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STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. RAMAGE, M.A. (Admin.), M.D.

For the Year 1950

1900



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RURAL

INDEX

	Page		Page
Ambulance Service	51	Maternal Mortality	45
Ante-Natal Clinics	40	Maternity and Nursing Homes	45
Ante-Natal Scheme in Rural Districts	41	Maternity Outfits	41
Artificial Light	42	Mental Deficiency	55
Area Administration	39	Mental Health Services	55
Area and Population	9	Midwives' Fees—Compensa- tion	41
Births	10	Midwives' Service	46
Births, Notification of	43	Milk Supply	22
Cancer	37	Milk in Schools Scheme	26
Care of Mothers and Young Children	39	Mothercraft, Lectures on	50
Chemical Laboratory	13	Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulation Act, 1948	44
Day Nurseries	44	Nurseries (Day)	44
Deaths	11	Nursing Equipment, Provi- sion of	54
Dental Laboratory	42	Occupation Centres	59
Dental Treatment	42	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	41
Diphtheria Immunisation	50	Ophthalmic Treatment	41
Domestic Help Service	54	Orthopaedics	42
Extra Nourishment Scheme	43	Premature Infants, Care of	44
Gas and Air Analgesia	49	Prevention of Illness—Care and After-Care	53
Health Propaganda	39	Puerperal Pyrexia	41, 49
Health Visitors	50	Rural Housing	31
Health Visiting	50	Sewerage and Sewage Dis- posal	28
Home Nursing Service	45	Social Workers	53
Housing Act, The, 1949	33	Statistics, Vital	9
Illegitimate Children— Care of	43	Stillbirths,	10, 49
Infant Welfare Centres	39	Tuberculosis	35
Infantile Mortality	45	Vaccination	50
Infectious Diseases—Preva- lence and Control over	33	Venereal Diseases	38
Inflamed and Discharging Eyes	49	Vital Statistics	9
Lunacy and Mental Treat- ment Acts	57	Water Supplies	27

INDEX

Faded index text with columns for page numbers and subject headings. Some legible entries include: "Water supplies", "Vital statistics", "Vaccination", "Infant Welfare Centers", "Health Services", "Milk supply", "Lactation", "Infant mortality", "Diphtheria", "Scarlet fever", "Typhoid fever", "Measles", "Whooping cough", "Pertussis", "Tuberculosis", "Pneumonia", "Dysentery", "Cholera", "Malaria", "Leishmaniasis", "Schistosomiasis", "Trachoma", "Blindness", "Deafness", "Mental health", "Epilepsy", "Parkinson's disease", "Alzheimer's disease", "Huntington's disease", "Phenylketonuria", "Tay-Sachs disease", "Sickle cell anemia", "Hemophilia", "Muscular dystrophy", "Cystic fibrosis", "Tay-Sachs disease", "Sickle cell anemia", "Hemophilia", "Muscular dystrophy", "Cystic fibrosis".

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STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

PRELIMINARY NOTE

A study of the early pages of this Report shows the principal vital statistics were satisfactory. The exceptions include a further increase in the number of deaths from cancer and higher incidences of poliomyelitis and dysentery. The first mentioned is becoming an annual occurrence and the explanation is still the subject of research, but it is undoubtedly associated with the increasing proportion of older people in the community. The causal virus and methods of spread of poliomyelitis are known, but no certain method of prevention can be adopted. The occurrence of dysentery is usually due, expressed bluntly, to dirty habits—people will not keep their hands fit to handle the food consumed by others.

The birth-rate (16.1 per 1,000) was the lowest yet recorded, but was higher than the figure for England and Wales, and is a continuation of the fall from the peak year of 1947. A similar post-war rise and fall occurred after the 1914-18 war. In contrast, the death-rate for the County remains stationary and is also lower than the rate for the Country. It is common knowledge that the span of life has been steadily lengthening and this is well illustrated in the Table on page 13, which shows the proportion of deaths occurring under the age of 45. This has been reduced to one-third in the relatively short period of 31 years and is due to more effective forms of treatment and healthier circumstances for all, for which all services concerned share the credit, though the latest reductions are probably due to the use of the recently introduced antibiotic and sulpha drugs. It is proper and welcome that childbirth should hardly add to the risks to life to which the whole population is exposed, but one hopes that the disabilities following confinement will also be reduced to insignificant proportions. This is the object to which all efforts must be directed so that the bearing of children is entirely a happy experience, and to this end women must be encouraged to avail themselves of treatment to cure minor disabilities. This is the purpose of post-natal clinics, but the development of this side of the Health Department's work has been suspended following the division of the maternity services as a result of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and no figures are available to show how much post-natal care is being carried out.

District Authorities have been very active in planning extensions of piped water supplies in their areas and mention is made of the schemes on pages 27—28. It is much to be regretted that relatively few can be commenced in the near future owing to national economic conditions. The same remarks apply to schemes for the provision of sewers and the treatment of sewage.

Though much spoken about in recent years, comparatively little has been done to remove "aerial sewage." The ill effect of the smoke pall on health has been demonstrated time and time again, but, unfortunately, the steps necessary for the removal of the present causes, and their avoidance in future, are still considered uneconomic, so that the health of the town dwellers must continue to be jeopardised. However, action is being forced upon the nation by the shortage of coal, which will lead to its more economical use and therefore a reduction in smoke. Several District Councils are interested in this problem in their own areas, having established sampling points, and the analyses are being carried out in the County Chemical Laboratory. This has caused a large increase in the number of these examinations, and it is to be hoped that, over a period, they will show an improvement. It is still more to be hoped that the District Authorities will use the data acquired to press for the wider use of smokeless fuels and appliances. Except for litter, the streets of our towns are now clean, but we must also aim to secure clean air.

A large number of samples were taken during the year to ensure the quality and cleanliness of foodstuffs. Four thousand and twelve samples, as compared with 3,805 in 1949, were taken under the Food and Drugs Act and the proportion of the total samples found to show evidence of adulteration fell from 5.4 per cent. to 5.1 per cent. (page 17), the notable exception to this fall being that of milk samples.

The samples of milk taken for cleanliness tests also proved disappointing. There was a considerable increase in the number of samples taken, but the percentage passing the methylene blue test was reduced in all categories except "Pasteurised" and "Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)," and the reduction was most marked in graded milks. Further, out of the total of 2,821 samples tested for the presence of tubercle bacilli, 3.5 per cent. contained live bacilli. It is noteworthy that all the Pasteurised and "Tuberculin Tested" samples were negative. Since October, 1949, the Health Department has had the duty of supervising the pasteurisation and sterilisation of milks within the County, and eight pasteurising and four sterilising plants, including one of the largest plants in the Country, are closely inspected, but the methods laid down for dealing with the occurrence of untreated milk containing live tubercle bacilli are less satisfactory, as was mentioned in the preliminary note to the 1949 Report.

No considerable changes occurred in the provision of clinics, with the exception of the opening of the first building since 1939 used wholly for County Health Services. This was the Quadrant, Sedgley, which was an adapted former first-aid post and cleansing station. Three further new centres were opened and another re-opened, and the numbers attending the clinics were not substantially altered from the previous year, except for a material reduction in the number of attendances at the ante-natal clinics. This latter feature is the expected result of the National Health Service Act in that every woman can now ask for the attendance of a general practitioner during her pregnancy, but it is not without its disadvantages. The County clinics provide more help than that purely related to the medical side, as time is allowed for conversation with the prospective mother on general related matters which are extremely valuable to her.

In the previous year the percentage of women confined in their own homes who were delivered by midwives was 65.5, and it will be seen that in the period now under review the corresponding figure is 74.5

This is because towards the end of the previous year the correct method of recording cases booked by general practitioners but actually delivered by the midwives was indicated by the Central Midwives' Board, and all such cases are now shown as midwifery cases and not as maternity ones.

While the incidence of all unwelcome circumstances attending confinements notified by midwives during the last twelve years has steadily dropped, the notifications of the institution of artificial feeding have markedly increased. The notifications show that the baby is being fed artificially before the midwife leaves the case—that is before the child is fourteen days old—but, in addition, an increasing number are taken off the breast in the early months. While the medical disadvantages of artificial feeding have been lessened by modern technique, all authorities agree that every child should be naturally fed as long as possible. Every effort is made by the midwives to secure this end, but some ground appears to have been lost and the universal display of advertisements, issued by vendors of proprietary dried milk foods, which show goodlooking young mothers, radiating with health, holding pink and happy babies, cannot be an encouragement to breast feeding.

A further reduction in home visiting is recorded and is due to the shortage of staff. It must be stressed that home visiting is the most important aspect of the Health Visitors' duties—indeed of all the activities of the Health Department—for only by this means is contact made with the homes and mothers most in need of advice and help. The attraction of the well attended clinic must not be allowed to reduce disproportionately the time given by the curtailed staff to home visiting.

The Ambulance Service has provided a full service to the public and increased figures for the year's working are again shown. The comparatively large mileage run by the single ambulance maintained by the Mile Oak Ambulance Service partly on behalf of the County Council is due to the fact that it has not yet been possible to provide a Station at Tamworth. Towards the end of the year the ambulance scheme was carefully reviewed and economies proposed, which it is believed will not reduce the effectiveness of the service.

Considerable progress has been made in providing domestic helps and, while some further expansion is desirable in certain districts, the service may now be said to be established. The increase in the numbers of women employed necessitated the employment of a second supervisor, and it is interesting to know that the larger number of cases helped are described as "chronic" and elderly cases. Apart from the added comfort given to these elderly people, the service does help to conserve beds in hospitals and other institutions, and is, in fact, less costly.

The Social Workers have continued to provide an invaluable service in helping cases of sickness, including tuberculosis, and more nursing comforts depots have been established by the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade.

The Mental Health Services have continued to be active. During the year, arrangements were made for some of the Duly Authorised Officers to attend the Mental Hospitals in order to become familiar with cases about to be discharged and so make their after-care work more effective. The numbers attending the occupation centres have increased slightly.

From the above remarks it will be inferred that, with the exceptions mentioned, the general health of the population was satisfactory, but a number of important improvements are necessary ; also the division of control over a number of the services is still noticeable and hampers the economical provision of the various services to the public in spite of every effort of co-operation.

The year has been one of quiet progress in fulfilling the County's health duties, though the continued shortages of staff are disturbing and serious. The staff employed have given their best and each in their sphere contributed to the better health and happiness of the community.

G. RAMAGE,
County Medical Officer of Health.

December, 1951.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS.

1.—GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Administrative County (acres)	685,503
Estimated Home Population of Area, 1950 (primarily for calculation of Death-rates or incidence of Notifiable Diseases)	852,890
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1950 (General County Purposes)	£3,698,639
Estimated net product of a penny rate, 1950-51 (General County Purposes)	£14,447

2.—EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births, Legitimate ..	13,302	6,777	6,525	
Illegitimate ..	468	243	225	
Total ..	13,770	7,020	6,750	Birth-rate 16.1
Still-births, Legitimate ..	392	213	179	
Illegitimate ..	17	10	7	
Total ..	409	223	186	Rate per 1,000 total births 28.8
Deaths	8,988	4,805	4,183	Death-rate 10.5
				Rate per 1,000 Deaths total births
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	13			0.9
Death Rates of Infants under one year of age :—				
All infants per 1,000 live births				36
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..				35
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				60
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				1,436
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				12
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)				9
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhœa (under one year of age)				34

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. The figures are home populations (i.e. including members of the armed forces stationed in the area.)

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. From that year, however, and until 1948, the variety and magnitude of local population movements, and during the war years the uneven incidence of civilian war deaths, together combined to frustrate the attempt to secure such comparability. The factors to adjust local death-rates were, however, re-introduced in the last Report, and are again included to adjust both birth and death-rates.

The estimated population and rates for each District are shown in the tables at the end of the Report.

In the following table the census population of the Administrative County for 1931, and the estimated civilian population for 1935 and home population for 1950 are set forth :—

	Census, 1931	Estimated Population	
		1935 (Civilian)	1950 (Home)
Urban	490,632	548,500	*640,180
Rural	212,622	177,000	*212,710
Totals	†703,254	725,500	852,890

*The comparison does not reflect the actual position as the apparent increase in the population of the Urban Districts, and the little change 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, 1950, 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 13,770, compared with 14,818 the previous year, the number in the Urban Districts being 10,469 and in the Rural Districts 3,301.

Stillbirths. There were 409 stillbirths registered during the year, of which 337 were in Urban and 72 in Rural Districts. The stillbirth-rate per thousand of the population for the combined Urban and Rural Districts is 0.48. During the same period the rate for England and Wales was 0.37.

DISTRICTS	LIVE BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION												1949	1950
	5 yrs 1889- 1893	5 yrs 1894- 1898	5 yrs 1899- 1903	5 yrs 1904- 1908	5 yrs 1909- 1913	5 yrs 1914- 1918	5 yrs 1919- 1923	5 yrs 1924- 1928	5 yrs 1929- 1933	5 yrs 1934- 1938	5 yrs 1939- 1943	5 yrs. 1944- 1948		
Staffordshire { Combined Urban and Rural	33.6	33.2	32.5	30.3	27.8	24.0	24.1	20.2	17.6	17.1	18.3	19.9	17.7	16.1
Urban ..	35.5	34.7	33.6	31.5	29.2	25.0	25.0	20.7	18.1	17.5	18.9	20.4	17.8	16.4
Rural ..	30.2	30.5	30.2	27.0	24.4	21.6	22.0	19.0	16.6	15.7	16.7	18.5	17.2	15.5
England and Wales	30.8	29.7	28.7	26.9	24.5	20.4	21.3	17.8	15.6	14.9	15.2	18.2	16.7	15.8
Large Towns in England	31.5	30.7	29.7	27.8	25.2	*20.9	22.0	18.2	15.8	14.9	16.3	21.0	18.7	17.6

* 4 years.

DEATHS

The number of deaths in the Administrative County amounted to 8,988, the number in the Urban Districts being 6,851 and in the Rural Districts 2,137.

DISTRICTS	DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 OF POPULATION												1949	1950
	5 yrs 1889- 1893	5 yrs 1894- 1898	5 yrs 1899- 1903	5 yrs 1904- 1908	5 yrs 1909- 1913	5 yrs 1914- 1918	5 yrs 1919- 1923	5 yrs 1924- 1928	5 yrs 1929- 1933	5 yrs 1934- 1938	5 yrs 1939- 1943	5 yrs. 1944- 1948		
Staffordshire { Combined Urban and Rural	18.1	16.9	16.1	14.6	14.1	15.0	12.3	11.4	11.6	11.3	11.2	10.4	10.5	10.5
Urban ..	18.9	17.5	16.6	15.1	14.7	15.5	12.6	11.5	11.8	11.3	11.2	10.4	10.5	10.7
Rural ..	16.8	15.7	15.1	13.4	12.7	13.8	11.6	11.2	11.2	11.2	11.0	10.4	10.7	10.0
England and Wales	19.1	17.4	16.9	15.3	13.9	15.2	12.5	12.0	12.3	11.9	12.6	11.5	11.7	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	12.9	12.5	12.3
Smaller Towns	17.6	15.9	15.7	14.9	13.6	14.1	11.5	11.0	11.2	11.4	12.4	11.8	11.6	11.6

In the following table I have shown the *chief* causes of death for 1950. The numbers given are 79.7 per cent. of the total deaths.

TABLE SHOWING CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

Tuberculosis, respiratory	289
Tuberculosis, other forms	51
Cancer	1436
Vascular lesions of nervous system	1048
Heart Disease	2668
Other Circulatory Disease	313
Pneumonia	283
Bronchitis	570
Nephritis and Nephrosis	137
Congenital Malformations	104
Motor Vehicle Accidents	96
All other accidents	168

Causes of Death	Age at Death								TOTAL
	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and over	
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ..	1	1	—	42	110	102	32	1	289
2. Tuberculosis, other	3	15	8	10	9	3	2	1	51
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—	—	3	6	4	3	16
4. Diphtheria	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
5. Whooping cough	5	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
6. Meningococcal infections ..	1	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	5
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	2	8	4	6	9	—	—	—	29
8. Measles	2	7	2	1	—	—	—	—	12
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	3	1	3	4	4	7	3	4	29
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	—	—	—	1	17	99	82	63	262
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	—	—	—	—	13	113	54	13	193
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	—	—	—	12	67	36	25	140
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	—	—	—	6	27	25	7	65
14. Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	2	7	2	6	50	253	263	193	776
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	—	5	5	3	4	7	2	1	27
16. Diabetes	—	—	2	1	5	20	29	18	75
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	—	1	1	3	17	205	380	441	1048
18. Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	13	225	248	170	656
19. Hypertension with heart disease	—	—	—	—	4	48	95	92	239
20. Other heart disease	1	—	2	5	57	246	459	1003	1773
21. Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	4	8	58	91	152	313
22. Influenza	2	1	—	4	9	24	21	21	82
23. Pneumonia	57	6	4	3	25	52	57	79	283
24. Bronchitis	13	2	—	—	9	146	163	237	570
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1	3	1	8	31	19	12	76
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	—	—	—	—	9	34	20	12	75
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	34	2	1	—	8	9	7	6	67
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	4	7	23	38	39	24	137
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	5	20	42	67
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—	4	9	—	—	—	13
31. Congenital malformations	74	9	4	5	3	5	2	2	104
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	271	9	17	15	61	157	155	474	1159
33. Motor vehicle accidents	—	7	9	18	28	19	5	10	96
34. All other accidents	19	13	9	10	29	30	15	43	168
35. Suicide	—	—	—	3	9	44	13	6	75
36. Homicide and operations of war	2	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	6
Totals	494	102	84	157	573	2081	2342	3155	8988

The following table has been prepared covering the last 31 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 1950, 15.7 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 all ages	Deaths under 45	% of Total	Deaths all ages	Deaths under 45	% of 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
1944	4136	1069	25.85	3800	889	23.39
1945	4356	1002	23.00	4133	921	22.28
1946	4385	1006	22.94	3934	804	20.44
1947	4657	988	21.22	4090	786	19.22
1948	4275	895	20.94	3717	715	19.24
1949	4651	861	18.51	4162	671	16.12
1950	4805	779	16.21	4183	631	15.08

CHEMICAL LABORATORY

The following relates to the work undertaken during 1950.

The total number of samples analysed was 7,656, an increase of 595 or 8.4 per cent. compared with the previous year. The increase this year was due entirely to an increase in the County Council samples. The greatest increase was in the amount of Atmospheric Pollution work and there were smaller increases in the numbers of Food and Drugs samples and of Sewage and Effluents. The proportion of the laboratory's work done for the County Council was 80 per cent., the remaining 20 per cent. being done for the other four autonomous Food and Drugs Authorities within the County, viz., Stoke-on-Trent C.B.C., Brierley Hill U.D.C., Newcastle-under-Lyme M.B.C. and Rowley Regis M.B.C. The total population served by the laboratory was 1,128,000. The population of the County Administrative Area served was 683,980 and as the number of official food and drugs samples received from that area was 4,012 the rate of sampling per annum was 5.9 per 1,000 of population. The combined rate for the other Food and Drugs Authorities served was 3.3 samples per annum per 1,000 of population.

Again it is a pleasure to record the drop in the rate of adulteration for the year which, at 5.1 per cent., was the lowest yet known. There was a slight increase in the figure for milk adulteration, but a notable decrease in that for other foods and drugs. It will, no doubt, be observed that sausages provide the largest number of adulterated foods other than milk. It must be pointed out, however, that, when compared with previous years, the proportion of the sausage samples adulterated has greatly decreased—13 out of 132 samples in 1950 as compared with 14 out of 54 samples in 1949. The nature of their adulteration also changed, since a deficiency in meat occurred less frequently than offences against the Preservatives Regulations.

TABLE I.

The total number of samples analysed was as follows :—

For County Council :

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (a) Chief Inspector's Samples	..	4,012
" " " " " (b) Other Samples	..	255
"Appeal to Cow" Samples	..	224
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926	..	130
Drinking Waters	..	541
Unclassified Waters	..	3
Swimming Bath and Pool Waters	..	22
River Waters, Full Analyses	..	110
Sewage and Sewage Effluents, Full Analyses	..	139
Trade Waste ; Crude Sewage ; and Sludge	..	19
Coroners' and Pathological Specimens	..	9
Atmospheric Pollution	..	569
Miscellaneous Samples	..	92
		6,125

For Stoke-on-Trent :

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (a) Chief Inspector's Samples	..	965
" " " " " (b) Other Samples	..	8
"Appeal to Cow" Samples	..	1
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926	..	9
Miscellaneous Samples	..	10
		993

For Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme :

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (a) Chief Inspector's Samples	..	169
" " " " " (b) Other Samples	..	2
"Appeal to Cow" Samples	..	5
Miscellaneous Samples	..	9
		185

For Urban District Council of Brierley Hill :

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (a) Chief Inspector's Samples	..	126
" " " " " (b) Other Samples	..	—
"Appeal to Cow" Samples	..	1
Miscellaneous Samples	..	1
		<hr/>
		128

For Borough of Rowley Regis :

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (a) Chief Inspector's Samples	..	201
" " " " " (b) Other Samples	..	24
		<hr/>
		225

TOTAL 7,656

COUNTY COUNCIL SAMPLES.

Table II shows the total number of Food and Drug Samples submitted and the number reported against.

(see following page)

TABLE II

Samples	Number Examined			No. Adulterated or below standard		
	Total	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal
Almonds	21	18	3	3	2	1
Baking Powder and Golden Raising Powder ..	5	3	2	—	—	—
Bun, Cake and Pudding Mixtures	31	15	16	8	5	3
Butter	28	17	11	1	—	1
Canned Fruit and Vegetables	42	3	39	—	—	—
Cereal Products	25	7	18	1	1	—
Cheese	20	11	9	7	5	2
Cocoa and Chocolate Preparations	7	4	3	—	—	—
Coconut	5	2	3	—	—	—
Coffee, Coffee and Chicory Mixtures and Extracts (Dry)	10	2	8	—	—	—
Coffee, Coffee and Chicory Extracts (Liquid) ..	17	5	12	—	—	—
Custard Powder and Prepared Starches	40	10	30	2	1	1
Drinks, Alcoholic	8	8	—	—	—	—
„ Soft (Liquid and Powder)	41	34	7	—	—	—
Drugs	73	18	55	1	1	—
Fats, Cooking	30	12	18	—	—	—
Fish Pastes and Fish Products	38	5	33	3	2	1
Flavourings and Flavouring Essences	5	—	5	—	—	—
Flour, Confectionery	23	6	17	—	—	—
Flour, Self Raising	10	7	3	—	—	—
Flours, Plain, Various	7	—	7	—	—	—
Foods, Baby and Tonic	11	—	11	—	—	—
Gelatin	6	1	5	—	—	—
Gravy Browning and Salt	1	—	1	—	—	—
Herbs, Spices and Condiments	40	10	30	—	—	—
Honey	3	—	3	—	—	—
Ice Cream	1	1	—	—	—	—
Jellies, etc.	18	6	12	—	—	—
Margarine	14	6	8	—	—	—
Meat Products, Open (a) Sausages and Sausage Meat	132	130	2	13	12	1
„ (b) Brawn, etc.	10	7	3	—	—	—
Meat Products, Canned	21	8	13	—	—	—
Milk	1397	1397	—	105	105	—
„ Accredited	154	154	—	7	7	—
„ Channel Island	4	4	—	—	—	—
„ Heat Treated	13	13	—	3	3	—
„ Pasteurised	789	789	—	4	4	—
„ „ Channel Island	6	6	—	—	—	—
„ Sterilised	278	278	—	28	28	—
„ Tuberculin Tested	213	213	—	6	6	—
„ „ „ Pasteurised, Jersey	1	1	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ Jersey	2	2	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ Guernsey	1	1	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ Certified	39	39	—	1	1	—
„ „ „ „ Channel Island	3	3	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ Channel Island	6	6	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ Sterilised	1	1	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ Pasteurised	118	118	—	—	—	—
„ „ „ „ Guernsey	1	1	—	—	—	—
„ Condensed	16	3	13	—	—	—
Oils, Cooking, Refined and Salad	10	6	4	—	—	—
Pickles, Various	7	1	6	—	—	—
Potato Products	13	—	13	1	—	1
Preserves, various	48	8	40	1	—	1
Salad Cream and Dressing	13	3	10	3	2	1
Sauces, various	38	5	33	5	2	3
Soups	15	2	13	—	—	—
Sugar	11	2	9	—	—	—
Sweets and Sweet Spreads and Syrup	12	4	8	—	—	—
Tea	14	2	12	—	—	—
Vinegars	19	13	6	1	—	1
Unclassified	27	7	20	—	—	—
	4012	3438	574	204	187	17

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Of the 4,012 samples submitted from the County Area, 3,808 were found to be genuine and 204 adulterated or below standard, the percentage of adulteration being 5.1%. The figures again show a decrease in the rate of adulteration for the County as compared with last year, the figures for 1946—1949 being 9.5, 12.2, 7.7, and 5.4 per cent. respectively.

(1) MILK.—Three thousand and twenty-six samples of milk, of all grades, were submitted for analysis. These comprised 264 samples of "Tuberculin Tested," 154 "Accredited," 915 "Pasteurised," 279 Sterilized, 13 Heat Treated, 4 Channel Island and 1,397 undesignated milk. One hundred and fifty-four or 5.1 per cent. were found to be adulterated, of which 77 contained added water, 74 were deficient in fat and 3 contained added water in addition to being fat deficient. These figures do NOT include "Appeal to Cow" samples.

Action taken.—Of the 154 unsatisfactory samples, 105 were of undesignated milk. They were dealt with as follows :—

In the case of 21 vendors representing 35 unsatisfactory samples the adulterations were small and cautions were issued.

Ten vendors were prosecuted in respect of 30 samples of milk found to have added water, deficient in fat, also added water and fat deficiency. The remaining 40 cases were noted down for further sampling.

Three hundred and forty-six samples of milk were below the presumptive standard—288 samples in respect of solids-not-fat which were found by the Freezing Point Test not to be adulterated with added water and 58 samples were below the presumptive standard of 3% fat, the deficiencies being due to natural causes. Eleven samples were below the presumptive standards in both fat and solids-not-fat, the deficiencies being proved by the "Appeal to Cow" samples to be due to natural causes.

With regard to 49 samples of Designated milk which were found to be adulterated, 2 producers were prosecuted in respect of 25 samples of Sterilised milk containing added water. Cautions were issued against producers of 2 samples of Accredited milk, one deficient in fat and one deficient in fat and solids-not-fat, 1 sample of Tuberculin Tested Certified milk deficient in fat and 3 samples of Heat Treated milk containing added water.

With regard to the remaining 18 samples of Designated milk 2 producers of Sterilised and Tuberculin Tested milk were noted down for further sampling. In the case of 5 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk, 2 samples of Sterilised milk, 4 samples of Pasteurised milk and 5 samples of Accredited milk repeat samples and/or "Appeal to Cow" samples were taken which proved to be genuine.

In total, 25 producers or retailers were cautioned, 12 were prosecuted and fines amounting to £181 0s. 0d. were imposed together with special costs of £218 4s. 6d.

"Appeal to Cow" Samples.—Two hundred and twenty-four samples were submitted, 35 of which were below the presumptive standard of 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat, 43 were below the presumptive standard of 3.0 per cent. fat and 17 were below both these standards.

The average composition of the milks of all grades, including "Appeal to Cow" samples, was :—

Fat	3.62%	} Total Solids—12.30%
Solids-not-fat	8.68%	

Of the 2,872 samples of milk, of all grades, passed as genuine, 299 (10.4 per cent.) were below the presumptive standard of 8.5 per cent. solids-not-fat, but were proved by the Freezing Point (Hortvet) test to be genuine. Sixty-nine samples (2.4 per cent.) were below the presumptive standard of 3.0 per cent. fat, but the deficiencies were proved by the "Appeal to Cow" samples to be due to natural causes.

(2) GENERAL ARTICLES OF FOOD.—Nine hundred and eighty-six articles of Food and Drugs were examined and 50 samples (33 formal and 17 informal) were found to be adulterated.

Proceedings were taken in respect of Beef Sausage and Pie Crust and Pastry Mix. Fines of £13 0s. 0d., together with £9 6s. 0d. special costs, were imposed.

Eight cases have been reported to the Ministry of Food with regard to Processed Cheese; Cheese, Full Cream; Beef Sausage; Ground Almonds; and Soft Processed Cheese Spread.

Investigations are proceeding in several cases, viz., Cheese (50% Butterfat); Sweetened Cake Mixture; Salad Cream and Pie Crust and Pastry Mix.

The following informal samples were found to be adulterated. In every case the fullest investigations were made and subsequent action taken by the manufacturers and packers to rectify the deficiencies found :

Crab Paste; Powdered Salad Dressing; Butter; Lemon Curd; Non-Brewed Vinegar; Sago; Potato Crisps; Ground Almonds; Sweetened Sponge Sandwich Mixture; Tomato Ketchup; Beef Sausage; Spiced Tomato Sauce; Gouda Cheese.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926

The 130 samples submitted included 70 Fertilisers and 60 Feeding Stuffs.

Of the 70 *Fertilisers* 42 were satisfactory, 10 contained an excess and 11 were deficient of one or more of the declared ingredients, 2 contained an excess of one ingredient and were deficient of another ingredient and 5 were submitted either without or with defective statutory statements.

Of the 60 *Feeding Stuffs* 38 were satisfactory, 6 contained an excess and 10 were deficient of one or more of the declared ingredients, 6 contained an excess of one ingredient and were deficient of another ingredient.

DRINKING WATERS

Five hundred and forty-four samples of drinking water were analysed in the course of the year, 170 for full analysis, 321 for partial analysis, one for chlorine content only, 3 for Plumbo Solvency only and 49 for special analysis.

Of the 491 samples for full or partial analysis :—

374 samples were of satisfactory quality.

14 contained sewage or animal pollution.

55 samples contained organic pollution.

35 samples were of doubtful quality.

4 samples contained metallic contamination.

7 samples contained both organic and sewage pollution.

1 sample contained both sewage and metallic contamination.

1 sample contained sewage pollution, organic pollution, and metallic pollution.

SWIMMING BATH AND POOL WATERS

Twenty-two samples were submitted for ordinary analysis.

Of the twenty-two samples received, 3 were satisfactory chemically, 13 were polluted but contained sufficient free chlorine to render them safe for bathing while six were polluted and contained insufficient free chlorine to render them safe for bathing.

RIVER WATERS AND EFFLUENTS

Two hundred and forty-nine samples were submitted for full analysis.

TRADE WASTE, CRUDE SEWAGE AND SLUDGE

Nineteen samples were submitted for special analysis.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

This work, first undertaken for Stone Rural District Council in 1948, is now being carried out for six local authorities. The number of tests made in 1948 was 32 while in 1950 569 tests on Rain Gauge contents, Sulphur Pollution detectors and soils were carried out. It is only from July of this year that Rain Gauge contents and Sulphur Pollution detectors have been submitted regularly so that a review of the figures for a whole year is not yet possible. The figures recorded for the last six months of the year, however, show that, in the five areas from which Rain Gauge contents are received for total solid matter deposited per square mile the lowest figure was 55.3 tons while the highest figure was 202.5 tons. The minimum figure may be compared with that of 37.3 tons recorded at a Sanatorium in a neighbouring County. The maximum figure is typical of an industrial area though there are some which record much higher quantities.

CORONERS' AND PATHOLOGICAL SPECIMENS

Eight specimens were received relating to three Coroners' cases.

Case 1. Specimens of blood, stomach and stomach contents were examined for barbiturate, with negative results.

Case 2. Three specimens were examined in connection with a case of suspected poisoning by a proprietary brand of compound barbiturate tablets. Traces of a barbiturate were detected in the liver and stomach contents, but were not discovered in the blood. It is known that large amounts of many barbiturates are rapidly and completely destroyed in the body after producing their hypnotic effect, so that toxic doses may leave only minute traces in the organs for the analyst to detect.

Case 3. Two specimens were received from the body of a woman found dead under rather suspicious circumstances, but on analysis the specimens gave negative results for both basic and non-basic organic poisons. Aspirin had been suggested as a possible toxic agent, but was not present in the specimens submitted.

One pathological specimen, a stomach washings, was examined for alcohol and found to contain 160 parts per million W/V.

MISCELLANEOUS SAMPLES

The 92 samples submitted may be grouped as follows :—

24 samples, mainly of various foods, were submitted privately on grounds of suspicion or complaint, or in connection with cases of sickness, in which food was a possible cause.

28 samples of animal feeding stuffs, contaminated water and herbage or specimens of bones, viscera, etc., were submitted in connection with cases where animal poisoning was suspected.

The remaining 40 samples were of a very varied nature and included 20 samples for cyanide detection and estimation ; 3 waters ; 3 petrols ; 4 fuel dusts ; 6 laboratory samples ; 1 coal ; 1 sewer fat ; 1 disinfectant and a fertiliser.

The *Food Samples* submitted on complaint were found, on the whole, to be unjustifiably suspected. Samples of tongue, jam, tinned peas, dried milk, lemonade, cream soda, and stewed steak were found to be wholesome and free from poisonous substances. A sample of tinned grapes suspected to contain ground glass was actually found to contain small colourless crystals of potassium hydrogen tartrate, which is a natural constituent of grape juice, although it is normally present in solution.

A sample of *shin beef*, which was thought to be horse flesh, was cleared of this charge by an examination of the fat. It was in connection with this case that two of the laboratory samples were taken. Authentic specimens of beef and horse fat were examined at the same time as the specimens under suspicion.

A metal tray was submitted for examination, under suspicion of contaminating some baked apples sent on it to a school canteen, but the deposit upon it was mainly solid grease, with a trace of rust, and metallic contaminants were not present in amounts likely to cause gastrointestinal upset.

However a batch of 13 samples of tapioca was found to be submitted with reason and certified to be unfit for human consumption. All the samples had an unpleasant faecal odour, rodent excreta was clearly visible in many and found to be present by micro-analytical tests in the great majority, when rodent hairs and insect fragments were isolated and identified under the microscope.

ANIMAL POISONING CASES

Two samples of cattle food were examined for lead and three pig-meals for excess fibre with negative results. In another case the stomach contents of a dead cow were submitted, together with a sample of sand and grit taken from a pile beside the road near the pasture. This mixture, with the addition of salt, was for use upon the road-surface in winter, and the death of the cow was claimed to be due to the ingestion of this

mixture either by the abrasive action of the grit or by salt poisoning. However, the grit was entirely free from salt, and the stomach contents included only insignificant amounts of either salt or sand.

Specimens of blood and urine from a greyhound which had raced with suspicious speed were examined for the presence of various stimulants but none was detected, and no strychnine was found in the viscera of a cow suspected to have been poisoned in this way.

The most interesting group of samples in this category was taken in connection with the poisoning of livestock by fluorine. Specimens came from two or three different parts of the County, mostly from regions in the neighbourhood of certain factories where the herbage may become contaminated by fluorine from the escaping gases and the streams may be polluted by the fluorine in the discharged effluents. Such pollution constitutes a very real danger to the cattle and sheep which graze nearby. Repeated ingestion of small amounts of fluorine may eventually produce a state of chronic fluorine poisoning and lead to the animals' death. This had been shown very clearly by an investigation carried out in the country around an aluminium factory at Fort William, in Scotland, where a lot of useful information was obtained.

Eight samples of herbage were analysed and found to contain amounts of fluorine varying from 2 to 53 parts per million, while control tests on clean herbage gave only 3 to 5 parts per million. The two water samples, taken from brooks near a factory, both contained 2.4 parts per million of fluorine.

Five samples of ribs from cows, suspected to have suffered from fluorosis, were submitted for analysis, and fluorine was found in quantities ranging from 2,720 to 8,850, expressed as parts per million in the bone-ash. A normal rib, analysed as a control, gave a corresponding figure of only 1,170 parts per million in the bone-ash, confirming that the animals had suffered from the effects of fluorine ingestion in varying degrees.

The three *petrol samples* received were found to be motor spirit containing the prescribed ingredient, diphenylamine, and therefore consisting of or containing commercial petrol. However, red petrol is now a thing of the past and no further samples have been received since petrol rationing was ended.

Twenty samples were received at the end of May of a waste product of certain manufacturing processes being dumped without adequate control in spite of the fact that it contained a high percentage of cyanide. Amounts in the liquid and solid samples submitted varied between 0.5 per cent. and 14.5 per cent. expressed as the sodium salt. One of the pool waters was examined again a month later and found to be quite free from cyanide by that time.

A stream-water was examined for the presence of phenols, after a drum of bituminous paint had been accidentally dropped into the stream in question, but the paint itself was found to contain only a trace of phenolic bodies, so that the contamination of the water was negligible.

Four samples of dust and powdered fuel were analysed following a complaint from householders in the neighbourhood of a large factory that clouds of pulverised fuel were being emitted which blackened their windows and settled in heaps upon the window-sills. Samples of this dust were analysed and the results compared with those given by the

pulverised fuel itself, a deposit from the smoke emitted and a sample of dust from the road nearby. Ash-analysis figures were very similar for the house-dust and the smoke deposit, which seemed to confirm that the factory was at least partially responsible for the annoyance caused.

A sample of coal analysed for the Architect's Department was found to consist largely of incombustible matter ; only one third of the sample could be burnt, leaving an ash of iron and aluminium silicates, amounting to 66.2 per cent.

The remaining laboratory samples were of Vitamin A preparations, such as Cod Liver Oil and Halibut Liver Oil, taken to assist in calibrating and checking the spectrophotometric absorption method, using a Medium Quartz Spectrograph, which is now in use for the estimation of Vitamin A.

MILK SUPPLY

The Department continues to play an important part in ensuring that the milk supply reaching the consumer is clean and wholesome and free from disease.

Details of work done during the year show that the number of samples taken is well maintained, and a satisfactory feature is the increase in the sampling of the milk supplied to schools. Close supervision continued to be given to milk pasteurising and sterilising plants in the administrative area. Nine pasteurising licences and four sterilising licences were issued during the year covering thirteen pasteurising and four sterilising units. The plants concerned vary in capacity from small 100-gallon holder units to one of the largest pasteurising and sterilising plants in the country, and the total daily quantity of milk treated is approximately 20,800 gallons of pasteurised milk and 16,150 gallons of sterilised milk, giving a combined total of 36,950 gallons per day.

Samples of all retail milk (" street milk sampling ") are taken throughout the whole of the Administrative County by the department, except in the areas of the Municipal Borough of Newcastle and the Urban District of Brierley Hill, which are separate Food and Drugs Authorities. The samples are examined for cleanliness and tuberculosis and, in the case of processed milks, for efficient pasteurisation or sterilisation. Two sampling officers are engaged on this work.

The results of all the retail milk samples taken are notified to the Medical Officer of Health of the district where the milk is sold, and where it is produced, the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is also notified of unsatisfactory samples in the case of raw milks. It is his duty to see that milk production complies with the requirements of the regulations and that milk leaves the farm in a satisfactory condition. The Ministry do not notify this department of what action they take regarding unsatisfactory samples notified to them.

Unsatisfactory samples of processed milk are dealt with by this Health Department if from processing plants within the Administrative County. Otherwise the results are notified to the Medical Officer of Health of the Food and Drugs Authority in whose area the processing plant is situated.

All tubercular positive milk samples are reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and to the Medical Officers of Health of the districts where the milk is produced and retailed. The tables which follow show the details of numbers of samples

taken and the results of the various tests. The first table is a summary of all samples collected, with the exception of those from Schools and Institutions which are dealt with separately in later paragraphs. This summary shows the numbers of samples of the various grades of milk collected, together with the results of the tests applicable to those grades.

It will be seen that so far as the cleanliness test (methylene blue) is concerned, the raw milks show some falling off in quality as compared with the previous year, especially in the case of the designated milks ("Accredited" and "Tuberculin-tested") while the processed milks ("Pasteurised" and "Tuberculin-tested (Pasteurised)") show some improvement. So far as the Biological Test is concerned, the results show a slightly higher percentage of tuberculous milks than in 1949. This may be the result of the increased sampling which took place during the year. A total of 2,821 samples was submitted for biological examination, against 1,957 in 1949, and the number of positive samples obtained was 100, as compared with 66 in 1949. From these 100 cases, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries found 59 cows which were suffering from Tuberculosis and these were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order of 1938.

It may be mentioned here that 42 cases were reported by Authorities outside the Administrative County of tuberculous milk produced in the County but sampled outside, usually at large dairies where the milk was about to undergo pasteurisation. These cases were reported to the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and to the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the milk was produced. Fourteen tubercular cows were found from these cases and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order.

The second table shows the numbers of ungraded milk samples collected in each of the sanitary districts of the administrative area, together with the results of the examinations. The figures in brackets denote the number of samples *not* submitted to the biological test.

SUMMARY OF SAMPLES COLLECTED (EXCLUDING SAMPLES FROM SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS) 1st JANUARY TO 31st DECEMBER, 1950

Grade of Milk	Total samples taken	Methylene Blue Test (for Cleanliness)		Phosphatase Test (for correct pasteurisation)		Turbidity Test (for Sterilised milk) Submitted	Biological Test (for presence of Tuberculosis)			
		Submitted	Result	% 1950	% 1949		Submitted	Positive	% 1950	% 1949
Ungraded	3,224	3,223	Passed 2,235 Failed 988	69.3	72.3	—	2,514*	98	3.8	3.6
"Accredited"	33	33	Passed 26 Failed 7	78.8	88.8	—	29	2	6.9	0
"Tuberculin-tested"	236	236	Passed 189 Failed 47	80.1	91.1	—	160	Nil	0	0
"Pasteurised"	713	713	Passed 692 Failed 21	97.1	92.9	1,138 Passed 19 Failed	117	Nil	0	0
"Tuberculin-tested (Pasteurised)"	425	425	Passed 409 Failed 16	96.2	90.0	% Satis. 1950 97.4 1949 99.4	1	Nil	0	0
"Sterilised"	433	—	—	—	—	423 All satisfactory	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	5,064	4,630	Passed 3,551 Failed 1,079	76.7	76.5	—	2,821	100	3.5	3.4

* NOTE—Of the 2,514 samples of ungraded milk submitted to the Biological Test, 611 were from Urban Districts, of which 24, or 3.93%, were positive, and 1,903 were from Rural Districts, of which 74, or 3.89%, were positive. Comparative percentages for 1949 were :—Urban Districts 4.83% ; Rural Districts 3.08%.

UNGRADED MILK SAMPLES
1ST JANUARY TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1950

Sanitary District	No. of samples Submitted	Result of Examination		T.B.
		Cleanliness		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
URBAN				
Aldridge ..	27 (3)	16	11	—
Amblecote ..	9 (2)	3	6	1
Biddulph ..	144 (2)	97	47	7
Bilston ..	—	—	—	—
Brownhills ..	29 (5)	18	11	1
Cannock ..	67 (28)	50	17	2
Coseley ..	21 (1)	19	2	2
Darlaston ..	1 (1)	1	—	—
Kidsgrove ..	104 (31)	76	28	2
Leek ..	100 (16)	75	25	2
Lichfield ..	12 (2)	7	5	—
Rugeley ..	27 (10)	17	10	—
Sedgley ..	40 (4)	37	3	—
Stafford ..	46 (23)	33	13	2
Stone ..	44 (18)	31	13	2
Tamworth ..	38 (28)	35	3	1
Tettenhall ..	26 (10)	19	7	1
Tipton ..	1	—	1	—
Uttoxeter ..	44 (11)	29	15	—
Wednesbury ..	8 (6)	6	2	—
Wednesfield ..	16 (3)	11	5	1
Willenhall ..	41 (30)	31	10	—
RURAL :				
Cannock ..	196 (67)	136	60	5
Cheadle ..	*565 (112)	376	188	17
Leek ..	324 (50)	228	96	6
Lichfield ..	242 (48)	175	67	8
Newcastle ..	211 (18)	138	73	11
Seisdon ..	76 (3)	52	24	2
Stafford ..	222 (72)	159	63	7
Stone ..	214 (45)	127	87	6
Tutbury ..	149 (23)	112	37	4
Uttoxeter ..	180 (38)	121	59	8
Totals ..	3224 (710)	2235	988	98

* Includes 1 sample for biological test only,

MILK IN SCHOOLS SCHEME

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

	<i>No. of Suppliers</i>	<i>Schools or Departments Supplied</i>	<i>Children Supplied</i>
" Tuberculin Tested "	16	22	3,733
" Accredited "	20	22	2,192
" Pasteurised "	45	521	81,699
Heat Treated	6	8	596
Undesignated	1	1	6
	88	574	88,226

School milk supplies are sampled twice a term after delivery to the schools. Raw milks are examined bacteriologically and biologically, Pasteurised milks by the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue Tests. Pasteurised milk, it will be noted, continues to replace raw milk.

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 1950 was 702. Of these, 93 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 the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and repeat samples are taken. If no improvement is effected it is recommended to the Education Committee that the supplier be changed.

In 1950, 379 samples from Pasteurised supplies were submitted to the Phosphatase Test, 8 being unsatisfactory.

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 5 and the procedure mentioned above was adopted.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

During the year, 42 notifications 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, four 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.

GENERAL

Apart from the foregoing, sampling was undertaken at certain private schools, hospitals, sanatoria and institutions, and, of 230 samples obtained during the year, 29 were unsatisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint. Three were found to contain tubercle bacilli and were appropriately dealt with.

WATER SUPPLIES, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

For the financial year 1950/51 a sum of £15,205 was contributed by the County Council to District Councils towards water and sewerage schemes.

The following is a list of schemes considered by the department for grants or loans under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, and for Section 307 of the Public Health Act, 1936 :—

WATER SUPPLIES.

Newcastle Rural District Council

Proposals were submitted for the extension of water mains in Betley Village; Bowsey Wood, Madeley; and Loggerheads, Tyrley. These proposals were approved, consideration as to making a contribution being deferred until the views of the Minister of Health were known.

Uttoxeter Rural District Council

A scheme was submitted for an extension of the water main from the Cheadle Rural District boundary at Fole Bank to a point south of Stramshall Hall to serve nine farms and nineteen cottages and other premises. The County Council approved the scheme, but deferred consideration as to making a contribution towards the cost until the views of the Minister of Local Government and Planning are known.

Tutbury Rural District Council

Proposals were submitted for the extension of a water main from The Green, Barton-under-Needwood, to Bonthorn Farm, serving eight cottages en route. The County Council approved the scheme, but deferred consideration as to making a contribution towards the cost until the views of the Minister of Local Government and Planning are known.

Seisdon Rural District Council

The District Council submitted proposals for extending the water main at Kingsford Lane, Kinver, to provide a supply to 12 permanent dwellings and 6 caravan and camp sites. The County Council approved the proposals, but deferred consideration as to making a contribution towards the cost until the views of the Minister of Local Government and Planning are known.

Stafford Rural District Council

Proposals were submitted for the extension of an existing water main in the Little Bridgeford—Worston Hall area. The main was primarily for agricultural needs and would supply one large farm and two small holdings, together with seven houses. The County Council approved the scheme.

Stafford Rural District Council

The District Council proposed to purchase from the Air Ministry approximately 3,603 yards of water main laid in their area and formerly used to supply the R.A.F. Station at Hixon. The County Council approved of the District Council's proposal, but deferred consideration as to making a contribution towards the cost until the views of the Minister of Local Government and Planning are known.

Stone Rural District Council

Proposals were submitted by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board for a water supply to Hartwell to serve four farms and three cottages. These proposals had been approved by the Stone Rural District Council. The water main was mainly for agricultural purposes and the District Council had been promised a capital grant in aid by the Agricultural Executive Committee. The County Council approved the proposals, but deferred consideration as to making a contribution towards the cost until the views of the Minister of Local Government and Planning are known.

Stone Rural District Council

The District Council submitted a scheme for the provision of a water supply to Yarnfield which had been prepared by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board and had the District Council's approval. The scheme included the erection of an elevated water tower and the laying of mains to serve some 35 dwelling-houses and other premises, while service mains would supply a farm, small-holding and hospital. The supply was to be obtained from the mains of the Ministry of Supply (Swynnerton Ordnance Factory). The County Council approved the scheme, but deferred consideration as to making a contribution towards the cost until the views of the Minister of Local Government and Planning are known.

Stafford Rural District Council

A scheme was submitted for a water main extension at Knightley to supply two cottages and two small-holdings, while service pipes off the extension could provide a supply to two more farms. The scheme was purely for agricultural interests and it was felt that it should be the subject of a grant from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and not from the Ministry of Local Government and Planning. It was later reported that the Ministry of Local Government and Planning were not prepared to make a grant towards the scheme, and the County Council similarly decided against making a contribution.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Stone Rural District Council

Amended proposals were submitted with regard to sewerage and sewage disposal works at Norton Bridge to deal with the sewage from 39 houses and other premises. The scheme was approved, subject to certain amendments in detail, but the question of making a contribution towards the cost was deferred until the views of the Ministry of Health should be known.

Stafford Borough Council

Consideration was given to the scheme for the provision of new sewage works for the Borough. This scheme provided for a population of 50,000, made up of the existing population in the Borough of 39,000, an estimated population of 2,000 in the Brocton Milford and Walton area which would be drained to the proposed works, and a reserve capacity equivalent to some 9,000 people. Subject to certain comments the scheme was approved.

Newcastle Rural District Council

In connection with the Audley Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme, proposals were submitted for sewer extensions and the relaying of existing defective sewers and other unsatisfactory sewers to new levels in the Wereton area. This additional work was approved, but consideration as to revision of grant was deferred pending the decision of the Ministry of Health.

Coseley Urban District Council

A scheme was submitted for the construction of surface water sewers at Lanesfield, Coseley. The County Council suggested that certain additional sewers and gullies should be provided, and subject to such amendments approved in principle the making of a contribution towards such part of the expenditure as, after consultation with the Ministry of Health, was agreed as not forming a proper charge to the housing accounts of the Coseley Urban District Council.

Stafford Rural District Council

Application was received for a grant towards the cost of a sewer extension at Islington, Forton. The scheme provided for draining about 25 houses into the Newport foul sewer at the County boundary. The proposals were approved, but consideration as to making a contribution was deferred pending the receipt of the views of the Minister of Health.

Cheadle Rural District Council

Proposals were submitted for the sewerage of parts of the parishes of Draycott and Forsbrook and connecting the new sewers to the proposed Blythe Valley trunk sewer. It was suggested by the County Council that the need for one section of sewer was not apparent. The proposals also included the construction of temporary disposal works to be used until the Blythe Valley sewer was completed, but this was not approved because of possible pollution of the River Blythe, and it was suggested that the laying of the proposed sewers should synchronise with the construction of the Blythe Valley sewer. Subject to these comments, the scheme was approved, but consideration as to making a grant was deferred until the views of the Minister of Health were known.

Kidsgrove Urban District Council

New proposals were submitted under the Public Health Act, 1936, for the extension of the sewage disposal works at Red Bull to deal with an ultimate population of 17,000. The plans submitted were only in outline. Accordingly, the County Council approved the proposals in principle and also agreed in principle to make a contribution towards the cost, the amount of such contribution to be considered when more precise figures of costs were available.

Tettenhall Urban District Council

Proposals were submitted for the reconstruction of the sewage outfall works at Blackbrook, consisting of practically a new disposal works operating on the biological system to replace the old works which operate on the broad irrigation principle. The new works were designed to treat the sewage from a population of 15,000 made up as follows :—

Existing Urban District population	7,240
Aldersley district of Seisdon Rural District ..	3,080
Estimated population to be housed in the Castle- croft, Tettenhall Wood and Compton area ..	4,600
	<hr/>
	14,920
	<hr/>

The County Council approved the proposals, but deferred consideration as to making a grant pending the receipt of further information from the District Council.

Biddulph Urban District Council

New proposals were submitted for a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme, superseding those made in 1938 which were approved by the County Council and a provisional annual contribution fixed. The new scheme was approved and an increased annual contribution agreed upon.

Cannock Urban District Council

The Council submitted proposals for the extension of their main sewage works. These proposals were designed to deal with a future estimated population of 40,300 in the Cannock Urban District Council's area which drains to the existing works (present population draining thereto is some 35,900), and to take sewage from Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley in the Cannock Rural District Council's area estimated to reach 233,000 gallons per day. The County Council approved the scheme in principle and also approved in principle the making of a contribution towards the cost, but deferred consideration of the actual amount pending the receipt of final details of the scheme.

Cannock Rural District Council

Proposals were submitted for dealing with the drainage of the Holly Bush area of Saredon. The County Council approved the scheme, but the Minister of Local Government and Planning has since informed the District Council that he is not prepared to make a grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1944, as, having regard to the savings which would accrue from the carrying out of the scheme, it would appear that no deficiency was likely to arise. The Council deferred consideration as to making a contribution.

Wednesfield Urban District Council

An amended scheme was dealt with superseding an earlier one approved by the County Council in 1947, providing for extensions to the existing works and for new sewers to deal with the anticipated greatly increased flow of sewage consequent upon the district receiving overspill population from Wolverhampton.

Of schemes considered by the Health Department during 1949, progress has been made as follows :—

WATER SUPPLIES
Willenhall U.D.C.

Substantial progress has been made on the scheme to provide improved water supplies by the laying of new mains in the New Invention district of Willenhall. This scheme will also improve the water supply position at Bentley (Darlaston U.D.) and the higher portions of Essington Parish in Cannock R.D.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL
Newcastle Borough. Red Street

The small sewage disposal works have been reconstructed.

Stafford Borough

The site for the new sewage disposal works has been fixed at Brancote Gorse, the scheme has been approved and orders placed for plant and machinery.

Stone R.D. Norton Bridge

The provision of a small sewage disposal works has been approved and preparation of the site has begun.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH INQUIRIES

The Ministry of Health held formal public inquiries into the following schemes :—

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 3.8.50 | Stafford Borough proposed sewerage and sewage disposal works. Estimated cost £300,000. |
| 8.10.50 | Proposed extensions to the Wednesfield Urban District Council disposal works, together with new sewers, at an estimated cost of £129,800. |

Informal inquiries regarding—

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 4.8.50 | Proposed water main extensions in Eccleshall parish costing £3,273.
Proposed sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Norton Bridge costing £3,335.
Both the above in Stone Rural District. |
| 12.10.50 | Armitage and Longsdon sewerage and sewage disposal scheme regarding progress and final costs of the scheme which at the time was practically completed. |

The County Council was represented at all the above inquiries.

RURAL HOUSING

HOBHOUSE SURVEY

During 1950 progress was made with the Rural Housing Survey under the Hobhouse report and the position at the end of the year was that in eight districts out of ten the survey was either completed or practically completed.

The attached table gives the position for the various districts.

Of the 36,660 houses so far surveyed 2,734, or 7.4%, fall within category 5 and should therefore be demolished.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY—POSITION OF SURVEY AT 31st DECEMBER, 1950

DISTRICT	Estimated No. of houses in district to be surveyed	No. surveyed	CATEGORIES					No. of cases of overcrowding	Surveyed but not classified
			1	2	3	4	5		
CANNOCK	4,500	4,939	914	1,689	2,096	80	160	68	—
CHEADLE	5,623	5,623	2,213	2,005	890	—	515	202	—
LEEK	4,500	1,351	566	224	493	7	61	24	—
LICHFIELD	7,080	7,080	3,042	1,514	1,691	351	482	—	—
NEWCASTLE	4,000	3,354	1,048	1,016	1,075	2	213	56	—
SEISDON	4,192	4,192	2,626	750	570	—	246	—	—
STAFFORD	3,130	3,082	704	846	791	291	450	29	—
STONE	2,500	2,500	935	768	640	—	157	—	—
TUTBURY	3,117	3,117	1,598	524	589	—	406	—	—
UTTOXETER	2,505	1,422	12	100	136	—	44	—	1,130
TOTALS	41,147	36,660	13,658	9,436	8,971	731	2,734	379	1,130

NOTE.

- 1. Satisfactory in all respects.
- 2. Minor defects.
- 3. Repairs or structural alterations required
- 4. Suitable for action under Housing (Rural Workers) Acts.
- 5. Totally unfit and should be demolished.

THE HOUSING ACT, 1949

There has been a disappointing response for the benefits of the improvement grants which can be obtained under the above Act, details of which were given in the 1949 report.

Many verbal applications have been dealt with by the Rural District Authorities, but when the conditions attached to the grants are made known few decide to proceed further.

The position at the end of 1950 was as below :—

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS—HOUSING ACT, 1949

Applications dealt with by Rural District Councils				Applications submitted to Regional Office of Ministry			
Received	Approved	Rejected	Under Consideration	No. sent	Approved	Rejected	Under Consideration
43	14	15	14	21	2	2	17

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The following statistics relate to the notifiable infectious diseases amongst the home population during the calendar year 1950. On reference to the tables at the end of the Report the numbers and death-rates for each Sanitary District will be found.

SMALLPOX.—No case of Smallpox was notified in 1950. The last cases recorded were in 1947, when an outbreak occurred in the south of the County, mainly in Bilston.

SCARLET FEVER.—There was a decrease again in the incidence of this disease, 1,067 cases having been notified, compared with 1,297 in 1949. In the Urban districts there were 788 cases and in the Rural Districts 279, as against 989 and 308 respectively in the previous year. The case-rates per thousand of the population were :—Urban Districts, 1.23, Rural Districts, 1.31, with a total County Rate of 1.25, whilst that for England and Wales was 1.50. The corresponding rates for 1949 were 1.56, 1.51, 1.55 and 1.63 respectively.

DIPHTHERIA.—There was a substantial decrease in the incidence of this disease, for 46 notifications were made, compared with 85 in the previous year. In the Urban Districts there were 43 cases, as against 79, and in the Rural Districts 3 compared with 6. The total case-rate was 0.05, whilst that for England and Wales was 0.02, as against 0.10 and 0.04, respectively, in the previous year.

Three deaths occurred, all in the Urban Districts.

In 1949 there were 7 deaths from this disease.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Seven notifications of enteric fever were made during the year, as compared with 9 in 1949. Two cases were of typhoid, which occurred in separate Urban Districts. Of the five cases of paratyphoid, four were in Urban and one in Rural Districts. In 1949 the nine cases were all of paratyphoid, 7 of which occurred in Urban and 2 in Rural Districts. The case-rates for the country as a whole, for typhoid and paratyphoid, were nil and 0.01 per thousand of the population respectively, the Staffordshire rates being similar.

MEASLES.—During the period, 7,683 notifications were made, which indicates a slight increase, for the corresponding figure for 1949 was 7,614. Five thousand, six hundred and sixteen cases occurred in Urban and 2,067 in Rural Districts, compared with 6,015 and 1,599 in the previous year. The 1950 case-rates for the County and England and Wales were 9.01 and 8.39, as against 9.09 and 8.95 in 1949.

Ten deaths occurred in the Urban Districts and two in the Rural, the death rates being 0.02 and 0.01 respectively. There were nine deaths in 1949.

WHOOPING COUGH.—There was an increase in the number of notifications, 2,309 being made in 1950, as compared with 2,235 in 1949. In the Urban Districts there were 1,840, as against 1,744, whilst the corresponding figures for the Rural Districts were 469 and 491. The case-rate for the County was 2.71 and for England and Wales, 3.60.

There were 6 deaths in the Urban Districts and 3 in the Rural, the death-rate being 0.01 in each instance. In 1949, 18 deaths were due to this cause.

DYSENTERY.—One hundred and thirty notifications were made in 1950 as compared with 14 in 1949 and 8 in 1948. Sixteen of the 35 Sanitary Districts were affected, but in 4 instances, viz., Brierley Hill U.D., Lichfield M.B., Wednesbury M.B., and Wednesfield U.D., single cases only were notified. Cases notified in other districts were as follows : Biddulph U.D. 7, Bilston M.B. 14, Coseley U.D. 22, Leek U.D. 2, Newcastle M.B. 5, Rowley Regis M.B. 5, Stafford M.B. 21, Cannock R.D. 2, Cheadle R.D. 35, Lichfield R.D. 2, Stafford R.D. 5 and Stone R.D. 6.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS, ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS, MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.—New regulations designed to replace former legislation were brought into operation on the 1st January, 1950. They introduced nomenclature consistent with the international standard classification of diseases and slightly extended the scope of clinical conditions notifiable under the head of acute encephalitis.

Two hundred and eighty cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified, 215 occurring in Urban and 65 in Rural Districts. Two cases of Acute Encephalitis were notified from Urban Districts. Deaths from these causes numbered twenty-nine, 26 of which occurred in Urban Districts.

Eight notifications of Meningococcal Infection (6 in 5 Urban areas and 2 in 2 Rural Districts) were made during 1950. Five deaths occurred, four of which were in Urban Districts.

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

GASTRITIS, ENTERITIS AND DIARRHOEA.—Twenty-seven deaths occurred in Urban Districts and 7 in Rural Districts in children under one year of age, the death-rates being 2.6 and 2.1, respectively, per thousand live births.

INFLUENZA.—In 1950 there were 68 deaths in Urban and 14 in Rural Districts, as compared with 85 and 26, respectively, in 1949.

The number of cases of notifiable infectious diseases, with the deaths, in the Administrative County during 1950 are as follows :—

Diseases	Notifications		Deaths	
	Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	788	279	*	*
Diphtheria	43	3	3	—
Enteric Fever	6	1	*	*
Measles	5616	2067	10	2
Whooping Cough	1840	469	6	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	24	6	*	*
Erysipelas	63	32	*	*
Meningococcal Infection	6	2	4	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	149	46	} 26	3
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	66	19		
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	1	—		
Acute Encephalitis (Post Infectious)	1	—		
Pneumonia	466	161	223	60
Dysentery	80	50	*	*

*Not classified in Registrar-General's Return

TUBERCULOSIS

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 :—

1950 AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	2	—	—	1	—	1	1	2
1—	1	3	2	3	} 1	—	8	7
2—	7	8	6	12				
5—	16	15	9	10	} —	—	3	5
10—	10	13	6	15				
15—	36	58	4	7	} 15	27	6	4
20—	42	78	1	4				
25—	104	96	6	8	} 55	55	6	3
35—	70	37	3	6				
45—	78	16	2	2	} 76	26	1	2
55—	59	17	—	1				
65—	22	6	—	—	27	5	1	1
75 and upwards	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	447	350	39	69	174	115	26	25

During 1950, 289 deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis and 51 from other forms of this disease, the death-rates being 0.34 and 0.06, respectively. The corresponding rates for 1949 were 0.39 and 0.06.

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
1944	0.52	0.25	0.10	0.07
1945	0.56	0.22	0.11	0.09
1946	0.49	0.28	0.08	0.06
1947	0.47	0.28	0.09	0.07
1948	0.51	0.33	0.07	0.05
1949	0.45	0.22	0.06	0.03
1950	0.39	0.20	0.06	0.06

NOTIFICATION

The following are particulars of the primary notifications made from 1918 :—

1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
856	699	642	929	971	1029	974	1232	1400	1106	1194	1017	1021	1129	1074
1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
1011	929	825	831	858	789	726	669	788	830	841	798	769	775	813
1948	1949	1950												
852	837	807												

The following is a summary of cases, other than primary notifications, coming to notice from other sources during the year :—

	1950
Number of cases other than primary notifications coming to knowledge within the year	98
Of the above, transfers from other areas ..	70
Number of un-notified cases which died ..	22
Number of other cases which died, notification being made after death	6
Ratio of un-notified cases which died to total deaths	1 : 12.1

In 1950, roughly 11 out of 12 deaths were of cases notified under the regulations before decease.

The total notifications are classified in a preceding table.

REGISTERS OF DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

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

TOTAL CASES	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
7699	3099	2568	5667	1024	1008	2032

The figures given above indicate that in 1950 there was 1 case of tuberculosis in every 111 persons, or 9.0 per 1,000 of the population.

The table also shows that in 1950 there was one death in approximately every 24 cases.

CANCER

In the following table the deaths from Cancer during 1950, in age and sex groups, in the Urban and Rural Districts of the County, are shown :—

Age Groups	Urban Districts			Rural Districts			Grand Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
0— ..	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
1— ..	3	3	6	1	—	1	7
5— ..	1	1	2	—	—	—	2
15— ..	4	1	5	1	1	2	7
25— ..	31	39	70	13	15	28	98
45— ..	248	198	446	56	57	113	559
65— ..	181	154	335	73	52	125	460
75— ..	111	100	211	43	47	90	301
Totals ..	580	497	1,077	187	172	359	1,436

As will be seen from the preceding table, this year there were 1,436 deaths from Cancer, which is the highest number so far recorded in the Administrative County: in 1949 there were 1,317. In each year since 1937 the figure has exceeded 1,000. During the period under review this group of deaths accounted for 16.0 per cent. of the total civilian deaths, as compared with 14.9 per cent. last year, when the total number of deaths was fewer by 175. As stated in previous Reports, there is little variation from year to year in the group of deaths from this cause which occur in persons under the age of 45 years, the current number being 116, as against 105 and 115 in 1948 and 1949, respectively.

In considering the mortality from Cancer, one must bear in mind that the general mortality from all causes under the age of 45 has, over a long period, become steadily less. This means, therefore, that in every population there exists an increasing number of persons of an age more susceptible to Cancer than are younger persons, the statement being proved by the fact that whilst in 1920 48.6 per cent. of the deaths from all causes were of persons under 45, the figure has gradually decreased in the subsequent years to 15.7 per cent. in 1950.

VENEREAL DISEASES

During the year, 1,087 Staffordshire patients attended for treatment for the first time, compared with 1,224 in 1949, and the following detailed table indicates where it was obtained. It will be seen that in 1950, 824 of the persons who attended were found not to be infected, and the corresponding figure in the previous year was 842. The actual cases in 1949 and 1950 were 382 and 263, respectively.

TREATMENT CENTRE	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Other Conditions	Total New Cases
Birmingham General Hospital	10	21	119	150
Burton-on-Trent General Infirmary	2	5	7	14
Derby Royal Infirmary	2	2	9	13
Dudley Guest Hospital	7	26	107	140
Liverpool (Seamen's Dispensary)	1	—	1	2
Oxford (Radcliffe Infirmary)	—	—	1	1
Stafford (Staffordshire General Infirmary)	8	8	85	102
Stoke-on-Trent (North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary)	21	21	140	182
Stoke-on-Trent (Wellesley Street)	2	12	80	94
Stourbridge (Corbett Hospital)	5	13	13	31
Walsall (Manor Hospital)	9	38	100	147
Wolverhampton Royal Hospital	18	32	161	211
Totals	85	178	824	1087

For comparative purposes the totals of the cases included in the foregoing table for the last sixteen years have been extracted and are given below :—

Year	Syphilis	Soft Chancre	Gonorrhœa	Total Cases	Non-Venereal
1935 ..	166	4	322	492	295
1936 ..	137	6	294	437	341
1937 ..	116	5	320	441	326
1938 ..	133	3	302	438	344
1939 ..	116	5	283	404	310
1940 ..	126	1	244	371	348
1941 ..	111	1	267	379	359
1942 ..	134	2	266	402	512
1943 ..	163	2	271	436	783
1944 ..	171	2	273	446	791
1945 ..	186	—	355	541	867
1946 ..	275	2	451	728	1,180
1947 ..	147	2	254	403	682
1948 ..	177	4	219	400	904
1949 ..	148	—	234	382	842
1950 ..	85	—	178	263	824

GENERAL HEALTH PROPAGANDA

During the year the facilities for the provision of general health and sex education lectures continued and talks were given in Aldridge and Cannock.

In 1950, as previously, the County Council made a grant to the Central Council for Health Education, and during the year the latter provided educational exhibition stands and a succession of interchangeable topic material for use therewith. The stands were in use at the Welfare Centres and School Clinics in the Lichfield, Rowley Regis and Stafford areas.

In addition, the Central Council provided a two-day course for Medical Officers and Public Health Nurses on the principles, methods and media of Health Education, and a lecture to the general public on problems of childhood. Both course and lecture took place in Stafford in December. The course was very successful, but it is regretted that, despite a considerable amount of publicity, the lecture to the public was not well attended.

AREA ADMINISTRATION

In the Report for 1948, particulars of the Area Committees and of their districts and populations were given. There has been no change in either the areas or the scope of work carried out by them during the year.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

During 1950 new Centres were opened as follows :—

Ettingshall	7.3.50
The Quadrant, Sedgley	20.1.50
Hazel Slade, Cannock	16.3.50
Bobbington	8.11.50

In addition, the Baddeley Green Centre, which was closed temporarily in 1948, was re-opened on the 24th October, the sessions to alternate with those at Endon.

On the 4th October the Welfare Centre at Aldridge was transferred to the Assembly Rooms from Wesley Hall.

In addition, the sessions at Wednesfield were increased by an extra half day weekly and the sessions at Cheadle were altered from Wednesdays to Tuesdays weekly.

At the end of the year there were 99 Welfare Centres in operation, of which 60 were combined (i.e., Minor Ailment Clinics and Welfare Centres) and 39 were Welfare Centres only.

The following are particulars of the number of sessions and attendances made during the year :—

Number of sessions held	4,857
Number of attendances by children under 1 year of age	114,427
Number of children under 1 who attended for first time during year	8,404
Number of attendances by children 1—5 ..	58,535
Number of children 1—5 attending for first time during year	2,240
Number of children under 1 year of age on books at end of year	8,198
Number of children over 1 and under 5 on books at end of year	10,463

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS

An additional Ante-Natal Clinic was opened on the 20th January at the Quadrant, Sedgley.

There was little change otherwise apart from the substitution of half day for whole day sessions at Pheasey and fortnightly sessions instead of weekly at Shelfield. These alterations were the result of reduced attendances.

At the 31st December, 1950, there were 46 Ante-Natal Clinics (special sessions being held at 36 of them) and 4 Post-Natal Clinics (1 special and 3 held in conjunction with Welfare Centre sessions).

The following are the numbers of expectant mothers and attendances made by them during the year at the Ante-Natal Clinics :—

Number of expectant mothers attending ..	5,959
Total number of attendances	24,360

Two hundred and twenty-seven women attended the Post-Natal Clinics during the year, 320 attendances being made.

Where treatment is required, the patient is referred to her own doctor, through the medium of the midwife, 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

The following are details of the cases dealt with under the above-mentioned scheme during the period :—

	1949	1950
Number of examinations undertaken ...	385	97
Number of expectant mothers examined	319	75
Number of expectant mothers examined twice in year	66	13
Number of expectant mothers examined once only during year	253	73
Of these, number who were examined in previous year	30	11
	In addition, 4 were examined post-natally	

The figures for 1949 are shown for comparison purposes and it will be noticed that those for 1950 are considerably smaller than for the previous year. This result was, of course, not surprising when the new legislation enabled expectant mothers to book a doctor to attend them during the ante-natal period and at confinement free of cost to themselves.

MATERNITY OUTFITS

In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Act, maternity outfits are required to be provided by Local Health Authorities for appropriate cases free of cost. The number issued during the year was 5,138.

PAYMENT OF MIDWIVES' FEES

The compensation fee of 10/- was not claimed by any independent midwives during the period covered by this Report in respect of any cases which had been booked by them and which they had lost as a result of County Council activities.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA

In 1950, 30 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified in the County area.

Of the cases dealt with during the period under review, 10 were sent to hospital and 16 were cases in which confinement had taken place in hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

The number of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified during the year was 19, and 14 of these cases were nursed at home. Three children were admitted to hospital and one attended hospital as an out-patient. One child born in hospital was satisfactorily treated before being discharged.

OPHTHALMIC TREATMENT

During the year 135 children were referred from the Infant Welfare Centres to the Ophthalmic Clinics—mainly on account of an actual or suspected squint.

Glasses were prescribed for 74 of such cases and the usual forms of treatment, i.e. occlusion of the sound eye, etc., were carried out.

In five cases of other ophthalmic conditions, the appropriate treatment was advised.

Three children were certified as "Blind."

The total number of attendances at the Clinics by these cases and others who had been examined in previous years was 321.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT

The number of cases of children under five years of age referred for orthopædic treatment during the year was 184.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT

During the year, 71 cases were referred for artificial light treatment.

DENTAL TREATMENT

The following table shows the number of cases provided with dental care :—

	<i>Examined</i>	<i>Needing Treatment</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Made Dentally Fit</i>
Expectant and nursing mothers	682	634	560	363
Children under five ..	725	725	725	725

The form of treatment provided is shown in the table below :—

	Extractions	Anæsthetics		Fillings	Scalings of Scalings and Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dressings	Radiographs	Dentures provided	
		L.A.	General						Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	1,647	752	148	270	97	—	53	24	163	127
Children under five	1,374	1,011	267	64	—	208	82	1	—	—

Dentures supplied were constructed in the County Dental Laboratory. Radiographs in the south of the County were taken at either Bilston or Sedgley Clinics where facilities are available. In all other areas arrangements have been made with private practitioners to undertake X-Ray examinations on behalf of this Authority.

DENTAL LABORATORY

The summary of work completed during the year at the County Dental Laboratory is shown in the following tables :—

DENTURE WORK

<i>Nature of Denture</i>	<i>Nos. Completed</i>
Full upper dentures	224
Full lower dentures	167
Partial upper dentures	205
Partial lower dentures	82
Remakes	3
Repairs to dentures	71
Total	752

ORTHODONTICS

	<i>Appliances</i>				<i>Nos. Completed</i>
Regulation appliances	547
Repairs to appliances	44
					<hr/>
				Total	591
					<hr/> <hr/>

SUNDRIES

	<i>Nature of</i>				<i>Nos. Completed</i>
Obturators	4
Crowns	10
Inlays	4
Splints	20
Acrylic teeth	8
Special trays	89
Jaw resection	1
					<hr/>
				Total	136
					<hr/> <hr/>

EXTRA NOURISHMENT

During the financial year 1950-51 the sales and free issues amounted to £12,945, as compared with £13,254 during the previous financial year.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

The following are particulars of the live and stillbirths notified during 1950 :—

Number of live births	..	..	..	..	13,752
Number of stillbirths	..	..	..	..	388
Notified by midwives	..	..	..	..	13,527
Notified by parents and doctors	..	..	..	..	613

The births registered during the period cannot strictly be compared with those notified because of the period allowed by law for each purpose.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN

Full information has been given in previous Reports of the arrangements in being with the Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare Work, and the following are the particulars of the cases dealt with during 1950 :—

With Mother	..	..	..	..	..	109
Adoption	..	..	..	..	..	40
Foster Mothers	..	..	..	..	..	1
Voluntary Children's Homes	..	..	..	..	..	2
Private adoption	..	..	..	..	..	8
Stillborn	..	..	..	..	..	7
Died	..	..	..	..	..	6
In County Council Children's Homes	..	..	..	..	..	5
						<hr/>
				Total	..	178
						<hr/> <hr/>

Eighteen girls were sent to Diocesan Homes during the year.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

The following table gives particulars of the cases notified during the year :—

	BORN AT HOME							BORN IN PRIVATE NURSING HOMES*						
	Transferred to Hospital	Nursed Entirely at Home					Grand Total	Transferred to Hospital	Nursed Entirely at Home					Grand Total
		Died in First 24 hours	Died on 2nd to 7th day	Died on 8th to 28th day	Survived 28 days	Total			Died in First 24 hours	Died on 2nd to 7th day	Died on 8th to 28th day	Survived 28 days	Total	
Under 3 lbs.	18	9	1	—	—	10	28	1	1	—	—	—	1	2
3-4 lbs. . .	21	9	1	—	6	16	37	—	1	1	—	1	3	3
4-5½ lbs. . .	45	9	11	3	241	264	309	1	1	—	—	21	22	23
TOTAL . .	84	27	13	3	247	290	374	2	3	1	—	22	26	28

*Excluding babies born in Maternity Homes and Hospitals in the National Health Service.

In addition, 496 premature babies were born in maternity homes and hospitals in the National Health Service.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS' REGULATION ACT, 1948

At the end of 1949 premises were registered in three instances under the above-mentioned Act and three persons were also registered as child-minders. No further applications for registration were received and the position at the 31st December was as at the end of 1949.

DAY NURSERIES

The following table gives particulars of the Day Nurseries in operation in the Administrative County during 1950 :—

	No. of Approved Places		No. of Children on Register at end of the year		Average Daily Attendance	
	0-2	2-5	0-2	2-5	0-2	2-5
	LEEK (St. Luke's Hall, Organ Ground) . .	11	39	6	41	6	42
KIDSGROVE (Liverpool Road)	25	25	14	33	10.73	26.21
NEWCASTLE (Liverpool Rd., Cross Heath)	15	25	14	24	9.29	18.21
NEWCASTLE (Crown Street, Silverdale) . .	15	25	14	26	8.85	19.47
STAFFORD (Riverside, South Walls)	25	25	19	31	18	23
TIPTON (Toll End Road)	11	39	6	41	6	42
BILSTON (Prouds Lane)	10	30	9	34	7.3	29.1
WEDNESFIELD (Lichfield Road)	20	30	13	38	12.1	29.8
WILLENHALL (Pinson Park)	25	25	24	34	21.8	30.4
WILLENHALL (Shepwell Green)	26	34	30	35	19.8	30.6

As has been stated in the previous Report, the County Council also accepted financial responsibility for 20 of the places provided in a Nursery owned by Messrs. Rubery, Owen & Co., Ltd., of Darlaston. The total number of places provided in this Nursery is 40, 12 being approved for children up to two years of age, the remaining 28 being for children aged 2-5 years.

The following are the details of the average daily attendance of children at this Nursery during the year :—

0—2 years	..	..	..	6.6
2—5 years	..	..	..	24.0

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES

The County Council are responsible for the registration and inspection of these Homes in the Administrative County.

The following are particulars of the premises registered during the year :—

Number of premises registered at end of year	..	16
Number of applications for registration granted		1
Number of Homes given up	.. .. .	2
Number of Homes with more than two beds	..	9
Number of Homes solely for midwifery and maternity cases	.. .. .	15
Number of Homes exempted from registration	..	5

MATERNAL MORTALITY

In previous Reports it has been possible to include a table showing the mortality rate for the Administrative County giving deaths per thousand (live and still) births over a period of years. Figures, however, are not now given by the Registrar-General to coincide with the information previously shown, and the only information relative to the above heading received shows that there were 13 deaths during the year arising from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion. Eleven of these occurred in Hospital.

In 1949 the number of maternal deaths occurring in the Administrative County was 18.

The number of deaths reported by midwives in accordance with their rules during the year, i.e., the deaths occurred whilst they were actually in attendance as midwives or maternity nurses, was 2.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Here again, previously it was possible to include a table showing statistics over previous years relating to deaths from premature birth, congenital malformations, birth injuries and infantile diseases. The Registrar-General, however, has only defined one of the above-mentioned categories in his statistics, i.e. congenital malformations, and the number given under this heading is 74. The remaining causes mentioned above have not been classified.

During 1950, 89 deaths were reported by the midwives, having occurred whilst they were in attendance. Over half of these were due to feebleness and prematurity.

HOME NURSING SERVICE

At the 31st December, 1950, there were 64 whole-time general nurses, 38 who were also domiciliary midwives and 32 district nurse-midwives with part-time health visiting duties.

As stated in the last Report, the combined appointments are in those rural districts where the scattered population makes it impossible to separate general from midwifery work without creating districts too large to be practicable for either service.

Of the foregoing staff, 90 were car users and 4 had autocycles, the remainder using cycles for their work.

During the year, 277,674 home visits were made by the nurses, the number of cases attended being 14,268.

The supervisory duties are undertaken by four Supervisors who are also Supervisors of Midwives and Health Visitors.

MIDWIVES' SERVICE

From the 5th July, 1948, the area of the Local Supervising Authority is the whole of the Administrative County, the Municipal Boroughs of Rowley Regis and Tipton being incorporated from that date.

The following are particulars of the midwives practising at the end of 1950 :—

Number of midwives employed by the Authority ..	167
	(Including 4 relief midwives) (S.R.N., S.C.M. 83, S.C.M. 84)
Number of midwives in private practice (including midwives employed in Nursing Homes)—	
Domiciliary	18*
In Institutions	21
Number of midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees	52

* In addition, 5 County and 7 out-of-area midwives notified, but of these only 2 of the latter took any cases.

The following table shows the number of cases dealt with by the midwives in the area of the Local Supervising Authority during the year :—

	DOMICILIARY CASES		CASES IN INSTITUTIONS		TOTAL	
	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
Midwives employed by the Authority	6,250	2,077	—	—	6,250	2,077
Midwives employed by Hospital Management Committees	—	—	2,588	210	2,588	210
Midwives in Private Practice (including Midwives employed in Nursing Homes)	88*	96*	248	437	336	533
	6,338	2,173	2,836	647	9,174	2,820

*Includes 1 Midwifery and 3 Maternity cases taken by out-of-area Midwives.

Of the midwives employed by the Authority, 106 were car users, 11 had autocycles, the remainder using cycles for their work.

(These figures include the details of the transport of district nurse-midwives which are also included in those relating to the Home Nursing Service).

As mentioned in the section of this Report relating to Home Nursing, the Supervisors' duties also include supervision of that staff and, in addition, inspection of health visitors, school nurses and general nurses. During the year, 1,053 visits and interviews were undertaken for midwifery matters.

Since the Act came into operation, the names of 115 midwives have been removed from the roll in consequence of action taken by the Local Supervising Authority. In the year under review no such action was taken.

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.

Particulars of the notifications by midwives for the last twelve years are given in the following table :—

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.
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
1944	9136	3482	143	8	181	108	21	484
1945	8159	3259	133	8	119	113	14	460
1946	8526	3248	164	5	151	94	22	474
1947	9375	3358	167	4	127	125	18	568
1948	8071	3375	199	5	130	87	20	728
1949	6520	1767	146	5	81	82	21	616
1950	6586	1376	172	2	89	85	16	655

* Including midwifery cases in Private Maternity Homes

The percentage of doctors' calls to the number of births attended by midwives was 20.9.

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

PREGNANCY :

Albuminuria	23
Blood Pressure	4
Disproportion	1
Haemorrhage Ante	12
Loss of Blood	6
Puffiness of Hands and Face	1
? Presentation	6
Threatened Abortion	27
Unsatisfactory condition and general health	63
Vaginal Discharge	1
Total	144

LABOUR :

Abnormal Presentation	..	..	..	45
Abortion	..	..	..	51
Albuminuria	..	..	..	3
Delayed or difficult	..	..	..	150
Eclampsia	..	..	..	2
Haemorrhage Ante	..	..	..	22
Haemorrhage Post	..	..	..	44
Inertia	..	..	..	33
Lacerated Perineum	..	..	..	402
Placenta Prævia	..	..	..	3
Premature Labour	..	..	..	8
Prolapse of Cord	..	..	..	7
Retained Placenta and Membranes	..	..	..	34
Unsatisfactory Condition	..	..	..	50
Total	..	..	..	<u>854</u>

LYING IN :

Abdominal Swelling and Tenderness	..	1
Excessive or Prolonged Bleeding	..	2
High Temperature	..	54
Inflamed and Painful Leg	..	12
Unsatisfactory Condition	..	63
Unusual Swelling of Breasts	..	4
Total	..	<u>136</u>

CHILD :

Asphyxia	..	..	..	..	..	1
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	5
Deformities	..	..	..	..	..	13
Feebleness and Prematurity	..	..	..	..	..	49
Hæmorrhage : Bowel	..	..	..	..	..	1
Do. Navel	..	..	..	..	..	2
Do. Mouth	..	..	..	..	..	2
Hare Lip and Cleft Palate	..	..	..	..	..	4
Inflamed and Discharging Eyes	..	..	..	..	..	65
Jaundice	..	..	..	..	..	8
Pemphigus	..	..	..	..	..	1
Spina Bifida	..	..	..	..	..	2
Unsatisfactory Condition	..	..	..	..	..	89
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	<u>242</u>
GRAND TOTAL	..	..	..	..	..	<u>1,376</u>

Details of the number of notifications of sending for medical help during the financial year 1950-51 are given below :—

Number of notifications of sending for medical aid	1,223
Number of claims received	510
Percentage of claims received to notifications	42
Total amount paid to doctors during year	£1,632 9s. 0d.

INFLAMED AND DISCHARGING EYES.

The number of cases notified during the year was 65. Of these, 59 were treated at home, 5 in hospital as in-patients and 1 as an out-patient. Vision was unimpaired in every instance. Of the 65 cases, 60 were not severe. They include medical aid calls for all unsatisfactory eye conditions and not notified cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum only.

STILLBIRTHS

Number of Stillbirths registered	370
Reported by midwives	172
<i>Causes of those reported by midwives :—</i>	
Albuminuria	3
Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage	3
Asphyxia Pallida	2
Cæsarean Section	2
Cord Prolapse	2
Cord Round Neck	5
Deformities	18
Difficult Labour	20
Fall and Shock	1
History of Previous Stillbirths and Abortions	2
Hydramnios	1
Maceration	59
Malpresentation	12
Placenta Prævia	1
Premature	19
Spina Bifida	1
Toxæmia	1
Unsatisfactory Condition of Mother ..	3
Very Short Cord	1
Cause not known	16

GAS AND AIR ANALGESIA

At the end of 1950, 126 midwives employed by the County Council had received approved training in the administration of gas and air analgesia, and all existing midwives at present untrained will be trained as quickly as available vacancies at recognised training schools and staffing difficulties permit.

At the 31st December, 1950, 114 midwives were equipped with the necessary apparatus: the number of cases which were dealt with was 1,294, when nurses were acting as midwives, and 497 in their capacity as maternity nurses.

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 total notifications from the Administrative County were 30—Urban Districts 24, Rural Districts 6.

The case-rate for Puerperal Pyrexia per thousand total births (live and still) for Staffordshire was 2.24, as compared with 5.81 for England and Wales.

As will have been observed from a previous table, the midwives summoned medical assistance for rises of temperature on 54 occasions. These were specially investigated and it was found that in 21 instances the unsatisfactory conditions were due to abnormalities which could be said to arise directly from childbirth.

HEALTH VISITING

At the 31st December, 1950, the number of Health Visitors was 85 whole-time and 2 Health Visitor Lecturers and 32 part-time Health Visitors.

The arrangements mentioned in the Annual Report for 1945 concerning the training of Health Visitors were continued, and two nurses received such training during the year.

The following table gives particulars of the visits paid by this staff during 1950 to expectant mothers and young children :—

<i>To Expectant Mothers</i>					
First visits	..	..	..	..	4,259
Total visits	..	..	..	..	7,886
<i>To infants under one year</i>					
First visits	..	..	..	..	14,152
Total visits	..	..	..	..	86,061
<i>To children 1—5 years</i>					
First visits	..	..	..	..	2,113
Total visits	..	..	..	..	126,158

Two hundred instances of insanitary conditions were reported by the Health Visitors to Local Medical Officers of Health during the period.

LECTURES ON MOTHERCRAFT

The lectures on mothercraft continued at the Infant Welfare Centres with one Lecturer only, as the appointment which became vacant in September, 1944, has not yet been made.

Talks were given at 195 sessions of 24 Centres in various parts of the Administrative County, the total attendance being 5,543.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

In a previous Annual Report particulars were given of the arrangements made for this service from the 5th July, 1948, as required under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

VACCINATION

Every effort has continued to be made, through the medium of the midwife, health visitor and family practitioner during visits to the homes, Welfare Centres, etc., to encourage parents to have their babies vaccinated, and the following are the particulars of the cases vaccinated or re-vaccinated during 1950. The figures for 1949 are given in brackets.

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated ..	1,354† (974)*	748 (698)	168 (61)	387 (180)	2,657 (1,913)
Number Re-vaccinated ..	16 (5)	17 (25)	32 (27)	509 (226)	574 (283)

†10.2% of the Births for 1950 *6.8% of the Births for 1949.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Here again, every endeavour has been made during the year, through the medium of the Health Visitors, Welfare Centres, School Clinics, Teachers, etc., to ensure that the immunisation of children is carried out, and during 1950 the number immunised against diphtheria was as follows :

Under 5	.. ..	6,319
5—14 years	.. ..	1,322

Reinforcing doses were given in 5,926 cases.

During 1949 the numbers were 8,920, 1,303 and 5,222, respectively.

The following table gives particulars of immunisation in relation to child population at the 31st December, 1950 :—

Number of children at the 31st December, 1950, who had completed a course of immunisation *at any time before that date* (i.e., at any time since the 1st January, 1936).

Age at 31.12.50 i.e. Born in year ..	Under 1 1950	1 1949	2 1948	3 1947	4 1946	5 to 9 1941-1945	10 to 14 1936-1940	Total under 15
Number Immunised ..	340	5,112	8,134	9,021	8,177	49,505	47,662	127,951
Estimated mid-year child population, 1950	Children under five: 75,510					Children 5-14 127,900		203,410

From the foregoing table the percentage of children immunised at the end of 1950 in the 0—4 age group was 40.8, whilst that for age group 5—14 was 76.0. The overall percentage was 62.9.

The number of notifications of diphtheria during the year was 37. Of these children, 17 had completed a full course of immunisation. Three deaths from the disease occurred during the year and in one case the child had completed a course of immunisation.

COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE

STATIONS

During the year 1st January to 31st December, 1950, 24-hour Ambulance Stations were in operation at Biddulph, Brierley Hill, Brownhills, Cannock, Coseley, Cheadle, Kidsgrove, Leek, Lichfield, Newcastle, Stafford, Uttoxeter and Willenhall. 16-hour Stations operated from Aldridge, Bilston, Rugeley, Stone and Wednesbury.

Modifications continued at the Rowley Regis Station during the year and until these are completed the vehicles and personnel are being used from the Brierley Hill Station.

Continued improvement is being made at many of the Stations for them to be comfortable for the personnel and suitable for the vehicles, and thus improve the efficiency of the Service and it is hoped that the erection of three new Stations at Newcastle, Brierley Hill and Cannock will shortly be commenced.

PATIENTS CARRIED, VEHICLES, ETC.

The table below indicates the number of patients carried by each Station during the year, together with the number of personnel and vehicles at the 31st December, 1950 :—

STATION (Main)	PERSONNEL				VEHICLES		AMBULANCES		SITTING CARS	
	Supts.	S./I.drs.	Drivers	Attendants	Ambulance	S. Cars	Patients	Mileage	Patients	Mileage
Biddulph ..	—	1	4	1	1	1	373	7,146	1,776	22,099
*Brierley Hill ..	1	2	20	3	6	4	2,900	31,832	19,582	156,637
Brownhills ..	—	1	10	1	3	2	923	14,938	5,662	48,933
Cannock ..	1	2	15	3	5	3	1,767	32,353	9,166	97,030
Coseley ..	1	1	16	1	6	2	3,245	33,667	15,230	79,071
Cheadle ..	1	1	11	—	3	2	559	15,195	3,972	54,825
Kidsgrove ..	—	1	13	3	1	1	503	7,604	2,182	22,378
Leek ..	1	1	13	—	5	2	1,014	24,494	5,870	80,829
Lichfield ..	1	1	11	3	4	2	1,550	31,521	3,231	50,418
Newcastle ..	1	1	14	4	3	3	3,565	34,822	10,491	71,950
Stafford ..	1	1	21	1	3	3	3,110	37,974	7,197	65,469
Uttoxeter ..	1	1	8	2	3	2	418	13,916	1,391	39,956
Willenhall ..	1	2	16	—	5	2	1,974	16,258	11,602	76,650
Sub :—										
Aldridge ..	—	1	4	1	1	1	623	12,896	2,665	29,813
Bilston ..	—	1	2	—	1	—	573	5,858	2,486	12,796
Rugeley ..	—	1	5	—	1	1	473	8,190	1,998	26,833
Stone ..	—	1	4	—	1	1	640	15,188	2,201	27,486
Wednesbury ..	—	1	5	—	1	1	654	6,884	2,849	22,193
TOTALS ..	10	21	192	23	53	33	24,864	343,736	108,551	985,366
Summarised TOTALS ..		246			86		Patients 133,415		Mileage 1,329,102	

*Figures included under all columns for Rowley Regis and Tettenhall Areas.

An analysis of the types of patients carried is given below :—

Maternity	2,950
Illness	125,305
Accident	3,116
Infectious	1,614
Mental.. ..	430

133,415

The following is a comparison of the number of Stations, personnel, vehicles, patients carried and mileage at the 31st December, 1949, with the number at the 31st December, 1950 :—

	31.12.49	31.12.50
Main Stations	13	13
Sub-Stations	5	5
Ambulances	45	53
Sitting-case Cars	32	33
Personnel	183	246
Patients carried	93,966	133,415
Mileage	1,032,379	1,329,102

During the year the vehicle strength was increased by the purchase of Commer chassis for stretcher cases. All the chassis supplied had specially built bodies fitted suitably for the work for which they were intended. A Commer chassis was fitted with a body for use as a 15-seater sitting-case car, which increased the number of sitting cars to 33.

It will be observed from the comparison of figures given that the demands upon the Service increased during the year, there being an increase of 39,449 in the number of patients carried and an increase in the mileage of 296,723 miles. The number of journeys undertaken by the Service during the year was 28,518 for ambulances and 35,663 for sitting-case cars; these figures include emergency journeys (accident, etc.) totalling 8,765 for ambulances and 2,368 for sitting-case cars.

The Mile Oak and District Ambulance Service, which serves a certain portion of the Lichfield Rural District, continued throughout the year as part of the County Service, and I append below the number of patients carried up to 31st December, 1950, together with the mileage covered. It is expected that this will diminish when the intended Station at Tamworth is in operation.

	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Mileage</i>
Charged to the County Council	1,526	24,533
Free Service Area	578	8,972

By arrangement with the Mile Oak and District Ambulance Fund patients resident within the parishes of Drayton Bassett, Fazeley, Hints and Weeford are conveyed at the expense of the Fund and no charge is made upon the County.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES

The flat rate of 2/- per mile for ambulances and 6d. per mile for sitting-case cars chargeable between Authorities continued throughout the year. These charges are made where journeys are performed on our behalf or where journeys are carried out by our own service on behalf of another Authority in respect of patients whose stay in hospital does not exceed three months.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

Full details of the arrangements under the above-mentioned Section were included in the last Annual Report. There has been no material alteration during the period under review and the scheme has continued to work quite satisfactorily.

The following particulars are given of the work undertaken during the year by the four Social Workers :—

	<i>Free</i>	<i>Partial payment by patient</i>	<i>Paid in full by patient</i>	<i>Total</i>
(1) Number of patients supplied with extra nourishment †	297	10	—	307
(2) Number of patients supplied with clothing †	161	29	—	190
(3) Number of patients supplied with bedding †	71	21	1	93
(4) Number of patients supplied with convalescent home treatment	54	114	9	177
(5) Number of patients supplied with appliances*	114	—	—	114
(6) Number of visits and interviews with patients	—	—	—	3,823

*Includes invalid chairs, air beds, rubber rings, hot water bottles, articles for occupational therapy, bed rests, etc. The majority of such appliances were provided on loan.

†Includes cases where assistance was given through Social Workers by bodies other than the Staffordshire County Council, e.g. British Red Cross Society and other voluntary associations, National Assistance Board.

The provisions of this Section of the Act empower the Local Health Authority to recover reasonable charges from persons availing themselves of the services provided, subject to consideration of their means. The foregoing table indicates to what extent there was recovery or partial recovery of charges during the year.

Particulars were given in the previous Annual Report of the arrangements, in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 85/49, for the provision of travelling warrants to relatives to enable them to visit patients in hospital. During the year 22 applications for the facility were received. In 9 instances full travelling expenses were allowed and 7 others were granted partial assistance. In the remaining 6 instances it was found the financial circumstances were such that the cases could not be considered to be necessitous ones, so that the County Council could not pay the travelling expenses involved.

During the year an arrangement was entered into with the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade whereby, in return for a contribution from the County Council to these Associations, they undertook to provide the majority of the articles of equipment required under the Nursing Comforts Scheme and most of the Depots and staff required to man them. In many instances the Depots are in the homes of the members of the Societies themselves and from which it is possible to obtain equipment at any hour of the day or night if necessary. The County Council undertook to provide the larger articles such as invalid chairs. Where necessary, Nursing Comforts Depots were also established at some Welfare Centre premises. The arrangement with the Societies commenced to operate at the beginning of September and at the end of the year some 30 Depots were in operation.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

Full particulars of the above-mentioned Service have been given in a previous Report.

During the year under review it was found that as the Service was developing one Organiser was unable to cover adequately the whole of the County, and the Health Committee decided, therefore, that a second Organiser of equal status should be engaged and that the County Area should be divided into two areas, one Organiser to be based on Stafford and one in the southern part of the County. The second Domestic Help Organiser was duly appointed and commenced duty on the 6th November, 1950.

The Service, which is under the operational control of the Area Medical Officers, continued to expand during the year and at the 31st December, 158 Domestic Helps were employed. During the year 2,414 homes were attended.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

MENTAL DEFICIENCY

The number of certified mental defectives from the Administrative County at the 1st January, 1951, was as follows :—

Great Barr Park Colony	489
Stallington Hall	80
Other Institutions (including State Institutions) ..	79

Of the above cases, 67 were on licence from Certified Institutions.

In addition, 4 certified patients from the County area were under guardianship.

ADMINISTRATION

(a) The Mental Health Services Sub-Committee of the County Health Committee met quarterly and dealt with all matters arising in connection with the administration of the Mental Deficiency Acts, the duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and the administration of the preventative and after-care of patients under the National Health Service Act.

(b) On the 1st January, 1950, the Staffordshire County Council's Mental Health Service was employing a Mental Welfare Officer and four Mental Welfare Visitors.

On the 1st June, 1950, a County Psychiatrist was appointed. One Mental Welfare Visitor resigned in June, 1950, and could not be replaced until December, 1950.

The initial care and removal to hospital of persons who are dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts is carried out by eight Duly Authorised Officers. The preventative care and after-care of all types of patient, in so far as this is not otherwise provided for, is carried out by the same Officers in their capacity as Social Workers in Mental Health under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, of 1946.

On the training side of the care of mental defectives, on 1.1.50, there were seven Supervisors of Occupation Centres, one Home Teacher and seventeen Assistant Supervisors (female), one male Instructor-Caretaker-Gardener, besides six cooks, one gardener and domestic workers.

Three Assistant Supervisors resigned during the year and were replaced by new appointments.

Two Officers of the County Council are authorised for the purpose of presenting Petitions under the Mental Deficiency Acts.

The qualifications of the professional staff are given below. One Assistant Supervisor only has a qualification; she is an uncertificated teacher of 20 years' experience.

County Psychiatrist ..	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Mental Welfare Officer ..	B.A. degree. Secondary Teacher's Diploma, Birmingham University

- Mental Welfare Visitors .. (1) Social Science Diploma, Dublin University.
- (2) R.M.P.A. Certificate. 2 posts as Matron of Mental Hospitals. 9 years' experience of mental health social work.
- (3) R.M.P.A. Certificate. 5 years in industrial social work before appointment in 1948.
- (4) Uncertificated teacher. 15 years' experience of mental health social work.

Supervisors (7) at 31.12.50 1 Certificated teacher.
 1 qualified teacher plus recognition as experienced worker by N.A.M.H.
 1 Diploma of N.A.M.H.
 3 Recognition as experienced by N.A.M.H.
 1 Unqualified.

Home Teacher Unqualified.

Duly Authorised Officers (8)

- (c) Supervision of mentally defective patients on licence was carried out on behalf of Hospital Management Committees of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board as requested by Medical Superintendents. During the year 76 patients were supervised on licence—60 from St. Margaret's Hospital, Great Barr Park, 4 from Stallington Hall, 3 from Burton Road Hospital and 9 from Out-County Authorities. Six patients were discharged from their Orders during the year. Nine patients were returned to hospital. Approximately 180 reports on the home circumstances of defectives who were seen by Visiting Justices for renewal of their Order were submitted after investigating the conditions in each case.

On 31.12.50 there were 56 defectives on licence under supervision from hospitals in Staffordshire and 4 on licence from other Counties.

It has been arranged with the Medical Superintendents of two hospitals in the County (St. Matthew's Hospital, Burntwood, and St. Edward's Hospital, Cheddleton) for those officers of the County who undertake the after-care of patients discharged from mental hospitals to attend at those hospitals on the case conferences on the patients for whom they will be responsible on discharge. This is of great advantage not only to the patient, for whom it ensures continuity of treatment and care, but also to the Officers concerned, as it enables them to be briefed in the specific problems regarding each patient.

- (d) No duties have been delegated to Voluntary Associations. The Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare arranged for 18 defectives attending Pelsall Occupation Centre to have a week's holiday in camp at Wombourn during the summer vacation in August, 1950. The staff of the Centre looked after the children; the organisation of the holiday was carried out by the Supervisor.
- (e) No Refresher Course for the Occupation Centre staffs was organised during 1950 as in former years, but the County Psychiatrist arranged a course of three lectures in speech therapy for members of the staffs of Centres in the autumn of 1950. These were well attended and proved of interest and value to the staff.

Account of work undertaken in the community

- (a) Under Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946. Prevention, care and after-care.

During the year preventative care and after-care was undertaken by the Social Workers in Mental Health in 390 cases. Of these, 315 were new cases referred during the year 1950 and 75 were cases which were still on after-care, having been referred prior to 1950. In all, 1,398 visits of after-care were made by these Duly Authorised Officers.

- (b) Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930, by Duly Authorised Officers.

1,238 cases were referred to the Duly Authorised Officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts. They were dealt with as follows:—

Voluntary Cases under Sec. 1 of the Mental Treatment Act	234
Temporary Cases under Sec. 5 of the Mental Treatment Act	2
Three-day Orders under Sec. 20 of the Lunacy Act	211
Summary Reception Orders, Secs. 14—16 of the Lunacy Act	334
Other Disposals (Sec. 21 (1) Pt. III) Accommodation, etc.	155
Cases seen in which no action was taken ..	302
	<hr/>
	1,238
	<hr/>

A pleasing feature has been that of the 936 cases in which action had to be taken only 334 (35.7%) were actually dealt with on a Summary Reception Order, and 234 were dealt with as voluntary cases under Section 1 of the Mental Treatment Act.

- (c) Community care under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38.
- (i) *Ascertainment, including number of defectives awaiting vacancies in institutions at the end of the year.*

Reported by local education authorities under the Education Act, 1944 :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Section 57(3)	34	35	69
Section 57(5) :—			
On leaving special schools ..	8	—	8
On leaving ordinary schools ..	2	2	4
Other ascertained defectives found to be subject to be dealt with during 1950	5	2	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	49	39	88
Other cases ascertained during the year but not at present "subject to be dealt with"	6	8	14
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total reported during the year ..	55	47	102

The number of cases in the community awaiting removal to institutions on 31.12.50 were :—

29 Male, 35 Female ; Total 64.

(ii) *Guardianship and Supervision*
Guardianship.

On the 1st January, 1950, there were six defectives for whom the County Council were responsible under guardianship in the County and one woman from another area. Supervision visits from Mental Welfare Visitors and from Medical Officers have been paid in these cases. One further case of a boy of ten years was placed under the guardianship of his father during the year. He attends an Occupation Centre and receives a maintenance grant. One youth died in 1950 and two women were transferred to institutions as they were found no longer suitable for guardianship, leaving four County and one out-County cases under guardianship at the end of the year. All the County cases attend Occupation Centres ; the remaining case, a woman, is employed in domestic service.

Supervision

On the 31st December, 1950, the following mental defectives were under supervision :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Statutory Supervision :—			
(i) under 16 years of age ..	150	127	277
(ii) aged 16 years and over ..	221	182	403
Voluntary Supervision :—			
aged 16 years and over ..	384	349	733
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	755	658	1,413

Out of a total of 1,413 cases, 51.9% are under voluntary supervision.

4,575 visits and interviews were carried out by the Mental Welfare Visitors during the year. 259 defectives under supervision attended Occupation Centres for daily training and 25 received training in their homes from the Home Teacher. Through visits to the

homes the circumstances and needs of every case referred are investigated, and a recommendation made as to the action needed in each particular case. Those recommended for institutional care are reported to the Committee and vacancies found or the name added to the waiting list for institutions. Every effort is made in the first instance to help the defectives through community care; quarterly visits from one who is experienced in the needs of defectives have proved most helpful in enabling parents to continue to care for their handicapped children at home, and in appropriate cases arrangements are made for the defective to attend an Occupation Centre or to receive home teaching. Close contacts have been made with Employment Exchanges in the matter of suitable employment for those who are capable of earning their living, and with Officers of the National Assistance Board in cases where there is no possibility of the defective holding down a job. Excellent co-operation has been received from these sources. It is through the help given to parents in their outlook on the supervision and care of their handicapped children that the most constructive help can be given.

The waiting list for vacant beds in institutions under the Mental Deficiency Acts is one of the major problems of the time. At the end of 1950 there were 64 defectives in the community awaiting removal to institutions, apart from those who, owing to immediate urgency, had been admitted to other hospitals until such time as a vacant bed should occur in an institution for them. Of these defectives awaiting admission to institutions, for whom as yet no vacancy is available, 33 are of the greatest urgency because of environmental factors.

During the year, on ten occasions, alleged defectives known to us were charged before Courts of Law. In seven of these cases the defective was subsequently admitted to an institution under the Mental Deficiency Acts, where the training needed is provided.

(iii) *Training.*

On the 1st January, 1950, there were seven Occupation Centres in being together with a peripatetic Home Teacher in North Staffordshire operating from Leek. The particulars are as follows:—

<i>Centre</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>
	31.12.50
Stafford	15
Cannock	17
Bilston	47
Kingswinford	53
Tipton	30
Newcastle	60
Pelsall	37
	—
	259
	—
Home Teacher (N. Staffs)	25

The seven Centres continue to operate from the same buildings as last year. The further amenity of a paved drive and a flag path round the lawn have been provided at Newcastle Centre, which aids nature study for the children. Bilston Centre garden has also been improved with paved paths. The buildings at Stafford and Tipton Centres continue to give cause for anxiety; proposals have been made for new buildings. It is hoped that other premises will shortly be available for Pelsall Centre.

Because of increased numbers on the roll, approval has been given to the appointment of additional assistants at Kingswinford and Newcastle Centres. No students have been received at the Centres during the year.

A holiday at the Children's Holiday Camp at The Bratch, Wombourn, near Wolverhampton, was arranged by the Supervisor for 18 children attending Pelsall Occupation Centre in the summer holiday. The expenses of the holiday were met from voluntary sources.

The Centre Committees of the Staffordshire Association for Mental Welfare have given support and encouragement to the work of each Centre throughout the year. Members have attended the Harvest Services, Open Days, Outings and Christmas Parties arranged for the children and have been most generous in gifts of money and time. Some Centre Committees have expressed willingness to bear in part or completely the necessary expenditures to enable the children to have holidays by the sea or in the country next year.

The day-to-day administration of each Centre is now the responsibility of the Health Committee of the Area in which it is situated. The majority of these Committees have nominated a representative to serve on the Voluntary Centre Committee of each Centre. A Parents' Association has been inaugurated at Newcastle Centre and has shown interest in study of the work of the Centre. They have provided a radiogram for training purposes. All the Centres have been visited by Inspectors from the Board of Control during the year.

The curriculum of each Centre includes, as heretofore, training in physical education for the defective, speech training, rhythmic, singing and percussion band, sense training, training in good personal habits and manners, handicrafts of various kinds and the elements of the three R's. An increasing use is being made of group techniques. The whole emphasis of the training of a defective, where his mental capacity makes it possible, is being directed to increasing his ability to perform useful tasks which may be of benefit to him in the world at large and where possible enable him to take his place as a member of society who can at least contribute towards maintaining his own existence. Transport and guiding for the defectives attending present many difficulties, but these problems are considerably eased at those Centres where private coach transport is provided, namely, at Kingswinford, Pelsall, Bilston and Tipton Centres. Cannock, Newcastle and Stafford Centres are without this facility.

The Home Teacher has continued to give weekly or fortnightly lessons to the 25 defectives on her register during the school terms. This work is made very difficult in the severe weather conditions which so often prevail in North Staffordshire in the winter. Some of the children's homes are situated in very remote rough country. None of these defectives could possibly reach an Occupation Centre. These lessons give the defectives concerned a measure of training and stimulate them to greater efforts to help themselves. The handwork completed by some of the pupils is an indication of the achievements they can attain. Seven hundred and thirteen visits were made by the Home Teacher in the year.

TABLES

Table showing Population, 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	Population at all ages		Number of persons per acre	Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population	Adjusted Live Birth-rate by comparability factor	Still-births, Rate per 1,000 of Population	Crude death-rate per 1,000 of Population	Adjusted death-rate by comparability factor	Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 registered live births (Infants under 4 weeks of age)	Mortality in children under one year per 1,000 registered live births	Zymotic Mortality Per 1,000 of Population			Per 1,000 of Population								
	Census 1931 of areas as constituted after changes in Boundary	Estimated 1950									Measles	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Malignant Neoplasm	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Congenital Malformations	
Aldridge	..	14,446	3.1	16.0	14.1	0.49	8.9	11.5	22	35	—	—	—	0.31	0.10	1.15	0.31	0.17	0.07	0.28	0.17	
Amblecote	..	3,099	4.7	13.1	12.6	0.64	12.8	11.1	—	—	—	—	—	0.64	—	3.51	0.64	—	—	—	—	0.32
Biddulph	..	8,980	1.6	15.7	15.7	0.09	11.5	13.8	41	53	—	—	—	0.28	—	1.75	0.55	0.46	0.37	0.28	0.46	
Bilston	..	31,321	17.8	19.1	18.5	0.60	10.9	14.1	24	50	—	0.03	—	0.66	0.18	1.62	1.38	0.24	0.03	0.33	0.12	
Brierley Hill	..	44,671	8.3	15.7	15.2	0.33	11.7	13.3	9	25	—	0.06	—	0.35	0.08	1.82	0.98	0.33	0.10	0.12	0.04	
Brownhills	..	18,368	3.4	18.1	18.1	0.37	11.0	13.1	28	44	—	—	—	0.51	0.14	1.91	0.70	0.56	0.09	0.23	0.09	
Cannock	..	35,300	5.0	17.9	18.4	0.83	10.6	12.2	22	37	—	—	—	0.41	—	1.46	0.92	0.49	0.07	0.12	0.22	
Coseley	..	25,137	10.3	17.2	16.3	0.50	10.3	13.5	19	48	—	—	—	0.44	0.12	1.42	1.03	0.41	0.03	0.06	0.12	
Darlaston	..	20,053	14.3	15.2	14.6	0.68	10.2	12.9	24	33	0.05	0.05	—	0.36	—	1.55	0.68	0.27	0.05	0.09	0.09	
Kidsgrove	..	14,940	3.9	16.9	16.6	0.80	12.3	14.1	33	44	—	—	—	0.43	—	1.86	0.43	0.31	0.12	0.37	0.12	
Leek	..	19,442	4.5	13.4	13.8	0.46	13.1	12.7	11	19	—	—	—	0.41	0.05	2.65	0.56	0.31	—	—	0.20	0.05
Lichfield	..	8,574	2.9	16.2	16.7	0.58	10.5	9.7	30	65	—	—	—	0.29	—	1.73	0.77	0.48	0.10	0.19	0.19	
Newcastle	..	54,739	7.9	16.1	15.6	0.52	10.9	12.8	25	34	0.09	—	—	0.01	0.31	0.04	1.89	0.52	0.37	0.07	0.09	0.14

Deaths occurring during the year 1950 classified according to Diseases and Localities, together with Births occurring during the year.

URBAN

District	Live Births	Still Births	Deaths from all causes	Deaths under 1 year	Deaths under 4 weeks	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Syphilitic Disease	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Meningococcal Infections	Acute Poliomyelitis	Measles	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	Malignant Neoplasm						Stomach	Lung, Bronchus	Breast	Uterus	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	Leukaemia, Aelukaemia	Diabetes	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	Coronary Disease, Angina	Hypertension with Heart Disease	Other Heart Disease	Other Cerebratory Disease	Influenza	Pneumonia	Bronchitis	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Hyperplasia of Prostate	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	Congenital Malformations	Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	Motor Vehicle Accidents	All other Accidents	Suicide	Homicide and Operations of War
															Stomach	Lung, Bronchus	Breast	Uterus	Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms																												
Aldridge ..	460	14	256	16	10	9	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	3	4	—	19	1	1	29	23	11	64	8	—	5	9	2	1	2	8	1	—	—	5	31	3	5	1	—					
Amblecote ..	41	2	40	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	—	4	—	—	3	1	—	7	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	2	—	—					
Biddulph ..	171	1	125	9	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	1	10	—	1	11	19	2	23	2	1	5	6	4	2	1	3	1	—	—	—	5	13	1	2	—	—				
Bilston ..	638	20	364	32	15	22	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	9	6	4	28	1	1	41	18	12	50	9	7	8	46	1	5	7	11	1	1	4	48	3	3	1	—	—					
Brierley Hill	769	16	570	19	7	17	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	12	12	9	—	56	3	7	78	33	9	77	17	15	16	48	5	2	3	6	4	—	2	100	8	14	6	1	—					
Brownhills ..	389	8	237	17	11	11	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	9	2	3	1	26	2	—	22	12	3	49	10	—	12	15	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	3	9	—	—	—				
Cannock ..	734	34	435	27	16	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	7	4	3	34	—	3	52	32	6	70	35	1	20	38	3	3	4	5	2	5	2	9	54	4	11	3	1	—				
Coseley ..	582	17	347	28	11	15	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10	2	—	27	1	1	28	21	5	78	8	4	14	35	1	1	2	2	5	2	4	53	2	7	6	1	—					
Darlaston ..	333	15	224	11	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	2	1	22	—	1	25	8	11	53	6	3	6	15	1	1	3	2	2	2	35	1	2	2	—	—	—					
Kidsgrave ..	273	13	199	12	9	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	4	2	17	—	1	19	17	3	39	5	2	5	7	2	1	1	6	3	—	2	41	3	4	1	—	—					
Leek ..	263	9	257	5	3	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	3	9	6	28	2	2	25	20	6	77	7	1	6	11	—	2	—	4	2	1	1	23	1	2	2	—	—					
Lichfield ..	169	6	109	11	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	12	—	10	4	2	19	6	—	5	8	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	16	1	3	1	—	—						
Newcastle ..	1136	37	768	39	28	22	3	6	1	3	6	1	3	6	34	15	10	7	67	7	6	100	77	16	142	27	6	26	37	5	6	6	6	3	—	10	84	10	13	5	—	—					

URBAN—continued

DISTRICT	Population at all ages		Number of persons per acre	Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population	Adjusted Live Birth-rate by comparability factor	Still-births, Rate per 1,000 of Population	Crude death-rate per 1,000 of Population	Adjusted death-rate by comparability factor	Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 registered live births (Infants under 4 weeks of age)	Mortality in children under one year per 1,000 registered live births	Zymotic Mortality Per 1,000 of Population			Per 1,000 of Population												
	Census 1931 of areas as constituted after changes in Boundary	Estimated 1950									Measles	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Malignant Neoplasm	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Congenital Malformations	Per 1,000 of Population				
																						Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Malignant Neoplasm	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Congenital Malformations
Rowley Regis..	41,235	49,480	12.9	15.4	14.5	0.38	11.0	13.4	24	33	—	—	—	0.42	0.02	1.50	0.38	0.44	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.08				
Rugeley ..	7,137	8,464	2.9	17.0	17.5	0.71	9.8	10.5	35	35	—	—	—	0.12	—	2.36	0.71	0.35	—	—	—	0.24	—			
Sedgley ..	19,262	22,920	6.0	14.3	14.1	0.48	11.0	11.8	31	52	—	—	—	0.26	0.13	1.66	1.22	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.04	0.17	—			
Stafford ..	30,851	40,060	7.9	15.9	16.2	0.42	9.4	10.0	9	20	0.02	—	—	0.20	0.05	1.32	0.35	0.25	—	—	—	0.05	0.05			
Stone ..	6,399	8,170	5.0	16.9	16.2	0.24	12.6	12.3	14	43	—	—	—	0.49	—	2.08	0.61	0.49	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.24	—			
Tamworth ..	11,711	13,170	4.9	15.0	15.3	0.61	11.0	10.7	20	35	—	—	—	0.08	0.08	1.67	0.38	0.53	—	—	—	—	0.23			
Tettenhall ..	5,967	7,826	3.1	14.3	14.6	0.64	12.7	10.9	18	45	—	—	—	0.13	—	2.04	0.89	—	—	—	—	0.26	0.13			
Tipton ..	35,814	39,280	18.1	17.8	17.4	0.59	10.7	13.9	16	34	0.03	—	—	0.03	0.48	1.60	1.12	0.36	0.08	0.08	0.20	0.20	0.20			
Uttoxeter ..	6,234	7,330	2.2	15.4	15.6	0.41	12.4	12.6	18	18	—	—	—	0.14	0.14	2.05	0.95	0.55	0.41	0.27	—	—	—			
Wednesbury ..	31,531	35,080	17.3	17.0	16.3	0.66	9.6	11.8	24	37	—	—	—	0.71	0.17	1.77	0.74	0.46	0.09	0.14	0.06	0.06	—			
Wednesfield ..	9,106	17,460	6.9	16.2	14.9	0.46	8.5	11.3	35	43	0.06	—	—	0.29	0.06	1.43	0.57	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.23	0.11	—			
Willenhall ..	26,421	30,960	10.9	16.2	15.7	0.65	10.4	13.1	38	50	—	—	—	0.39	—	1.61	0.81	0.32	0.13	0.13	0.19	0.32	—			
Totals and Averages ..	530,648	640,180	6.4	16.4	15.9	0.53	10.7	12.5	22	37	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.39	0.06	1.68	0.74	0.35	0.08	0.08	0.16	0.16	0.13	—		
126 large towns in England..	—	—	—	17.6	—	0.45	12.3	—	—	34	—	0.01	0.00	—	—	—	—	0.49	—	—	—	—	—	—		
148 smaller towns, resident Population 25,000-50,000	—	—	—	16.7	—	0.38	11.6	—	—	29	—	0.01	0.00	—	—	—	—	0.45	—	—	—	—	—	—		

RURAL

District	Population at all ages		Mean area per person in acres	Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of Population	Adjusted Live Birth-rate by comparability factor	Still-births, Rate per 1,000 of Population	Crude death-rate per 1,000 of Population	Adjusted death-rate by comparability factor	Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 registered live births (Infants under 4 weeks of age)	Mortality in children under one year per 1,000 registered live births	Zymotic Mortality Per 1,000 of Population			Per 1,000 of Population												
	Census 1931 of areas as constituted after changes in Boundary	Estimated 1950									Measles	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Malignant Neoplasms	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Congenital Malformations	Per 1,000 of Population				
																						Tuberculosis, Respiratory	Tuberculosis, other	Malignant Neoplasms	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	Nephritis and Nephrosis	Congenital Malformations
Cannock	20,792	24,250	2.3	17.4	18.1	0.37	10.1	11.3	31	54	—	0.04	—	0.25	0.16	1.77	0.41	0.29	0.12	0.16	0.08				
Cheadle	28,102	32,640	1.8	14.8	15.7	0.34	9.3	9.7	14	27	0.03	0.03	—	0.18	0.06	1.72	0.25	0.09	0.12	0.25	0.15				
Leek	14,435	16,610	4.4	17.4	17.4	0.48	11.3	11.5	28	35	—	—	—	0.06	—	1.63	0.60	0.36	0.24	0.06	0.18				
Lichfield	31,551	40,340	2.1	14.5	17.3	0.30	9.3	10.7	15	29	—	0.02	—	0.15	0.05	1.69	0.59	0.27	0.17	0.02	0.07				
Newcastle	16,872	16,930	2.4	14.7	15.3	0.65	11.7	11.2	12	24	—	—	—	0.18	0.12	1.77	0.41	0.12	0.06	0.65	0.06				
Seisdon	13,850	21,830	1.9	15.5	15.5	0.23	9.3	10.0	15	21	—	—	—	0.18	—	1.33	0.46	0.23	0.09	0.23	0.05				
Stafford	12,895	18,440	4.4	15.2	16.7	0.16	9.5	10.6	25	39	0.05	—	—	0.22	0.05	1.74	0.49	0.54	—	0.16	0.05				
Stone	11,945	16,070	3.8	13.7	11.5	0.31	10.3	10.9	32	36	—	—	—	0.19	—	1.80	0.44	0.37	0.06	0.19	0.12				
Tutbury	10,356	14,890	2.1	18.3	18.3	0.34	10.5	10.0	18	26	—	—	—	0.54	—	1.81	0.47	0.34	—	—	—				
Uttoxeter	8,906	10,710	5.3	14.8	18.2	0.28	12.0	12.6	19	19	—	—	—	0.09	0.09	1.68	0.47	0.47	0.19	0.09	—				
Totals and Averages	169,704	212,710	2.8	15.5	16.3	0.34	10.0	10.6	20	32	0.01	0.01	—	0.20	0.06	1.69	0.46	0.28	0.11	0.17	0.08				

Table showing the number of cases of certain Infectious Diseases notified in each sanitary area during the year ended 31st December, 1950, and the Attack-Rates per 1,000 of the population.

URBAN

DISTRICT	Estimated Population 1950 for calculating rates	Smallpox		Typhoid		Para-Typhoid		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Measles		Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia		Polionmyelitis Cases
		Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	
Aldridge ..	28,690	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	1.01	87	3.03	—	—	4	0.14	247	8.61	20	0.70	1	0.03	8
Amblecote ..	3,130	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1.60	1	0.32	—	—	45	14.38	1	0.32	—	—	—
Biddulph ..	10,860	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	2.03	7	0.64	—	—	2	0.18	211	19.43	19	1.75	1	0.09	—
Bilston ..	33,360	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	0.87	74	2.22	3	0.09	5	0.15	410	12.29	58	1.74	—	—	5
Brierley Hill ..	48,900	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	0.65	218	4.46	2	0.04	5	0.10	102	2.08	20	0.41	—	—	20
Brownhills ..	21,490	—	—	—	—	3	0.14	13	0.60	149	6.93	1	0.05	1	0.05	78	3.63	35	1.63	1	0.05	2
Cannock ..	41,080	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	0.58	50	1.22	4	0.10	7	0.17	141	3.43	15	0.37	—	—	10
Coseley ..	33,850	—	—	1	0.03	1	0.03	49	1.45	169	4.99	11	0.32	7	0.21	256	7.56	90	2.66	—	—	14
Darlaston ..	21,930	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	0.64	44	2.01	—	—	2	0.09	78	3.56	13	0.59	—	—	5
Kidsgrove ..	16,160	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	1.05	71	4.39	—	—	3	0.19	228	14.11	13	0.80	—	—	—
Leek ..	19,600	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	1.58	16	0.82	—	—	1	0.05	310	15.82	10	0.51	1	0.05	—
Lichfield ..	10,400	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	0.38	20	1.92	—	—	1	0.10	370	35.58	2	0.19	1	0.10	14
Newcastle ..	70,530	—	—	—	—	—	—	83	1.18	226	3.20	9	0.13	—	—	784	11.11	20	0.28	2	0.03	10

URBAN—continued

District	Estimated Population 1950 for calculating rates	Smallpox		Typhoid		Para-Typhoid		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Measles		Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia		Polio-myelitis Cases
		Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	
Rowley Regis ..	49,480	—	—	—	—	—	—	63	1.27	133	2.69	1	0.02	1	0.02	362	7.32	4	0.08	—	—	53
Rugeley ..	8,464	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	3.54	2	0.24	—	—	—	—	314	37.09	4	0.47	—	—	5
Sedgley ..	22,920	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	0.92	52	2.27	—	—	5	0.22	56	2.44	17	0.74	—	—	23
Stafford ..	40,060	—	—	—	—	—	—	125	3.12	57	1.42	1	0.02	1	0.02	726	18.12	30	0.75	8	0.20	14
Stone ..	8,170	—	—	1	0.12	—	—	8	0.98	4	0.49	1	0.12	—	—	111	13.58	6	0.73	—	—	1
Tamworth ..	13,170	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	0.84	8	0.61	1	0.08	3	0.23	80	6.07	13	0.99	—	—	1
Tettenhall ..	7,826	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	0.51	6	0.77	—	—	2	0.26	5	0.64	7	0.89	—	—	—
Tipton ..	39,280	—	—	—	—	—	—	84	2.14	65	1.65	1	0.03	2	0.05	82	2.09	19	0.48	5	0.13	20
Uttoxeter ..	7,330	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	0.95	49	6.68	—	—	2	0.27	194	26.46	—	—	—	—	2
Wednesbury ..	35,080	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	1.68	73	2.08	3	0.09	4	0.11	115	3.28	21	0.60	—	—	4
Wednesfield ..	17,460	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	0.80	68	3.89	1	0.06	2	0.11	56	3.21	8	0.46	2	0.11	2
Willenhall ..	30,960	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	0.48	187	6.04	3	0.10	3	0.10	255	8.24	21	0.68	2	0.06	2

RURAL

District	Estimated Population 1950 for calculating rates	Smallpox		Typhoid		Para-Typhoid		Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Erysipelas		Measles		Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia		Polomyelitis Cases
		Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	Cases	Rate	
Cannock ..	24,250	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	0.78	52	2.14	1	0.04	1	0.04	102	4.21	7	0.29	1	0.04	2
Cheadle ..	32,640	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	1.41	175	5.36	—	—	15	0.46	461	14.12	42	1.29	1	0.03	—
Leek ..	16,610	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	1.99	10	0.60	—	—	1	0.06	166	9.99	8	0.48	1	0.06	2
Lichfield ..	40,340	—	—	—	—	1	0.02	59	1.46	97	2.40	—	—	1	0.02	371	9.20	56	1.39	—	—	25
Newcastle ..	16,930	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	0.53	31	1.83	—	—	2	0.12	236	13.94	6	0.35	1	0.06	2
Seisdon ..	21,830	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	1.28	31	1.42	2	.09	—	—	56	2.57	14	0.64	—	—	6
Stafford ..	18,440	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	1.74	5	0.27	—	—	5	0.27	314	17.03	10	0.54	—	—	9
Stone ..	16,070	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	1.31	19	1.18	—	—	1	0.06	152	9.46	6	0.37	1	0.06	6
Tutbury ..	14,890	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	1.07	29	1.95	—	—	—	—	114	7.66	5	0.34	1	0.07	4
Uttoxeter ..	10,710	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	1.49	20	1.87	—	—	6	0.56	95	8.87	7	0.65	—	—	9