. ..        | 2,508  |
| Total .. ..             | 16,821 |



The particulars of the pathological and biochemical investigations were as follows:—

PATHOLOGICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL WORK CONDUCTED DURING  
THE YEAR 1943.

*Gastric Contents.*

|                       |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Fractional Test Meals | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 340 |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|

*Blood.*

|                              |    |    |    |    |    |     |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Estimation of Urea..         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 509 |
| „ „ Glucose                  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 194 |
| „ „ Hæmoglobin               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 686 |
| R.B.C. Count                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 685 |
| Leucocyte Count              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 694 |
| Differential Leucocyte Count | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 701 |
| Reticulocytes                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 68  |
| Wintrobe's Volume Index..    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 71  |
| Icterus Index                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 66  |
| Sedimentation Rate           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 17  |
| Van Den Bergh Reaction       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14  |
| Fragility of R.B.C.'s        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3   |
| Platelet Count               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| Coagulation Time             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1   |
| Estimation of Protein        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12  |
| „ „ Non-Protein Nitrogen     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| „ „ Calcium                  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12  |
| „ „ Phosphorus               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8   |
| „ „ Phosphatase              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11  |
| „ „ Pyruvic Acid             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| „ „ Uric Acid                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| „ „ Cholesterol              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6   |
| „ „ Creatinine               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1   |
| „ „ Chlorides                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5   |
| „ „ Bromide                  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1   |
| „ „ Sodium                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| „ „ Potassium                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2   |
| „ „ Sulphathiazole           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1   |
| Grouping                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 391 |

*Urine.*

|   |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Estimation of Urea..                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 53 |
| „ „ Glucose                                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| „ „ Diastase                                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| „ „ Bilirubin                                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| 17-Keto Steroids                                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Estimation of Ascorbic Acid                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3  |
| „ „ Calcium                                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| „ „ Calcium and Phosphorus                      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |
| Zondek-Aschheim Tests (Friedman's Modification) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3  |



*Fæces.*

|   |    |    |    |    |
|---|----|----|----|----|
| Quantitative Estimation of Fats..       | .. | .. | .. | 10 |
| Estimation of Calcium and Phosphorus .. | .. | .. | .. | 1  |

*Sternal Marrow.*

|                              |    |    |    |   |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|---|
| Differential Leucocyte Count | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|---|

*Cerebrospinal Fluid.*

|                       |    |    |    |   |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|---|
| Estimation of Protein | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|---|

|                               |    |    |    |    |   |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|
| <i>Examination of Calculi</i> | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|

|                      |    |    |    |    |     |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| <i>Research Work</i> | .. | .. | .. | .. | 176 |
|----------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|

|                              |    |    |    |    |     |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| <i>Pathological Sections</i> | .. | .. | .. | .. | 508 |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|

---

|       |    |    |       |
|-------|----|----|-------|
| Total | .. | .. | 5,297 |
|-------|----|----|-------|

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The details of the Venereal Diseases tests are shown in the following table :—

EXAMINATIONS OF PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMENS CONDUCTED  
UNDER THE VENEREAL DISEASES SCHEME DURING THE  
YEAR 1943.

|                | For Detection of      |           | For<br>Wasser-<br>mann<br>Reaction | Sigma<br>& Kahn<br>Tests | Other<br>Examin-<br>ations | Totals |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
|                | Spirochæta<br>Pallida | Gonococci |                                    |                          |                            |        |
| 1st Quarter .. | —                     | 356       | 2613                               | 3728                     | 760                        | 7457   |
| 2nd Quarter .. | 1                     | 366       | 2149                               | 2974                     | 614                        | 6104   |
| 3rd Quarter .. | 1                     | 412       | 2027                               | 3189                     | 950                        | 6579   |
| 4th Quarter .. | 1                     | 440       | 2266                               | 3147                     | 1091                       | 6945   |
| Totals ..      | 3                     | 1574      | 9055                               | 13038                    | 3415                       | 27085  |

The 3,415 " Other Examinations " consisted of :—

One hundred and seventy-three cerebrospinal fluids for cells count, protein estimation, and colloidal gold test ; 3,194 complement fixation tests for gonorrhœa ; the examination of 3 specimens of urine and 43 cultures for gonococci, and 2 pathological sections.



## CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

Mr. E. V. Jones, the County Analyst, reports that the total number of samples analysed was made up as below :—

### *For County :—*

|  |    |    |    |       |
|--|----|----|----|-------|
| Food and Drugs Act, 1938..                 | .. | .. | .. | 1,847 |
| "Appeal to Cow" Samples                    | .. | .. | .. | 31    |
| Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.. | .. | .. | .. | 7     |
| Drinking Waters                            | .. | .. | .. | 276   |
| Swimming Bath and Pool Waters              | .. | .. | .. | 4     |
| River Waters (Full Analyses)               | .. | .. | .. | 144   |
| Sewage Effluents (Full Analyses)           | .. | .. | .. | 93    |
| " " (Partial Analyses)                     | .. | .. | .. | 2     |
| Crude Sewage (Full Analyses)               | .. | .. | .. | 9     |
| Miscellaneous Samples                      | .. | .. | .. | 62    |
|  |    |    |    | <hr/> |
|  |    |    |    | 2,475 |

### *For Stoke-on-Trent C.B.C. :—*

|  |    |    |       |
|--|----|----|-------|
| Food and Drugs Act, 1938..                 | .. | .. | 875   |
| "Appeal to Cow" Samples                    | .. | .. | 4     |
| Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.. | .. | .. | 3     |
| Miscellaneous Samples                      | .. | .. | 9     |
|  |    |    | <hr/> |
|  |    |    | 891   |

### *For Brierley Hill U.D.C. :—*

|                            |    |    |       |
|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| Food and Drugs Act, 1938.. | .. | .. | 105   |
| "Appeal to Cow" Samples    | .. | .. | 2     |
|                            |    |    | <hr/> |
|                            |    |    | 107   |

### *For Newcastle-under-Lyme M.B.C. :—*

|                            |    |    |       |
|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| Food and Drugs Act, 1938.. | .. | .. | 168   |
| "Appeal to Cow" Samples    | .. | .. | 4     |
|                            |    |    | <hr/> |
|                            |    |    | 172   |

### *For Rowley Regis M.B.C. :—*

|                            |    |    |       |
|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| Food and Drugs Act, 1938.. | .. | .. | 112   |
|                            |    |    | <hr/> |
| Total                      | .. | .. | 3,757 |
|                            |    |    | <hr/> |

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Of the 1,847 samples submitted from the County Area, 1,640 were found to be genuine and 207 adulterated or below standard.



(1) MILK.—Of 1,268 samples of undesignated milk, 168 were found to be unsatisfactory, of which 77 contained added water, 8 contained added water and were further deficient in fat, 64 were deficient in fat, 17 were deficient in fat and solids-not-fat, 1 was deficient in solids-not-fat and 1 which was deficient in fat also contained blood.

One hundred and thirty-five samples of specially designated milks were examined, viz. :—11 “Tuberculin Tested,” 37 “Accredited” and 67 Pasteurised. Sixteen were reported against : 11 of “Accredited” and 4 of Pasteurised contained added water, and 1 of Pasteurised was deficient in fat.

Forty-one samples of Sterilized milk were also examined, and were found to be satisfactory.

*Action taken.*—Fifty-four of the 168 unsatisfactory samples of ordinary milk were informal and no direct action could be taken, but “follow up” samples were obtained where possible.

In 53 cases, representing 77 unsatisfactory samples (two or more having been taken simultaneously from the same purveyor in several instances) the adulterations were small and cautions were issued. Ten producers or retailers were prosecuted in respect of 33 samples containing added water. In the remaining 4 cases no action was considered necessary.

As regards the formal samples of Designated milks, 4 producers were prosecuted in respect of 6 samples of “Accredited” and 1 of Pasteurised found to contain added water. Three cautions were issued in respect of 3 samples of “Accredited” and 1 of Pasteurised found to contain added water, and 1 of Pasteurised deficient in fat. The remaining 4 unsatisfactory samples, 2 “Accredited” and 2 Pasteurised, were informal.

In total, 56 producers or retailers were cautioned and 14 prosecuted. Fines amounting to £288 were imposed, together with £67 1s. 6d. special costs.

The average composition of the milks of all grades was :—

|                   | <i>On all Samples.</i> | <i>On genuine samples.</i> |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Fat .. ..         | 3.63%                  | 3.71%                      |
| Solids-not-fat .. | 8.65%                  | 8.72%                      |

Of 1,260 samples of milk of all grades, passed as genuine, 197 were below the presumptive standard of 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat, of which 191 were proved by the Freezing Point Depression (Hortvet) to be genuine milk, and 6 were sour.

(2) GENERAL ARTICLES OF FOOD.—Four hundred and three general articles of food and drugs were examined, and 23 (3 formal



and 20 informal) were found to be adulterated or below standard, the County Analyst reporting as follows:—

*"Baking Powder.*—Of 15 samples, one formal and three informal, were reported against. The formal sample was 30 per cent. and the informal samples were 55, 25 and 32.2 per cent. deficient in available carbon dioxide, containing only 4.2, 2.7, 4.5 and 4.07 per cent. instead of at least 6 per cent."

*"Beverage, Lemon Flavour and Beverage, Orange Flavour.*—One informal sample of each contained 165 and 147 parts per million of sulphur dioxide, respectively. As neither contained sugar nor fruit juices, they could not be classified as cordials, and therefore, the presence of preservative is an offence against the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations."

*"Cake and Pudding Mixture, Sweetened.*—Of two samples, both informal, one was alive with Acari."

*"Cocoa.*—Of 16 samples submitted, one formal and one informal were badly ground, deficient in fat and contained an excess of shell."

*"Cordial, Lime Fruit Flavour, Concentrated.*—The one informal sample submitted consisted of about 25 per cent. Citric Acid in flavoured water, and was entirely devoid of sugar and saccharin. According to the Soft Drink Order, 1943, Lime Flavour Cordial should contain 1.25 per cent. Citric Acid, 7.5 per cent. Sugar and 0.06 per cent. Saccharin, and should be packed in either 26 fluid ounce bottles, or one gallon jars. As the sample was in bottles of about 2 fluid ounces, and contained neither sugar nor saccharin, I reported against it. It was later found that the Ministry had granted a special licence for the article."

*"Fat, Cooking.*—Of two informal samples submitted, one had an acidity of 6.2 per cent. instead of a maximum of 2 per cent."

*"Fever Cure, 'Fam-I-Doc.'*—The one informal sample submitted was stated to contain 1.875 w/v, of Nitric Acid. It contained, however, 2.45 w/v, thus showing an excess of 0.585 w/v."

*"Flour, Bun Mixture.*—The only sample (informal) submitted was 16.7 per cent. deficient in available Carbon Dioxide, containing only 5 per cent. instead of at least 6 per cent."

*"Flour, Cake, Sweetened.*—Five samples, 1 formal and 4 informal, were submitted, two of the latter being reported against. One was in such a decomposed state that I reported it as unfit for food, and the other contained 40 parts per million of Fluorine, instead of a maximum of 5 parts, as recommended by the Society of Public Analysts."



"*Gelatin*.—Of six samples submitted, four (informal) did not come up to the standard of edible gelatin."

"*Ginger, Ground*.—Of fifteen samples submitted, one (informal) contained 5 per cent. excess of mineral matter (clay)."

"*Mustard*.—Of three samples, all informal, one consisted entirely of White Mustard, whereas it should be a mixture of Brown and White Mustard."

"*Winter Warmer (Raspberry Flavour Drink)*.—Two samples (1 formal and 1 informal) were submitted; both consisted of a flavoured and coloured aqueous solution, with traces of invert sugar, citric acid, saccharin, capsicum and benzoic acid, in such minute amounts that its food and warming properties were negligible."

*Action taken*.—The result of the examination of the formal sample of cocoa was pursued with the makers, who had been previously convicted on the same consignment, and the stocks were withdrawn. Cautions were addressed to two retailers in respect of the formal samples of Baking Powder and Winter Warmer (Raspberry Flavour Drink).

#### "APPEAL TO COW" SAMPLES.

Of 31 "Appeal to Cow" samples, 3 were below the presumptive standard of 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat.

#### FERTILIZERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Seven samples were submitted, consisting of 4 Fertilizers and 3 Feeding Stuffs: 2 of each were found to be satisfactory.

#### DRINKING WATERS.

Thirty-four of the 276 samples were for special examination, viz., hardness, metallic contamination, plumbo solvency and free chlorine.

Of the remaining 242 samples, 3 were for full and mineral analyses, 68 for full analysis only and 171 for partial analysis. One hundred and fifty-five were of satisfactory quality; 37 contained sewage or animal matter; 8 were organically impure; 10 were of doubtful quality; 17 contained metallic contamination; 2 were excessively hard; 4 showed both vegetable and sewage pollution; 6 showed both sewage and metallic pollution; 1 contained sewage, vegetable and metallic contamination; 1 showed vegetable and metallic pollution, and one contained an excess of free chlorine.



## MILK SUPPLY.

The County Council are concerned with the milk supply as follows :—

- (i) Under the Milk (Special Designations) Orders they are responsible for the issue and control of "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited" licences in the Administrative County, and
- (ii) By arrangements made with the majority of the District Councils, the County staff undertake the sampling of milk as it is being retailed to the public, *i.e.*, street samples.

The appropriate duties in connection with the above are assigned to the Sanitary Inspectors and Milk Sampling Officers of the Public Health Department and normally there are four of each, the former also undertaking other work of a public health nature. In view of the war, at the end of 1941 these staffs had been reduced to two and three, respectively, but as far as possible efficient supervision is being maintained.

Details of the work during 1943 are given in the succeeding paragraphs.

### STREET SAMPLING.

The County Council are ordinarily responsible for this purpose for the whole of the Administrative County with the exception of the Municipal Boroughs of Newcastle and Rowley Regis and the Urban District of Brierley Hill. In addition, by arrangement, the County Council staff undertake street sampling for the Rowley Regis Municipal Council, one of the separate Food and Drugs Authorities.

In the following tables the numbers of samples of ordinary and specially designated milks taken during the year in the area for which the County Council is normally responsible are shown, together with the results of the bacteriological and biological tests carried out in the County Laboratory. In the table of ordinary milk the numbers of samples taken in the various Sanitary Districts of the County are indicated.



ORDINARY MILK SAMPLES.  
1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1943.

| Sanitary District | No. of samples Submitted | Result of Examination |                | T.B. |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------|
|                   |                          | Cleanliness           |                |      |
|                   |                          | Satisfactory          | Unsatisfactory |      |
| URBAN :           |                          |                       |                |      |
| Aldridge ..       | 20                       | 10                    | 10             | 2    |
| Amblecote ..      | 10                       | 6                     | 4              | —    |
| Biddulph ..       | 45                       | 21                    | 24             | —    |
| Bilston ..        | 34                       | 14                    | 20             | 1    |
| Brownhills ..     | 24                       | 10                    | 14             | 2    |
| Cannock ..        | 74                       | 45                    | 29             | 6    |
| Coseley ..        | 28                       | 21                    | 7              | 3    |
| Darlaston ..      | 7                        | 5                     | 2              | 1    |
| Kidsgrove ..      | 53                       | 36                    | 17             | 2    |
| Leek ..           | 67                       | 30                    | 37             | 2    |
| Lichfield ..      | 27                       | 18                    | 9              | 1    |
| Rugeley ..        | 23                       | 13                    | 10             | —    |
| Sedgley ..        | 25                       | 15                    | 10             | —    |
| Stafford ..       | 69                       | 50                    | 19             | 2    |
| Stone ..          | 25                       | 14                    | 11             | 1    |
| Tamworth ..       | 20                       | 16                    | 4              | —    |
| Tettenhall ..     | 18                       | 9                     | 9              | 1    |
| Tipton ..         | 55                       | 28                    | 27             | 5    |
| Uttoxeter ..      | 39                       | 26                    | 13             | 2    |
| Wednesbury ..     | 15                       | 6                     | 9              | —    |
| Wednesfield ..    | 17                       | 10                    | 7              | 3    |
| Willenhall ..     | 37                       | 19                    | 18             | 4    |
| RURAL :           |                          |                       |                |      |
| Cannock ..        | 56                       | 35                    | 21             | 2    |
| Cheadle ..        | 100                      | 57                    | 43             | 3    |
| Leek ..           | 34                       | 18                    | 16             | 1    |
| Lichfield ..      | 56                       | 33                    | 23             | 2    |
| Newcastle ..      | 41                       | 30                    | 11             | 1    |
| Seisdon ..        | 43                       | 24                    | 19             | —    |
| Stafford ..       | 31                       | 17                    | 14             | 1    |
| Stone ..          | 24                       | 16                    | 8              | —    |
| Tutbury ..        | 27                       | 12                    | 15             | —    |
| Uttoxeter ..      | 19                       | 8                     | 11             | —    |
| Totals ..         | 1163                     | 672                   | 491            | 48   |



SPECIALLY DESIGNATED MILK.  
1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1943.

| Designation                                | No. of<br>Samples<br>Submitted | Result of Examination |                | T.B. |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|------|
|  |                                | Cleanliness           |                |      |
|  |                                | Satisfactory          | Unsatisfactory |      |
| “ Tuberculin<br>Tested ” ..                | 36                             | 32                    | 4              | —    |
| “ Accredited ” ..                          | 87                             | 73                    | 14             | 5    |
| Pasteurised ..                             | 96                             | 61                    | 35             | —    |
| “ Tuberculin<br>Tested ”<br>Pasteurised .. | 7                              | 6                     | 1              | —    |
| Totals ..                                  | 226                            | 172                   | 54             | 5    |

In addition, 11 samples of sterilized milk were taken for examination, and were all satisfactory.

(i) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

*Undesignated Milk.*—Of the 1,163 samples bacteriologically examined, 672 were found to conform to a certain standard of cleanliness, the remaining 491 failing to do so. Four hundred and thirty-eight of the latter were produced within the County and 53 outside. The percentage of samples reported clean was 57·8, compared with 56·4 last year. In addition to being unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint, 18 also contained tubercle bacilli.

As in previous years, the names of the producers of the unsatisfactory milks were reported to the County Farm Institute, and the farmers concerned were communicated with by the Assistant Director of Agricultural Education, and offered every assistance. In accordance with the usual practice, if no improvement in the cleanliness of the milk resulted, the District Council in whose area the premises are situated was informed, so that the necessary steps could be taken under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

*Specially Designated Milks.*—The cleanliness test was applied to the 226 samples submitted, and 54, or 23·9 per cent., were found to be unsatisfactory, viz. :—4 " Tuberculin Tested," 14 " Accredited," 35 Pasteurised and 1 " Tuberculin Tested " Pasteurised, as compared with 26·1 per cent. in the previous year.



In addition to examination by the bacterial count method, the Pasteurised milks are submitted to the phosphatase test, which indicates the efficiency or otherwise of the pasteurisation. In this respect 97 of the 103 samples obtained in 1943 were satisfactory.

As regards the unsatisfactory samples, other than those of Pasteurised Milk, 9 were produced in the County and 9 outside. The sources of production of the 36 Pasteurised samples were not known but 25 were of milk treated at premises outside the County.

## (ii) BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

With the exception of 22 of ordinary and 2 of designated milks the samples were examined biologically, and 48 of ordinary milk and 5 of "Accredited" were found to contain tubercle bacilli.

Forty-five undesignated samples and 4 "Accredited" were produced within the County.

Where the milk was produced in Staffordshire the positive results were reported to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, whose Department is responsible for the consequent veterinary examinations of the herds concerned.

The procedure adopted when the sources of production of samples containing tubercle bacilli are outside the County is dealt with in a succeeding paragraph.

## MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME.

At the end of the year there were 105 suppliers of designated and undesignated milks to schools or departments, as detailed in the following table:—

|                      | No. of Suppliers. | Schools or Depts. supplied. | Children supplied (Dec.). |
|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| "Tuberculin Tested"  | 1                 | 1                           | 63                        |
| "Accredited" .. .. . | 68                | 107                         | 6,840                     |
| Pasteurised ... .. . | 18                | 246                         | 34,363                    |
| Undesignated .. .. . | 18                | 31                          | 635                       |
|                      | <hr/> 105         | <hr/> 385                   | <hr/> 41,901              |

The usual procedure is to sample the supplies at least once each term *after* delivery to the schools. During 1943, however in view of shortage of staff, this was not always possible, but every effort was made to give adequate supervision. The samples are examined bacteriologically and biologically, and, in the case of Pasteurised milk, by the phosphatase test in addition.



All herds producing milk are, of course, under supervision by the Veterinary Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but, in the case of undesignated production, examinations are normally made less frequently. However, as far as school milk is concerned, the Divisional Inspector agreed to deal with the matter adequately, so that the supplies, which are in districts where it is difficult to obtain designated milk, can continue.

The number of samples collected at schools during the year was 106, and of these 29 failed to conform with the required standard of cleanliness. When an unsatisfactory result is obtained notification is made to the supplier and/or producer, and repeat samples are taken.

Twenty-two samples from Pasteurised supplies were submitted to the phosphatase test with satisfactory results.

As regards the biological examination of samples, where tubercle bacilli are found the school supply is cancelled immediately and is not resumed from the particular source until the herd is free from infection. In the meantime, where possible alternative arrangements are made so that the scheme is not interfered with. The number of tuberculous samples during the year was 1 and the procedure mentioned in a preceding paragraph was adopted.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

In 1943, 94 representations in respect of milk produced in Staffordshire, which was found to contain tubercle bacilli, were made by Medical Officers of Health of districts outside the area administered by the County Council. Similarly, 3 complaints were made to outside Authorities in respect of milk sent into this County for sale. In this respect the County and County Borough Public Health Departments act in the capacity of clearing houses only, and the appropriate action regarding the herds is taken by the Veterinary Staff of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

#### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

"*Accredited.*"—On the 31st December, 1943, there were 2,532 farmers licensed to produce "*Accredited*" milk, as compared with 2,544 at the end of the previous year. During the period under review, 8,664 samples of milk were taken for examination for cleanliness, and 7,207, or 83.2 per cent., complied with the required standard.

As stated last year, in view of depletion of staff, routine sampling at the farms at two monthly intervals had to be abandoned, but endeavours are made to visit quarterly for this purpose.



Eighty-seven applications for new licences were received and dealt with during 1943, 11 of which were not acceded to.

When it is found that the main conditions attached to a licence, which include, of course, a good sample record, are not being observed, every effort is made to obtain a satisfactory solution, and failing this the case is dealt with by the appropriate Committee. During 1943, the licences of 31 producers were suspended for one month, 18 for two months, and 2 for three months. Thirteen were revoked and 12 cautions were issued.

*"Tuberculin Tested."*—At the end of the year the number of licences in force for the production of "Tuberculin Tested" milk was 53, as against 44 at the close of 1942. Eleven new applications were received and recommended during 1943.

The routine samples are examined biologically as well as for cleanliness. Of 140 obtained during the year, 19 failed to comply with the required bacteriological standard and one was found to contain tubercle bacilli.

One unsatisfactory case was considered by the Committee, the licence being revoked.

#### GENERAL.

Apart from the foregoing, sampling was undertaken at certain hospitals, sanatoria and institutions, and of 40 samples obtained during the year 15 were unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint. Two were found to contain tubercle bacilli.

### **WATER SUPPLIES AND RIVERS POLLUTION PREVENTION.**

As mentioned in previous Reports the war has automatically curtailed the normal activities of Local Authorities in connection with schemes for water supplies, sewerage and sewage disposal. It is only possible, therefore, to comment on developments of special interest of schemes which were already in existence, and these are now becoming scanty.

I have no remarks to make on water supplies and the following is the only information available:—

#### **Rivers Pollution Prevention.**

##### **RIVER TRENT WATERSHED.**

STONE R.D.—The new sewer to convey the sewage from Groundslow Sanatorium, Tittensor, to the Strongford Works of the Stoke-on-Trent Corporation was completed in March, 1943. The small, previously overtaxed, sewage disposal works at the Sanatorium have therefore been dispensed with.



## CONTRIBUTIONS TO DISTRICT COUNCILS FOR WATER AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

In the Report for 1930, the principles governing contributions from the County Council were fully stated and a brief summary has appeared in subsequent Reports.

Contributions continue to be payable in respect of schemes mentioned in previous Reports, where the financial positions warrant them, but no new ones have been approved during the period under review.

### HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACTS.

Under these Acts contributions are given by the County Council for the re-conditioning of old houses in rural areas, and for the conversion into dwellings of buildings not previously used for that purpose. Applications for grants must come from the owners of the properties concerned, but none was considered during 1943.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

I have no general comments to make as far as Isolation Hospital accommodation in the County is concerned, for there has been no development during the period now under review.

The following statistics relate to the notifiable infectious diseases amongst civilians during the 52 weeks ended 1st January, 1944. On reference to the tables at the end of the Report the death-rates for each Sanitary District will be found.

**SMALLPOX.**—No case of Smallpox was notified in 1943. The last one recorded was in 1942, which was the first experienced in the County since 1930.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—There was an increase in the incidence of this disease, 2,801 cases having been notified, compared with 2,576 in 1942, but the prevailing type was mild. In the Urban Districts there were 2,247 cases and in the Rural Districts 554, as against 2,156 and 420, respectively, in the previous year. The case rates per thousand of the population were :—Urban Districts 3·88, Rural Districts 2·88, with a total County rate of 3·63, whilst that for England and Wales was 3·01. The corresponding rates for 1942 were 3·69, 2·15, 3·31 and 2·19, respectively, from which it will be observed that whilst there was an increase in the Administrative County, the disease was more prevalent in the country as a whole.

Five deaths occurred in Urban Districts and two in Rural Districts, which give a rate of 0·01 per thousand of the population in each instance.



DIPHTHERIA.—There was a slight increase in the incidence of this disease, for 1,141 notifications were made, compared with 1,060 in the previous year, and again the prevailing type was more severe than scarlet fever. There was an increase in the Urban Districts, viz., 1,036, as against 890, and a similar decrease in the Rural Districts, where 105 cases were recorded compared with 170. The total case rate was 1.48, whilst that for England and Wales was 0.88, as against 1.36 and 1.05, respectively, in the previous year.

Sixty-two deaths occurred in the Urban and 6 in the Rural Districts, which yield death-rates of 0.11 and 0.03, respectively.

In 1942 there were 47 deaths from this disease.

The immunisation of children against diphtheria continued throughout the year with the co-operation of the medical staff of the County Council in the schools and welfare centres, but, as previously pointed out, the local Councils are officially responsible and the appropriate statistics will doubtless appear in the Reports of their Medical Officers of Health. At the suggestion of the Ministry of Health an intensive campaign with the object of securing the immunisation of all children in the County Health Visiting Area aged from 1 to 5 years was commenced early in 1943. It was decided that the most satisfactory method was to make a house-to-house survey, and the Health Visitors were asked to submit periodical lists giving names, addresses, dates of birth, the results of the visits, viz., already immunised with approximate dates and special indication where children had been protected in another district, consents obtained, definite refusals in spite of persuasion, etc. Full details of suitable propaganda were given to the nurses, and it was stressed that the mothers of younger children should be included in the campaign to obtain the correct attitude towards immunisation later on. To enable concentration on the survey, except for first visits to newly born children, routine health visiting was temporarily suspended but fixed appointments at centres, clinics and schools, had to continue.

In order to obtain complete co-operation, before the campaign was started the local Medical Officers of Health were told of the proposal and asked for any suggestions applicable to their particular districts which would be useful to the Health Visitors, and the comments thus made were passed on to the nurses at the onset. The detailed lists of children visited were, of course, transmitted to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts concerned, but it will be interesting to see that of 23,090 children in respect of whom visits were paid 13,414 had already been immunised, whilst consents were obtained in 6,003 further instances. Definite



refusals were experienced in 1,168 cases, and the parents of the remaining 2,505 children decided to leave the matter in abeyance. It should be mentioned that this work undertaken by the Health Visitors was additional to that included in a previous section of the Report.

Apart from the children under five years of age, the Head Teachers of the County Secondary and Elementary Schools were asked to conduct a campaign in connection with unimmunised scholars on their registers.

Facilities are provided in the County Laboratory for bacteriological investigations, and, in 1943, 40,672 specimens were dealt with, compared with 44,066 in the previous year. These included 39 virulence tests undertaken in special cases, and 1,740 tests for the identification of diphtheria-like organisms.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Twelve notifications of enteric fever were made during the year, as compared with 15 in 1942. Six (5 Typhoid; 1 Paratyphoid) were in Urban and 6 (3 Typhoid; 3 Paratyphoid) in Rural Districts, compared with totals of 6 and 9, respectively, during the previous year. The case rates for Staffordshire and the Country as a whole, both for Typhoid and Paratyphoid, were the same, being 0·01 per thousand of the population in each instance.

There were no deaths from this disease.

MEASLES.—During the period, 8,126 notifications were made, which indicates a marked increase, for the corresponding figure for 1942 was 4,023. Six thousand two hundred and fourteen cases occurred in Urban and 1,912 in Rural Districts, compared with 3,077 and 946 in the previous year. The 1943 case rates for the County and England and Wales were 10·53 and 9·88, as against 5·16 and 7·46 in 1942.

Twelve deaths occurred in the Urban Districts and 3 in the Rural, the death-rate in each instance being 0·02. There were 13 deaths in 1942.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Here again there was a substantial increase in the number of notifications, 2,748 being made in 1943, as compared with 1,614 in 1942. In the Urban Districts there were 1,991 as against 1,359, whilst the corresponding figures for the Rural Districts were 757 and 255, respectively. The case rate for the County was 3·56 and for England and Wales 2·54.

There were 21 deaths in the Urban Districts and 4 in the Rural, the death-rates being 0·04 and 0·02, respectively. In 1942, 31 deaths were due to this cause.



ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—One case in a Rural District only was notified during 1943, but 7 deaths were reported, 5 in Urban and 2 in Rural Districts.

POLIOMYELITIS AND POLIOENCEPHALITIS.—In 1943, 1 case of Poliomyelitis was notified in an Urban District, and there were 2 cases of Polioencephalitis in a Rural District. As regards deaths from these conditions, 1 occurred in an Urban District.

DYSENTERY.—The notifications of this disease show an increase, 54 being made during the period as compared with 39 last year. Twelve of the 35 Sanitary Districts were affected, as follows:—Bilston M.B., 1; Brownhills U.D., 1; Cannock U.D., 1; Leek U.D., 5; Newcastle M.B., 3; Stafford M.B., 17; Willenhall U.D., 1; Cheadle R.D., 4; Lichfield R.D., 17; Seisdon R.D., 1; Stafford R.D., 2; and Stone R.D., 1.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.—In 1940 there was an acute rise in the incidence of this disease, when 161 cases were notified as compared with 28 in 1939, but the figures in succeeding years showed a substantial improvement, viz., 1941, 128; 1942, 87; and 1943, 50. In the latter year there was no suggestion of an epidemic, 35 cases occurring in 13 of the 25 Urban Districts and 15 in 7 of the 10 Rural Districts. The case rate for 1943 was 0.06 compared with 0.08 for England and Wales.

There were 14 deaths in 9 of the Urban Districts and one each in 2 of the Rural Districts, as against 10 and 3 deaths, respectively, in 1942.

The County Council have a scheme under which the services of Consultants are at the disposal of the General Practitioners, and special arrangements exist for the cerebro-spinal fluid to be sent to the County Bacteriological Laboratory in a portable incubator, because these organisms do not survive if sent through the post in the ordinary way. Twenty-eight specimens of cerebro-spinal fluid were examined in the Laboratory during the year, together with 18 swabs, and typing was undertaken when possible. In addition, there was one blood culture.

The deaths from non-notifiable infectious diseases were as follows:—

DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.—Sixty deaths occurred in Urban Districts, and 13 in Rural Districts, in children under 2 years of age, the death-rates being 5.0 and 3.8 respectively, per thousand live births. The deaths occurred in 16 of the Urban Districts and in 7 of the Rural Districts.



INFLUENZA.—In 1943 there were 188 deaths in Urban and 75 in Rural Districts, as compared with 49 and 20, respectively, in 1942.

The number of cases of Notifiable Infectious Diseases, with the deaths, in the Administrative County during the 52 weeks are as follows :—

| Diseases                        | Notifications |       | Deaths. |       |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------|-------|
|                                 | Urban         | Rural | Urban   | Rural |
| Continued Fever .. .. .         | 1             | —     | *       | *     |
| Small-pox .. .. .               | —             | —     | —       | —     |
| Scarlet Fever .. .. .           | 2247          | 554   | 5       | 2     |
| Diphtheria .. .. .              | 1036          | 105   | 62      | 6     |
| Enteric Fever .. .. .           | 6             | 6     | —       | —     |
| Measles .. .. .                 | 6214          | 1912  | 12      | 3     |
| Whooping Cough .. .. .          | 1991          | 757   | 21      | 4     |
| Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .       | 87            | 18    | 11      | 2     |
| Erysipelas .. .. .              | 154           | 42    | *       | *     |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. .. .    | 35            | 15    | 14      | 2     |
| Poliomyelitis .. .. .           | 1             | —     | 1       | —     |
| Polioencephalitis .. .. .       | —             | 2     |         | —     |
| Pneumonia .. .. .               | 904           | 226   | 338     | 85    |
| Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. . | —             | 1     | 5       | 2     |
| Dysentery .. .. .               | 29            | 25    | *       | *     |

\* Not classified in Registrar-General's Return.

### VACCINATION.

The ineffectiveness of the working of the Vaccination Acts is shown on examination of the Returns of the various Vaccination Officers for the year 1st January to 31st December, 1942, where it is seen that out of 11,253 children born during the year in whom vaccination was possible, only 32.5 per cent were subsequently protected against smallpox.

### SCABIES.

In my Report for 1942 I gave full particulars of the co-operation afforded by the County Council to the District Councils, who are responsible for initial action under the Order made in 1941 which provides measures for dealing with persons suffering from scabies. Briefly, the facilities offered, without cost to the local rates, were as follows :—

1. The use of the premises and supplies of hot water at First Aid Posts and Cleansing Stations.
2. The services of County Health Visitors, where other circumstances permit, at the cleansing sessions.
3. In-patient treatment at a Public Assistance Institution of any person whose condition definitely necessitates admission.



During 1943, 12 of the 35 local Councils took advantage of the first mentioned facility, and, in total, 1,281 cleansing sessions were held at First Aid Posts, a session being considered any period up to three hours. One hundred and thirty-nine patients were treated at the Public Assistance Institutions, 120 of whom were admitted during the year.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

The treatment scheme is administered by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Board for Tuberculosis, whose Annual Report deals extensively with all aspects of the work. From the public health point of view, however, each year I stress the importance of housing in the field of prevention. It is known that, under present conditions, too large a proportion of patients suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs are not able to have separate bedrooms, a fact which must be deplored. It is hoped, therefore, that when the housing schemes, which must follow the war, are formulated, this problem will be given prominence, and a solution obtained.

Given below are the 1943 statistics for the Administrative County.

The following table shows new cases of tuberculosis, including primary notifications and cases which came to notice, otherwise than by formal notification, and deaths from the disease, classified according to age and sex:—

| AGE PERIODS.   | NEW CASES |     |               |     | DEATHS.   |     |               |    |
|----------------|-----------|-----|---------------|-----|-----------|-----|---------------|----|
|                | Pulmonary |     | Non-Pulmonary |     | Pulmonary |     | Non-Pulmonary |    |
|                | M.        | F.  | M.            | F.  | M.        | F.  | M.            | F. |
| 0—             | 1         | —   | 4             | 1   | 2         | —   | 5             | 2  |
| 1—             | 6         | 8   | 23            | 15  | 1         | 1   | 11            | 10 |
| 5—             | 13        | 10  | 35            | 23  | 1         | 3   | 6             | 3  |
| 10—            | 15        | 12  | 15            | 16  |           |     |               |    |
| 15—            | 50        | 51  | 12            | 16  |           |     |               |    |
| 20—            | 49        | 77  | 5             | 9   | 120       | 111 | 10            | 11 |
| 25—            | 82        | 81  | 8             | 12  |           |     |               |    |
| 35—            | 63        | 31  | 10            | 4   |           |     |               |    |
| 45—            | 62        | 31  | 3             | 6   | 92        | 30  | 6             | 6  |
| 55—            | 49        | 17  | 1             | —   |           |     |               |    |
| 65 and upwards | 10        | 4   | 2             | 3   | 11        | 1   | —             | 5  |
| Totals ..      | 400       | 322 | 118           | 105 | 227       | 146 | 38            | 37 |

Three hundred and seventy-three persons died from pulmonary tuberculosis and 75 from other forms of tuberculosis, the death-rates being 0·48 and 0·10 per thousand of the population, respect-



ively. The corresponding rates for 1942 were 0.48 and 0.12. In the general tables at the end of the Report the rates for each Sanitary District will be found.

The table which follows shows the death-rates in the Urban and Rural Districts of the County from 1914.

| Year | Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population |       |                             |       |
|------|--|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
|      | Phthisis                               |       | Other forms of Tuberculosis |       |
|      | Urban                                  | Rural | Urban                       | Rural |
| 1914 | 0.89                                   | 0.54  | 0.31                        | 0.20  |
| 1915 | 0.94                                   | 0.67  | 0.34                        | 0.29  |
| 1916 | 1.01                                   | 0.80  | 0.40                        | 0.29  |
| 1917 | 1.01                                   | 0.74  | 0.34                        | 0.31  |
| 1918 | 1.03                                   | 0.88  | 0.31                        | 0.28  |
| 1919 | 0.83                                   | 0.61  | 0.22                        | 0.30  |
| 1920 | 0.75                                   | 0.56  | 0.30                        | 0.21  |
| 1921 | 0.80                                   | 0.53  | 0.23                        | 0.21  |
| 1922 | 0.80                                   | 0.55  | 0.24                        | 0.17  |
| 1923 | 0.75                                   | 0.58  | 0.25                        | 0.22  |
| 1924 | 0.73                                   | 0.58  | 0.22                        | 0.20  |
| 1925 | 0.83                                   | 0.49  | 0.22                        | 0.14  |
| 1926 | 0.74                                   | 0.50  | 0.22                        | 0.11  |
| 1927 | 0.73                                   | 0.44  | 0.21                        | 0.22  |
| 1928 | 0.64                                   | 0.48  | 0.14                        | 0.13  |
| 1929 | 0.76                                   | 0.54  | 0.15                        | 0.12  |
| 1930 | 0.72                                   | 0.54  | 0.15                        | 0.13  |
| 1931 | 0.78                                   | 0.52  | 0.17                        | 0.13  |
| 1932 | 0.64                                   | 0.42  | 0.16                        | 0.14  |
| 1933 | 0.72                                   | 0.50  | 0.14                        | 0.08  |
| 1934 | 0.67                                   | 0.43  | 0.11                        | 0.16  |
| 1935 | 0.67                                   | 0.35  | 0.13                        | 0.08  |
| 1936 | 0.53                                   | 0.34  | 0.11                        | 0.08  |
| 1937 | 0.60                                   | 0.41  | 0.13                        | 0.11  |
| 1938 | 0.56                                   | 0.29  | 0.13                        | 0.11  |
| 1939 | 0.52                                   | 0.35  | 0.09                        | 0.11  |
| 1940 | 0.51                                   | 0.29  | 0.11                        | 0.06  |
| 1941 | 0.57                                   | 0.33  | 0.16                        | 0.14  |
| 1942 | 0.52                                   | 0.34  | 0.13                        | 0.10  |
| 1943 | 0.55                                   | 0.29  | 0.11                        | 0.07  |

#### NOTIFICATION.

The following are particulars of the primary notifications made from 1916 :—

|      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1916 | 1917 | 1918 | 1919 | 1920 | 1921 | 1922 | 1923 | 1924 | 1925 | 1926 | 1927 | 1928 | 1929 |
| 1048 | 873  | 856  | 699  | 642  | 929  | 971  | 1029 | 974  | 1232 | 1400 | 1106 | 1194 | 1017 |
| 1930 | 1931 | 1932 | 1933 | 1934 | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |
| 1021 | 1129 | 1074 | 1011 | 929  | 825  | 831  | 858  | 789  | 726  | 669  | 788  | 830  | 841  |



In addition to the 841 primary notifications in 1943, 104 cases, compared with 117 in the previous year, came to knowledge from other sources, 45 of which were transfers from other areas. It was found that 47 unnotified cases had died, and in 2 further instances notification was made after death. These 49 deaths give a ratio of 1 in 9.1 of the total deaths ; roughly, 8 out of 9 deaths were of cases notified under the Regulations before decease.

The total notifications are classified in a preceding table and the incidence in the sexes and age groups should be specially observed.

#### REGISTERS OF DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

At the end of the year the following cases were included in these registers :—

| TOTAL<br>CASES | PULMONARY |      |       | NON-PULMONARY |      |       |
|----------------|-----------|------|-------|---------------|------|-------|
|                | M.        | F.   | Total | M.            | F.   | Total |
| 7417           | 2628      | 2380 | 5008  | 1272          | 1137 | 2409  |

This indicates that there is one case of tuberculosis in every 104 persons, or 9.6 per thousand of the population. It also shows that, during the year, approximately one death occurred amongst 18 cases, which compares favourably with the expert opinion that for every death there are at least 10 persons suffering from the disease.

#### CANCER.

In the following table, the deaths from Cancer during 1943 in age and sex groups, in the Urban and Rural Districts of the County, are shown :—

| Age<br>Groups | Urban Districts |        |       | Rural Districts |        |       | Grand<br>Total |
|---------------|-----------------|--------|-------|-----------------|--------|-------|----------------|
|               | Male            | Female | Total | Male            | Female | Total |                |
| 0— ..         | —               | —      | —     | —               | —      | —     | —              |
| 1— ..         | 3               | 2      | 5     | 1               | 1      | 2     | 7              |
| 5— ..         | 1               | 2      | 3     | 1               | —      | 1     | 4              |
| 15— ..        | 34              | 31     | 65    | 7               | 17     | 24    | 89             |
| 45— ..        | 161             | 180    | 341   | 44              | 53     | 97    | 438            |
| 65— ..        | 228             | 180    | 408   | 87              | 95     | 182   | 590            |
| Totals ..     | 427             | 395    | 822   | 140             | 166    | 306   | 1128           |



There was a slight reduction in the deaths from cancer as compared with 1942 when the number was 1,183, the highest recorded, but the difference is not sufficient to indicate a downward tendency. This year cancer was responsible for 13·2 per cent. of the total civilian deaths in the Administrative County, as against 14·8 per cent. last year. In 1942, 95 only of the deaths occurred in persons under the age of 45 years, and there has been little change in that respect, for it will be seen from the preceding table that during the period now under review the corresponding number was 100. As demonstrated earlier in the Report, the last quarter century has seen a great improvement in the expectation of life, for whilst in 1920 48·6 per cent. of the deaths were of persons under 45 years of age, by 1943 the figure had gradually improved to 24·6 per cent. As remarked in previous Reports, this means of course, that there is an increase in the age group more susceptible to the development of cancer.

### **VENEREAL DISEASES.**

Under the County Council scheme for the treatment of Venereal Diseases, agreements have been made with the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent; the Staffordshire General Infirmary, Stafford; the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton; the Guest Hospital, Dudley; the Corbett Hospital, Amblecote; and the Walsall Corporation for the establishment of special clinics. A special arrangement also exists for the treatment of County cases at the Birmingham General Hospital, and there is an agreement with the Children's Hospital, Ladywood Road, Birmingham.

There is one whole-time Venereal Diseases Officer on the staff of the County Council who is responsible for the Clinics at Stafford and Stoke-on-Trent mentioned above. In addition, as a result of war-time staffing difficulties, by an arrangement between the County Council and the Stoke-on-Trent Corporation, he temporarily attends the Shelton Municipal Clinic.

The only treatment centres situated in the Administrative County are those at the Corbett Hospital, Amblecote, and the Staffordshire General Infirmary, Stafford, but the County Council are responsible for the one at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent. The arrangements which exist at Centres in the areas of neighbouring Authorities have already been mentioned, and in a later table the attendances of County patients at the various hospitals are detailed. Again this year the increase in the incidence of these diseases, and the presence of service cases at the Treatment Centres, has not been sufficient to demand any extension of our pre-war facilities.

As previously reported, at the instigation of the Ministry of Health a General Practitioner Service was established at Lichfield



in March, 1942, but during 1943 no patients took advantage of it. In the previous period one person only was dealt with and at the first attendance asked to be transferred to another Treatment Centre. This result was not altogether unexpected, for it is the general experience that venereal diseases patients prefer to travel some distance for treatment, and the Centres at Walsall and Birmingham are fairly accessible to Lichfield. However, the Service is still in existence and the County Venereal Diseases Officer keeps in touch with the General Practitioners.

This year the County Council decided to double their winter propaganda campaign and allocated £400 for the purpose. Originally it was intended to have courses of lectures throughout the Administrative County, and fourteen of the Urban Districts were selected, the Central Council for Health Education being asked to make the necessary arrangements. Unfortunately, owing to extreme shortage of staff, the Central Council found the complete campaign too formidable, and, in fact, it was only possible to have courses of four film illustrated lectures at each of the following places :—Tettenhall, Tipton, Walsall Wood (Brownhills U.D.) and Willenhall. In addition, a Factory and Public Meeting was held at Tean Mills (Cheadle R.D.). The success of these campaigns from a propaganda point of view has already been proved, and the Area Representative of the Central Council has intimated that with an improved staffing situation they hope to offer adequate services in future.

Towards the end of 1942, Regulation 33B, which provides for the compulsory treatment of venereal diseases in certain circumstances, was added to the Defence (General) Regulations, the County and County Borough Councils being concerned with its administration. The object of the Regulation is to bring under medical care those infected persons on whom educational work and methods of persuasion make no impression, so that they remain a constant source of danger to the health of the community. Briefly, the working of the scheme is as follows :—

A patient suffering from the disease may declare to a Venereologist the name, address and description, of the suspected contact, and after attention has been drawn to the penalties for statements known to be false, the particulars are entered on a prescribed form which is forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health of the County or County Borough where the contact resides. The compulsory powers can only be exercised where it is apparent from these forms that the same person is suspected by two or more patients to be the source of their infection, but, later, the Ministry of Health suggested that unofficial approach might be made with advantage to those contacts in respect of whom single copies of the form only had been received. Needless to say, the strictest secrecy is required,



and the compulsory powers are not used until attempts at persuasion have failed. Where two or more declarations have been received in respect of the same contact, and the person concerned will not voluntarily accept examination, a notice under the Regulation is served requiring attendance at a Treatment Centre within a prescribed period. If this requirement is observed and the contact is found to be free from venereal disease in a communicable form, a "clearance certificate" is issued, but, on the other hand, if further examination or treatment is necessary the Venereal Diseases Officer serves a treatment notice requiring attendance and compliance with his instructions until he can certify the patient free from the disease. Default to continue examination or treatment is reported to the Medical Officer of Health concerned, whose duty it is to take all necessary steps to bring the contact under medical care, and when all else fails, the County or County Borough Council can authorise proceedings.

In this Administrative County the Supervisors of Midwives and Health Visitors were deputed to make all personal visits to female contacts, the County Sanitary Inspector to act similarly as far as males are concerned. The first contact was brought to notice on the 8th February, 1943, and by the end of the year the number had grown to 42, one only being a male. In two instances only were more than one declaration received in respect of the same woman, one of whom voluntarily accepted and continued treatment. The other, however, defaulted after several attempts at persuasion, and there was no alternative but to take proceedings against her. She was sentenced to three months imprisonment, but was released before the expiration of that period in view of advanced pregnancy. In the remaining 40 instances, where single forms only had been received, attempts were made to trace and unofficially approach the contacts, with the following final results :—

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Already attending Treatment Centres.. ..                                     | 7  |
| Attended as a result of the unofficial visits .. ..                          | 3  |
| Promised to attend .. .. .   | 5  |
| Promised to see own doctor .. .. .   | 1  |
| Under treatment by own doctor .. .. .  | 1  |
| Stated had been examined and found free from the<br>disease .. .. .          | 1  |
| Examination refused .. .. .  | 3  |
| Left for areas of other Local Authorities and records<br>transferred .. .. . | 7  |
| Left for Northern Ireland, an area not included in the<br>scheme .. .. .     | 1  |
| Left but will probably return .. .. .  | 1  |
| No trace .. .. .   | 10 |
|  | —  |
|  | 40 |
|  | —  |



As will be seen, a quarter of the contacts could not be traced, and it should be pointed out that on some of the declarations made by patients scanty information only is given, *i.e.*, a christian name, the name of a town, a place frequented and a brief description.

During the year, 1,219 Staffordshire patients attended for treatment for the first time, compared with 914 in 1942, and the following detailed table indicates where it was obtained. The attendances shown in the appropriate column, however, relate to all patients and include visits by those referred for treatment in previous years. The foregoing figures appear to signify a substantial increase in the incidence of the diseases, but this was not so, for it will be seen that in 1943 783 of the persons who attended were found not to be infected, whereas the corresponding figure in the previous year was 512. The actual cases in 1942 and 1943 were 402 and 436, respectively.

| TREATMET CENTRE  | Syphilis | Soft chancre | Gonorrhœa | Non-Venereal | Total New Cases | Attendances (all patients) |
|--|----------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Birmingham General Hospital .. ..                          | 23       | —            | 13        | 85           | 121             | 1949                       |
| Burton-on-Trent General Infirmary ..                       | 5        | —            | 7         | 11           | 23              | 169                        |
| Derby Royal Infirmary .. ..                                | 2        | —            | 3         | 16           | 21              | 233                        |
| Dudley Guest Hospital .. ..                                | 24       | —            | 33        | 131          | 188             | 2992                       |
| Salford .. ..  | —        | —            | 1         | —            | 1               | 25                         |
| Stafford (Staffordshire General Infirmary)                 | 9        | —            | 20        | 38           | 67              | 945                        |
| Stoke-on-Trent (North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary) .. .. | 46       | —            | 68        | 131          | 245             | 8111                       |
| Stoke-on-Trent (Municipal Clinic, Shelton) .. ..           | 3        | —            | 8         | 30           | 41              | 481                        |
| Stourbridge (Corbett Hospital) .. ..                       | 9        | 1            | 16        | 25           | 51              | 1297                       |
| Walsall (Manor Hospital) .. ..                             | 13       | —            | 31        | 84           | 128             | 2034                       |
| Wolverhampton Royal Hospital .. ..                         | 29       | 1            | 71        | 232          | 333             | 5111                       |
| Totals .. ..   | 163      | 2            | 271       | 783          | 1219            | 23347                      |

Free samples of Salvarsan or its substitutes are issued to General Practitioners, who comply with the necessary requirements, for the treatment of Staffordshire cases in their practices. At the end of 1943 the names of 38 doctors appeared on the approved list, one of whom took advantage of the provision during the year.

The County Council have arrangements for the admission of patients from the Administrative County to Cleveland House, Wolverhampton, an institution for the reception of expectant mothers suffering from venereal disease. In 1943 seven such patients were treated, six of whom were admitted during the year.

W. D. CARRUTHERS,

December, 1944.

County Medical Officer of Health.



Table showing Number of Persons per acre, Birth and Death-rates as well as the Death-rates at all ages and among Children under 1 year, and the Death-rates from Zymotic Diseases, Tuberculosis, Diseases of the Respiratory Organs, &c.

URBAN.

| District         | Number of persons per acre | Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population | Still-births, Rate per 1,000 of Population | Crude death-rate per 1,000 of Population | Mortality in children under one year per 1,000 registered live births | Zymotic Mortality              |         |               |                |            | Per 1,000 of Population |                         |                              |                                    |                             |        |            |           | Premature Birth            | Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases |
|------------------|----------------------------|---|--|--|---|--------------------------------|---------|---------------|----------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|----------------------------|--|
|                  |                            |   |  |  |   | Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers | Measles | Scarlet Fever | Whooping Cough | Diphtheria | Per 1,000 of Population |                         | Diarrhoea (under five years) | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | Other Forms of Tuberculosis | Cancer | Bronchitis | Pneumonia | Other Respiratory Diseases | Nephritis  |
|                  |                            |   |  |  |   |                                |         |               |                |            | Per 1,000 live Births   | Per 1,000 of Population |                              |                                    |                             |        |            |           |                            |  |
| Aldridge ..      | 2.6                        | 23.2                                    | 0.78                                       | 9.3                                      | 50  | —                              | 0.12    | 0.04          | 0.04           | 0.08       | 7.1                     | 0.29                    | —                            | 1.44                               | 0.58                        | 0.83   | 0.12       | 0.12      | 0.25                       | 0.33   |
| Amblecote ..     | 4.2                        | 13.2                                    | —  | 13.2                                     | 27  | —                              | —       | —             | —              | —          | —                       | 0.36                    | 0.36                         | 1.79                               | 1.79                        | —      | —          | —         | 0.36                       | 0.36   |
| Biddulph ..      | 1.5                        | 20.9                                    | 0.90                                       | 10.3                                     | 29  | —                              | —       | —             | —              | —          | —                       | 0.10                    | 0.10                         | 1.30                               | 0.50                        | 0.20   | 0.30       | 0.40      | 0.10                       | 0.30   |
| Bilston ..       | 16.4                       | 21.2                                    | 0.46                                       | 11.3                                     | 73  | —                              | —       | 0.03          | 0.10           | 0.03       | 10.8                    | 0.72                    | 0.03                         | 1.31                               | 1.06                        | 0.75   | 0.16       | 0.29      | 0.23                       | 0.52   |
| Brierley Hill .. | 7.5                        | 20.2                                    | 0.79                                       | 11.8                                     | 57  | —                              | 0.02    | —             | —              | 0.13       | —                       | 0.72                    | 0.16                         | 1.33                               | 1.26                        | 0.38   | 0.27       | 0.22      | 0.47                       | 0.18   |
| Brownhills ..    | 3.1                        | 21.0                                    | 0.96                                       | 12.2                                     | 62  | —                              | 0.10    | 0.05          | 0.05           | 0.25       | 9.6                     | 0.30                    | 0.15                         | 1.56                               | 1.16                        | 0.70   | 0.10       | 0.45      | 0.20                       | 0.25   |
| Cannock ..       | 4.6                        | 20.6                                    | 0.56                                       | 10.8                                     | 44  | —                              | —       | —             | —              | 0.11       | 6.5                     | 0.56                    | 0.08                         | 1.34                               | 0.67                        | 0.43   | 0.08       | 0.29      | 0.24                       | 0.27   |
| Coseley ..       | 9.2                        | 22.6                                    | 0.76                                       | 10.4                                     | 61  | —                              | 0.07    | —             | 0.10           | 0.13       | 5.9                     | 0.92                    | 0.17                         | 1.19                               | 0.40                        | 1.06   | 0.07       | 0.20      | 0.43                       | 0.17   |
| Darlaston ..     | 13.3                       | 21.8                                    | 0.79                                       | 10.3                                     | 43  | —                              | —       | 0.05          | —              | 0.25       | 6.8                     | 0.49                    | 0.10                         | 1.08                               | 0.98                        | 0.54   | 0.20       | 0.15      | 0.29                       | 0.29   |
| Kidsgrove ..     | 3.4                        | 21.2                                    | 0.86                                       | 12.4                                     | 44  | —                              | —       | —             | 0.07           | —          | 3.4                     | 0.57                    | 0.07                         | 1.29                               | 0.64                        | 0.14   | 0.71       | 0.07      | 0.43                       | 0.21   |
| Leek ..          | 4.2                        | 16.8                                    | 0.83                                       | 14.0                                     | 39  | —                              | —       | —             | 0.06           | —          | 6.6                     | 0.44                    | —                            | 2.15                               | 0.44                        | 0.39   | 0.22       | 0.50      | 0.11                       | 0.22   |
| Lichfield ..     | 2.6                        | 19.2                                    | 0.32                                       | 14.0                                     | 66  | —                              | —       | —             | —              | —          | —                       | 0.32                    | —                            | 2.12                               | 1.06                        | 0.32   | 0.32       | 0.21      | 0.32                       | 0.32   |
| Newcastle ..     | 7.0                        | 20.3                                    | 0.75                                       | 11.1                                     | 49  | —                              | 0.02    | 0.02          | 0.03           | 0.02       | 3.9                     | 0.48                    | 0.14                         | 1.45                               | 0.75                        | 0.62   | 0.18       | 0.29      | 0.30                       | 0.29   |



# URBAN--continued

| District.   | Number of persons<br>per acre | Live Birth-rate per<br>1,000 of Population | Still-births, Rate per<br>1,000 of Population | Crude death-rate per<br>1,000 of Population | Mortality in children<br>under one year per 1,000<br>registered live births | Zymotic Mortality                   |         |               |                   |      |            | Per 1,000 of Population         |                                       |                                |        |            |           |                               |           |                 |  |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------|-------------------|------|------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--|
|   |                               |  |   |   |   | Per 1,000 of Population             |         |               |                   |      | Diphtheria | Diarrhoea<br>(under<br>2 years) | Tuberculosis of<br>Respiratory System | Other Forms of<br>Tuberculosis | Cancer | Bronchitis | Pneumonia | Other Respiratory<br>Diseases | Nephritis | Premature Birth | Congenital Malforma-<br>tions, Birth Injuries,<br>Infantile Diseases |
|   |                               |  |   |   |   | Typhoid and<br>Paratyphoid<br>Fever | Measles | Scarlet Fever | Whooping<br>Cough |      |            |                                 |                                       |                                |        |            |           |                               |           |                 |  |
| Rowley Regis ..   | 11.9                          | 21.4                                       | 0.68  | 10.1  | 43  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | 0.18 | —          | 0.70                            | 0.09                                  | 1.21                           | 1.08   | 0.48       | 0.26      | 0.20                          | 0.20      | 0.24            |  |
| Rugeley ..  | 2.7                           | 19.7                                       | 0.77  | 12.7  | 45  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | —    | —          | 0.13                            | 0.13                                  | 1.28                           | 0.77   | 0.26       | 0.13      | 0.51                          | 0.26      | 0.26            |  |
| Sedgley ..  | 5.4                           | 17.4                                       | 0.48  | 11.2  | 60  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | 0.19 | 5.5        | 0.67                            | —                                     | 1.91                           | 0.91   | 0.57       | —         | 0.05                          | 0.29      | 0.19            |  |
| Stafford ..   | 7.1                           | 18.3                                       | 0.64  | 10.5  | 45  | —                                   | 0.03    | —             | 0.03              | —    | 1.5        | 0.50                            | 0.08                                  | 1.36                           | 0.58   | 0.42       | 0.11      | 0.30                          | 0.22      | 0.19            |  |
| Stone ..  | 4.6                           | 22.3                                       | 0.27  | 10.7  | 36  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | 0.13 | —          | 0.54                            | 0.27                                  | 1.61                           | 0.27   | —          | 0.27      | 0.27                          | 0.27      | —               |  |
| Tamworth ..   | 4.6                           | 19.0                                       | 0.40  | 9.9   | 51  | —                                   | —       | —             | 0.08              | —    | —          | 0.24                            | —                                     | 1.38                           | 0.40   | 0.24       | —         | 0.57                          | 0.49      | 0.24            |  |
| Tettenhall ..   | 2.7                           | 19.3                                       | 1.03  | 11.2  | 31  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | —    | —          | 0.15                            | —                                     | 1.62                           | 0.44   | 0.44       | —         | —                             | 0.15      | 0.29            |  |
| Tipton ..   | 16.4                          | 23.0                                       | 0.76  | 11.5  | 62  | —                                   | —       | —             | 0.06              | 0.31 | 9.8        | 0.79                            | 0.25                                  | 1.43                           | 0.62   | 0.81       | 0.14      | 0.20                          | 0.31      | 0.31            |  |
| Uttoxeter ..  | 2.0                           | 19.5                                       | 1.02  | 10.2  | 37  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | —    | 14.9       | 0.29                            | 0.15                                  | 1.31                           | 0.58   | 0.58       | 0.15      | —                             | —         | 0.29            |  |
| Wednesbury ..   | 15.8                          | 20.0                                       | 0.69  | 10.9  | 39  | —                                   | 0.03    | —             | 0.16              | 0.19 | 4.7        | 0.53                            | 0.09                                  | 1.40                           | 1.09   | 0.75       | 0.12      | 0.25                          | 0.12      | 0.28            |  |
| Wednesfield ..  | 6.1                           | 23.2                                       | 0.98  | 10.6  | 68  | —                                   | 0.07    | —             | —                 | 0.07 | 14.1       | 0.13                            | 0.13                                  | 1.18                           | 0.39   | 0.72       | 0.13      | 0.52                          | 0.46      | 0.39            |  |
| Willenhall ..   | 10.1                          | 21.5                                       | 0.49  | 11.2  | 64  | —                                   | —       | —             | —                 | 0.11 | 6.5        | 0.67                            | 0.11                                  | 1.61                           | 0.70   | 0.95       | 0.14      | 0.21                          | 0.32      | 0.25            |  |
| Totals and Averages ..                                  | 5.8                           | 20.6                                       | 0.69  | 11.1  | 52  | —                                   | 0.02    | 0.01          | 0.04              | 0.11 | 5.0        | 0.55                            | 0.11                                  | 1.42                           | 0.79   | 0.58       | 0.16      | 0.26                          | 0.28      | 0.27            |  |
| 126 large towns in England ..                           | —                             | 18.6                                       | 0.63  | 14.2  | 58  | 0.00                                | 0.02    | 0.00          | 0.03              | 0.04 | 7.9        | —                               | —                                     | —                              | —      | —          | —         | —                             | —         | —               |  |
| 148 smaller towns, resident<br>Population 25,000-50,000 | —                             | 19.4                                       | 0.61  | 12.7  | 46  | 0.00                                | 0.02    | 0.00          | 0.03              | 0.04 | 4.4        | —                               | —                                     | —                              | —      | —          | —         | —                             | —         | —               |  |



# RURAL

| District.              | Zymotic Mortality             |   |  |  |   |                                    |                             |        |            |           | Per 1,000 of Population        |         |               |                |            |                           |                       |                            |           |                 |  |      |      |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--|--|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---------|---------------|----------------|------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--|------|------|
|                        | Mean Area per Person in acres | Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population | Still-births, Rate per 1,000 of Population | Crude death-rate per 1,000 of Population | Mortality in children under one year per 1,000 registered live births | Per 1,000 of Population            |                             |        |            |           | Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers | Measles | Scarlet Fever | Whooping Cough | Diphtheria | Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | Per 1,000 live Births |                            |           |                 |  |      |      |
|                        |                               |   |  |  |   | Per 1,000 of Population            |                             |        |            |           |                                |         |               |                |            |                           |                       |                            |           |                 |  |      |      |
|                        |                               |   |  |  |   | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | Other Forms of Tuberculosis | Cancer | Bronchitis | Pneumonia |                                |         |               |                |            |                           |                       | Other Respiratory Diseases | Nephritis | Premature Birth | Congenital Malformations, Birth Injuries, Infantile Diseases |      |      |
| Cannock ..             | 2.5                           | 18.7                                    | 0.45                                       | 10.4                                     | 33  | —                                  | —                           | —      | —          | —         | —                              | —       | 0.04          | 2.4            | 0.40       | 0.09                      | 1.38                  | 0.45                       | 0.40      | 0.09            | 0.36   | 0.27 | 0.13 |
| Cheadle ..             | 1.9                           | 18.8                                    | 0.45                                       | 10.4                                     | 43  | —                                  | —                           | —      | —          | —         | —                              | —       | 0.03          | 6.8            | 0.19       | 0.06                      | 1.86                  | 0.54                       | 0.26      | 0.06            | 0.54   | 0.16 | 0.38 |
| Leek ..                | 4.7                           | 16.9                                    | 0.65                                       | 10.7                                     | 43  | —                                  | 0.07                        | —      | —          | —         | —                              | —       | —             | 3.9            | 0.20       | 0.20                      | 1.89                  | 0.72                       | 0.33      | 0.33            | 0.26   | 0.07 | 0.52 |
| Lichfield ..           | 2.6                           | 17.7                                    | 0.71                                       | 10.7                                     | 45  | —                                  | —                           | —      | 0.03       | 0.03      | —                              | —       | —             | 5.2            | 0.34       | 0.06                      | 1.45                  | 0.74                       | 0.71      | 0.06            | 0.19   | 0.19 | 0.22 |
| Newcastle ..           | 2.5                           | 17.6                                    | 0.87                                       | 12.1                                     | 53  | —                                  | 0.06                        | —      | —          | —         | —                              | —       | —             | 3.5            | 0.31       | 0.12                      | 1.30                  | 0.68                       | 0.31      | 0.12            | 0.74   | 0.43 | 0.25 |
| Seisdon ..             | 2.1                           | 21.0                                    | 0.75                                       | 10.1                                     | 41  | —                                  | 0.05                        | 0.05   | 0.05       | 0.05      | —                              | —       | —             | —              | 0.20       | —                         | 1.56                  | 0.40                       | 0.86      | 0.20            | 0.25   | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| Stafford ..            | 5.6                           | 21.1                                    | 0.55                                       | 13.0                                     | 69  | —                                  | —                           | —      | —          | —         | —                              | —       | —             | 6.6            | 0.35       | 0.07                      | 1.32                  | 0.76                       | 0.69      | 0.07            | 0.21   | 0.49 | 0.49 |
| Stone ..               | 3.5                           | 11.5                                    | 0.68                                       | 8.5                                      | 25  | —                                  | —                           | 0.06   | 0.06       | —         | —                              | —       | —             | —              | 0.17       | —                         | 1.53                  | 0.51                       | 0.17      | —               | 0.23   | 0.11 | 0.17 |
| Tutbury ..             | 2.4                           | 19.2                                    | 0.83                                       | 13.8                                     | 63  | —                                  | —                           | —      | —          | —         | —                              | —       | 0.15          | 4.0            | 0.38       | —                         | 2.27                  | 0.98                       | 0.23      | 0.15            | 0.45   | 0.68 | 0.38 |
| Uttoxeter ..           | 5.8                           | 15.8                                    | 0.82                                       | 10.9                                     | 33  | —                                  | —                           | —      | 0.10       | —         | —                              | —       | —             | —              | 0.41       | 0.21                      | 1.34                  | 0.31                       | 0.21      | 0.41            | 0.10   | 0.16 | 0.21 |
| Totals and Averages .. | 3.0                           | 18.0                                    | 0.65                                       | 10.9                                     | 45  | —                                  | 0.02                        | 0.01   | 0.02       | 0.03      | 3.8                            | 0.29    | 0.07          | 1.59           | 0.61       | 0.44                      | 0.12                  | 0.34                       | 0.25      | 0.29            |  |      |      |



Table showing the Attack-Rates per 1,000 of the population of certain Infectious Diseases notified in each sanitary area during the 52 weeks ended 1st January, 1944.

**URBAN**

| DISTRICT         | Small-pox | Typhoid |      | Para-Typhoid | Scarlet Fever | Whooping Cough | Diphtheria | Erysipelas | Measles | Pneumonia | Puer-peral Pyrexia | Cerebro-spinal Fever Cases | Polio-myelitis Cases | Encephalitis Lethargica Cases |
|------------------|-----------|---------|------|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
|                  | Rate      | Rate    | Rate | Rate         | Rate          | Rate           | Rate       | Rate       | Rate    | Rate      | Rate               |                            |                      |                               |
| Aldridge ..      | —         | —       | —    | —            | 3.75          | 6.93           | 1.49       | 0.41       | 27.14   | 2.27      | 0.08               | —                          | —                    | —                             |
| Amblecote ..     | —         | —       | —    | —            | 7.51          | 1.79           | 1.43       | 0.36       | 2.15    | —         | —                  | —                          | —                    | —                             |
| Biddulph ..      | —         | 0.10    | —    | —            | 4.21          | 4.01           | —          | 0.80       | 1.30    | 3.31      | 0.20               | 1                          | —                    | —                             |
| Bilston ..       | —         | —       | —    | —            | 3.60          | 3.04           | 2.09       | 0.33       | 9.02    | 3.24      | 0.10               | 4                          | —                    | —                             |
| Brierley Hill .. | —         | —       | —    | —            | 3.80          | 3.26           | 3.55       | 0.34       | 8.45    | 1.17      | 0.22               | —                          | —                    | —                             |
| Brownhills ..    | —         | —       | —    | —            | 7.50          | 9.06           | 3.57       | 0.60       | 23.16   | 2.27      | 0.15               | —                          | —                    | —                             |
| Cannock ..       | —         | —       | —    | —            | 6.89          | 1.98           | 2.20       | 0.16       | 2.01    | 0.72      | 0.19               | 2                          | —                    | —                             |
| Coseley ..       | —         | —       | —    | —            | 2.91          | 4.00           | 1.29       | 0.40       | 12.42   | 3.04      | 0.03               | 1                          | —                    | —                             |
| Darlaston ..     | —         | —       | —    | —            | 2.95          | 1.18           | 2.41       | 0.10       | 9.78    | 1.03      | 0.29               | 3                          | —                    | —                             |
| Kidsgrove ..     | —         | —       | —    | —            | 1.64          | 6.57           | 0.14       | 0.79       | 3.14    | 1.64      | 0.21               | 1                          | —                    | —                             |
| Leek ..          | —         | 0.11    | —    | —            | 11.31         | 2.76           | 0.83       | 0.11       | 22.67   | 0.11      | 0.11               | 1                          | —                    | —                             |
| Lichfield ..     | —         | —       | —    | —            | 2.66          | 3.51           | 1.49       | —          | 12.43   | 1.06      | 0.85               | —                          | —                    | —                             |
| Newcastle ..     | —         | —       | —    | 0.02         | 2.03          | 3.68           | 0.78       | 0.14       | 4.97    | 0.83      | 0.08               | 8                          | 1                    | —                             |



**URBAN—continued**

| DISTRICT        | Small-pox | Typhoid | Pa a-typhoid | Scarlet Fever | Whooping Cough | Diphtheria | Erysipelas | Measles | Pneumonia | Puer-peral Pyrexia | Cerebro-spinal Fever Cases | Poliomyelitis Cases | Encephalitis Lethargica Cases |
|-----------------|-----------|---------|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
|                 | Rate      | Rate    | Rate         | Rate          | Rate           | Rate       | Rate       | Rate    | Rate      | Rate               |                            |                     |                               |
| Rowley Regis .. | —         | —       | —            | 1.72          | 1.45           | 1.76       | 0.07       | 4.91    | 0.66      | 0.02               | 3                          | —                   | —                             |
| Rugeley ..      | —         | —       | —            | 1.79          | 0.77           | 0.90       | —          | 0.26    | 0.51      | —                  | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Sedgley ..      | —         | —       | —            | 1.43          | 1.14           | 2.00       | 0.10       | 9.30    | 0.29      | 0.19               | 3                          | —                   | —                             |
| Stafford ..     | —         | 0.03    | —            | 4.93          | 5.65           | 0.28       | 0.47       | 20.75   | 0.69      | 0.19               | 4                          | —                   | —                             |
| Stone ..        | —         | —       | —            | 1.48          | 9.26           | 1.07       | 0.13       | 16.50   | 1.88      | 0.13               | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Tamworth ..     | —         | —       | —            | 1.94          | 2.51           | 0.16       | 0.16       | 1.29    | 1.70      | —                  | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Tettenhall ..   | —         | —       | —            | 1.47          | 3.97           | —          | —          | 15.29   | 1.76      | 0.29               | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Tipton ..       | —         | 0.03    | —            | 4.02          | 2.53           | 3.71       | 0.31       | 6.71    | 2.98      | 0.03               | 2                          | —                   | —                             |
| Uttoxeter ..    | —         | —       | —            | 1.60          | 8.14           | 0.15       | —          | 1.89    | —         | 0.44               | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Wednesbury ..   | —         | —       | —            | 3.24          | 1.78           | 3.90       | 0.28       | 19.38   | 1.99      | 0.12               | 2                          | —                   | —                             |
| Wednesfield ..  | —         | —       | —            | 5.05          | 5.05           | 1.51       | 0.39       | 16.07   | 3.87      | 0.39               | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Willenhall ..   | —         | —       | —            | 7.01          | 1.02           | 0.81       | 0.18       | 12.61   | 1.82      | 0.21               | —                          | —                   | —                             |



# RURAL

| DISTRICT     | Small-pox | Typhoid | Para-Typhoid | Scarlet Fever | Whooping Cough | Diphtheria | Erysipelas | Measles | Pneumonia | Puer-peral Pyrexia | Cerebro-spinal Fever Cases | Poliomyelitis Cases | Encephalitis Lethargica Cases |
|--------------|-----------|---------|--------------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
|              | Rate      | Rate    | Rate         | Rate          | Rate           | Rate       | Rate       | Rate    | Rate      | Rate               |                            |                     |                               |
| Cannock ..   | —         | —       | —            | 4.11          | 4.02           | 1.34       | 0.40       | 4.15    | 1.87      | 0.04               | 2                          | —                   | —                             |
| Cheadle ..   | —         | —       | 0.06         | 4.26          | 2.62           | 0.19       | 0.26       | 10.88   | 1.25      | 0.19               | 1                          | —                   | 1                             |
| Leek ..      | —         | 0.07    | —            | 2.02          | 0.78           | 0.20       | 0.20       | 6.79    | 0.39      | —                  | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Lichfield .. | —         | —       | —            | 2.01          | 2.19           | 0.31       | 0.06       | 9.95    | 1.76      | 0.06               | 4                          | —                   | —                             |
| Newcastle .. | —         | —       | 0.06         | 0.93          | 9.83           | 0.49       | 0.49       | 11.87   | 1.11      | 0.06               | 2                          | —                   | —                             |
| Seisdon ..   | —         | 0.05    | —            | 3.22          | 4.07           | 0.70       | 0.20       | 14.89   | 1.26      | 0.15               | 3                          | —                   | —                             |
| Stafford ..  | —         | —       | —            | 4.30          | 5.54           | 0.28       | 0.14       | 7.48    | 0.62      | 0.07               | 1                          | —                   | —                             |
| Stone ..     | —         | 0.06    | —            | 2.44          | 2.62           | 1.14       | 0.06       | 2.16    | 0.80      | 0.23               | 2                          | —                   | —                             |
| Tutbury ..   | —         | —       | —            | 2.73          | 5.00           | 0.76       | 0.30       | 19.85   | 0.83      | —                  | —                          | —                   | —                             |
| Uttoxeter .. | —         | —       | —            | 1.34          | 7.21           | —          | 0.10       | 16.17   | 0.51      | —                  | —                          | —                   | —                             |