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BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE

REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1955

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BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE

Mayor

Alderman W.P. Drew, J.P.

Deputy Mayor

Alderman H.S. Walker.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Alderman E.W.L. Tye.

Alderman E.A. Heynes, J.P. Councillor J.C. Mason.
Councillor E.J. Broughton J.P.C. Councillor G.H. Parkes.
Councillor F.H. Cox. Councillor J. Thompson.
Councillor J.L. Guest. Councillor W.H. Weston.
Councillor G.C.P. Lycett. Councillor J.H. Wooldridge, C.C.

Medical Officer of Health

R.L. Corlett, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

A.M. Nelson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, also Inspector under Petroleum and Shops Acts

A.E.K. Kent, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Deputy Sanitary Inspector

¥ J.W. Billingham, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors

- r G.H. Stone, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
- E.H. Wakefield, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. (Resigned 30/11/55)

Clerical Staff

A. Powell (Chief Clerk)
Miss A.J. Tonks.
E.N. James (Resigned 1/6/55)
M.A. Cobourne (On National Service as from 5/6/55).

Rodent Operative

G.H. Corbett.

Certificated Meat and Food Inspectors.

Address 2.1. Espaint J.P. Commoditor J.C. Masse.
Counciller R.J. Espainter J.M. Portes.
Counciller R.B. Cox.
Counciller R.B. Cox.
Counciller J.B. Good.
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D.H. Stone, L.D.S.H. Stones B. H.D.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1955

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of The Borough of Stourbridge.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for 1955.

The general health of the Borough was satisfactorily maintained during the year.

Deaths numbered 451, an increase of 31 over the previous year, giving a death rate of 11.7 per thousand, which corresponds with that for England and Wales.

Heart disease accounted for most of the increase in mortality, with 151 deaths against 128. This may not have any particular significance in these days of an ageing population but it is difficult not to conclude that the restlessness of modern society may well be an influential factor.

Cancer is still one of the chief causes of death. There was an increase of 13 deaths on last year's total of 77, and lung cancer was responsible for 20 deaths, 17 of which related to males. Recent medical statistics tend to suggest that excessive cigarette smoking is possibly linked with the higher incidence of lung cancer throughout the country, and certainly in our case mortality from this cause has increased since 1950 when there were eleven deaths, eight of which concerned males.

There was a decline in mortality from the respiratory diseases Influenza, Bronchitis and Pneumonia, which caused 39 deaths as against 44.

The incidence of infectious disease during the year followed a more or less normal pattern, except for an unusually high prevalence of Measles (in common with the rest of the Country), of which there were 944 cases notified, with one death. Scarlet Fever cases declined from 54 to 22, and Whooping Cough from 132 to 85, and no death resulted from either of these two infections.

There was one case of Poliomyelitis affecting a boy of 5 years. Apart from some weakness in his right leg, he made a good recovery.

Diphtheria incidence was completely absent, and again I wish to pay tribute to the effective propaganda efforts of the Health Visitors and those of Dr. Nelson, for the satisfactory level of immunisation during the year. I strongly appeal for the co-operation of parents in helping to maintain this immunity and not to let their unimmunised children remain at risk in contracting this dread disease with results which may prove fatal.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee I tender my thanks for their help and consideration, and also to Dr. Nelson, Mr. Kent, and the staff for their ready co-operation at all times.

I am,

Mr. Mayer and Gentlemen, Your Obedient Servant.

R.L. CORLETT

Medical Officer of Health.

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SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions

			Acres		
The Area of the Boroviz: Stourbridg Lye and Wo Pedmore		:::	4,214 1,920 1,025 1,269		
Total Population, es Number of Inhabited I Number of Inhabited I Number of families of Number of families of Rateable Value Sum represented by a	houses, 1931 houses at end of r separate occupi r separate occupi	1955 ers, 1931		38,320 8,164 12,408 8,477 not avails £228,451 £850	ble
<u>s</u> -	tatistical Memora	ndum			
Population, estimated Birth Rate per 1,000 Death Rate per 1,000 Infantile Death Rate Death Rate from Response	per 1,000 Live B	irths	tion 14	320 • 5 • 7 • 1 • 156	
The Town and the chief industr manufacture of forgin skin rugs, chamois le	ngs, spades and si	are and in	con-foundi	ng, engineer	
Extrac	ts from Vital St	atistics			
	BIRTHS				
	Live Births				
Legitimate	: :::		F. 79 261 6 10	Total 540 16	
	Tota	ls 26	35 271	556	
Birth Rate per 1,000 Birth Rate for Englar		nt popula	ion	14.5 15.0	
	Still Births				
		1	. F.	Total	*
Legitimate	:: :::		3 4	7 -	
	Tot	als	3 4	三	
Rate per 1,000 total	(live and still)	Births		14.6	
	DEATHS				
	Males Females	244 207			
	Tot	al <u>451</u>			
Death Rate per 1,000 Death Rate for England	estimated resid	ent popula	ation 11	.7	

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A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR

Maternal Deaths

Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion			Nil
The Maternal Mortality Rates (per	1 000 tota	ol litro on	
for England and Wales were		ar rive all	d still Births)
Maternal causes, exclud	ing abort:	ion	0.54
Due to abortion Total Maternal M	ortolitu		0.10
TOTAL MADDINAL M	Orearrey		0.04
Deaths of Infants unde			m-4-1
Legitimate	M. 8	F. 5	Total
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Totals	8	6	14
Dantha of Tufanta and	on I woole		
Deaths of Infants und	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	7	4	11
Illegitimate Totals	7	1/5	1 12
			-1
Death Rates of Infants under one y		25.1	
The Infant Mortality Rate for Engl	and and Wa		
was 24.9 per 1,000 Live Births			
Causes of De	ath		
		м.	F.
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis 2. Other Forms of Tuberculosis		6	1
3. Syphilitic Diseases	::	1	_
4. Diphtheria		-	-
5. Whooping Cough	••	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections 7. Acute Poliomyelitis	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1 _	-
8. Measles		1	-
9. Other infective and parasitic	diseases	2	-
 Malignant neoplasm, stomach Malignant neoplasm, lung, bron 	chus	11 17	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bron 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	••	- '-	3 5 5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		-	
 Other malignant & lymphatic ne Leukaemia, aleukaemia 	oplasms	23	17
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia 16. Diabetes		1	
17. Vascular lesions of nervous sy	stem	35	24
18. Coronary disease, angina		36 8	25 10
19. Hypertension with heart diseas 20. Other heart disease	e	25	47
21. Other circulatory disease		9	
22. Influenza		3	4
23. Pneumonia 24. Bronchitis	*:	9 3 3 15	5 4 7 7
25. Other diseases of respiratory	system	1	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		1	3 2
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diar 28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	rnoea	1	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate		4	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortic		10. 70. 14	-
31. Congenital malformations 32. Other defined and ill-defined	diseases	23	22
32. Other defined and ill-defined 33. Motor vehicle accidents		2	1
34. All other accidents		6	4
35. Suicide		9	2
36. Homicide and operations of war			
supretting State burning the last	Totals	21+1+	207
Deaths from Cancer (all a	ges)	90	
Deaths from Measles (all Deaths from Whooping Coug	h (all age		
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SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Public Health Officers

Particulars of the Public Health Officers, together with information as to their qualifications, are set out on page 2.

Laboratory Facilities

Examination of clinical material (sputum, swabs &c.) is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Royal Infirmary, Worcester, as are also consumer samples of milk, water and ice-cream. Producer samples of milk and water are examined bacteriologically by the County Laboratory, Worcester, in addition to all chemical samples of food, drugs and water.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

There are four Infant Welfare Centres in the Borough as follows:40, New Road, Stourbridge; St. Michael's Church Hall, Glebe Lane,
Norton; Community Centre, Wassell Road, Wollescote; and Orchard Lane
Lye.

Prevention of Diphtheria

Diphtheria Immunisation sessions were held monthly during the year at the Infant Welfare Centres, as under:

Stourbridge .. Third Friday in the month (10 a.m. - 12 noon)
Lye .. Third Thursday in the month (2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)
Wollescote .. First Thursday in the month (2 p.m. - 4 p.m.)

SECTION C.

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SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supplies

The water supply to the area of the Borough of Stourbridge is controlled by the Stourbridge & District Water Board. The Board was constituted by Act of Parliament in 1909 and is composed of twelve members nominated by the Borough of Stourbridge and the Urban District Councils of Amblecote and Brierley Hill. It operates three pumping stations, two of which are situated in the Urban District of Amblecote and the third in Brierley Hill Urban District.

At each of the pumping stations there are two boreholes. These are tube-protected for part of their full depth and generally penetrate into the upper Bunter Sandstone. The whole of the supply is pumped into two well-defined areas of supply, the high level and the low level.

The high level area, the consumption of which is between 400,000 and 500,000 gallons per day is normally supplied by the Coalbournbrook Pumping Station, and a standby is available at the Hill Meadow Pumping Station. New pumping plant has been recently commissioned, which now enables the supply considerably in excess of the present requirements to be available immediately. Both the pumping stations are situated in the Urban District of Amblecote, and a balance tank covering the high level area of supply is situated at Wychbury Hill in the Rural District of Bromsgrove. The capacity of this tank is 350,000 gallons.

It is in the low level area of supply that the major part of the Borough of Stourbridge is situated, and the consumption in this area is now in the region of 1.9 million gallons per day. The whole of this supply is normally provided from the Tack Lane Pumping Station situated in the parish of Wordsley in the Urban District of Brierley Hill. This station has been equipped to provide this supply in quantity since 1948, and duplicate pumping plant has been installed subsequently.

During the last year, a new 12" pumping main has been provided for the high level system between the pumping station at Coalbournbrook and existing installations near the Mill Meadow Station. Also important diesel electric generating plant has been completed at the Coalbournbrook Station. This addition to the resources of the Board completes an important standby arrangement for emergency use against electricity grid failure.

Drainage and Sewerage

The main sewers in the Stourbridge area are under the control of Stourbridge Main Drainage Board. The sewers in Lye and Wollescote area are under the control of the Upper Stour Valley Sewerage Board.

The sewage is conveyed to the Whittington sewage farms belonging to these Boards and is treated on the Broad Irrigation principle.

SECTION D

Housing work is referred to in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Details of the inspections carried out during the year will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Provalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases

Small Pox

No case was reported during the year.

Typhoid Fever

There was no incidence.

Poliomyelitis

One case was notified in September, which related to a boy of 5 years of age.

Apart from some weakness in his right leg, he made a good recovery.

Scarlet Fever

There was a decline in the number of cases notified, of which there were 22 compared with 54.

Generally the incidence was of a mild type and there was no death.

Measles

There was an unusually high prevalence of Measles, of which there were 944 notifications, compared with four only in the previous year.

The high incidence was in common with the rest of the country, and in the Borough reached its peak in April when 412 cases were notified.

There was one death.

Food Poisoning

There was an increase in notifications - from six to twelve. Three cases were in one household and in another there were two, the others being single cases.

Despite immediate investigations, in no case could the causative agent be definitely established. Faggots and gravy bought outside the Borough were suspected to be the source of infection in two cases, and a pork pie in three others.

Mass Radiography Survey

Following on their first visit to the Borough in March, 1954 (when a total of 5,295 persons - 2,748 males and 2,547 females - were x-rayed) the Dudley Mass Radiography Unit (Medical Director - Dr. R.J. Posner) paid a second visit in October, 1955, when a total of 2,673 persons (1,241 males and 1,432 females) were examined.

Diphtheria Immunisation

There was again a satisfactory level of immunisation, both primary and secondary, during the year.

Primary treatments numbered 492, of which 458 related to children of pre-school age.

Some 516 children were given re-inforcing injections.

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Year		A.P.T. 2 inj.	T.A.M. 3 inj.	Total
1935 1936 1937 1938 1939	::	247 201 61	46 23 35	293 224 96
1940 1941 1942 1943	::	65 17 563	112 1397 1806 71	112 1462 1823 634
1944 1945 1946 1947 1948	::	507 671 536 640 580		507 671 536 640 580
1949 1950 1951 1952	::	603 317 597 470	1/4	603 317 597 470
1953 1954 1955	::	521 560 492 Totals 7648	3,493	521 560 492 11,141

Of an estimated child population of 8,350, a total of 7,209 children under 15 years of age had been immunised by the end of the year. Of this total, 1,799 related to children of pre-school age.

It is estimated that approximately 95% of school children and 65% of pre-school age children have been completely immunised.

Table showing the Incidence and Severity of Diphtheria

Year	Total Cases	Deaths	Case Mortality Rate	Immunised Cases	Children Deaths
1935	110	18	16.3	3	_
1936	33	5	15.1	3	-
1937	81	3	3.7	6	-
1938	49	2	4.08	6	-
1939	40	7	17.5	- 11	-
1940	71	2	2.81	9	-
1941	87	5	5.74	8	-
1942	21	-	-	2	-
1943	18	1	5.5	5	-
1944	25	2	8.0	9	-
1945	47	. 3	6.38	11	-
1946	21	1	4.76		7
1947	30	2	6.66	11	1
1948	-	-	-	-	-
1949	7	-	-	7	
1950	1	-	-	1	
1951	-	-	-		
1952	-	-	-		
1953	4				
1954					
1955	635	51		92	1

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CORRECTED' NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) FOR THE YEAR, 1955

	2											I	
THE PERSON	CHIPPIN	1	-	1	'	'	10	1	-	1	1	1	12
Cases	Hospital	9	4	1	1	1	12	-	13	ı	-	2	39
Total No.	Cases	22	4	-	56	4-	#	85	4,46	4	17	12	1160
	65 and upwards	1	1	1	ı	ı	13	1	ı	1	-	3	17
S seed	45-64	1	1	1	-1	1	16	1	1	2	~	1	8
	35-44	1	1	24			-	,	,	,	-	2	4
	25-34	1	1	1	10	1	9	ı	2	1	-	2	24
	15-24	1	ı	1	16	1	1	-	20	1	-	1	21
AGES	10 -	3		1		,	-	-	5		-	1	11
A (5 -	14	0	-	1	1	4	32	4.52	,	6	3	517
	3 - 4	2		•	1	1	1	24	259	-	~		287
	1 2	2	1	,		-1	-	8	200		-	-	225
i do ca	Under 1 year	-	0	1	1	~	C)	7	23		1	1	37
	DISEASE	Soarlet Fever	Meningococcal Infection	Poliomyelitis (Paralytio)	Poerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pheumonia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Erysipeles	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	TOTALS

NOTE: 38 of the 39 hospital cases were admitted to Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Halesowen.

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TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1955

		New Ca	ses	Deaths				
Age Periods	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	М.	F.	м.	F.	м.	F.	м.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 10 15	1 1	- 4	-	=	-	-	-	-
20	2 3	1 3	-	-	1 -	-	-	-
25 35	3 3	1 -	-	1	1	-	-	1
55 65 and upwards	2	-	-	-	-		1 2 4	-
TOTALS	20	9	1	1	6	-	aro <u>u</u>	1

The Death Rate for Respiratory Tuberculosis was 0.156 per 1,000 population which is the same as last year.

SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE

REGISTER AT END OF 1955

	Resp	iratory	Non-Respiratory		
	Males	Pemales	Males	Females	
No. of cases on Register, 1st January, 1955 No. of cases notified for the first	122	66	7	10	
time during the year under the Regulations No. of cases first heard of	20	9	1	1	
otherwise than by primary notification No. of cases removed from Register	1	l ₊	-	3	
in a previous Quarter which have been restored to Register during the Quarter	2	-	1	-	
TOTALS	145	79	9	14	
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	18	5	2	5	
No. of cases remaining on Register at the end of the year	127	74	7	. 9	

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The Total Ratus for Acceptances Tuberculous and O. 156 per 1,000

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			Total State Company Total
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ANNUAL REPORT

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for

1955

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Stourbridge.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you a Report on the work of your Public Health Department for the year 1955.

A notable feature of the work during the year was the draft proposals submitted under the Slum Clearance programme, affecting some 300 or more unfit houses, which it is hoped to clear in the Five-Year period ending 1960.

The year saw the introduction of new Regulations relating to Food Hygiene and affecting the hygienic handling of Food and the structural condition of Food Premises. These involve many new obligations and add to the Department's responsibilities.

Unfortunately towards the end of the year, the Department's staff of Inspectors was depleted by the loss of the services of Mr. Wakefield, who left the Borough Council's employ to take up a similar appointment at Poole.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their active interest, to Dr. Corlett for his helpful advice at all times, and to the Town Clerk, Mr. A.P. Drury, M.A., for his unfailing assistance, not forgetting the willing co-operation of the Departmental staff and other Officers of the Council.

I am,
Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

A.E.K. KENT

Sanitary Inspector.

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COMPLAINTS

A total of 250 complaints, relating principally to housing defects, were received during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following data is given in accordance with Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:-

The number and nature of Inspections made during the year:

Inspections of houses					348
Re-inspections and re-	visits				1151
Inspections under Hous:	ing Re	gulati	ons		71
Re-inspections under H	ousing	Regul	ations		28
Inspections Town & Cour	ntry P	lannin	g Act	-	
	Re-dev	elopme	nt		185
Visits re notifiable d	isease	s			103
Slaughter of pigs on p	rivate	premi	ses		13
Meat Inspection:					
Cattle					1465
Pigs					5623
Sheep					8543
Dairies					41
Factories					25
Smoke &c. nuisances					103
Bakehouses					116
Food Stores & Food Pre	parati	on Pre	mises		149
Shops Act					48
Shops (re Unfit Food)					109
Vermin Infestation (ex	cludin	g Rats	& Mic	e)	23
Rats & Mice					223
Water Supplies					31
Drainage					170
Tuberculosis After-Car	e				46
Waste Mater Closets					19
Tents, Vans, Sheds &c.					29
Refuse Tips					114
Pet Animals Act					9
Rag Flock Act					4
Licensed Premises					9
Miscellaneous					151
Number of Notices serve	A Annel	no the	veare		
Mamber of Morroes Serve	or oron, 7	TIS OTH	, Jour.		
Preliminary Notices					115
Statutory Notices					132

PRELIMINARY NOTICES

Preliminary Intimation Notices sent during the year numbered 115. These, in general, took the form of letters giving particulars of defects and suggestions as to repairs necessary to remedy the defects.

	No. of	No. of Houses or premises affected
General defects of houses	53	75
Defective water closets Defective drainage	21	44
Factories - smoke &c.nuisances Factoriesot - ventilation	3	3
Insufficient w.c. accommodation	2	2
Food & Drugs Act contraventions Dirty & untidy houses	7	1
Shops Act, 1950	10	10
Miscellaneous	9	15
Totals	115	170

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STATUTORY NOTICES, 1955

Public Health Act, 1936 Abatement of Nuisances (S.93) Requisition for Information (S.277) Drainage (S.39) Defective Closets (S.45) Sewers (S.24) Notices to Cleanse (S.83). Access to Premises (S.287)		No. of Notices 13 3 3 1 5 2	No. of Premises Affected 13 3 4 1 5 1 1
Housing Act, 1936			
Notices to Appear before Council (S. Notices to Appear before Council (S. Demolition Orders (S.11) Notice to Quit (S.155) Requisition for Information (S.168) Repairs (S.9) Closing Orders (S.12) Closing Orders (S.10) - Misc. Provisions Act, 1953)	12)	1 39 28 2 9 1 9	1 27 15 2 15 1 5
Housing Repairs & Rents Act, 1954			
Section 6 Disrepair certificates Revocation certificates	::	2 8 3	2 8 5
	Totals	132	111
Result of the Service	of Notices:	in only	
Preliminary Notic	ces complied	with	82
Statutory Notice	s complied v	vith	115
HOUSI	NG-		
1. Inspection of Dwelling	Houses durin	ng the year:	
(i) (a) Total number of for housing defe or Housing Acts	ects (under		
(b) Number of inspec	ctions made	for the pur	pose 1151
(ii) (a) Number of dwell: sub-head (i) abo and recorded und Consolidated Re	ove) which w der the Hous	vere inspects	ed.
(b) Number of inspec	ctions made	for the pur	pose 13

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Но	using (C	ontinued)	
	(iii)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	15
	(iv)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) not found to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	163
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	51
3.	Action	under Statutory Powers during the year:	
	(A)	Proceedings under Section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
		(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	3
		(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
		(a) By Owners	3 -
	(B)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts: (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	96
		(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
		(a) By Owners	18
	(0)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
		(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	15
		(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	21
	(D)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	

and Section 10 Miscellaneous Provisions Lct, 1953:

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..

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

During the year, 150 cases of overcrowding were relieved.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

One application was received for a certificate of Disrepair which was not granted.

Housing Let, 1949 - Improvement Grants

Some 26 applications for Improvement grants were received, 23 of which were approved and 3 rejected.

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DEMOLITION ORDERS

Fifteen Demolition Orders were made during the year in respect of the following houses, all of which were in a state of disrepiar bordering on the dangerous: -

> No. 13, Stourbridge Road, Lye No. 109, Stourbridge Road, Lye

No. 3, Swan Fold, Lye

No. 4, Swan Fold, Lye No. 7, Swan Fold, Lye

No. 8, Swan Fold, Lye

No. 21, Waste Bank, Lye No. 55, The Dock, Lye

No. 24, Belmont Road, Wollescote No. 27, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge No. 29, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge

No: 31, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge

No. 33, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge No. 35, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge No. 57, Mount Street, Stourbridge.

OLOSING ORDERS

Under the provisions of Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 and Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1933 Closing Orders were made on the following properties: -

No. 78, Cemetery Road, Lye

No. 45, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge No. 53, Birmingham Street, Stourbridge No. 10, Duke Street, Stourbridge No. 12, Duke Street, Stourbridge

No. 142, Hagley Road, Stourbridge No. 109, High Street, Wollaston.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION

One hundred and ninety three complaints of rats and mice infestation were received, compared with 189 in 1954.

A summary of the work carried out by the Rodent Operative during the year is set out below.

Type of Property	No. of Premises Infested	No. of Treatments	No. of Inspections	Infest Rats	Mice
Local Authority Dwelling Houses Business & Industrial	7 222	9 229	38 512	7 169	53
Premises &c. Agricultural Premises	37	43	78	23	14
200 20 000 000 200 200 000	266	281	628	199	<u>67</u>

The sewers were also treated twice during the year and a total of 213 manholes dealt with.

It is estimated that throughout the Borough approximately 1.780 rats and 1,270 mice were killed.

Ligar And the secure and an all and a second a se The state of the translation of section to the State of t No. 15, Harmington street, comparings
20. 15, Harmington street, comparings
20. 25, Almandest carpet, comparings
20. 10, Almandest carpet, comparings a ten men mit petrob sourt tokken dele von bester en VIOTALLED THE RESIDENCE OF THE SECOND SECOND

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Premises used for:

(a) Sale and/or Manufacture of Ice Cream

Eleven new premises were registered during the year for the sale of Ice Cream in sealed cartons. At the end of the year there were 146 premises registered for the sale of Ice Cream and 4 for its manufacture and sale.

Thirty samples were submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. The fat content varied between 8.6% and 13.7% and in most of the samples the fat content exceeded 10%.

All the 20 bacteriological samples submitted were in provisional grade 1.

(b) Preparation of Preserved Foods

There were 3 new registrations luring the year for the preparation or manufacture of Preserved Food. At the end of the year, there were 23 premises on the Register.

All the premises were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(c) Fish Frying

Twenty premises are registered for fish frying.

ADULTERATION

One hundred informal samples were submitted for chemical analysis as follows:-

cardinara an rorroup	** 0	M-	-0
	No. of Samples	No.	ples
Milk (T.T.)	1. S	ausages 2	1
Milk (Pasteurised		inced Beef inced Chicken	1
Milk (T.T. Pasteurised) Milk (Sterilised)		urried Beef Steak	1
Milk (Raw)		raised Beef Steak	1
Cream Ices	3 8	teak & Kidney Pie	1
Ice Cream	7 M	eat Pie	1
Double Cream		ork Pies	3
Butter		elsh Rarebit	7
Ice Lollies		eat Tenderizer east Pac	1
Ice Cream Lollies Butter Fudge		epper	2
Vitacup		saked Beans with pork sausage	1
Coconut whipped orcam dainties	3 F	dice	1
Scotch Sweets		ider Vinegar	1
Nougat Dainties		Cold & 'Flu mixture Malibut Liver Oil capsules	1
Marzipan		Plurivite Vitamin pellets	1
Ground Almonds Macaroni		Prange Drink	3
Scotch Haddock		bidec Drops	1
Sweet Matches	3		

The Public Analyst's report on the sample of Coconut Whipped Cream Dainties stated that:

"The white filling of this article contained at most some 4% of fat and is more of the nature of a marshmallow.

In my opinion the term 'whipped cream' implies the presence

of dairy cream and is wrongly applied in this case."

As the term "whipped cream" might tend to mislead the public

into the belief that the cakes contained real cream, the matter was taken up with the manufacturers with a view to the product being given a more satisfactory name.

The sample of "Scotch Haddock" was found on examination to be otherwise than haddock and was, in the Analyst's opinion, probably cured codling. The matter was taken up with the vendor.

Two samples of pork sausages were found to be deficient in meat content, and the attention of the suppliers concerned was drawn to the matter. The analysis of Ice Cream Lollies showed a lead content of 0.7 parts per million. The matter was taken up with the manufacturers and follow-up samples proved satisfactory.

BACTERIAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	Tests Applied	Results of	Pests
Puberculin Tested	Demptop	Methylene Blue	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
(Pasteurised)	16	Phosphatase	15 16	P1.51 . 19.51
asteurised	41	Methylene Blue	34	
		Phosphatase	41	
terilised	9	Turbidity Test	9	_
uberculin Tested hannel Island Past.	3	Methylene Blue	3	-
induier Island Past.	5	Methylene Blue	5	-
The Wills (Smeatel D		Phosphatase	5	- 1
The Milk (Special Designation of	mation /) (Raw Milk) Regul	ations, 1949 to	1 954.
	SEESE CALCULATE 12			
		1300 % 3 tel	TIISEG MIIK) Rep	gulations, 1949 to
The follow uberculin Tested Milk	ving licen	ces were in operat	ion at the end o	of 1955:-
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The follow uberculin Tested Milk Dealer's l tuberculin tested" (in	ving licend Licence autocluding th	ces were in operat thorising the use hree bottling esta	ion at the end of the special d	of 1955:- lesignation
The follow uberculin Tested Milk Dealer's l tuberculin tested" (in Supplement	ving licend Licence autocluding the	thorising the use the bottling esta	ion at the end of the special d	of 1955:- lesignation
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The follow uberculin Tested Milk Dealer's leader (in Supplement esignation "tuberculin"	ving licend Licence autocluding the	ces were in operat thorising the use hree bottling esta be authorising the	of the special d blishments)	of 1955:- lesignation 13
The follow uberculin Tested Milk Dealer's lature tuberculin tested" (in Supplement esignation "tuberculing asteurised Milk	ving licend dicence autocluding the ary Licend tested"	thorising the use hree bottling esta	of the special d blishments) use of the spec	of 1955:- lesignation 13 pial 4
The follow uberculin Tested Milk Dealer's leader tuberculin tested" (in Supplement esignation "tuberculin asteurised Milk Dealer's (ving licend dicence autocluding the ary Licend tested"	ces were in operat thorising the use hree bottling esta be authorising the	of the special d blishments) use of the spec	of 1955:- lesignation 13 vial 4
The follow uberculin Tested Milk Dealer's leader uberculin tested (in Supplement esignation "tuberculin asteurised Milk Dealer's (asteurise milk	ving licence autocluding the ary Licence at tested"	thorising the use hree bottling esta	of the special deblishments) use of the special control of the special deblishments.	of 1955:- lesignation 13 pial 4

Sterilised Milk

designation "pasteurised"

designation "pasteurised"

Dealer's Licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised" 92 Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised"

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MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

During the year Meat Inspection continued to take up most of the time of two Inspectors, this being a service demanding not only thorough knowledge of animal pathology and meat hygiene but also infinite care and attention at all times.

The same slaughterhouses have continued to operate and all have been kept

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Supplementary Licence authorising the use of the special

13

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in the very excellent condition which was reported last year.

Much overtime is still having to be carried out, but fortunately no Sunday

8543

work is now necessary.

Set out below are the number of animals slaughtered during the year, and it is pleasing to note that 100% inspection has again been carried out. Table 1 shows the number of animals killed and inspected, together with the number of carcases condemned and the percentage of animals affected with disease. Table 2 shows the amount of meat condemned and the diseases or conditions which merited the condemnation

It is pleasing to note that Tuberculosis in pigs has declined very greatly since pre-war days, but Cysticercus Bovis - which has come to the forefront since 1940 has not only caused new methods of inspection of Cattle to be adopted but the number of cases found is causing some concern not only to Meat Inspectors but to the trade in general.

Our figure of 23 cases of Cysticercus Bovis made it apparent that the disease is now becoming very widespread. Great efforts have been made to try to find the cause in each case, all lot numbers being checked with Auctioneers and the vendors ascertained. Eventually this information, together with all relative details of the actual beast, is transmitted to the Local Authority in whose area the beast originated. Unfortunately, the information was not forthcoming as to what action was or had been taken. But we cannot blame our Rural colleagues, who, with their numerous slaughterhouses and long distances to cover, have all their other multifarious duties to carry out.

During the year the following animals were killed:-Cattle (excluding cows) Cows

17 In addition 13 pigs were slaughtered on private premises and all were inspected.

Licentrary and parameters at the two polyments and polyments of the company of th

Appendix Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1409	39	17	8543	5623	Nil
Number inspected	1409	39	17	8543	5623	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	_		1	3	4	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	291	16	-	708	638	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other						
than tuberculosis and cysticerci	20.6/6	41%	6%	8%	11%	
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	2	-	-	-	2	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	71	8	-	-	162	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5%	20%	-	-	3%	
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	23	4-	-	4	-	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	23	-	_	-	-	
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	

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Diseases	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other parts
Actinomycosis		80								
Actinobacillosis		47								
Tuberculosis	2	54	52	3	772	7	2	80	25	6 forequarters (948 lt.)
Pheumonia			17							(47.7b)
Pericarditis				5						
Hydatid cysts			23		17					
Fascioliasis					179					
Bacterial necrosis					25					
Cavernous angioms			2010		15					
Peritonitis	arail s				5	6	1/4		9	
Pyaemia			~		3		-	-	-	
Nephritis								2		
Hydronephrosis								11		No. No.
Abscesses					9					
Bruising	-	-	-	-	-	~	-	-	-	75 1b
Fat necrosis								-		66 lbs.kidney fat
Cysticerous Bovis		80		18	91					
Pleurisy			3							
Regurgitation			-							
Fatty Infiltration					23					
Enteritis									~	
TOTALS	М	72	101	27	278	17	19	ಸ	郊	
	-	-	-	-			-		-	

Year, 1955	Table 2			SHEEP						
									The state of the s	
Discases	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Kidneys	Spleens	Intestines	Other Parts
Muelleriasis			424							
Pneumonia &c.			14	2						
Pericerditis			8	5			14			
Hydatid Cysts			5	-	40					
Fascioliasis	2	2	2	2	527	2	4	2	0	
Bactorial Necrosis					-					
Fatty Infiltration					-					
Sarcosporidia				4						
Absocsses					0					
Bruising										1 hind leg
Died in lairage	-									4 Montgowering
Angioma					~					The state of the state of
Pysomia					28					78
Cysticercus Lovis				4						S Med Togs
Sarcocyst Tenella				5						S Name Tages
TOTAIS	23	2	1442	23	570	03	-2	C)	C)	
								-		P

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Diseases	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines	Other parts
Tuberculosis	2	156	19	12	16	-	2	9	96	49 lb .
Pneumonia			345							
Perioarditis			-	102						
Congestion			233	-	-		2			
Cirrhosis					183					
Fatty Infiltration					-					
Leuksenia							-			
Ascarides									-	
Enteritis									10	
Feritonitis					15	-	6		7	10 lb .
Hydronephrosis								38		
Bruising	-									1 hindquarter
Pyaemia		n					-		03	2 part foreqtrs.
Swine Arysipelas		~	-	V	-	Υ-	-	0	-	
Arthritis										3 hind legs
Fractures									300	3 hind legs
Dead in lairage	-									
Dead in transit	4-						Lan			
TOTALS	5	160	599	116	217	13	16	94	116	

1000 Messens Santa

Meat and Other Food Inspection (continued)

109 visits to shops etc. were made in connection with the inspection of foodstuffs, and the following items were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Canned Foods			No. of Tins
			NO OF THIS
	Fish	 	27
	Vegetables	 	257
	Fruit	 	315
	Fruit Juice	 	
	Jam	 	3
	Milk	 	5 3 58 9 3
	Cream	 	9
	Golden Syrup	 	3
	Tomatoes	 	32
	Meat	 	75 (223 lb.)
	Soup	 	6
	Crab Paste	 	2
	Chicken Spread	 	2 3
	Pate de Foie	 	9
Other Foods			Quantity
			-
	Coffee	 	4 botts.
	Orange Barley Water	 	1 "
	Tomato Ketchup	 	4 "
	Vinegar	 	6 "
	Currants	 	5 pkts.
	Sponge Mixture	 	7 "
	Marmite	 	1 jar
	Bovril	 	2 "
	Chicken Spread	 	4 11
	Dressed Crab	 	5 "
	Tongue Paste	 	20 "
	Veal & Ham Paste	 	5 "
	Chicken Paste	 	2 "
	Fish Paste	 	5 "
	Sauce	 	7 botts.
	Lemon Squash	 	7 "
	Horseradish Relish	 	1 "
	Salad Cream	 	1 11
	Pickles	 	5 "
	Lemon Curd	 	5 "
	Marmalade	 	10 jars
	Jam	 	28 "
	Mincomeat	 	5 "
	Prunes	 	30 lb.
	Prawn	 	66 "
	Pork Sausages	 	52 "
	Turkeys (12)	 	96 "
	Frozen Liquid Wholo		28 "
	Slab Cake	 	18 "
	Bream Fillets	 	2 stone
	Lemon Sole	 	2 "
	Kippers	 	4 11
	Plaice	 	1 "
	Hake	 	2 "
	Megrims	 	91 "
	Lambs' Livers (Impor		10 1b.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954

Under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954, 22 licences were renewed during the year.

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WATER SAMPLING

Public Supplies

The reports on the public supplies were again excellent. Bacteriological counts were very low, whilst chemical examinations have been constant.

The supplies were equally satisfactory as to quantity. They are not liable to plumbo solvency but samples are examined periodically for lead contamination.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied from the Mains direct to houses in the Borough was 12.395. The number of standpipes is gradually being reduced.

The following are results of the chemical examination of representative samples of the Town's Water Supply taken during the year:-

Physical Characters	No. 1 10 May, 1955 Clear, odourless Deposit None pH 7.3	No. 2 20 Oct.1955 Clear, odourless Deposit Brown pH 7.4
Chemical examination (results in parts per million)	the section and the	
Solids in Suspension (dried at 100	°C) Nil	Trace
Solids in Solution (dried at 180°C Solids in Solution after ignition		620 565
Chlorine Expressed as Chloride	31	62
Hardness Non-carbonato	80	170
Hardness Carbonate	145	205
Hardness Total	225	375
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.01	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen	Trace	0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.6	14.8
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C		
(N/80 Permanganat		Nil
Toxic Metals	None detected	
Residual Chlorine Free	Nil	Nil
" " Combined	Nil	Nil
" Total	0.09	0.02

Some 92 samples were submitted by this Department for bacteriological analysis, and the following are representative of the results received:-

	Number of Coliform bacilli, MacConkey two days, 37°C. (per 100 ml.)	Coli (per 100 ml.)
January 24th	 Nil	Nil
February 19th	 Nil	Nil
March 24th	 Nil	Nil
April 21st	 Nil	Nil
May 19th	 Nil	Nil
June 16th	 Nil	Nil
July 13th	 Nil	Nil
August 18th	 Nil.	Nil
September 15th	 Nil	Nil
October 13th	 Nil	Nil
November 17th	 Nil	Nil
December 15th	 Nil	Nil

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MILK SUPPLIES

Two samples of raw milk were submitted for biological examination and both proved to be negative.

FOOD PREMISES

The Inspector who was primarily engaged on Hygiene in Food Shops left the Borough Council's employ in November, 1955, and since that date very little has been done in this vitally important sphere. Several attempts have been made to appoint another Inspector but up to the time of writing with no success.

Up to November many improvements had been carried out, due to the activities of the specialist Inspector, and it is to be hoped that traders in general will continue to co-operate willingly to ensure that these improvements are maintained.

Five summonses were issued against occupiers of two Food Shops in the Borough. One was issued in respect of one shop where it was alleged that a cellar was being used for preparing food, i.e. boiling three beef tongues and that the cellar was filthy. The defendant successfully pleaded that the beef tongues were the property of the Manager and that they were for a private party at his house.

The other four summonses were in respect of one shop in the Borough and a fine was inflicted on each of the following counts:-

(1) Allowing refuse to accumulate in a Food room .. Fine £20.

(2) Using premises for pickling food, not being

registered .. Fine £5.

(3) Failure to cleanse floor of food room as often

as necessary .. Fine £10.

(4) Failure to protect meat from flies

.. Fine £5.

It must be said that these odd prosecutions do have a salutary effect and immediate improvements in other food shops are most noticeable.

VERMIN INFESTATION

Effective disinfestations were carried out at 23 premises to eradicate bugs, fleas and other vermin. In 7 other cases relating to insect pests insecticides were issued and advice given.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

No formal action was necessary under this heading.

Seven persons were granted licences to station and use moveable dwellings for short periods on various sties in the Borough. Where the sites remained satisfactory, the licences were renewed for further periods.

During the year, 29 inspections were made of caravans and sites, all of which were kept in excellent condition.

OUTWORKERS

Twenty-two lists were received, containing the names of 23 outworkers, 10 of whom resided outside the Borough.

The premises of outworkers resident in the Borough are

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Four renewal licences were granted.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two licences under this heading were renewed.

man person to be with a margin of the discount equilibility of all manufacts on todays refricting any new indexper of the constitution of the constitutio of our during the property of the comments of the transport of the comments of hoste or sape took to hotel assessed at an protect and from the service vacibles a szid, ab majamienang file chair test dage of late approve te improvemente in other read shape ate most nellecolie. at a command the te descriptions were to the contract of the c apparent a late grown for strains had not see in aldresses our typ, resistant an apprinch belong, ever control out of a day and the control out of a day Therefore Date and and the commences of the contract of the co on automa and a resemble part of domestic discourt training the and the first training and the training and

SWIMMING BATHS

A total of 116 (45 chemical and 71 bacteriological) samples of water from the Corporation Swimming Baths were submitted for examination and the results showed that a high standard was maintained throughout the season. The Baths Superintendent and his staff are again to be congratulated on the excellent condition of the whole buildings generally and the very high standard of cleanliness maintained.

RIVERS POLLUTION

There was close liaison between the Department and the Rivers Board, to whom the powers under the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951 were transferred.

SMCKE ABATEMENT

The apparatus for measuring atmospheric pollution is still in operation and recordings are kept.

During the year the only consistent offender in the Borough decided to convert the furnaces to oil-firing, giving a more rigid control and a more easily adjusted output. At the end of the year, the two furnaces which were converted were giving no trouble.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Public Cleansing is under the control of the Borough Surveyor.

There are four tips in the Borough, and refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping mainly at Lye, with reserve Tips at Wollaston and Lye in case of emergency. Covering material is readily available and no fires have occurred. Systematic treatment with Gammexane Dust has kept cricket infestation down to practically nil.

Refuse is collected weekly. All vehicles used in the collection are "S.D." freighters, with the addition of a small Scammell used for market and shop collections.

TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE

In the course of the year 7 families were re-housed in Council houses, and issues of free milk were made to 38 patients. Christmas food parcels were also provided in addition to warm underclothing to specially deserving cases.

The Committee, of which I am still Honorary Secretary, met once during the year, and has amongst its members representatives from the Borough Council, the County Medical Officer's Department, W.V.S., the Nursing Association and your Public Health Department.

I am grateful to the Committee members for the invaluable help they have given me and to the members of the Housing Lettings Committee of the Council for their promptness in dealing with cases brought to their notice through Mr. Baylis, the Housing Officer.

PETROLEUM ACTS

During the year 82 licences were issued as follows:-

62 to store petroleum spirit only

10 " " petroleum spirit and cellulose
3 " " petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium
3 " " carbide of calcium only
2 " " cellulose only
2 " " mixture of petroleum spirit.

These licences authorised the storage of 77,700 gallons of petroleum spirit 2,548 lbs. carbide of calcium, 1,075 gallons of cellulose and 14 gallons of petroleum mixture.

The sum of £53. 15. 0. was received in respect of licence fees.

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FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

		Num	ber of	
Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	42	7	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	232	18	9	_
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	274	25	9	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	No. of	cases in were :		defects	
Particulars	Found	Remedied	To H.M.	By H.M.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
			Insp-	Insp-	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)		_		_	
Overcrowding (S. 2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable					
temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	- '
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	_	_	_	-	
Ineffective					
drainage of floors					
Sanitary (S.6)	-		-		
conveniences (3.7)					
(a) Insufficent	2	2	-	2	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	_	6	_
(c) Not separate					
for sexes	1	1	-	1	-
Other offences against the Act					
(not including					
offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	_
TOTALS	y	9	_	9	_

Public Health Department, Stourbridge.

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