

[Report 1931] / Medical Officer of Health, Stourbridge Borough.

Contributors

Stourbridge (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1931

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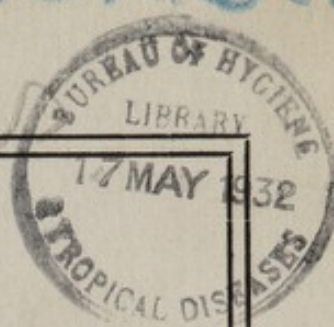
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BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE.

Annual Reports

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

for 1931.

Stourbridge :

MARK & MOODY, LTD., PRINTERS & STATIONERS.

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BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE.

Mayor :

ALDERMAN H. E. PALFREY, J.P., C.A.

Deputy Mayor :

ALDERMAN C. F. LEESON, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLOR JOSEPH WRIGHT, *Chairman.*

Councillor C. Broughton, J.P.

Councillor S. Newell

Councillor Mrs. Francis

„ Mrs. Stuart.

„ W. Harris

„ Miss M. E. Thomas

„ A. S. Leather

„ H. S. Walker

Medical Officer of Health :

GEOFFREY DUDLEY, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector :

ARTHUR KENT, F.S.I.A., A.R.S.I., Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

J. H. MASSEY, M.S.I.A., CERT. S.I.B., Cert.: Meat and Food Inspector.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the Vital Statistics for the Year 1931.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE STOURBRIDGE
TOWN COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report for the year 1931, being my Seventh Annual Report.

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health, this Report is curtailed, and the details are those which the Ministry suggest should be included.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

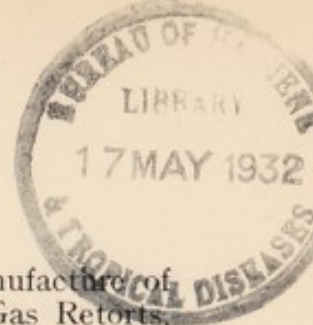
Area of the District	...	...	...	1920 acres.
Population according to figures supplied after the Census in 1931	...	...	...	19903
Resident Population (Registrar General's Estimate)				19980
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1931)			...	5293
Number of families or separate occupiers (1931)			...	5505 approx.
Rateable Value —unreduced	...	...	...	£128,300
reduced	...	...	...	£98,118
Sum represented by a penny rate			...	£370 net.
Rateable Value per person of population —unreduced				£6 8 5
reduced				£4 18 2

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Town rises from the River Stour, which is the boundary of Worcestershire and Staffordshire, and is on the north side of the Town. The height above sea level at the River Boundary is 216 feet rising to 326 feet at the Borough Boundary adjoining Bromsgrove Rural District at Upper Swinford. The highest point in the Borough being 406 feet above sea level.

The Subsoil, excepting portions of the district on the north and east sides, is red sand stone.

The Town is principally residential. On the south and west sides there is open country.



The principal trades carried on are Ironworks, the manufacture of Spades, Shovels, Chains, Anvils, Frost Cogs, Fire Bricks, Gas Retorts, Earthenware Baths and Sinks, Skin Rugs, Chamois Leather Gloves, and Galvanized Goods. A few domestic Nail Shops still exist.

The Borough own the Gasworks, which are situated in the Urban District of Amblecote, also, in conjunction with the Urban Districts of Amblecote, Lye and Wollescote, are owners of the Water undertaking.

No particular diseases are attributable to the occupations carried on in the district.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	M.	F.	Total.
Live Births—Legitimate ...	159	145	304
Illegitimate ...	5	4	9
	Total	...	313
Birth Rate ...	...	...	15.66
Birth Rate for England and Wales ...	...	...	15.8
	M.	F.	Total.
Still Births—Legitimate ...	10	6	16
Illegitimate ...	1	1	2
	Total	...	18
Rate per 1000 total population ...	...	...	.9
Rate per 1000 total population for England and Wales...	...	...	.67
Deaths—Males ...	...	...	108
Females ...	...	...	128
	Total	...	236
Death Rate ...	...	...	11.81
Death Rate for England and Wales ...	...	...	12.3
One woman died in consequence of childbirth ;			

The Maternal Mortality rate is 3.19 per 1,000 live births, and 3.02 to total births (including still born). The rates for England and Wales are 2.45 per 1,000 live births and 2.35 to total births.

Eclampsia was the cause of the maternal death. A doctor was not called in until the patient was moribund.

It is pleasing to note that there was no death from Puerperal Sepsis. This is the second year in succession that there has been no death in Stourbridge from this condition, and it indicates that Midwifery is being carried on in the Borough in a satisfactory manner. It will be noticed

on page 18 that many more women entered institutions for their confinements in 1931 than previously, viz., 51 against 16 in the year preceeding. 51 represents one-sixth of the total number of births for the year. The increase is mainly on account of the number being admitted to Sandfield House, which has become very popular in the district, and where treatment is very proficient, most of the cases admitted are booked beforehand and are normal cases.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :—

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	17
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
		Total	...	...	18

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1000 births	...	...	57.50
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births			55.92
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	...	...	111.11

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	I
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	—

An influenzal epidemic prevailed in the first quarter of the year, and as a consequence there was an increase in the number of deaths from this cause, 17 being registered as against 3 in the previous year.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

[illegible]

CAUSES OF DEATH—Continued.

	1927		1928		1929		1930		1931	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	6	4	12	4	10	4	3	7	5	6
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	6
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	10	20	12	19	14	16	23	12	10	14
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes ...	5	—	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc....	7	7	6	7	7	9	5	13	5	10
Heart Disease ...	15	24	19	20	14	30	28	21	23	27
Aneurysm ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4
Bronchitis ...	7	7	5	5	5	11	4	1	4	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	9	2	10	3	7	6	8	5	6	6
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	—	3	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Peptic Ulcer ...	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Appendicitis ...	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Liver, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ...	3	1	1	3	4	3	6	3	4	2
Puerperal Sepsis ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes ...	—	3	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation Premature Birth ...	7	1	7	3	3	1	4	—	6	4
Senility ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10
Suicide ...	1	1	4	1	4	2	4	—	3	1
Other Deaths from Violence ...	3	—	1	3	6	2	3	3	7	3
Other Defined Diseases ...	19	18	26	26	17	24	29	21	10	15
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	112	110	120	109	112	124	125	99	108	128

**The Births, Deaths of Infants under one year, and the Total Deaths
for the past five years, were as follows :—**

Year.		Births.	No. of Deaths of Infants under one year.		Total Deaths.
1926	...	305	...	19	215
1927	...	312	...	24	222
1928	...	281	...	23	229
1929	...	295	...	13	236
1930	...	325	...	11	224
Average of five years		303		18	225
1931	...	313		18	236

Of the definitely defined causes of death, Heart Disease accounts for the greatest number, viz., 50, this number being higher than any of the preceding five years. Cancer accounted for 24 deaths, as compared with 35 in 1930. Diseases of the Respiratory System, which usually account for most of the deaths, have been higher during the year, there being 29 deaths from these causes: of these 12 were from Pneumonia. There were 11 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, this being one more than for the previous year. One woman died in consequence of childbirth: this was due to Eclampsia. There was no death from Puerperal Sepsis. This gives an approximate maternal mortality rate of 3 per 1000. Influenza accounted for 17 deaths: this number is the same as in 1929. It will be seen from the table that the number of deaths is larger every other year, this, in fact, is a truth—a severe Influenza Epidemic occurs every other year. No death occurred from motor accidents.

The total number of deaths is higher than in 1930, viz., 236 against 224, and is also higher than the average for the last five years, viz., 229. The Death Rate is slightly lower than for England and Wales as a whole.

**Street List showing Number of Births, Infantile Deaths and
Total Deaths.**

STREET		Births.	Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Total Deaths.
Albert Street	...	1		1
Angel Street	...	1	2	4
Bagley Street	...	1		3
Bank Street	...			
Bath Road	...			
Baylie Street	...	1		1
Beale Street	...	3		3
Beech Road	...	1		1
Bell Street	...			
Birmingham Street	...	7		4
Bowling Green Road	...	1		2
Borough Crescent	...	2		
Bridgnorth Road	...	10		4

**Street List showing Number of Births, Infantile Deaths and
Total Deaths.—Continued.**

STREET	Births.	Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Total Deaths.
Bridle Road			
Bright Street			1
Brook Road			
Brook Street	5		2
Cecil Street			1
Charles Road			1
Cathcart Road	1		
Chapel Street	1		
Chawnhill			1
Cherry Street	3		1
Church Street	5	1	2
Church Road			
Clark Street	1		2
Cleveland Street	1		
Cliff, The	2		1
Clifton Street			1
Cobden Street	2		3
Corser Street	1		2
Court Street			
Coventry Street	3		2
Craufurd Street			
Cross Street	2		1
Duke Street			1
Duncombe Street			1
Dunsley Road	4		1
Eggington Road			1
Enville Street	7	1	9
Farlands Road			1
Francis Road	4		1
Field Lane	10		1
Fir Grove			
Firmstone Street	3		
Foster Street			
Forge Hill			
Grange Road	2	1	4
Greyhound Lane	2		
Gig Mill			
Giles Hill	2	1	1
Gladstone Road	1		
Glasshouse Hill	1		
Glebe Lane			
Greenfield Avenue	1		
Green Street	5		2

**Street List showing Number of Births, Infantile Deaths and
Total Deaths.—Continued.**

STREET.	Births.	Deaths of Infants under 1 year.	Total Deaths.
Hadcroft Road ...	4		
Hagley Road (Stourbridge) ...	1		3
Hagley Road (Upper Swinford) ...	5	1	4
Hanbury Hill ...	1		1
Hanbury Passage ...	1		
Hall Street ...	1		4
Ham Lane ...			
Harmon Road ...	4	1	2
Hatfield Road ...	4	1	1
Heath Street ...	1		1
Heath Lane ...	2		2
Hemplands Road ...	1		
High Street (Stourbridge) ...	4		4
High Street (Wollaston) ...	4		5
High Park Avenue ...	6	1	3
Hill Street ...	3		5
Hungary Hill ...	2		1
Junction Road ...			1
Jobs Lane ...			
King Street ...	5		3
Laburnam Street ...			
Lady Grey's Walk ...	1		
Lawn Avenue ...	1		1
Lawn Street ...			
Lawrence Street ...	1		3
Leonard Road ...	2		
Lion Street ...			
Lion Passage ...			
Love Lane ...	2		1
Lower Swinford ...			
Lyttelton Road ...			
Mamble Road ...	9		2
Market Street ...			
Meriden Avenue ...	3	1	1
Mill Street ...	1		
Mount Street ...	2		2
Mount Road ...			
New Street ...	2		
New Road ...	2		1
New Wood ...			
Norton Road and Norton ...	6		5
Oakleigh Road ...	2		
Osmaston Road ...			

Street List showing Number of Births, Infantile Deaths and
Total Deaths.—*Continued.*

STREET	Births.	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total Deaths
Palfrey Road	1		
Pargeter Street	1		
Parkfield Road			
Parkfield Terrace	1		
Park Street	2		
Pedmore Road	3		2
Park Road	5		1
Prescot Road	9		1
Pool Street	3		
Prospect Hill			
Queen Street	2		1
Randle Road	3		
Rectory Road			
Red Hill (Stourbridge)			
Red Hill (Upper Swinford)	2		2
Ridge Street	1		
Rufford Road	3		
School Street			1
Short Street	1		
South Avenue			2
South Road	7		2
Stamber Mill			1
Stanley Road	1		1
Studley Gate	1		
Summer Street	7		1
Swan Street			
Swinford Road			
St. Mary's Lane			
The Heath			
The Crescent, Grange Road			
Theatre Road			2
Talbot Street	2		
Union Passage	2		
Union Street	4		3
Unwin Passage			
Unwin Crescent	1		
Valley Road			
Vicarage Road	4		2
Victoria Street			
West Street	2		4
Western Road	2		
Wheeler Street	1		3
Wheeler's Hill			
Whitmore Road	2	2	2
Witton Street	6		5

**Street List Showing Number of Births, Infantile Deaths and
Total Deaths.—Continued.**

STREET.	Births.	Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total Deaths.
Wood Street	3		1
Woodward Place			
Wollaston Road			
Worcester Street (Stourbridge) ...	1		5
Worcester Street (Upper Swinford)	2		1
Yardley Street	1		2
Amblecote		1	12
Birmingham		2	16
Bromsgrove			7
Dudley			2
Halesowen			1
Kidderminster			6
Kingswinford		1	20
Stourport			1
Upton-on-Severn			1
Whitstaple			1
Wolverhampton		1	1
Births outside the Borough, Parents being Residents ...	47		
	<hr/> 313	<hr/> 18	<hr/> 236

Births.

The number of Births, viz., 313, is higher than the average of the past five years, but lower than the preceding year. There were 9 births of illegitimate children compared with 13 in the preceding year. The Birth Rate, however, is slightly less than that for England and Wales as a whole, viz., 15.66 against 15.8.

The following list shows the census populations and the average annual number of births in each decade :—

Population.				Average Annual No. of Births.	
1891	...	14,901	...	from 1891 to 1900 =	462
1901	...	16,302	...	from 1901 to 1910 =	448
1911	...	17,312	...	from 1911 to 1920 =	379
1921	...	18,016	...	from 1921 to 1930 =	338

The falling off in the number of births has been most marked since 1926. In 1930 the number slightly increased, and the number of births in 1931 is slightly above the average of the preceding five years. It will be seen from the table giving the average annual number of births in each decade from 1891 that the number of births is decreasing.

Infantile Deaths.

Total Deaths of Infants under one year, 18 (Males 10, Females 8).

One of the females was an illegitimate child.

Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births : 57.50.

The Infantile Death Rate for the past five years was 59.28.

Infantile Death Rate, England and Wales, 66 per 1,000 births.

The causes of deaths were as follows :—

Cause of Death.	Total number of Deaths.	Deaths under one month.
Prematurity	7	6
Congenital Heart Disease	3	3
Asphyxia	2	1
Influenza	2	—
Congenital Syphilis	1	1
Tuberculosis of Liver and Spleen	1	—
Broncho-Pneumonia	1	—
Cardiac Failure	1	—

It will be seen that 11 of the Infantile Deaths occurred during the first month of life.

Zymotic Diseases.

There were 20 deaths, compared with 7 in 1930 and 22 in 1929. The deaths were : Influenza 17, and one each Measles, Diphtheria and Encephalitis Lethargica.

The death from Diphtheria occurred at Corbett Hospital and was an adult. The death from Measles was a child aged 18 months.

The Zymotic Death Rate is 1 per 1000 of the population, compared with .35 in 1930. The increase is due to the influenza epidemic which occurred at the beginning of the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH.

(1) The Public Health Officers.

The Staff consists of a part-time Medical Officer of Health, a whole-time Sanitary Inspector, and an Additional Sanitary Inspector. One half of the salaries of these Officers is contributed by Exchequer grants.

The Sanitary Inspector has the certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

The Additional Sanitary Inspector has the certificates of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board and as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

The Sanitary Inspector also acts as Inspector under the Petroleum Acts and Shops Acts.

There is also a Clerk.

(2) Nursing in the Home.

(a) GENERAL. The Stourbridge District Nursing Association, which is a voluntary organisation, employs two Nurses, whose services are available for residents in the whole of the Borough, and of Pedmore (Bromsgrove Rural).

(b) There is no provision for Professional Nursing of cases of Infectious Diseases treated at home.

(3) Midwives.

The Midwives Act is administered by the County Council. At the end of the year there were five Midwives practising in the district.

The Borough has no separate National Health Insurance Committee ; the work is carried out by the Worcestershire Insurance Committee.

(5) Poor Law Medical Out-Relief.

The amount of Out-door Relief given to persons in Stourbridge by the Public Assistance Committee during the year, was £4236 16s. 3d.

(6) Laboratory Facilities.

Examination of clinical material, (Sputum, swabs, etc.), water, milk and foodstuffs is done by the Worcestershire County Analyst.

(7) **Legislation in Force.**

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYELAWS, ETC.

The following are the Adoptive Acts, Byelaws and Local Regulations relating to Public Health, in force in the District, with the date of adoption :—

Stourbridge Improvement Act	...	...	...	1825
Stourbridge Improvement Act	...	...	...	1866
Stourbridge Improvement Commissioners Act	...	...	...	1891
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890	...	...	...	1894
Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890, 6th April,				
	1891, 26th Nov. 1901, and 30th Aug., 1909			
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (parts)	16th Feb., 1910			
Housing of Working Classes Act, 1890, Part III.	...			Dec. 1901
Public Health Act, 1925, (except Secs. 21, 22 and 44)	30 Aug. 1927			
ditto	(Secs. 21, 22 and 44)	26th Sep. 1927		

BYELAWS.

Offensive Trades	...	...	...	15th Sep. 1890.
Blood Boiler			Leather Dresser	
Blood Drier			Size Maker	
Bone Boiler			Soap Boiler	
Fat Melter or Fat Extractor			Tallow Melter	
Fellmonger			Tanner	
Glue Maker			Tripe Boiler	
Gut Scraper				
Markets and Fairs	...	...	...	14th Aug. 1867.
Markets	...	...	...	15th Sep. 1890.
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	15th Sept. 1890.
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	15th Sep. 1890.
W.C.'s to be supplied with Water	...	...	...	29th July 1895.
Nuisances	...	...	...	20th Oct. 1911.
Public Baths	...	...	...	13th Oct. 1916.
Libraries	...	...	...	13th Oct. 1916.
Mortuary	...	...	...	10th Jan. 1917.
Pleasure Grounds	...	...	...	10th Jan. 1917.
Hackney Carriages	...	...	...	10th Jan. 1917.
Omnibuses	...	...	...	10th Jan. 1917.
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures	...	...	...	10th Jan. 1917.
Cleansing of Footpaths, etc., Earthclosets and				
Cesspools	...	...	...	10th Jan. 1917.
New Street and Buildings	...	...	...	7th April 1927.
Behaviour of Passengers in Vehicles	...	...	...	2nd Feb. 1927.
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	2nd April 1930.
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	9th April 1930.

(8) **Hospitals.**

(a) Name.	Situation.	Purpose.	No. of beds.
Stourbridge and Halesowen.	Hayley Green, near Pedmore.	Infectious Diseases	60
Ditto	Ditto	Tuberculosis	14
Ditto	Ditto	Smallpox	8
Corbett	Amblecote, near Stourbridge.	General	43
Sandfield House	Wordsley	Poor Law	

At the Stourbridge and Halesowen Hospital there are three wards for Infectious Disease, with 59 beds. 29 for males, 30 for females, and one ward with one bed for Enteric Fever. The Tuberculosis Block has two wards with 14 beds, 8 for males, 6 for females. At the Smallpox Hospital there are two wards with 4 beds in each. The Hospital Management Committee consists of members of the Councils of the Borough of Stourbridge and the Urban Districts of Halesowen, and Lye and Wollescote. The patients come from the three districts mentioned, but by special contract and conditions, patients are received from the County Borough of Dudley and the Urban Districts of Rowley Regis and Tipton.

(b) The Smallpox Hospital at the Stourbridge and Halesowen Hospital has 8 beds, 4 each for males and females.

The Corbett Hospital is situated in the Urban District of Amblecote, but is used by inhabitants of this Borough. It is a General Hospital. There are 18 beds for males, 18 for females, and 7 for children. It is a voluntary hospital. The cases admitted are mainly surgical, but few medical cases are admitted when beds are available. One male and one female bed are allotted to the Venereal Disease Treatment Centre, for use when necessary. There is a small ward of two beds into which maternity cases are admitted when it is available. The hospital has a special Eye Department and the Ophthalmologist has beds when necessary and available, and also an orthopaedic department.

Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum requiring In-patient treatment are sent either to Kidderminster or to Dudley General Hospitals.

Cases of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia are treated at the General Hospital and the Women's Hospital Birmingham by arrangement with the County Council.

Cases of combined Pregnancy and Venereal Disease requiring Inpatient treatment are admitted to Cleveland House, Wolverhampton.

Tuberculosis cases requiring Sanatorium treatment are sent by the County Council to Knightwick or to Hayley Green. Orthopaedic cases in children—Tuberculous or otherwise—are sent by arrangement to the "Woodlands," Northfield, Birmingham.

Ear, Nose and Throat cases are treated at one of the following:—Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge; Guest Hospital, Dudley; Queen's, General or Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, Birmingham.

In addition considerable use is made by inhabitants of the Birmingham Hospitals for all purposes.

Special departments for the treatment of Ophthalmic Diseases are held at the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge, on Monday, at 2 p.m., and at the Guest Hospital, Dudley on Thursdays at 2 p.m., and for the treatment of Orthopaedic conditions at the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge, on Monday, at 2-30 p.m.

(9) Maternity and Nursing Homes.

The County Council is the Supervising Authority under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927.

(10) Maternal Mortality.

Investigation of maternal deaths and cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever, is undertaken by the County Medical Officer. The medical practitioners are, as a rule, willing to co-operate.

(11) Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children.

There is no special provision in the Borough.

(12) Institutional Provision, if any, for Care of Mental Defectives.

This is undertaken by the County Council. Provision is made at Sandfield House, Wordsley for most classes of cases.

(13) Ambulance Facilities.

- (a) For Infectious Cases a motor ambulance is provided by the Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital.
- (b) For Non-Infectious Cases. A Motor Ambulance, which is kept at the Fire Station, and a Motor Ambulance provided by the British Red Cross and kept at The Corporation Depot, Birmingham Street. (Telephone No 5482).

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre at No. 40, New Road, is under the control of a Voluntary Committee and a contribution is made by the Town Council to the funds of this Committee. The Town Council own the premises occupied by the Centre.

The Centre is open on Tuesday and Wednesday in each week from 2 till 5 p.m., and every morning from 9 till 10.

Ladies of the Committee assist at the Welfare Centre in helping to weigh the babies and giving tea to the mothers.

Milk and other foods are given in necessitous cases or supplied at a low cost.

Dr. Bulmer attends at the Centre on Tuesday afternoons.

Dental and Orthopaedic Clinics, under the auspices of the Worcestershire County Council, are also held at the Centre. Mr. Naughton Dunn, of Birmingham, attends the Orthopaedic Clinic once every month, but the Clinic is open every Monday at 2 p.m.

The Ante-natal Clinic was opened in October, 1927 and is held twice a month. Dr. Eileen Bulmer attends the Clinic on the first and third Tuesday mornings in the month.

The attendance at this Clinic is being well maintained it is proving a great help not only to expectant mothers but also to local Medical Practitioners.

A Treatment Centre for Venereal Diseases is held at the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge. The Centre is under the control of the Staffordshire County Council but by arrangement with the Worcestershire County Council cases from the latter County are treated there. The Medical Officer attends on Monday and Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.—the former for women and children and the latter for men. Intermediate Treatment for women is by arrangement. For men each evening except Sunday and Monday.

A Clinic for Immunisation of Children against Diphtheria is held by arrangement at the Infant Welfare Centre, 40, New Road, Stourbridge. This Clinic is provided by the Borough Council.

A Clinic for Investigation of Mental Diseases is held at the Corbett Hospital, Amblecote, on Fridays, at 1-45 p.m. This is under the control of the County Council and the Medical Superintendent of the Barnsley Hall Mental Hospital, Bromsgrove is in charge of it.

The School Clinic is held every Thursday afternoon in the special building attached to Enville Street School. It is under the control of the County Council and one of the Assistant County Medical Officers is in charge.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary is held every Monday at 5 p.m. at the Dispensary, Greenfield Avenue, Stourbridge. It is provided by the Worcestershire County Council.

The Health Visitor (Miss E. E. Noke, State Registered Nurse, C.M.B., Cert. Royal Sanitary Inst., for Health Visitors and School Nurses, and for Maternity and Child Welfare Workers, also Diploma for Health Visitors), reports as follows :—

Notification of Births received from County Medical Officer :—

Males, 171. Females, 142. Still Births, 18.
Total of Live Births, 313.

Of the Births notified, 37 were at Sandfield House Maternity Home, Wordsley, 2 at Corbett Hospital, Amblecote, 3 at Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport, 5 at the Loveday Street Maternity Hospital, Birmingham and 4 at other Nursing Homes.

No. of Primary Visits paid to Homes	294
Re-visits to Infants under one year of age	1587
Re-visits to children between one and five years of age	2580

Attendances at Infant Welfare Centre during the year :—

No. of Children brought for the first time (under one year)	224
No. of Children brought for the first time (over one year)	38
Total number of Children attending Centre	561

Total Attendances :—

Infants under one year of age	2971
Children between one and five years of age	1793

Ante-Natal Clinic :—

Number who attended for first time	114
Total Number Attending	128
Total number of attendances	316

Infant Life Protection :—

There are 6 children under supervision.

All the homes and foster mothers are satisfactory.

The Centre entered the National Mothercraft Competition for 1931 and was awarded a Certificate for Records.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

There has been no alteration in the water supply. The supply is obtained from two deep wells belonging to the Stourbridge and District Water Board, one being at Mill meadow and the other at Coalbournbrook, both being in Amblecote Urban District.

The supply is satisfactory both as regards quality and quantity.

There is no filtration, the water being pumped direct into mains. There is, however, a Reservoir at Doctor's Hill, Stourbridge, serving to augment the pressure, the surplus water during the night going into the Reservoir.

The following is the result of an analysis of a sample from the Coalbournbrook supply, taken on 1st December, 1931.

				(Grains per gallon)
Solids in suspension	...	...	...	none
Solids in solution dried at 100°C.	...	...	...	44.8
" " Appearance	...	...	...	White
" " After ignition	...	...	...	37.8
Behaviour of solids on ignition	...	...	...	Browning
Phosphates	...	...	...	None
Chlorine calculated as common salt	...	...	...	7.3
Free and saline ammonia	...	...	...	.0005
Albuminoid ammonia	...	...	...	.001
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	...	...	...	.009
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	...	...	.8
Appearance	...	...	...	Clear
Deposit	...	...	...	None
Smell	...	...	...	None
Hardness : Permanent	...	...	...	10.9 Clark
Temporary	...	...	...	10.1 "
Total				21.00°
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	None detected

Most of the houses in the Borough have a water tap inside the house or wash-house. There are, however, a few houses, having a common yard, where the water supply is obtained from a tap jointly used by two or more houses. The supply pipes are galvanized iron.

The Corporation Baths and several works pump water from their own wells. There are still a few houses procuring their water supply from pump wells. These wells are kept under observation. A considerable number of the houses supplement the water supply by having rain water cisterns on their premises.

Rivers and Streams.

On 2nd June, 1926, a Meeting of representatives of Local Authorities in this locality was held at Stourbridge, and was called by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the purpose of considering a report made on the pollution of the River Stour.

Many of the Local Authorities in the locality have formed a Committee, known as the Stour Water Sheds Joint Committee of which the Town Clerk is the Honorary Secretary and it is hoped that the constitution of such Committee will be legally effected in the near future.

During the year portions of the River Bed were cleaned out.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Town was sewered in 1887. The sewage flows by gravitation to a pumping station in the Borough and is pumped to the Stourbridge Main Drainage Board's sewage farms at Whittington, in the Rural District of Seisdon (Staffs.) where it is treated on the Broad irrigation principle.

With the exception of a few houses situate on the outskirts, all the dwelling houses are provided with water closets and efficient drainage, the drains being intercepted from the sewers with intercepting traps. Nine houses have cesspools. Five of these being recently erected.

Closet Accommodation.

The conversion of privies into water closets was practically completed in 1909. About seven cottages and farmhouses together with one brick-works, on the outskirts, still have privies, these houses are situate in localities where there are no sewers. One house has an earth closet. Two houses have Pail closets. Previous to 1901 some slop water closets were put in, many of these have since been removed and W.C.'s with fresh water flushing apparatus put in. For a considerable time past the Town Council have required a separate W.C. for each new house and additional W.C.'s required at premises where there was one W.C. for two or more houses.

About 5 per cent. of the houses have slop water closets, including those houses where there is a fresh water W.C. inside the house and a slop W.C. outside. With the exception of the few privies mentioned, all the other houses are provided with fresh W.C.'s. The Sanitary Inspector's report gives details of conversions and additional W.C.'s.

Scavenging.

The Scavenging is carried out by direct labour. Since May 1925, the refuse has been deposited on tips. There are four tips in constant use, viz.: Corporation Depot, Birmingham Street; Wollaston Hall Estate; Hadcroft Brick Works, and Rufford's Brick Works. The Refuse is spread over small areas and levelled.

The Refuse Destructor, erected in 1904, has not been used since May 1925.

Ashpits are emptied as required, and the contents of moveable ashbins collected weekly. The few privies are cleared as required, the contents being buried.

The motor freighter has proved satisfactory. The other vehicles used are horse-drawn.

Sanitary Inspection of Area.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector follows mine and gives a detailed account of the inspection of the district.

The Sanitary Inspector has furnished me with the following statement:

Number and nature of inspections made by him during the year:—

Inspections of houses and premises	...	...	...	645
Inspections under Housing Regulations	...	...	...	82
Visits <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	...	142
Visits <i>re</i> Tuberculosis	...	...	...	26
Re-Inspections and Re-visits	...	...	...	2731
Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	1613
Cowsheds	...	...	...	79
Workshops	...	...	...	25
Vans	...	...	...	25
Bakehouses	...	...	...	33
Offensive Trade Premises	...	...	...	29
Food Stores	...	...	...	77
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	35
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	8
Marine Stores	...	...	...	8
Premises infested with Rats	...	...	...	48
Verminous Houses	...	...	...	18
Watercourses	...	...	...	33
Picture Houses	...	...	...	4
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	10
Schools	...	...	...	2
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	180
Preliminary Notices complied with	...	...	...	155
Statutory Notices served	...	...	...	112
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	...	73

Premises and Occupations which can be Controlled by Byelaws or Regulations.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report gives details of action taken in respect of Houses Let in Lodgings, Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc., Offensive Trades, and Common Lodging Houses.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in the Borough and no Regulations under Sec. 18 (1) of the Housing Act, 1925, have been necessary.

Other Sanitary Conditions Requiring Notice.

Burial Grounds. There are three Burial Grounds in use in the district, the Corporation Cemetery, Wollaston Churchyard and Oldswinford Churchyard. The Churchyard at Oldswinford has been enlarged. The additional portion being consecrated in May 1930.

There are also "closed" grave yards at the Congregational Church, Presbyterian Church and Friends Meeting House.

The Roman Catholic Cemetery is situated just outside the Borough Boundary.

Sunday funerals at the Corporation Cemetery are not allowed, except in cases receiving sanction of the Town Council, through me.

Mortuary.

During the year the bodies of 18 persons were taken to the Mortuary.

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Sex.</i>	<i>Age.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Remarks.</i>
Jan. 4	M.	5 days.	Stourbridge	Tuberculosis, Liver and Spleen.
" 8.	M.	30	"	Septicæmia.
Feb. 6.	F.	68	"	Broncho-Pneumonia.
" 18.	F.	50	"	Broncho-Pneumonia.
" 25.	M.	28	Lye	Tuberculosis
" 26.	M.	50	Stourbridge	Syncope
Mar. 5.	M.	46	Belbroughton	Silicosis
" 20.	M.	72	Lye	Heart Failure
May 4.	F.	69	Stourbridge	Coal Gas Poisoning.
" 17.	F.	18	Wolverhampton	Motor Accident
" 17.	M.	23	Stourbridge	Coal Gas Poisoning.
" 23.	M.	67	"	Heart Failure.
" 27.	M.	58	Lye	Drowning.
July 10.	M.	38	"	Suicide.
" 31.	F.	1 day.	Stourbridge	Congenital Heart.
Aug. 2.	M.	47	Belbroughton	Heart Failure.
" 16.	M.	48	"	Silicosis.
Dec. 11.	M.	17	Stourbridge	Cycle Accident.

Schools.

There has been no occasion to complain of the sanitary condition of the Public Elementary Schools, of which there are six, with an annex at Enville Street, opened during 1930, with the exception that the water supply at Wollaston Church School is not satisfactory, owing apparently, to the furring of the supply pipes.

The two Secondary Schools, King Edward VI. Grammar School for boys, and the County High School for girls, are in excellent sanitary condition.

There are several Private Schools.

I recommended the closing of the Infant Department of Wollaston School owing to the prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough.

A Certificate was issued in August owing to decrease in the attendance at Hill Street Infant Department on account of Measles. Both these departments were disinfected.

Notices were sent to the Schools for the exclusion of scholars from those houses where cases of infectious diseases occurred.

HOUSING.

During the year 172 houses on the High Park Estate were completed and steps were commenced with the intention of erecting 126 small type, one living room and three bedrooms, at Forge Hill and 60 in Enville Street.

On 14th December, 1931, I made a representation to the Public Health Committee under Part I of the Housing Act, 1930, to the effect that the houses Nos. 7 to 47 (odd numbers), Birmingham Street, were by reason of their bad arrangement and of their generally defective condition, and the smallness of some of the houses admitting the occurrence of overcrowding, dangerous or injurious to the inhabitants of the Area, and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with the conditions in the Area is the demolition of all the Buildings.

The Committee recommended the Town Council to declare this Area to be a Clearance Area in accordance with the provisions of Part I of the Housing Act, 1930.

After representation had been made to the Ministry of Health it was found that there were considerable difficulties to be met in pursuing the proposed Clearance of these Buildings, and early in 1932 this scheme was abandoned and instructions given to deal with the properties in other ways.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report deals with these matters.

This Borough is not an authority under the Food and Drugs Acts.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Small Pox.

The two cases which occurred were both men. A labourer age 23, and a glass cutter age 36. The first patient had been in contact with a child who was in the Borough on holiday, and who, on return home, was found to be suffering from Small Pox. The source of infection in respect of the other patient could not be traced, he was employed in a town a short distance away and no case was reported either in that town or in connection with the workplace.

The first patient was admitted in Hospital on 7th March and discharged on 4th April; the other patient was admitted on 21st April and discharged on 23rd May.

All contacts and several other people living near were vaccinated. Both houses and all infected clothing were disinfected.

Notifications of the cases were sent to the Ministry of Health, the County Medical Officer, and Medical Officers in the adjoining districts, also to all Medical practitioners practising in the Borough and to the Vaccination Officer.

Undulant Fever.

This case was reported on 22nd December and was a female aged 63. She had been ill for some time and had recently visited Buxton and London. I communicated with the Medical Officers of Buxton and the Metropolitan Borough. The case proved fatal early in 1932.

This is the first occasion this type of disease has occurred in the Borough. The cause of the complaint appears to arise from *Brucella Abortus*, a germ which is allied to the group to which Malta Fever is attributed.

General.

Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever have been prevalent throughout the year, but neither assumed an epidemic form. 10 cases of Diphtheria were notified and all were removed to the Isolation Hospital. 55 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified and 48 removed to hospital.

The bedroom accommodation at the houses where the cases occurred, was :—

	1	2	3	4	5	7
	Bedroom.	Bedrooms.	Bedrooms.	Bedrooms.	Bedrooms.	Bedrooms
Diphtheria :						
No. of Cases	1	2	4	—	—	—
	Three cases occurred at Old Swinford Hospital.					
Scarlet Fever :						
No. of Cases	1	18	26	3	1	1
	Five cases of Scarlet Fever occurred at the Cottage Homes.					

Four houses had 2 cases each of Scarlet Fever.

Diphtheria antitoxin is provided free to Medical Practitioners by the Borough Council. In severe cases antitoxin is given at once, before being sent to hospital; in milder cases the antitoxin is not given until the patients arrive in hospital.

Anti-scarlatinal serum is not provided free, but it is being used in severe cases with good results. In the Isolation Hospital, it is more

widely used ; undoubtedly it is useful in preventing or alleviating complications and in shortening the period in hospital.

Pathological and bacteriological specimens are examined by the County Analyst. All doubtful throats and nasal passages are swabbed as a routine. Immunization against Diphtheria has been practised on children of pre-school age in previous years, but no children have been immunized this year.

Sputum from many suspicious chest cases is examined for Tubercle Bacilli.

Two Smallpox cases occurred during the year and two vaccinations were carried out.

Influenza was prevalent in 1931. No School was closed for this disease.

Disinfection is carried out systematically in cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever : the rooms are done with Formalin and Potassium Permanganate and the bedding and clothing are taken to the Isolation Hospital for steam disinfection. In cases of Tuberculosis, the rooms are stripped and the walls washed down. Rooms and bedding are also disinfected on request after cases of other infectious diseases such as Measles and also after Cancer cases.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS, DURING THE YEAR 1931.

Disease.	Ages.												Total No. of Cases.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
	Under 1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	to 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 to 15 years.	15 to 20 years.	20 to 35 years.	35 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	65 and upwards.			
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2	—
Diphtheria	1	1	—	1	—	4	1	—	1	1	—	—	10	10	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	2	2	1	21	20	4	3	2	—	—	55	48	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	2	1	—	1	1	4	1	—	4	7	8	6	35	—	12
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Chicken Pox	4	4	4	9	14	116	27	1	4	—	—	—	183	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Undulant Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Totals ...	9	6	6	13	16	145	49	6	15	11	9	7	292	60	13

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

The following table gives details of the Notification of Infectious Diseases during the year.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Small Pox	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	2	1	10
Scarlet Fever	6	8	5	—	5	9	6	3	—	3	4	6	55
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	3	6	11	7	2	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	35
Erysipelas	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Chickenpox	—	3	1	2	4	3	2	5	4	27	89	43	183
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTALS	11	19	19	10	11	15	11	9	5	31	98	53	292

LIST OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, Etc., FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

DISEASE.	1927			1928			1929			1930			1931		
	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos-pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos-pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos-pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos-pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos-pital.	Deaths
Small Pox	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	2	2	—
Diphtheria	5	2	1	58	51	5	21	14	1	37	34	1	10	10	1
Scarlet Fever	21	15	—	6	4	—	22	12	—	40	34	—	55	48	—
Enteric Fever	1	1	—	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	3	2	—	—	—	—	5	4	1	1	1	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	1	1	1	—	—	Nil.	—	—	4	3	—	1	—	—
Pneumonia	66	—	11	23	—	13	50	—	13	29	—	13	35	—	12
Erysipelas	6	—	—	6	—	—	6	—	—	7	—	1	2	—	—
Chickenpox	64	—	—	80	—	—	61	—	—	63	—	—	183	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	Nil.	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	5	—	2	2	—	—	7	2	—	3	1	—	2	—	—
Undulant Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	175	21	15	179	56	18	173	33	15	185	73	16	292	60	13
Zymotic Disease Death Rate	1.49			.79			1.13			.35			1.00		

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This Borough has not applied for power under Sec. 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925. There is a Voluntary Blind Institution in the Borough providing work for afflicted persons, but there is no Institution for treatment.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.			Vision Unim- paired.	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
NOTIFIED.	TREATED.					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
February ...	1	—	1	—	—	—
September ...	1	—	1	—	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1 ...	...	...	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
5 ...	...	...	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
10 ...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15 ...	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20 ...	...	...	—	3	—	1	—	4	—	—
25 ...	...	...	—	4	—	—	1	1	—	—
35 ...	...	...	4	—	—	1	2	—	—	1
45 ...	...	...	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 ...	...	...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	6	13	3	8	4	5	1	1

Tuberculosis Death Rate for 1931 :—

Pulmonary	...	...	...	.55
Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	.4
Total	...	...	...	.95

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

YEAR.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1927	14	5	4	3	6	4	2	2
1928	10	8	7	4	12	4	1	—
1929	6	7	2	3	10	4	—	—
1930	7	9	1	3	3	7	—	—
1931	6	13	3	8	4	5	1	1

**SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE REGISTER AT
END OF 1931.**

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females	Males.	Females
No. of Cases on Register, 1st January, 1931	35	34	19	30
No. of Notifications and Transfers during 1931	7	13	6	11
No. of Removals during 1931	42	47	25	41
Total remaining on Register, 31st December, 1931	11	13	4	12
	31	34	21	29

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY DUDLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.



HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	727
(b) Number of inspections made for the purposes ...	
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	82
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	8
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	89

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	58
---	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(A) Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	26
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ...	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	15
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—	
(a) By owners ...	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

(c) Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	2
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	—

(D) Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

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

(E) Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	...	—

(F) Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	—

Number of houses repaired and made fit for human habitation after undertakings to repair had been given (Sec. 19 Housing Act 1930)	12
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	18	—	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	40	2	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	30	—	—
Total	88	2	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosec- utions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	2	2	—	—
Want of ventilation	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	—	—	—	—
<i>Sanitary Accommodation :—</i>				
Insufficient	1	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-houses. (S.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total	5	5	—	—

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1931.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR ALDERMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE
STOURBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you a Report of the work done in my Department during the year 1931, being my Thirty-first Annual Report.

Complaints.

148 Complaints were received relating to various insanitary conditions as compared with 239 in the previous year.

Inspection of District.

During the year the number of inspections and re-inspections made was 5673 compared with 6155 in the previous year.

The inspections and re-inspections were :—General inspection of houses and premises, 645. Inspections under Housing Regulations, 82. Re-inspections, 2731. Infectious Diseases, 142. Tuberculosis Cases, 26. Slaughterhouses, 1613. Dairies and Cowsheds, 79. Workshops, 25. Vans, 25. Bakehouses, 33. Offensive Trade Premises, 29. Food Stores, 77. Houses Let in Lodgings, 35. Common Lodging Houses, 8. Marine Stores, 8. Premises infested with Rats, 48. Verminous Houses, 18. Watercourses, 33. Picture Houses, 4. Smoke Nuisances, 10. Schools, 2.

Sanitary defects, Nuisances and contraventions of your Byelaws numbered 2084. The number of defects remaining unattended to at the end of 1930, was 3334, these, with the insanitary conditions met with during the year, make a total of 5418.

During the year 2313 defects were remedied, leaving 3105 insanitary conditions unabated.

Notices.

180 Preliminary intimation Notices were sent during the year, being principally letters setting out in detail particulars of the defects, with suggestions for remedying them. The Notices were as follows:—

<i>Notice.</i>	<i>No. of Notices.</i>	<i>No. of Houses or Premises affected.</i>
General defects of Houses ...	52	126
Dirty Houses ...	1	1
Overcrowding ...	2	2
Sanitary Conveniences Defects ...	16	32
Drain defects ...	17	29
Want of House Refuse receptacles ...	13	27
Accumulations of refuse, etc. ...	7	8
Defective rain-water spouting ...	4	4
Waste of water ...	7	8
Bakehouses—limewashing ...	1	1
Smoke nuisances ...	1	1
Defective Ashpits ...	19	68
Workshops Defects ...	2	2
Cleansing rooms after Tuberculosis ...	3	3
Fowl Keeping Nuisances ...	2	2
Flooding from overflowing Pool ...	1	1
Slaughterhouses defects ...	3	3
Shops Act offences ...	1	1
Meat Regulations Offences ...	4	4
Houses Let in Lodgings offences ...	3	3
Petroleum Act ...	2	2
Defective Sanitary Conveniences used in common ...	13	13
Contravention of Sec. 5, Housing Act ...	1	7
Pig-keeping Offences ...	4	4
Dirty Cowshed ...	1	1
	<hr/> 180	<hr/> 353

90 matters were referred to the Borough Surveyor and 7 to the Stourbridge Water Board.

At the end of the year, 155 Notices had been complied with, the work in respect of 15 was in progress, and 10 were outstanding.

The Statutory Notices served were:—

Abatement of Nuisances ...	15
Housing Act, 1930, Sec. 17 ...	26
Provision of Ashbins ...	22
Housing Act, 1930, Sec. 19 (1) ...	26
Housing Act, 1930, Secs. 19-20 ...	2
Byelaws, Houses Let in Lodgings, Art. 7 ...	6
Housing Act, 1930, Sec. 19 (3) ...	6
Disinfection of Houses ...	2
Accumulations of Refuse ...	2
Housing Town Planning Act, 1919. Rescission of Closing Orders ...	2
Towns Improvement Clauses Act. Rain-water Spouting ...	2
Bye-laws Nuisances ...	1

At the end of the year, 73 Notices were complied with, the work with respect of 9 was in progress or in hand. Nothing had been done in connection with 30 Notices.

Prosecutions.

The following legal proceedings were taken during the year.

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Offence.</i>	<i>Results.</i>
Jan. 16	72, High Street	Selling after Closing Hours (Shops Act)	Fined £1.
Jan. 16	12, Coventry Street	Selling after hours (Hatters, Tailors, etc. Local Order)	Fined £1.
May 8	No. 6, Ct. 5, Coventry Street.	Overcrowding.	Order made to abate nuisance within 21 days.

Offensive Trades.

The trades carried on are Fish-frying, 13 ; Tripe-boiling, 6 ; Hide and Skin Dealer and Leather Dresser, one each. One new business as tripe boiler was commenced and an application for a similar business was refused.

Bakehouses.

There are 14 bakehouses, 4 being factories. One old bakehouse was re-opened and closed during the year. Two were enlarged. The defects found and remedied during the year were : drain obstructions at 2 places ; 3 dirty walls.

Factory and Workshop Act.

There were 172 Workshops on the Register at the end of the year, as follows :—

Bag Making	...	2	Horse Shoeing	...	2
Baking	...	12	Jewellery and Watch	...	7
Basket Making	...	1	Repairing	...	11
Boot Repairing	...	24	Joinery	...	1
Boat Building	...	1	Laundry	...	1
Brewing	...	2	Malting	...	6
Bucket Handle Making	...	1	Millinery	...	15
Cabinet Making and Upholstering	...	7	Motor Repairs	...	8
Carriage Building and Wheelwrights	...	6	Plumbing, etc.	...	1
Cycle Repairs	...	2	Picture Framing	...	1
Chamois Leather Dressing	...	3	Reflector Making	...	3
Dressmaking	...	21	Saddlery	...	1
Electrical Engineering and Wireless	...	4	Sewing Machine Repairs	...	2
Food Preparing	...	1	Sheet Metal Cutting	...	2
Frost Cog Making	...	4	Smithy (General)	...	2
			Stone Masonry	...	2
			Tailoring	...	16
			Tin and Whitesmithy	...	2

Three Notices were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories. One related to dirty walls of a work place, one to defective sanitary convenience, and one to want of sanitary accommodation. All were attended to, the workshop was redecorated, and a new convenience was erected, and the workshop in the third instance was vacated.

Outworkers.

28 Lists were received containing names of 33 Outworkers, 25 of whom resided outside this district. One name was received from another district. 18 visits were made.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are now 2 Common Lodging Houses.

The following are the returns of the number of lodgers. (The figures represent the number of times the beds were occupied).

Adult Lodgers.		Lodgers above 10 and under 21.		Lodgers under 10 years of age.		Total.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
7041	569	3	5	2	—	7620

Houses Let in Lodgings.

There are four on the Register. At one of these there was only one family of two persons living there at the end of the year. Two were closed during the year. One being taken over by the Water Board, the other one being let to one family only.

At the end of the year the occupiers of the three houses were :—

Register No.	No. of Families.	No. of Persons.
1 ...	3	10
5 ...	7	19
6 ...	1	2
7 ...	2	4

In August I made a report to the Housing and Public Health Committees on the general condition of Grange House (No. 5) which belongs to the Town Council.

Housing.

Number of inspections under Housing Consolidation Regulations, 82.

26 Notices were served under Sec. 17 of the Housing Act, 1930, for repairs at 26 houses. 8 were complied with by the owners.

I had instructions to carry out the work at Nos. 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30, Mamble Road, and Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 13, Hemplands Road, as the owners had failed to comply with the Notices served under Sec. 17, Housing Act, 1930. 6 tenders were received in respect of the Mamble Road property and 5 tenders in respect of Hemplands Road. At the end of the year the work at both properties was nearing completion. The requirements at Hemplands Road included

the conversion of Nos. 11 and 13 into one house, the removal of two wash-houses and 4 W.C.'s, the erection of a scullery at each of the houses Nos. 1 to 9, with a W.C. having access from the scullery.

Notices under Sec. 19 (1) of the Housing Act, 1930, were served in respect of No. 5, Hagley Road, Nos. 3 and 4, Union Passage, Nos. 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43, Vicarage Road, and the various owners attended meetings of the Public Health Committee and were supplied with specifications of the work required to be done to repair the houses.

Undertakings were given not to use the houses No. 5, Hagley Road and Nos. 3 and 4, Union Passage for human habitation until they had been satisfactorily repaired. All three were vacated and were void at the end of the year. The houses in Vicarage Road were repaired, but not entirely satisfactorily.

A Notice under Secs. 19-20, Housing Act, 1930, was served in respect of portions of No. 7, High Street, which was a house let in lodgings. These premises ceased to be used as a dwelling house in October.

Nos. 7 and 9, Hagley Road were repaired and the Closing Orders rescinded.

The houses Nos. 34 and 36, Cherry Street, No. 9, Hanbury Passage, and No. 27, Hagley Road, which were subject to Notices under Sec. 19 (1) Housing Act, 1930, were repaired in accordance with undertakings given to carry out the works detailed in specifications supplied, excepting that in respect of No. 27, Hagley Road, no undertaking was given, but the repairs were carried out according to the specification.

At 5 houses a scullery with W.C. was provided at each house in place of common wash-houses and W.C.'s.

A number of houses were thoroughly repaired after informal Notices.

On 14th December, I reported on 23 houses, Nos 7 to 47, Brimingham Street, with full particulars, in view of a proposed Clearance Area Scheme.

10 dwelling-houses were demolished, mostly on account of street improvements, 4 of them being small houses.

Slaughterhouses.

There are 14 Slaughterhouses in the Town, all being subject to annual licence. Six of the licences are issued on the understanding that claim for compensation will not be made in the event of the Town Council erecting a Public Abattoir and refusing renewal of the licences.

Situation.

User.

33, Worcester Street	...	Mr. P. B. Barnes
St. Mary's Lane	...	Mr. A. V. Beard
65, Enville Street	...	Mr. W. A. A. Broadway
51, Hill Street	...	Mr. J. S. Edwards.
115, Bridgnorth Road	...	Mr. W. Harris
127, Bridgnorth Road	...	Mr. H. T. Harding
Rear 13, Coventry Street	...	Messrs. T. W. Jones and E. A. Tottey, and Mrs. S. C. Mason.
Rear 13, Coventry Street	...	Messrs. H. and J. Parkes
104, Hagley Road	...	Messrs. H. and J. Parkes
The Heath	...	Mr. T. V. Parkes
73, Enville Street	...	Mr. A. Realf
53, Enville Street	...	Mr. F. T. White
17, Enville Street	...	Mr. R. W. Wyatt
148, Hagley Road	...	Mr. W. Yardley

The total visits made during the year, was 1613.

Notices of slaughter received and inspections were :—

	<i>Oxen.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>
In Licensed Slaughterhouses ...	787	1443	3835	87
On Private Premises ...	—	32	—	—
Inspected ...	781	1397	3556	76
Percentage of Slaughtered animals examined ...	99.2	94.7	92.7	87

The following were seized and Justices' Orders obtained :—

1 whole pig and offals	...	Tuberculosis
3 pigs heads and offals	...	Tuberculosis

The following were condemned and voluntarily surrendered :—

Tuberculosis	...	1 ox and offals.	13 ox heads.	13 ox lungs.
		2 ox livers.	1 ox mesentery.	2 pigs and offals.
		26 pigs' heads.	5 pigs' frys.	15 pigs' mesenteries.
Pyæmia	...	1 ox and offals.		
Swine Erysipelas	...	5 pigs and offals.		
Inflammation	...	1 pig and offals.	1 pig's lungs.	
Pneumonia	...	1 ox lungs.	1 pig's lungs.	
Abscesses	...	3 ox livers.	1 ox lungs.	
Angiomatosis	...	2 ox livers.		
Distoma Hepaticum	...	9 ox livers.	35 sheep livers.	
Cirrhosis	...	13 ox livers.	9 pigs' livers.	
Necrosis	...	2 ox livers.		
Echinococci	...	6 ox livers.	6 ox lungs.	
Cyst Tenuicollis	...	8 sheep livers.	1 sheep's lungs.	4 pigs' livers.
Injuries	...	1 leg mutton.		

Other foodstuffs. 1 ham (decomposed) ; 19 lbs. fish ; 16 cwt. potatoes.

Total weight of meat condemned approximately 33 cwts. Animals affected with Tuberculosis : oxen 23 or 2.9 per cent. ; pigs 39, or 2.8 per cent. of those inspected.

Four offences under the Meat Regulations were dealt with. These were two cases of cleaning tripe in slaughterhouses, one delivering meat not properly covered, and one dirty walls of slaughterhouse and storing a chaff cutter inside slaughterhouse.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

During the year 12 Retail Purveyors of Milk were registered, viz. :— 7 residing in the Borough and 2 outside, as retailers of ordinary milk, and 3 as retailers of sterilized milk. There are 84 retail purveyors of milk in the Borough, 6 are producers, and one of whom also has a Grade

"A" producer's licence. 28 retailers reside in the Borough and 23 outside. There are also 26 residing in the Borough and 1 outside, who retail sterilized milk only.

Two firms who are wholesalers of sterilized milk and one wholesale dealer of ordinary milk, reside outside the Borough. One retailer in the Borough and one residing outside are wholesalers.

One dealer is licensed as a bottler of Grade "A" (T.T.) and as a retailer of certified milk, and one dealer is licensed as a retailer of Grade "A" milk. One license is issued to retail Pasteurised Milk. Supplementary licenses were issued to two dealers to retail Grade "A" milk and one to retail Certified Milk.

There are approximately 39 cows in the Borough. One cowshed was given up during the year.

79 visits were made and several dirt tests taken.

On account of complaints having been received by the Worcestershire County Council from the Staffordshire County Council, of Grade "A" (T.T.) milk sold in the Staffordshire Area by a Stourbridge licensed bottler, I submitted ten samples during June, July and August, for bacteriological examination. It was found that the milk did not conform with the standard of purity when delivered at the bottling establishment. The matter was subsequently reported to the Ministry of Health and appropriate action taken.

Disinfection.

Rooms at 75 houses were fumigated after infectious disease, and at 16 houses for other causes. Approximately 1000 articles of bedding and clothing were disinfected. At 4 houses, the walls of rooms occupied by persons who had suffered from Tuberculosis, were stripped of wall paper, sprayed and thoroughly disinfected.

Extermination of Vermin, Etc.

Insecticide was supplied to occupiers of 18 houses, which were infested with insects, 9 being infested with bugs and 2 with fleas. 9 houses were sprayed with liquid insecticide on account of bugs, with beneficial results. One bakehouse was treated on account of crickets.

Eight premises were treated for rats and poison supplied for 12 other premises.

Waterclosets.

Six slop W.C.'s were converted to W.C.'s with fresh water flushing apparatus. 8 additional W.C.'s were provided at places where previously two or more houses had joint use of one W.C.

With the exception of 7 houses and works, having privies, and one an earthcloset, all the houses are provided with waterclosets. At a con-

siderable number of houses there are two or more W.C.'s. W.C.'s used in connection with more than one house are :—

<i>No. of Cases.</i>					<i>No. of Cases.</i>				
2 houses	...	1 W.C.	...	87	3 houses	...	1 W.C.	...	2
3 houses	...	2 W.C.'s	...	61	4 houses	...	3 W.C.'s	...	18
5	..	...	2 ..	7	5	..	...	3 ..	9
7	..	...	2 ..	2	7	..	...	3 ..	3
7	..	...	4 ..	3	8	..	...	3 ..	2
8	..	...	7 ..	1	9	..	...	4 ..	3
9	..	...	5 ..	3	9	..	...	7 ..	12
					14	..	...	12 ..	1

There are approximately 417 slop water or automatic flushing W.C.'s, including those at works, but not at schools. 78 of these are additional at houses where each house also has a fresh water W.C. 300 houses have use of a separate slop W.C. Those used in common are :—

<i>No. of Cases.</i>					<i>No. of Cases.</i>				
2 houses	...	1 Slop W.C.	...	5	3 houses	...	2 Slop W.C.	...	3
4	..	...	2 ..	2	4	..	...	3 ..	3
1	..	...	2 ..	1	5	..	...	3 ..	1
8	..	...	4 ..	1	9	..	...	6 ..	1

Ashpits.

33 ashpits were removed and ashbins substituted. There are now 515 ashpits in the Borough, many of these being used by more than one house. 103 houses were provided with ashbins in place of ashpits during the year.

Smoke.

Eight cases have been under observation, and one case, a factory outside the Borough, was reported but no action was taken.

At your Council Meeting in April, I was appointed under Sec. 1 (4) of the Public Health (Smoke Abatement) Act, 1926.

Rag Flock Acts. (1911 and 1928).

There are no places in the district where rag flock is manufactured.

Inspections are made at irregular intervals, of upholstery establishments where cushions and bedding are made and re-made. No unwashed flocks have been seen at these premises; the practice, when re-upholstering old furniture, is to destroy the old flocks and put in new flocks.

GENERAL SUMMARY OF OTHER SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT AND INSANITARY CONDITIONS REMEDIED.

Dwelling Houses.

Bathrooms, new provided ...	I
Baking Ovens removed ...	14
Bedrooms, floors repaired ...	13
Bedrooms, new floors ...	3
Bedrooms, angle filletting provided ...	37
Bedrooms, new skirting boarding ...	22
Cleansed, white washed and redecorated ...	76
Chimneys repaired ...	32
Chair rails and picture rails provided ...	27
Ceilings, plaster renewed or repaired ...	30
Ceilings relathed ...	5
Cellar lights, new gratings and frames provided ...	8
Cellars, cleaned out and lime washed ...	7
Coal places, new erected ...	5
Demolished ...	9
Damp-proof courses put in ...	2
Door sills, new put in ...	22
Doors, repaired and rehung ...	56
„ new provided ...	9
„ weather boards provided ...	3
Floors repaved or repaired ...	56
Firegrates repaired or renewed ...	33
Food places repaved ...	4
Hearth Ash-holes filled in ...	9
Larders, filled in and paved...	4
Rain-water cisterns, cleansed and repaired ...	I
Rain-water cisterns, pumps repaired ...	2
Rain-water cisterns filled in...	I
Rooms, walls replastered ...	29
Roofs repaired ...	50
„ renewed ...	4
Repaired throughout ...	103
Sculleries, new erected ...	6
„ repaired ...	14
„ re-paved ...	11
Stairs, repaired ...	9
„ treads renewed ...	10
„ handrails provided ...	32
Steps renewed or repaired ...	8
Ventilating air bricks put in bedrooms ...	6

Washhouses, thoroughly re-

paired ...	37
„ washing boilers provided ...	5
„ supplied with water taps ...	7
„ washing boilers repaired ...	10
„ taken down ...	4
Walls, external rebuilt ...	3
„ internal rebuilt ...	2
„ cemented internally...	34
„ matchboarding removed ...	I
„ internal replastered...	32
„ pointed or cemented externally ...	32
Windows, made to open ...	59
„ new additional put in ...	15
„ larger put in ...	10
„ repaired or renewed ...	83
„ sash cords, weights and pulleys provided ...	63
Yards, paved ...	18
Paving repaired or relaid ...	46

Sinks.

Brick sinks repaired ...	I
Brick sinks removed ...	9
New earthenware put in sculleries or wash-houses ...	17
New additional earthenware put inside houses ...	6
Sink waste pipes put in ...	12

Water Supply.

Old wells filled up ...	2
Water taps put inside houses ...	5
Water taps put inside wash-houses ...	7

Drains.

Relaid ...	12
Reconstructed ...	18
New chambers put in ...	2
Ventilated ...	9
New, put to houses ...	24
Additional gullies put in ...	6
Repaired ...	18
Obstructions removed ...	70
Chamber covers renewed ...	2
New syphons put in ...	I
Syphons removed ...	2

Ashpits.

Removed	...	...	33
Filled in and paved	...	...	6
Houses, ashbins provided	...	...	103
Houses, ashbins renewed	...	...	29

Rain Water Spouting.

New spouting at fronts of	houses	...	7	
„	at rears of	houses	...	6
Spouting repaired at fronts...				43
„	repaired at rears	...		34
Downpipes lengthened or re-	constructed	...		19
Box gutters in footpath	...			2

Water Closets.

New, erected	...	...	7
Rebuilt	...	...	4
Additional provided	...	...	8

New basins put in	...	6
Flushing apparatus repaired or renewed	... ..	11
Fresh water W.C.'s in place of slop W.C.'s	... ..	6
Slop W.C.'s tippers repaired		1
W.C. water supply pipes re- newed	... ..	16
Other Repairs	... ..	33

Other Matters.

Offensive accumulations re-	...	15
Overcrowding nuisances	...	4
Smoke nuisances abated	...	8
Manure pits removed	...	2
Dangerous buildings removed	...	1
Fowl-keeping Nuisances	...	2
Other defects remedied	...	517

Shops Acts.

There are 570 shops on the register. Several shopkeepers were warned of offences. Proceedings were taken in respect of two offences which took place in November, 1930, one being under the local Order relating to Hatters, Hosiers, Tailors and Outfitters.

Petroleum Acts.

45 Petroleum Licences were issued. 32 to store petrol only 11 to store petrol and carbide of calcium, and 2 to store carbide of calcium only. The sum of £26 13s. 4d. was received for these licenses.

The amount of Petrol licensed to be kept, being 41,770 gallons compared with 35,415 in 1930. The amount of Carbide of Calcium kept is 1893 lbs.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR KENT,

Sanitary Inspector.



