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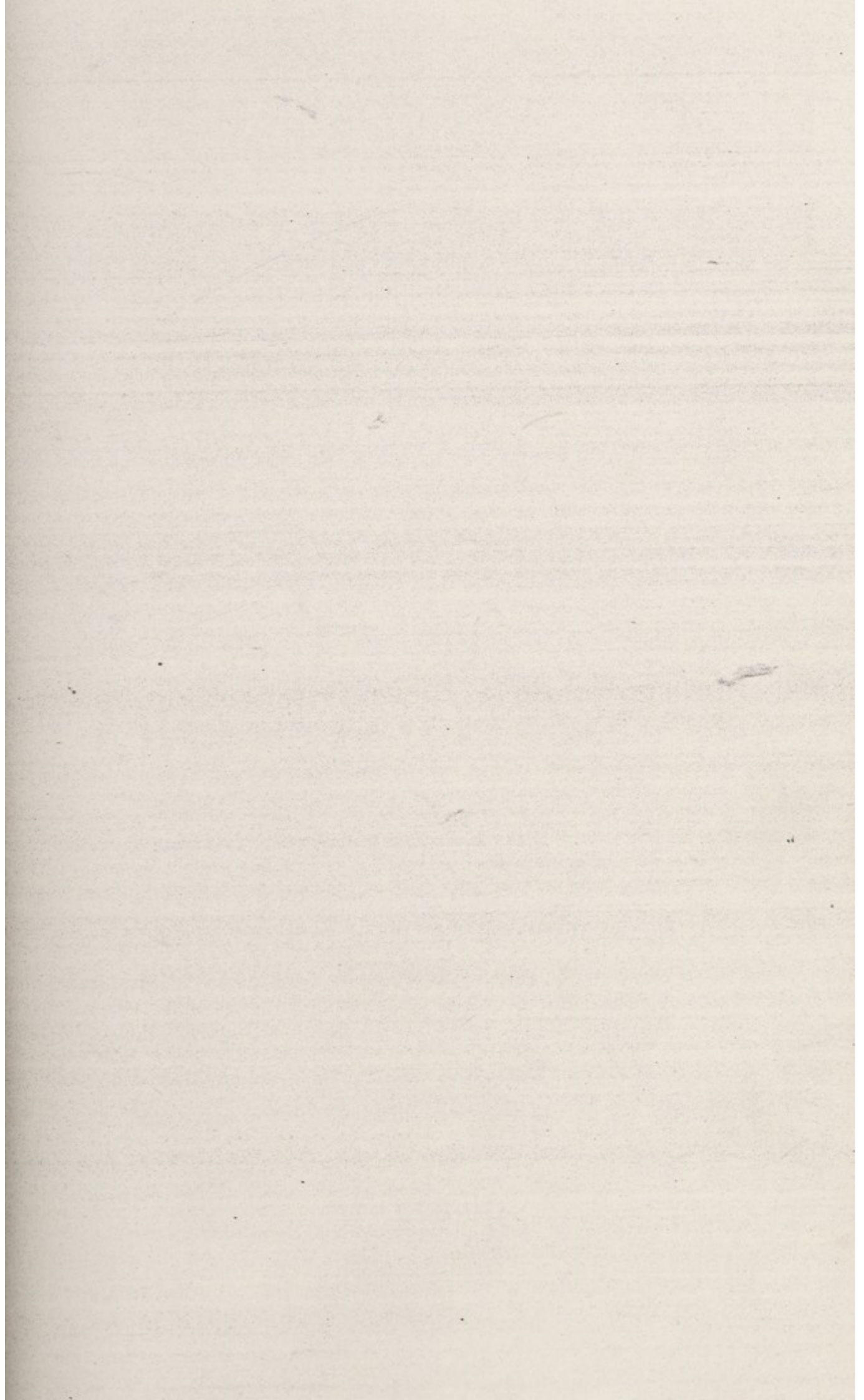
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THE ROYAL TOWN OF SUTTON COLDFIELD.

BOROUGH OF SUTTON COLDFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT


OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For 1938.

Sutton Coldfield :

W. F. Woodcock & Sons Ltd., Parade.



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To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of the
HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

and

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS of the
MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for 1938. In September I undertook the duty of organising a casualty service for the Borough under the County Council's scheme for National Defence, and this work has, of necessity interfered with the routine activities of my department. In consequence presentation of the Report has been unduly, but, under the circumstances unavoidably delayed.

The statistics are favourable. The general death-rate and infant mortality rate are low, and the Borough has remained free from any major outbreak of epidemic disease. It may be noted here that there is a wide divergence between the Registrar-General's estimate of population and the local estimate, and that except where otherwise stated the calculation of mortality and other rates is based on the Registrar-General's figure. These rates if based on the local estimate would be more favourable, and there is every reason to assume that the local estimate is correct.

The general sanitary work of the Borough has been carried out with zeal and efficiency, and good progress was made in the rectifying of unsatisfactory housing conditions.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of each Committee for the help and consideration which they have extended to me during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Council House,
Sutton Coldfield.

J. H. WRIGHT.

November, 1939.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live births : Legitimate	530	264	266	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population (R.G.) 15.02
Illegitimate	16	9	7	
Stillbirths 	14	4	10	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 25.0
Deaths 	344	174	170	Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population (R.G.) 9.27
Deaths from puerperal causes :-				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
(a) Puerperal sepsis				Nil.
(b) Other puerperal causes				1
Total				1.79

Death rate of infants under one year of age :-

All infants per 1,000 live births	47.62
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	43.40
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	187.50
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	52
Deaths from measles (all ages)	Nil.
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	2
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	13,978
Population (estimated R.G.) mid-year 1938.....	36,350
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938)	12,078
Rateable Value	£384,952
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,496

LOCAL ESTIMATE OF POPULATION OF WARDS AT MID-YEAR, 1938.

Trinity	4,617
Hill	6,317
Boldmere (East)	5,562
Boldmere (West)	7,412
Wylde Green	5,480
Maney	5,637
Walmley	4,046
Local estimate of population of Borough at mid-year	-----
1938	39,071

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN SUTTON COLDFIELD, M.B., 1938.

<i>Causes of Death.</i>							<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
ALL CAUSES	....	....	....	....	....	....	174	170
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
2.	Measles	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
4.	Whooping cough	....	....	....	....	....	2	—
5.	Diphtheria	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
6.	Influenza	....	....	....	....	....	—	2
7.	Encephalitis lethargica	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal fever	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	....	....	....	....	....	7	8
10.	Other tuberculous diseases	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
11.	Syphilis	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
12.	General paralysis of insane, tabes dorsalis	....	....	....	....	....	1	—
13.	Cancer, malignant disease	....	....	....	....	....	24	28
14.	Diabetes	....	....	....	....	....	4	4
15.	Cerebral haemorrhage	....	....	....	....	....	8	8
16.	Heart disease	....	....	....	....	....	43	50
17.	Aneurysm	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
18.	Other circulatory diseases	....	....	....	....	....	9	17
19.	Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	—	2
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)	....	....	....	....	....	12	7
21.	Other respiratory diseases	....	....	....	....	....	1	1
22.	Peptic ulcer	....	....	....	....	....	2	2
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	....	....	....	....	....	—	2
24.	Appendicitis	....	....	....	....	....	3	1
25.	Cirrhosis of liver	....	....	....	....	....	1	—
26.	Other diseases of liver, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	2	2
27.	Other digestive diseases	....	....	....	....	....	4	1
28.	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	....	....	....	....	....	3	6
29.	Puerperal sepsis	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
30.	Other puerperal causes	....	....	....	....	....	—	1
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformation, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	11	5
32.	Senility	....	....	....	....	....	3	4
33.	Suicide	....	....	....	....	....	8	—
34.	Other violence	....	....	....	....	....	7	2
35.	Other defined diseases	....	....	....	....	....	18	15
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
	Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—							
	Smallpox	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
	Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
	Polioencephalitis	....	....	....	....	....	—	—
Deaths of Infants	} Total	....	....	....	....	....	16	10
under 1 year.		} Legitimate	....	....	....	....	14	9
			} Illegitimate	2	1
STILLBIRTHS	} Total	....		....	....	....	4	10
		} Legitimate	....	....	....	....	4	10
			} Illegitimate	—

FEMALES.

MALES.

DISEASE.	FEMALES.								MALES.											
	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and under 75.	75 and upwards.	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and under 75.	75 and upwards.	All ages.
Whooping Cough	1	1								2										
Diphtheria				1		1														
Influenza																				
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system					1	5	1				1	5	1							
Other tuberculous diseases					1	1					1	1								
General Paralysis of insane, tabes dorsalis																				
Cancer, malignant disease						1	11	8	1	1	24	5	2							
Diabetes							1	2	4	8	1	2								
Cerebral haemorrhage							2	4	19	43	2	4								
Heart disease					1		10	19	4	9	1	4								
Other circulatory diseases								4	4	12	3	4								
Bronchitis											3	1								
Pneumonia											12	1								
Other respiratory diseases											2	1								
Peptic ulcer											1	1								
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)											2	1								
Appendicitis																				
Cirrhosis of Liver																				
Other diseases of liver											3	1								
Other digestive diseases																				
Acute and Chronic Nephritis																				
Other Puerperal causes																				
Congenital debility, premature birth, etc.	10																			
Senility																				
Suicide																				
Other violence		1																		
Other defined diseases	2																			
	16	2	2	1	6	15	40	55	37	174	10	1	1	6	4	16	29	49	54	170

TABLE III.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY,
MATERNAL DEATH-RATES AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN
INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1938.

ENGLAND AND WALES, LONDON, 126 GREAT TOWNS AND 148 SMALLER TOWNS
(Provisional Figures. Inserted for comparative purposes).

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.
RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.				
BIRTHS :				
Live	15.1	15.0	15.4	13.4
Still	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS :-				
All Causes	11.6	11.7	11.0	11.4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS :-				
Smallpox.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever.....	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever.....	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.5	7.8	3.6	13.1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :-				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.89	} Not available.		
Others	2.19			
Total	3.08			
RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (i.e. Live and Still).				
MATERNAL MORTALITY :-				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.86	} Not available		
Others	2.11			
Total	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS :-				
Puerperal Fever	} 14.42	} 18.08	} 12.51	} 3.53
Puerperal Pyrexia				

MORTALITY BY AGE AND SEX. TABLE IV.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	Death rates per 1,000 population (estimated R.G.)
Under 1 year	16	10	26	0.72
1 and under 2	2	1	3	0.08
2 and under 5	2	1	3	0.08
5 and under 15	1	6	7	0.19
15 and under 25	6	4	10	0.28
25 and under 45	15	16	31	0.85
45 and under 65	40	29	69	1.90
65 and under 75	55	50	105	2.89
75 and upwards	37	53	90	2.48

TABLE V.

DEATHS IN WARDS DURING EACH QUARTER.

<i>Ward.</i>	<i>1st quarter.</i>	<i>2nd quarter.</i>	<i>3rd quarter.</i>	<i>4th quarter.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	Crude Death Rates per 1000 population (Local Estimates)
Trinity	13	7	11	9	40	8.66
Hill	11	9	15	14	49	7.76
Boldmere						
East	20	17	9	10	56	10.07
Boldmere						
West	16	12	8	12	48	6.48
Wylde Green	20	17	10	19	66	12.04
Maney	15	18	9	14	56	9.93
Walmley	8	9	6	6	29	7.17
Totals	103	89	68	84	344	8.80

TABLE VI.

VITAL STATISTICS FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

	1926	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
BIRTH RATE	10.89	12.31	12.66	12.01	10.02	11.04	13.34	13.04	12.93	15.02
CRUDE DEATH RATE (R.G.)	13.29	10.20	11.01	10.06	9.86	10.25	9.69	10.91	11.50	9.46
ADJUSTED DEATH RATE (R.G.)	—	—	—	—	—	10.05	9.49	10.69	11.27	9.27
Infant Mortality Rate	43.47	53.25	48.00	38.46	28.75	28.25	40.72	34.01	46.15	47.62

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population at the mid year 1938 shows an increase of 1,300 over the corresponding estimate for 1937. Based on the local estimates, however, the increase in the population for the same period is 1,391, and the local estimate at the mid year 1938 is 39,071, or 2,721 higher than the Registrar-General's estimate. The local estimate is shown distributed in Wards on page 2.

Births.

The number of live births assigned to the Borough in the year under review, adjusted for inward and outward transfers, is 546, as compared with 455 in 1937 and 441 in 1936 and the live-birth rate is 15.02 per 1,000 population as compared with 12.98 in 1937. The present rate is the highest recorded since 1923 when the rate was 15.16.

After 1921, the birth-rate, which was for that year 17.07 declined to the low level of 10.02 in 1933. Between 1933 and the year under review there has been an intermittent increase, the highest rate during that period being recorded in 1935, namely, 13.35.

The adjusted number of still-births for the year under review is fourteen, which is equivalent to a rate of .39 per 1,000 population as compared with .60 for England and Wales and .60 for the Smaller Towns.

The proportion of illegitimate births to total live-births is 2.8 per cent. as compared with 3.3 per cent and 3.9 per cent for 1937 and 1936 respectively.

Deaths.

The number of deaths assigned to the Borough after allowing for inward and outward transfers is 344 as compared with 403 in 1937, and the adjusted death-rate is 9.27 per 1,000 resident population as calculated on the Registrar-General's estimate of population. The corresponding rates for England and Wales and for the Smaller Towns are 11.6 and 11.0 respectively.

The death-rate for the year under review is 2 per 1,000 population lower than the rate for 1937, and amongst the diseases which show a noteworthy decline in mortality rates are influenza, bronchitis, other respiratory diseases and other unspecified defined diseases. The rates for cancer, heart disease and cerebral

haemorrhage are also lower. The rate for pneumonia has remained approximately the same as for 1937.

Cancer.

The deaths registered as due to cancer number 52 as compared with 62 in 1937, and the crude mortality rate is 1.43 per 1,000 population. The lowest rate during the previous ten years is 1.53 which was recorded in 1934 and 1935. The sites showing a decrease in mortality in 1938 are the stomach and liver in males and the breast in females. In both sexes there is an increase in mortality from lung cancer and from cancer of the larynx in males, as compared with 1937. In males the colon ranks highest in order of frequency of sites affected in the mortality returns and in females the breast and stomach.

Diphtheria, whooping cough and diarrhoea (under two years) were recorded as causes of death during the year under review, whereas in 1937 their mortality rates were nil. For the seventh year in succession no deaths have been registered as due to measles.

Suicide.

Suicide accounted for eight deaths, all in males. The causes as registered were wounds (1); drowning (2); hanging (1); carbon monoxide poisoning (2); gunshot wound (1); hydrochloric acid poisoning (1).

Other Violence.

Nine deaths were registered under this head as compared with eleven in 1937. Four were due to accidents in which motor vehicles were involved; two to falls; one to drowning; one to wounds (homicide), and one to burns.

The number of deaths in each Ward by quarters and the total number of deaths in each quarter, and the annual mortality rates for each Ward as calculated on local estimates are set out in Table V. The table indicates that the highest rate occurred in the March quarter and the lowest in the September quarter. The percentage of deaths in the March quarter is approximately 30 per cent. of the total deaths registered, and in the September quarter the corresponding proportion is 20 per cent. The lowest rate was recorded in Boldmere West Ward and the highest in Wylde Green Ward.

DEATHS DUE TO CANCER BY AGE, SEX AND SITE. TABLE VII.

Sites affected.	MALES.						FEMALES.						
	AGE PERIODS.						AGE PERIODS.						
	25	35	45	55	65	75 and upwards	All Ages.	35	45	55	65	75 and upwards	All Ages.
Oesophageal	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Stomach	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	4
Pylorus and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Colon	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	1	—	2
Rectum	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Intestine undefined	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pancreas	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2
Liver	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gall-bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Larynx	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchus	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Lungs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mediastinum	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Uterus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ovary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kidney	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bladder	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prostate	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brain	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lymphatic Glands	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Others undefined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	3	8	8	5	24	1	4	6	10	7	28

Death rate per 1,000 population 1.43

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Officers.	Whole or part time.	Diplomas	Offices held, etc.
<i>Medical—</i>			
Dr. J. H. Wright	Whole time	M.B. D.P.H.	Medical Officer of Health 2/5 time. School Medical Officer 2/5 time. Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare Ser- vices 1/5 time.
Mr. C. Rudd	Part time	F.R.C.S.	Ophthalmic Surgeon. One session monthly.
Dr. R. J. Cyriax	Part time	D.P.H.	Tuberculosis Officer. One session monthly.
Professor Sir Beckwith Whitehouse		F.R.C.S.	Consultant Gynaecologist.
<i>Dental—</i>			
Mr. E. Bampton Resigned Jan. 31st	Part time	L.D.S.	Dental Surgeon. Three sessions weekly.
Mr. N. Evans Appointed Feb. 1st	Do.	L.D.S.	Do.
<i>Sanitary—</i>			
Mr. W. Burton	Whole time		Senior Sanitary Inspector.
† Mr. C. E. Impett	Whole time	A.R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
Mr. N. J. Howard Appointed July 25th	Whole time	Cert. R.S.I.	Sanitary Inspector.
<i>Health Visiting Staff—</i>			
Miss D. G. Taylor	Whole time	S.C.M.	School Nurse.
Miss E. M. Grubb	Whole time	S.R.N.	Senior Health Visitor, Maternity and Child Wel- fare.
* Miss V. Ramsey	Whole time	S.R.N. S.C.M.	Health Visitor.
* Miss A. E. Bickerdike	Whole time	S.R.N. S.C.M.	Health Visitor.
<i>Midwives—</i>			
Miss H. Graham	Whole time	S.R.N. S.C.M.	Midwife.
Miss A. Davidson	Whole time	S.C.M.	Midwife.
Miss L. A. Hunt	Whole time	S.C.M.	Midwife.
<i>Clerical—</i>			
Mr. J. W. Perkins Appointed Jan. 31st	Whole time		Chief Clerk.
Miss E. E. Moxham	Part time		Clerk.
Mr. P. J. Harvey	Whole time		Clerk.

† Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

* Health Visitors' Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Laboratory Facilities.

There has been no change in this service, details of which will be found in previous Reports. Full use has been made of

the specialised help afforded by the bacteriological department of the Birmingham University in the control of disease, part of the cost of which is borne directly by the County Council.

Details of analyses and bacteriological investigations will be found throughout the Report under their relevant heads.

Ambulance Facilities.

These have been fully described and the arrangements remain unchanged.

Nursing in the Home.

The general home-nursing of the sick is arranged for entirely by private nursing associations and is highly efficient and adequate. As noted in my Report for 1937 maternity nursing in the Hill Area under the Midwives Act is being carried out by the Hill and Four Oaks Nursing Association.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There have been no changes in the provision for these services during the year. The erection of the new maternity and child welfare centre, approval for which I referred to in my Report for 1937, has not yet been put in hand, but I understand that the preliminaries are under the consideration of the Surveyor's technical staff, and that commencement of the work may take place at an early date. In the meantime the rapid growth of the population has given rise to demands for maternity and child welfare clinic services which cannot be met with reasonable efficiency in the present accommodation.

The following is a complete summary of all the public health clinics held at the various centres in the Borough.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.

At Holland Street.

Infants and Toddlers Consultations : Monday, 2—4 p.m.

Wednesday, 2—4 p.m., except last Wednesday in each month. (Medical Officer in attendance).

Ante-Natal Consultations : Last Wednesday in each month,
2—4 p.m. (Medical Officer in attendance).

At Minworth.

Infant, Toddlers, and Ante-natal Consultations : Alternate
Thursdays, 2—4 p.m. (Medical Officer in attendance).

School Clinics.

At 9, Holland Street.

Minor Ailments Clinic : Monday, 9—12 a.m.

Special Inspection Clinic : Tuesday, 10—12 a.m.

Ophthalmic Clinic : Last Friday in each month, 2—5 p.m.

Tuberculosis Clinic : First Monday in each month, 9—12 a.m.

Dental Clinics : Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 2—4 p.m.

At Minworth.

Minor Ailments Clinic : Alternate Wednesdays, 2—4 p.m.

Hospitals.

In my Report for 1937 (page 13) I included a detailed statement of the provisions made by the Local Authority for the hospital treatment of certain types of ailments and for the isolation and treatment of the infectious sick. None of these provisions are made within the Borough, but by arrangement with Birmingham Hospitals—with the City Hospitals for the isolation of infectious cases and with various voluntary hospitals for other purposes.

Apart from those arrangements which are made by the Local Authority in pursuance of statutory requirements, a large proportion of the voluntary specialist and hospital treatment of the inhabitants of the Borough is carried out in the Birmingham voluntary hospitals. Further, the Birmingham Hospital Contributory scheme is fully operative in the Borough.

In a scheme to divide the County into regions for hospital purposes it is suggested that the Borough should be included in a Warwickshire Area outside Birmingham, but in view of the Borough's dependence on Birmingham's hospitals it is difficult to understand how such a transfer could be effected in the absence of alternative adequate provision.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Year ended 31st December, 1938.

Weekly Rate.	A. Standing Charge.	Weeks	B. Mainten- ance of Patients.	C. Ambulance Hire.	D. Disinfec- tion of Bedding.	E. Total.
£ s. d. 1938.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
4/2/5 March Quarter	58 15 0	72 ¹ / ₇	297 5 9	1 17 0	21 19 0	379 16 9
4/13/5 June „	58 15 0	39 ⁶ / ₇	186 3 4	2 0 0	19 15 0	266 13 4
5/17/4 Sept. „	58 15 0	51 ³ / ₇	301 14 3	2 3 0	15 1 0	377 13 3
6/2/2 December „	58 15 0	40 ⁵ / ₇	315 17 9	3 1 0	22 1 0	399 14 9
	235 0 0	215 ¹ / ₇	1101 1 1	9 1 0	78 16 0	1423 18 1

Average weekly cost: B. only.... £5: 2: 4.
A., B. and C. £6: 5: 4.
E. £6: 12: 4.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Midwifery Services.

The County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. A. Hamilton Wood, informs me that fourteen midwives notified their intention to practise in the Borough and that two of these ceased to practise during the year. They practised as follows :- in nursing homes, 4; as municipal midwives, 3; attached to an association, 2; and privately, 5.

The scheme for the provision of midwifery under the Midwives Act, 1936, as outlined in my Report for 1937 (pages 14 and 15) has been in operation during the year. Each of the three midwives employed by the Council has been assigned to a district, and two cars have been provided for the midwives whose areas are widespread and in which the work could not readily be undertaken without motor transport.

A corporation-owned house has been allotted on the Holland House Estate for the joint use of two of the nurses, and one nurse has been accommodated in a corporation-owned house at Walmley.

The municipal midwives attended one hundred and ninety-seven cases during the year namely, one hundred and one midwifery cases and ninety-six maternity cases, and the fees received amounted to £390. Allowing for the proportion of grant

from the County Council, namely, £375, the nett cost of the service to the Local Authority for the year amounted to £144. The Borough Treasurer (Mr. P. Connon) points out, however, that this deficit includes a non-recurring expenditure of £184 for the purchase of a car and garage.

The Honorary Secretary, Hill and Four Oaks Nursing Association (Mrs. A. E. Terry) informs me that the Association Nurses attended in their Area twenty-eight maternity cases and eighteen midwifery cases during the year.

Home Helps.

This service has been continued during the year and "helps" were provided on sixty-one occasions as compared with sixty in 1937. They were provided for normal maternity cases, 54 (50); ante and post-natal cases, 3 (5); other emergencies, 4 (5). The figures for 1937 are in brackets.

Patients contributed £89 towards the gross expenditure of £241, and the nett cost of the service for the year under review amounted to £152, approximately the same as for the previous year.

Health Visitors.

Three Health Visitors are employed full time by the Council but approximately half the time of one Health Visitor is devoted to duties other than maternity and child welfare visiting and clinics. Such duties include the inspection of nursing homes, visiting under the Children's and Young Persons Act, the visiting of old people, etc.

Institutional Provision for Mothers and Children.

Apart from the arrangements made for treatment at Voluntary Hospitals there is no institutional provision for mothers and children. No convalescent homes are provided by the Local Authority.

Child Life Protection.

Seven persons were on the register as foster parents during the year and seven children were boarded out. Forty visits were paid for the purpose of supervision, and in all cases the conditions under which the children were kept were found to be satisfactory.

Orthopaedic and other Treatment.

Under arrangements made by the Local Authority ten cases were referred for treatment at the Cripples Hospital, Birmingham, for the following defects :- bow legs (3), knock knees (3), flat foot (2), deformed toe (1) and hip disease (1). Two children were also referred to the Children's Hospital for tonsillectomy, and one case of ophthalmia neonatorum to the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital.

Nine children under school-age were also treated by the Local Authority's School Ophthalmic Surgeon for strabismus 8 and congenital 1, and twenty-five children by the School Dental Surgeon.

Twelve children were referred for hospital treatment otherwise than under the Local Authority's arrangements, four to the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital, and eight to the Children's Hospital. Included amongst the latter were cases of hernia, naevus, pyloric stenosis, septicaemia and heart disease and amongst the former cases of blocked tear duct and conjunctivitis.

Nutrition.

Education in matters of nutrition is carried out at the maternity and child welfare centres, by Health Visitors in the homes, and as part of the elementary school curriculum. A Health Exhibition held in January, reference to which is made in the maternity and child welfare section of the Report included a stall devoted to the subject of nutrition and food values.

Clinics.

During the year under review I attended fifty-nine maternal and child welfare clinics at Holland Street and Minworth and a detailed statement of the attendances is set out below.

The total attendances exceeded that for 1937 by one hundred and thirty-three, the increase being in respect of infants and ante-natal cases only. There was a decline in the attendances of toddler children for the year.

At the Holland Street centre one clinic monthly is devoted to ante-natal work, but at Minworth the numbers attending would not justify the holding of a special ante-natal clinic

and ante-natal cases are, in consequence seen at the infant welfare clinics.

At Holland Street.

Number of clinics :-

Child Welfare	...	...	32
Ante-natal	...	...	9

Attendances :-

Children 1-5 years	...	256
Children under 1 year	...	264
Ante-natal cases	...	162

At Minworth.

Number of clinics :-	18
----------------------	-----	-----	----

Attendances :-

Children 1-5 years	...	44
Children under 1 year	...	48
Ante-natal cases	...	54

The total number of sessions held at both centres during the year under review was 114 as compared with 125 in 1937, and, as a result the total number of attendances at the centres was lower than in the previous year. On the other hand the average number of attendances at each session was higher. Details of the attendances are set out below :-

Number of sessions held at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres for :-

		<i>Holland St.</i>	<i>Minworth</i>
Infants and young children	...	81	22
Ante-natal mothers	...	11	—

Attendances at centres :-

At Holland Street.

Ante-natal cases :

Number of special sessions	11
First attendances ...	102
Total attendances ... (at all sessions)	284

Children 1-5 years :-

Number of sessions ...	81
First attendances ...	78
Other attendances ...	3026
Children under 1 year :	
First attendances ...	171
Other attendances ...	1184
Total attendances	4,459
Average total attendances per session	55

At Minworth.

Ante-natal cases :

Number of combined sessions	22
First attendances ...	27
Total attendances	68

Children 1-5 years :

Number of combined sessions	22
First attendances ...	7
Other attendances ...	296
Children under 1 year :	
First attendances ...	17
Other attendances ...	145
Total attendances	465
Average total attendances per session	21.1

MATERNAL AND INFANT MORTALITY, ETC.

Infant Mortality.

Of the 344 deaths assigned to the Borough in the year, 26, or 7.6 per cent. occurred in infants under one year. The infant mortality rate is 47.62 per 1,000 live births as compared with 46.15 for 1937. The corresponding rates for England and Wales and for the Smaller Towns for the year under review are 53 and 51. The male infant mortality rate is 58.61 as compared with the female rate of 36.61.

Prematurity accounted for 42 per cent. of the deaths under one year and other congenital conditions accounted for 19 per cent. The unusually high mortality from pneumonia is due to an outbreak in a Children's Home to which reference is made on page 40.

Over 50 per cent. of the infant deaths occurred in the first week of life, the deaths in this period being attributable to congenital and birth conditions.

Mortality in Early Childhood.

The fall in mortality in the years after infancy is shown by a comparison of the mortality in the years 1-5 with the infant mortality, as set out in Table IV. In the second year of life three deaths were registered as compared with twenty-six in the first year, and at all ages 1-5 years the total number of deaths was six.

Of the six deaths recorded between 1 and 5 years two were classed to pneumonia, two to accident, one to whooping cough and one to tuberculosis.

INFANT MORTALITY. TABLE VIII.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	0-1 day	1 to 8 days.	8 to 15 days.	15 to 30 days.	1 mth. to 3 mths.	Over 3 months	Total.
Prematurity	6	5	—	—	—	—	11
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	2	3	5
Icterus Neonatorum	—	2	—	1	—	—	3
Cerebral abscess	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Cerebral haemorrhage	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Heart Disease	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Gastro enteritis	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Haemolytic anaemia	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	6	8	—	1	4	7	26

Maternal Mortality.

One death was registered in a woman aged 40 years as due to the toxæmia of pregnancy. She was admitted to and died in the Maternity Hospital Birmingham. No deaths were registered as due to sepsis.

The total maternal mortality rate is 1.79 per 1,000 total births as compared with 3.08 for England and Wales.

Nursing Homes Registration Act.

One application was made during the year for the registration of a Nursing Home, but was withdrawn, and the Homes on the register remain the same as in the previous year. There are six registered as full Nursing Homes and one as a Maternity Home.

The Senior Health Visitor makes routine periodical inspections of the Homes and supplementary visits are paid from time to time by the Medical Officer of Health. The Homes now registered have been invariably found to be satisfactory.

Fifteen inspections were made during the year.

The discovery of unregistered Homes is dependent on information from outside sources, but it is unlikely that any such should exist without becoming known.

Domiciliary Visits by Health Visitors.

There has been some 30 per cent. increase in the number of visits paid during the year as compared with 1937. The increase is in respect of visits to infants and young children.

First visits to Infants	...	...	503
Re-visits to Infants	...	...	3,015
Visits to Children 1-5	...	...	4,267
Ante-natal Visits	...	...	533
Visits to Boarded-out Children	...		40
Visits for enquiries into Stillbirths			10
Visits to cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum			7
Visits for enquiries into Puerperal Fever			8
Visits to Old Persons	...	...	24
Visits unclassified	...	...	702
Unsuccessful visits	...	...	889
			<hr/>
			9,998
			<hr/>

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The Birmingham Water Department extended their mains in the Chester Road and Minworth areas for a distance of 3,691 yards and the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company for a distance of 2,144 yards in the rest of the Borough. Particulars of these extensions, which total 5,835 yards are set out below.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE WATERWORKS COMPANY.

EXTENSIONS OF MAINS. TABLE IX.

<i>Size</i>	<i>Length Yards.</i>	<i>Locality.</i>
4"	65	The Boulevards, Wylde Green.
4"	42	New Holifast Road.
3"	166	Ditto
3"	122	Holland Road Estate.
4"	9	Jockey Road.
3"	160	The Parade.
6"	27	Wylde Green Road, Walmley.
4"	54	New Road off Darnick Road.
3"	132	Slade Road, Roughley.
4"	353	Butler's Lane and Hillside Road, Four Oaks.
4"	516	Bedford Road and Barnard Road.
4"	76	Worcester Lane.
4"	161	Four Oaks Common Road.
4"	180	Knighton Drive and Crescent.
4"	81	Jordon Road, Four Oaks.

Totals.	6"	27 yards.
	4"	1,537 "
	3"	580 "
		—
		2,144 yards.
		=

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM WATER DEPARTMENT.
EXTENSIONS OF MAINS.

<i>Size</i>	<i>Length Yards.</i>	<i>Locality.</i>
Chester Road Area—		
6"	36	Sutton Oak Road.
4"	449	Bakers Lane.
4"	93	George Road.
4"	259	Elizabeth Road.
4"	338	Road between Kings Road and Elizabeth Road.
4"	364	Longmore Road.
4"	205	Reay Nadin Drive.
4"	635	Westwood Road.
4"	606	Donegal Road.
4"	533	Coppice View.
Minworth Area—		
4"	96	Orton Avenue.
4"	173	Ashurst Road.
Totals.		
	6"	36 yards.
	4"	3,751 "
		3,787 yards.

The bacteriological testing carried out by the water undertakings responsible for the public supplies of the Borough is regarded as affording adequate safeguards to the consumers and, as a routine, infrequent chemical or bacteriological analyses only are carried out by the Local Authority.

During the year nine samples of mains water were submitted for analysis, six for chemical and three for bacteriological. All were reported to be satisfactory.

Nine well waters were examined, eight chemically and one bacteriologically; four were reported as unsatisfactory and unfit for domestic use. Local works have been carried out at two of the latter wells in order to minimise the risk of pollution and one well has been replaced by a mains supply. The remain-

ing well constitutes the sole supply to four houses which have been represented as unfit for habitation and the question of their re-conditioning or demolition is under consideration.

Drainage and Sewerage.

As shown in the tabulated statement set out below, 3,223 yards of sewer has been constructed for the drainage of new houses, details of which have been kindly supplied by the Borough Surveyor (Mr. Thomas Porter). This compares with an extension of over 10,000 yards in 1937 in which year two large estates were developed.

During the year 635 connections were made to the sewers for the drainage of 735 new houses, and five old houses were also connected.

EXTENSION OF SEWERS.

<i>Size</i>	<i>Length Yards.</i>	<i>Locality.</i>
9"	473	Donegal Road.
9"	316	George Road, Elizabeth Road and Margaret Road (extension).
9"	351	Clarence Road Estate.
9"	93	Cul-de-Sac, Chester Road.
9"	520	Road, Hill Farm Estate.
24"-15"	1,100	Falcon Lodge Estate.
9"	300	Walsall Road.
9"	75	Four Oaks Common Road.
6"	95	Springfield Road.

Public Cleansing.

No alterations have been made in the arrangements for this service.

8,225 Tons of house refuse was collected and from the 7,195 tons burned in the refuse destructor, steam was raised to generate 530,860 units of electricity, giving an average of 73.8 units per ton of refuse, as compared with 63.9 units in 1937.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Rivers and Streams.

A stream flowing from Four Oaks towards the Rectory Park has been the subject of complaint on many occasions during the past few years and from time to time examinations of the

water have disclosed pollution by chemical or organic material or both. During the year under review the stream was found at one period to contain large quantities of oil, and on another occasion the water at and below one point was grossly contaminated by sewage.

Samples of the water from the stream below the septic tank at Keepers Pool and from the stream below Blackroot Pool showed evidence of some pollution with sewage. A sample taken on a subsequent occasion from the stream below Blackroot however was reported to be satisfactory.

Eradication of bed-bugs.

Six houses, one owned by the Corporation and five privately were found to be infested during the year. The Corporation-owned house was found to be infested after a tenant had moved in from one of the privately-owned infested houses. All disinfection was carried out by the Sanitary Department by means of "Cimex" blocks and "Zaldecide" spray.

Three of the houses were extensively infested and it was necessary to carry out complete disinfection whilst the houses were unoccupied. The walls were stripped, and in two the skirting boards were also removed. In the remaining three one room only in each house was affected and these were treated whilst the houses were occupied. All the above houses were disinfested between June and September and since then they have been kept under continuous supervision but, so far, there have been no indications of any recurrences.

Closet Accommodation.

Details of the conservancy system in the Borough and a record of conversions to the water carriage system are set out in Table X. Only in the more thinly populated parts of the Borough, in which sewers are not available, is the conservancy system now retained.

TABLE X.

No. of Privies in the Borough.	No. of Pan Closets in the Borough	No. of Tip Closets in the Borough	No. of Privies converted to W.Cs.	No. of Privies demolished.	No. of Pan Closets converted to W.Cs.	No. of Privies converted to Pans.
21	229	2	1	—	2	1

Swimming Baths and Pools.

Supervision has been exercised over the baths at Keepers Pool and six bacteriological analyses of the water have been carried out between the beginning of June and the end of September. One sample only, taken from the bath at a week-end in mid-August showed evidence of undesirable pollution. All samples taken from the Pool were of a satisfactory degree of purity.

During recent years, and especially in the year under review, there has been a marked reduction in the bacterial content of samples analysed, a fact which is probably accounted for by the reduction in the number of bathers using the baths over the same period. It has been found that a high degree of pollution has been associated with a warm dry summer and overcrowding of the baths. In winter, on the other hand, examination of samples of the water from the pool and baths has invariably shown that there is little difference in their bacterial content when no bathing is taking place. Such contamination as occurs is derived therefore from the bathers themselves.

Camping Sites.

A field at Mill Pool, Blake Street, has been used as a caravan camping ground, chiefly at week-ends and holidays. It is estimated that the maximum number of campers using the site at any one time was seventy.

Each van is provided with a chemical closet and, in addition the Pool Café and Fair sanitary arrangements are available. The water supply is taken from the Café which is supplied from the mains.

Application for licensing the site is under consideration.

STATEMENT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Common Lodging Houses.....	Nil.
Houses let in Lodgings	Nil.

Infectious Diseases.

Cases removed to hospital :-

Diphtheria	12
Scarlet Fever	19
Erysipelas	3
Para-Typhoid	1
Whooping Cough	2
Bedding stoved and destroyed	121
Houses disinfected	142

<i>Offensive Trades</i>	Nil.
<i>Fried Fish Premises :-</i>	
Number on register	8
Statutory Notices served	Nil.
Informal notices served	3
Informal notices complied with	3
<i>Slaughter Houses.</i>	
Number on register	9
Statutory notices served	Nil.
Informal notices served	25
Informal notices complied with	24
<i>Dairies and Milkshops.</i>	
Dairymen (including producers)	144
Statutory notices served	Nil.
Informal notices served	34
Informal notices complied with	32
Number of wholesale traders	33
Statutory notices served	19
Informal notices served	Nil.
Number of retail purveyors	118
Statutory notices served	Nil.
Informal notices served	15
Informal notices complied with	15
<i>Cowsheds.</i>	
Registered cowkeepers	46
Cowsheds in use	100
Cowsheds not in use	14
Number of cows kept	703
Actual accommodation	983
Statutory notices served	Nil.
Informal notices served	29
Informal notices complied with	27
<i>Bakehouses.</i>	
Number on register	16
Bakehouses without power on register	6

Bakehouses without power in use	6
Factory bakehouses on register	10
Factory bakehouses in use	10
Statutory notices served	Nil.
Informal notices served	9
Informal notices complied with	9

Visits.

Offensive and like trades	77
Inspection of cowsheds	670
Dairies and milkshops	209
Slaughter houses	1373
Food Shops (other than factories)	594
Factories with power (excluding bakehouses)	116
Factories without power (excluding bakehouses)	78
Bakehouses without power	19
Bakehouses with power	51
Outworkers	6
Public houses	35
Stalls, Sutton Park	143
Picture houses	79
Conveniences, Sutton Park	213
Rivers and streams	27
Tips	52
Animals improperly kept	19
Nursing Homes	13
Railway conveniences	15
Schools :-	
Elementary	44
Private	15
Inspection of wells	28
Week-end Caravans	57
New drainage work	172
Cesspools	57
On complaint of general nuisance	275
Flats and basements	13
Rat infestation	117
Overcrowding	95
Bug infestation	40
Infectious diseases	401
Smoke complaints	4
Under Public Health or Housing Acts	3634
Under Housing Consolidated Regulations (included in above)	531

Summary of defects remedied and Nuisances abated.

Dwelling Houses,	
New drains laid	33
Defective drains repaired	73
Choked drains cleared and cleansed	56
Choked W.C's cleared and cleansed	46
Choked waste pipes cleared	4
Sinks and waste pipes repaired	34
Sink waste pipe trapped	7
Broken sinks renewed	4
Brick sinks abolished	4
Glazed sinks provided and fixed	4
Dirty yards, W.C's and drains cleansed.....	47
Defective ventilation pipes repaired	23
Defective W.C. pan joints repaired	31
Defective W.C. pans and traps renewed	18
Roofs repaired	82
Walls pointed and repaired	150
Spouting and down pipes repaired.....	75
Rainwater cisterns cleaned out	2
Burst water pipes repaired	13
Yard paving taken up and relaid	38
Channels relaid	27
Closet roofs, seats and floors repaired	56
Washhouse roofs, walls and floors repaired.....	30
Washhouses and W.C.'s limewashed	69
Floors repaired	42
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	121
Ranges and grates repaired	35
Chimneys repaired	40
Windows, stairs and doors repaired	171
Handrails provided and fixed to stairs	9
Houses cleansed	129
Dirty bedding destroyed	3
Stairs repaired	16
Inspection chambers rendered	6
Windows made to open	4
Overflowing cesspools dealt with	6
Drinking well re-covered	1

Ventilation provided under floors	4
Cesspools filled in	3
Privy converted to privy pan	1
New food stores provided	9
Furnaces repaired	21
Ashpits replaced by bins	194
Ashbins renewed	322
W.C. tanks repaired	57
Pan closets re-constructed	1
New cesspools.....	1
Pan closets converted to W.C.'s.	2
Privies converted to W.C.	1
Dirty houses dealt with	5
Drinking wells closed	2
Company's water laid on	2
Drinking wells cleaned out	2

Schools :-

Elementary.

Choked drain cleared	3
Defective drains repaired	3
Defective chambers repaired	2
Defective floors repaired	1
Defective lavatory doors and seats repaired	3
Dirty wash-hand basins cleaned	4
New ashbins provided	3
Defective ventilation pipes repaired	1
Dirty urinals and W.C.'s cleaned	20
Removal of water storage tanks.....	2

Private.

New Ashbins provided	2
----------------------------	---

Dairy Farms. Cowsheds.

Cowsheds limewashed	58
Unsatisfactory cowsheds demolished and new constructed	1
Repairs to floors, channels and boosins	13
Repairs to roofs	6
Accumulations of manure removed	40
Fold yards abolished and filled in	10
Repairs to drains	9
Choked drains cleared	3
New drainage and cesspools provided	3
Drains connected to sewer.	1
Old cowsheds re-conditioned	5

Dairy Farms. Dairies.

Dairies limewashed	II
New dairies constructed	I
Dairy floors and walls repaired	6
Dirty utensils cleansed	I
Storage tanks abolished	I

Retail Purveyors and Milk Shops.

Dairies limewashed	2I
Dairy floors repaired	I
Unsatisfactory utensils renewed	5
New dairies provided	3
Dairies improperly used	5
Choked drains cleared	3
New drains laid	I
Overflowing cesspools dealt with	3
Yards cleansed	6
Manure pits abolished	I

Slaughter Houses.

Broken ventilation pipes repaired	I
Offal removal	9
Manure pits emptied	8
Limewashed	24
Bins provided for storage of bones	5
Choked drains cleared and cleansed	5
Roofs and floors repaired	3

Factories with Power (excluding bakehouses).

Defective lavatory pans, seats, roofs and flushing cisterns repaired	I9
Sanitary conveniences unsuitable or defective	3
W.C's limewashed	3
New W.C's provided for separate sex	2
Approach to W.C's screened	2
Unreasonable temperature	I
Ineffective drainage of floors remedied	I
Ashbins provided	I

Factories without Power. Food Preparing places.

Limewashed	I
Wall plaster repaired	I
Dirty urinal cleansed	I
Defective waste-pipe repaired	I

Factory bakehouses without power Nil.

Factory Bakehouses with power.

Limewashed	3
Dirty yards cleansed	2
Defective pans and broken seats renewed	4
Choked drains cleared and cleansed	2
Removal of refuse	1
Floors cleansed	1
Dirty W.C. cleansed	1
New drains laid	1

Factories without Power (excluding bakehouses and food preparing places).

W.C.'s limewashed	5
Lavatory pans cleansed	4
Lavatory seats and flushing cisterns repaired renewed ...	4
New lavatory pans provided and fixed	1
New W.C.'s provided	1
Open grease pit filled in	1
New drains laid to sewer	1
Damp walls remedied	1
Ashbins provided	1

Public Houses.

Defective W.C. pans renewed	2
Choked drains cleared and cleansed	6
Dirty urinals and W.C.'s cleansed	10
New W.C.'s constructed	2
Defective soil pipes repaired	1
Defective drains repaired	3
Defective W.C. flushing cisterns repaired	3
Galvanised ashbins provided	3

Shops (all).

Waste pipes repaired	1
Refuse removed	8
Dirty yards, drains and W.C.'s cleansed	15
Dirty basements cleansed	2
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	6
Yard paved	3
W.C. flushing cisterns and seats repaired	6
Ashbins provided	2

Others.

Tips abolished	6
Removal of refuse and manure	13

New brick pigsties constructed	2
Stables cleansed	2
Stables closed	2
Stable floors and channels re-constructed	9
Stables connected to the sewer	2
Stable manure pits abolished	2
Stables, choked drains cleansed	1
Stables, drainage re-constructed	3
Stables. Bins provided in place of manure pits	4
Rat complaints dealt with	117

Summary of Nuisances, etc. not remedied.

Unsafe well water	1
Defective dwelling houses	5
Defective dairies	2
Defective cowsheds	2
Defective slaughter houses	1
Defective factories	1

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

Three samples of rag flock were submitted for examination and were reported to be satisfactory. They contained 13, 15 and 16 parts of chlorine per 100,000 respectively.

Shops Act, 1934.

Mr. C. E. Impett, Sanitary Inspector, was appointed as Inspector under the Shops Acts to succeed Mr. W. Gee who had resigned. Mr. Impett commenced his duties on January 1st, 1938, and he submits the following report of the work carried out :-

“ During the year I undertook a complete revision of the register, the need for which is indicated in the attached statistical statement.

Number of shops on the register at 31st December, 1937	582
Number of shops removed from register during 1938 by reason of change of occupier, trading discontinued, and vacant premises	202
	Remaining 380
Number of registrations added during 1938 (including new shops, changes of occupancy, etc.)	333
No. of shops on the register at 31st December, 1938	713

Section 10, Shops Act, 1934.

“ The following defects were found as a result of routine inspections :-

Unsatisfactory heating facilities	8
No proper accommodation for meals	1
No facilities for washing	1
No separate sanitary accommodation for the sexes	6

“ As a result of informal action all the occupiers took the necessary steps to comply with the requirements of the Act. In two cases the work was still in progress at the end of the year.

“ The enforcement of the provision requiring the maintenance of a reasonable temperature has caused some difficulty in practice. A minimum temperature of 55°F is required in the majority of shops. It would be unreasonable, however, to require the maintenance of this temperature in shops selling butchers meat, fish, and certain other classes of perishable foodstuffs.

“ No formal action was found necessary in connection with hours of closing, hours of employment, weekly half holidays or Sunday trading. On account of the somewhat widespread disregard of the various sections dealing with these matters infringements were dealt with by verbal or written caution. Considerable improvement has resulted. It will become necessary, however, to recommend statutory action where continued infringement is found to occur.”

Smoke Abatement.

Two complaints of smoke nuisance were investigated and in each case three observations, each of thirty minutes duration were carried out. During one of these observations there was emission of black smoke for a total period of four minutes. The occupier was informed and there was no recurrence of the nuisance.

Two observations were carried out on another chimney and on one occasion dense smoke was observed for 2½ minutes. Informal action was taken and the nuisance was abated.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

Elementary Schools.

Boldmere girls' and infants' departments, two of the older schools in the Borough have been closed, and four new schools were opened in the autumn to replace them and to take scholars from the New Oscott and Green Lanes schools. The permanent

closure of these two old schools and their replacement by three modern school buildings have eliminated the more undesirable school accommodation and have done much to raise the standard of school hygiene in the Borough. Three departments still remain, however, namely, Hill girls', Town girls' and Walmley which are below a reasonable standard in regard to lighting, ventilation and other amenities.

The new schools offer facilities for education under the most hygienic conditions and are provided with fully equipped gymnasia for the senior and junior departments. All teaching rooms are on the ground floor and are constructed on semi-open air lines.

The sanitary supervision of the schools has been continued as in previous years and for this purpose 44 visits were paid during the year. A record of the defects remedied is set out on page 28. Routine re-decorations have been carried out at Minworth, Town girls' and Walmley schools.

Water supplies to all the schools are from the mains and it may be noted that during the year under review the last two storage tanks have been removed.

Thirty-two cases of notifiable diseases, including 22 cases of scarlet fever and 6 of diphtheria were reported amongst elementary school children during the year, and of the non-notifiable diseases whooping cough was the most serious disease to reach epidemic proportions. Only a few isolated cases of measles were reported.

No schools were closed on account of epidemic disease.

Private Schools.

These establishments have been regularly inspected and only a few minor defects in the sanitary arrangements were recorded.

It may be said that, on the whole the buildings used as school premises are satisfactory and that in regard to the lighting and ventilation, floor space and general sanitary conditions there is little cause for complaint.

METEOROLOGICAL STATISTICS.

A feature of the weather for the year was the dry period experienced in February, March and April during which only 1.4

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TABLE XI.

TAKEN AT THE PARK LODGE AND COUNCIL HOUSE DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1933, BY THE PARK FORESTER (MR. J. PARKER)
 Lat. 52 deg. 33 mi. 22 sec. N. Long : 1 deg. 49 mi. 42 sec. W. Height of Rain Gauge above Sea Level, 370.5 feet.

MONTH.	RAINFALL.			BAROMETER.				THERMOMETERS.						SUN SHINE.					
	Total depth in inches.	Number of days on which rain fell.	Greatest fall in 24 hours.	Highest corrected readings.		Lowest corrected readings.		In Shade.			Highest readings in Sun.		Lowest readings on grass.						
				D'pth	Date.	Ins.	Date.	Ins.	Date.	Highest readings.	Dgrs.	Date.	Mean Temp. in shade.		Dgrs.	Date.			
January	3.04	15	.56	11th	30.420	4th	29.120	6th	54.0	25 to 31	28.0	22nd	42.5	74.0	26, 27, 28, 31	21.0	22nd	34	30
February	.75	6	.29	25th	30.580	20th	39.380	1st	55.0	4 & 6	25.0	25th	41.5	91.0	28th	16.0	25th	52	05
March	.55	4	.20	26th	30.620	4th	29.640	21st	65.0	31st	26.0	6th	48.5	105.0	21 to 31	18.0	23 & 24	153	45
April	.13	2	.08	2nd	30.710	11th	30.040	2nd	65.0	1, 2 & 3	23.0	11th	46.5	109.0	1 to 5	11.0	11th	158	20
May	1.209	15	.54	29th	30.270	21st	29.430	30th	72.0	24th	25.0	8th	51.5	118.0	24th	17.0	8th	157	55
June	2.205	14	.72	2nd	30.340	16th	29.510	2nd	78.0	18th	37.0	11th	58.0	121.0	5 to 11	30.0	21st	206	25
July	2.82	15	.56	14th	30.200	20 & 21	29.520	8th	76.0	24th	39.0	1st	58.0	125.0	2 7th	30.0	1st	139	50
August	2.841	14	.73	8th	30.240	26th	29.600	19th	78.0	2 & 28	39.0	21 & 22	61.5	124.0	2nd	26.0	31st	166	00
September	2.592	16	.80	30th	30.340	5 & 10	29.590	7th	74.0	14th	35.0	1st	56.0	118.0	14th	23.0	15th	110	15
October	2.75	21	.51	3rd	30.360	3rd	29.490	5th	64.0	14th	26.0	30th	49.5	112.0	4th	24.0	30th	92	05
November	3.02	16	.72	25th	30.430	15th	28.600	23rd	67.0	6th	27.0	27th	47.5	95.0	6th	20.0	27th	67	00
December	3.73	17	.52	31st	30.440	25th	29.310	10th	53.0	5 to 10	20.0	21st	39.5	68.0	11 & 30	8.0	20th	31	30
Totals	25.637	155											Mean for the Year	50.0			Total	1369	40

inches of rain fell. The total rainfall for the year was 3.59 inches lower than the average for the preceding ten years.

The highest mean monthly temperature in the shade was registered in August and the lowest in December. The lowest shade temperature reading, namely, 20° F, was registered on December 21st, and the highest on three dates, namely 78° F. on June 18th and on August 2nd and 28th.

June was the sunniest month of the year, with a total of 206 hours of recorded sunshine and December was the dullest month with 31½ hours sunshine.

The total sunshine was higher than the average for the previous ten years by 46 hours.

Housing.

The total number of new houses completed and included in the Valuation List during the year is 1,145, of which seventy-nine were erected by the Corporation.

During the period 1919-1938, 6,348 houses were erected in the Borough, 612 of which were erected by the Corporation. The proportion of these new houses, therefore, owned privately to those owned by the Local Authority is approximately ten to one.

A summary of the work carried out during the year in the supervision of dwelling houses will be found in the attached statistical review, and details of the defects remedied are set out in the Sanitary Inspector's statement (page 27). 3,634 visits were paid, including 531 under the Housing Consolidated Regulations. Some 17 per cent. of the houses inspected were recorded as having defects, as compared with 13 per cent. in the previous year. It is noteworthy that a large proportion of the defects remedied were structural and it is of importance that such matters should receive particular attention if houses of the older working class type are to be kept in a reasonable state of repair and fit for occupation.

The total number of houses rendered fit in 1938 includes twenty-four defective houses which had been recorded in 1937 and which had not been rendered fit in that year. Nineteen statutory notices were served under the Health and Housing Acts as compared with eleven in 1937, and all were complied with by owners. One house was considered to be unfit for habita-

tion and a representation in respect of it was made to the Local Authority.

Progress made in dealing with houses unfit for habitation since the passing of the Housing Act, 1930, and, separately during the year under review is fully set out in the tabulated statements. The statistics show that, during the whole period as the result of informal and statutory action 94 houses have been demolished and that 21 have been renovated—a total of 115. Further, it will be seen that of a total of 52 demolition orders made by the Local Authority 41 have been carried out, leaving eleven orders outstanding at the end of 1938. This latter figure compares favourably with 24 at the end of 1937.

Two re-conditioning undertakings were accepted by the Local Authority during the year, bringing the total of such undertakings at the end of the year to thirteen, of which nine had been completed.

Housing Statistics, 1938.

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)	2024
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3634
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	328
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	531
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
(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	343

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	338
---	-----

3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :-	
(a)	Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :-	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.....	2
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
(a)	By Owners	2
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	17
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-	
(a)	By owners	17
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil.
(c)	Proceeding under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(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	15
(d)	Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or room having been rendered fit	Nil.
4.	Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding :-	
(a) (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	6
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	6
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein. Adults...	35
	Children	18

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	17
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	
Adults	110
Children	35
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil.

Overcrowding.

In 1938 one house became overcrowded by growth of family. During the year seventeen cases of overcrowding were relieved, eight by moving the families to Corporation houses. Four of the six houses remaining overcrowded are situated in outlying districts and in consequence the re-housing of the occupants presents particular difficulties.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

During the year under review there were 218 dairymen on the registers as compared with 207 in the previous year. Included in this figure are 76 dairymen engaged in the retailing of milk in sealed containers. The number of dairy premises registered in the Borough is eighty-two.

The number of registered cowkeepers was 46 as compared with 52 in 1937. In my Report for 1937 I referred to the unsatisfactory water supplies, derived from wells, at many of the dairy farms. It was pointed out that it would be impossible to replace these wells by mains or other safe supplies at reasonable cost. During the year, however, all possible steps have been taken to improve the existing supplies and to protect them from chance contamination.

The Sanitary Inspectors have paid 879 visits for the purpose of inspecting dairy premises and details of action taken will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's statement, pages 28 & 29.

No formal action has been taken during the year and dairymen have readily complied with informal notices of sanitary requirements.

Designated Milk.

During the year five samples of accredited milk and three samples of tuberculin-tested milk were examined by the methylene blue reduction test and by the coliform test, and all were reported as satisfactory. Twenty-seven samples of pasteurised milk, twenty-two of which were taken at the elementary schools were examined for colony count and presumptive *B. coli*. *B. coli* were found in two, but the remainder were satisfactory. Phosphatase tests were carried out on twenty-one of the above samples with satisfactory results. Three samples of pasteurised milk and two of accredited milk were examined for living tubercle bacilli and all were reported negative.

Details of sampling of designated milk by the County Authority will be found in the Report of the Chief Sampling Officer, page 45.

Non-designated Milk.

Thirty-one samples of non-designated milk were examined by the methylene blue and coliform tests, in thirteen the results were unsatisfactory, five in respect of both methylene blue and coliform tests, four in respect of methylene blue test only, and four in respect of coliform test only. The shortest reduction time for the methylene blue test was one hour. In all cases in which analyses indicated an unsatisfactory standard of cleanliness investigations were carried out at the dairies or farms, and suggestions were made for cleaner production. Where the milk was produced outside the Borough representations were made to the Local Authorities concerned.

Fifteen samples of non-designated milk were biologically examined for living tubercle bacilli and one, taken from milk produced outside the Borough was reported as positive. The facts were reported to the County Authority.

Special Investigations.

During the year two milk supplies were investigated as a result of illness which was attributed to the consumption of the milk.

On January 8th, a medical practitioner consulted me with regard to an outbreak of illness in a babies Home of which he was in medical charge. The first illness occurred on January 1st, and by January 8th two babies had died, apparently as the result of acute pneumonia with extreme toxæmia, and a third was in extremis. Two further deaths occurred in the third week from the beginning of the outbreak and a sixth death took place on February 14th. In addition to the fatal cases four other children became seriously ill, all apparently as a result of the same infection, two with pneumonia, one with erysipelas, and one with cervical adenitis and abscess formation. All the affected children with two exceptions were under one year old.

A post-mortem examination on a Coroner's order was carried out on the third child who died and the pathologist reported that death was due to severe broncho pneumonia ending in septicaemia.

Hygienic conditions in the Home were satisfactory and the children were well cared for. There was no history of recent illness amongst attendants or children and there was nothing to indicate the source of infection. The first child to develop the disease had been visited by her mother a few days previous to the onset and, as the latter was reported to have had tonsillitis the possibility of the introduction of the disease by her was considered. A throat swab, subsequently taken from this mother, however, was reported to be negative.

Early in the outbreak throat swabs of the attendants in the babies ward were examined and some gave positive cultures of a haemolytic streptococcus. These attendants were isolated and all other attendants were made to wear masks. A bulk sample of the milk supply, which was derived from a Tuberculin-tested herd was also examined and was reported as bacteriologically very pure.

On the occurrence of a second batch of cases and when, on January 12th a positive nose and throat swab taken from a child with pneumonia established the fact that the infecting organism was a haemolytic streptococcus, the possibility that the milk supply was the infecting medium was again considered. I therefore visited the farm with a Veterinary Inspector, and found that one of the cows was suffering from what was described by the Veterinary Surgeon as a bruised teat. The cow was isolated and a sample of her milk was submitted for bacteriological examination. This sample was reported to be frankly purulent,

due to a severe streptococcal mastitis of the cow, and that culture of the milk had yielded a very heavy growth of a beta-haemolytic streptococcus. A similar organism was isolated from the milk taken from the dairy at the Home and examination of a second sample from the cow confirmed the findings. Throat swabs of the dairy workers were examined but one only was positive for haemolytic streptococcus. In addition to the positive swab from a child referred to above, swabs from two other children who died of pneumonia gave similar results and the organism was isolated from the pus from a gland abscess in a boy of two years. Swabs taken from over twenty toddler children who, although not acutely ill had symptoms of indefinite illness were examined and of these six showed growths of haemolytic streptococcus.

The comparative freedom of the older children from severe or fatal attack may be attributed in great measure to the fact that they did not as a rule receive a large ration of milk. Their higher natural immunity as compared with that of the babies may have also contributed to their protection.

Another milk supply was investigated on account of a complaint of an unpleasant taste in the milk and a history of indefinite illness amongst the consumers. A bulk sample gave negative results but a second sample gave a positive agglutinin test for *B abortus* up to 1/1000 titre and a massive mixed growth of bacteria including a haemolytic streptococcus. Similar results were obtained from a sample taken from one cow, which was in consequence removed from the herd. Throat swabs of two workers at the dairy gave positive results for haemolytic streptococci.

Meat.

There are seven registered and two licensed private slaughter houses in the Borough, and all slaughtering, apart from emergency slaughtering is carried out at these premises. The number of each kind of animal slaughtered during the year is not accurately known, but as in 1937 it is estimated that practically 100 per cent. of beasts and pigs and approximately 50 per cent. of sheep were inspected.

The Inspectors paid 1,373 visits to slaughter houses during the year chiefly for the purpose of inspection of carcasses, of which 5,569 were examined.

The incidence of tuberculosis found in cattle was higher than in 1937 and the percentage of carcasses affected by tuberculosis is almost double that for all other diseases. The percentage of pig carcasses affected by tuberculosis shows little change as compared with 1937.

In table XII below, and in the subjoined statement full details are set out as to meat condemned and the causes. All meat was voluntarily surrendered and no statutory action was taken in regard to unsound meat during the year.

TABLE XII.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Numbers killed (not known) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Numbers inspected ...	874	—	110	2,593	992
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	1	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	39	—	—	3	3
Percentages of the numbers in- spected affected with disease other than tuberculosis. ...	4.46	—	—	.15	.70
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	1	—	3
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	74	—	—	—	90
Percentages of the numbers in- spected affected with tuber- culosis. ...	8.58	—	.90	—	9.37

Detailed Statement of Meat surrendered and condemned.

<i>Meat.</i>		<i>Cause of surrender.</i>
1	Beast (carcase and offal)...	Generalised tuberculosis.
2	Beasts (hindquarter and offal)	Tuberculosis.
2	Beasts (forequarters) ...	Tuberculosis.
52	Beasts (heads and tongues)	Tuberculosis.
36	Beasts (lungs)	Tuberculosis.
13	Beasts (livers)	Tuberculosis
11	Beasts (mesenteric fats) ...	Tuberculosis.
2	Beasts (skirts)	Tuberculosis.
3	Beasts (hearts)	Tuberculosis.
3	Beasts (spleens)	Tuberculosis.
6	Beasts (kidneys)	Tuberculosis.
27	Beasts (livers)	Fluke.
1	Beast (liver)	Angioma.
2	Beasts (livers)	Echinococcus.
8	Beasts (livers)	Abscesses.
1	Beast (liver)	Necrosis.
1	Beast (lungs)	Echinococcus.
1	Beast (lungs)	Abscesses.
3	Pigs (carcases and offal)	Generalised tuberculosis.
78	Pigs (heads)	Tuberculosis.
32	Pigs (plucks)	Tuberculosis.
23	Pigs (mesenteric fats) ...	Tuberculosis.
1	Pig (liver)	Tuberculosis.
4	Pigs (carcases and offal) ...	Swine erysipelas.
1	Pig (pluck)	Pneumonia.
1	Pig (liver)	Echinococcus.
1	Pig (liver)	Cirrhosis.
1	Sheep (carcase and offal)...	Jaundice.
3	Sheep (livers)	Echinococcus.
1	Calf (carcase and offal)...	Generalised tuberculosis.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Nineteen slaughter men were registered under the Act at the end of the year, and the necessary supervision has been exercised in the course of routine inspections under the Meat Regulations.

Other Foods.

General food shops, licenced premises, stalls and hawkers carts were kept under supervision in respect of soundness of food and sanitary conditions and some 770 visits were paid by the Inspectors for this purpose during the year. The following food stuffs were surrendered and destroyed :-

Three tins of golden plums	Blown.
Two ducks	Decomposition.
7¼-lbs. Bacon	Decomposition.
16-lbs. Potatoes	Decomposition.
Three rabbits	Cysticercus Serialis.

Bakehouses.

Sixteen bakehouses were on the register of factories during the year, ten of which employed mechanical power. One basement bakehouse, for which a certificate had been granted by the Local Authority was closed.

Attention was drawn in my Report for 1937 to the unwholesome conditions which existed in some of the older bakehouses and their unsuitability for the preparation of food. Without doubt it is particularly difficult to maintain a proper standard of cleanliness where bread and pastry are prepared and baked commercially and, where adequate facilities are lacking it becomes impracticable. During the year under review seventy visits were paid to the bakehouses for the purpose of sanitary supervision and special efforts have been made, with the co-operation of occupiers, to obtain better conditions. Details of the defects remedied are set out on page 30.

Adulterations, etc.

The chief sampling officer for the County in his Report which is attached, gives an account of the samples taken in the Borough under the Acts. Of ninety samples taken four only were found to be unsatisfactory, namely, milk, 1; and ice cream, 3. In four other cases there was technical neglect to exhibit notices in respect of preservatives in food. No statutory action was taken during the year.

Under the Special Designations Regulations two samples of milk were examined for tubercle bacilli and ninety-nine samples by the methylene blue and coliform tests.

“ I have the honour to report that during the year, ended 31st December, 1938, ninety-nine samples of the following articles were taken in the Borough of Sutton Coldfield :-

Milk	52
Cream	4
Cream cheese	2
Ice cream	9
Butter	1
Cocoa	1
Boiled sweets	4
Sausages	7
Chicken and ham paste	1
Jam	2
Tinned fruit	2
Minerals.....	3
Malt vinegar	2
Whisky	5
Olive oil.....	1
Seidlitz powders	3
	<hr/>
Total ...	99
	<hr/>

“ All these samples proved to be satisfactory, except the following :-

- S.351. Milk, deficient of 10 per cent. of fat (official).
This sample was “ morning’s ” milk. A sample of “ evening’s ” milk, taken at the same time, was of satisfactory quality. I understand that this vendor went to the farm and took away his quantity of milk before the milking of all the cows was finished, so that it was possible that he may not have had the full proportion of the “ strippings ” put into his churn. He was cautioned in this instance and further samples will be taken.
- P.116. Sausages, contained 86 parts per million of sulphur dioxide. (informal).
- P.119. Sausages, contained 284 parts per million of sulphur dioxide. (informal).

These two samples were taken from different vendors, and in each case, the required notice was not properly exhibited,

being put in a position where it would probably not have been noticed by an ordinary customer. Both vendors have now put the notices in a prominent position.

P.120. Sausages, contained 122 parts per million of sulphur dioxide. (informal).

P.934. Sausages, contained 238 parts per million of sulphur dioxide. (informal).

Both these samples were taken from the same vendor, on different dates. He appeared to be ignorant of the requirement with regard to the exhibition of a notice. As the amount of preservative was well within the limit allowed had the notice been exhibited, he was cautioned. He has since exhibited the required notice.

Three samples of ice cream were unsatisfactory and further samples will be taken."

J. E. PRESTON,

Chief Sampling Officer.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

See Laboratory facilities page 10. Apart from the examination of milk for bacterial content the laboratory examination of food is for the most part related to outbreaks of food poisoning. During the year no such outbreaks were brought to notice and no special investigations were carried out.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The highest incidence of infectious diseases occurred in the age group 5-10 years, the most prevalent being scarlet fever.

In the age group 20-35, the most active period of life, respiratory tuberculosis accounted for a higher number of notifications than any other infectious disease, and eleven of the thirteen cases notified occurred in the age group 20-45 years.

Scarlet Fever.

There was a moderate prevalence of this disease during the year under review, forty-five cases being recorded as compared with thirty-four in 1937. In two cases notified the diagnosis was revised in hospital. Although the distribution was general throughout the Borough the highest case rate, namely 1.73 per

1,000 population occurred in Trinity Ward, whilst the lowest rate of 0.79 per 1,000 population was recorded in Hill Ward. There were no local outbreaks or "return" cases.

Approximately seventy-five per cent. of the total number of cases were notified in the first and fourth quarters of the year and over sixty per cent. occurred in the age groups 5-15 years.

The case rate for the Borough is 1.24 per 1,000 population as compared with 2.41 for England and Wales and 2.58 for Smaller Towns. The mortality was nil.

Diphtheria.

Seventeen notifications were received but in five cases the diagnosis was revised in hospital to tonsillitis.

The case rate, namely 0.67 per 1,000 population was highest in Boldmere West Ward, whilst both Trinity and Wyld Green Wards remained free. The incidence was highest in the first quarter and one case only was notified in the last quarter. No cases occurred below the age of 5 years and, as with scarlet fever the disease was most prevalent during the school age.

One death occurred in a woman aged 25 years. Infection took place apparently during convalescence following tonsillectomy which had been performed some fourteen days previously. When seen by her doctor a week after returning home she was sent to hospital, where she died a few hours after admission.

The case rate for the Borough is 0.33 per 1,000 population as compared with 1.58 for England and Wales and 1.53 for the Smaller Towns. The mortality rate was .06 per 1,000 population.

Immunization has been continued as in previous years, and parents are offered this service for all 5-year-old entrant elementary school children, a routine inoculation clinic being held weekly at the school medical centre. Children below school age are also immunized at the request of parents, and material is supplied to practitioners free of charge for the immunization of private patients.

The number of acceptances for school entrants for the past year has been satisfactory and, including cases in which inoculation had already been carried out in other Areas amounts to 57 per cent. of the total number of entrant children. 178 school children and 16 pre-school children were immunized during the year.

The number of children immunized by practitioners has increased from twenty in 1937 to 58 during the year under review, an increase which is evidence of the growing demand for the protection which immunization affords to the individual.

Formal toxoid (P.D. and Co.) has been the only antigen used during the year. In the great majority of cases reactions were completely absent or, if present were not sufficiently severe to cause comment. In one or two cases local and general reactions of moderate severity were noted, but the symptoms quickly subsided.

One girl who had received the three routine weekly inoculations eighteen months previously was admitted to hospital during the year with severe faucial diphtheria. This case, the first case of definite clinical diphtheria to occur in a child who had been inoculated since the commencement of immunization in 1929, draws attention to the need for special care in regard to throat affections, even in children who have been inoculated, and it should be remembered that in a proportion of children, perhaps five per cent. inoculations fail to confer immunity, sufficient to prevent the occurrence of the disease. No doubt, however, such inoculated children who contract the disease develop their natural immunity more quickly, when attacked and are thus given a better chance of recovery.

As regards the influence of immunization on the case rate of diphtheria in the Borough, it is noteworthy that there has been a marked and sustained reduction in the prevalence of the disease over a number of years since the commencement of immunization. Further, this reduction is more apparent amongst elementary school children than amongst the population generally. For the five-year period 1924-1928 (immediately preceding the commencement of immunization) the average case rate in the Borough was .9 per 1,000 population, whilst for the period 1933-1937 the corresponding rate was .3 per 1,000 population. For the same periods the corresponding rates for the non-County Boroughs and other Urban Districts of England were 1.62 and 1.24.

The rates amongst the elementary school children in the Borough for the same periods were approximately 4 per 1,000 and 1 per 1,000 respectively.

During the year 275 nose and throat swabs were examined at the Birmingham University laboratory, of which 13 were sent by the Health Department and the remainder by private practitioners. Thirty-three were reported as positive.

Eighteen 8,000 unit phials of antitoxin were supplied to private practitioners free of charge.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Three cases were reported, in all of which confinement took place at home. The notification rate is 5.36 per 1,000 total births (live and still) as compared with 12.51 for the Smaller Towns.

Case 1. A multipara, aged 29, had instrumental delivery and on the third day the temperature rose. A consultant visited the patient and recommended the continuance of domiciliary treatment and the administration of "prontosil." Thrombosis developed in the course of the illness, but the patient made a good recovery without any apparent ill effects. A home-help was provided.

Case 2. A primipara, aged 25, had a normal delivery and developed pyrexia on ninth day of the puerperium. The temperature remained up for 48 hours and afterwards recovery was uneventful.

Case 3. A primipara, aged 30 years, had normal delivery, but developed a breast abscess on the ninth day. Recovery was complete.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Three cases were notified and all were treated at the Birmingham and Midland Eye Hospital. One case was referred for treatment from the maternity and child welfare clinic and two by private practitioners, both of the latter being admitted as in-patients. Recovery took place in each case without damage to vision.

Enteric Fever.

Two cases were notified during the year. The first case, a female, aged 55, was notified on June 24th as suffering from paratyphoid B. with a positive Widal reaction. Investigation did not disclose any source of infection. She was admitted to a private nursing home.

The second case, a female aged 30 and a Swiss subject, was notified as enteric on August 31st, and was admitted to Little Bromwich Hospital. The patient arrived in this country on August 15th to take up a domestic post and apparently

TABLE XIII.
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1938. ANALYSIS OF DEATHS.

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.												All Ages	Total Cases	All Ages	DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.											
	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	1				2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65		
	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10				10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10		
Small Pox																											
Scarlet Fever	1	1	4	4	19	9	3	2	1	1																	
Diphtheria	2	3	4	5	3	5	2	2																			
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)																											
Puerperal Pyrexia																											
Poliomyelitis																											
Pneumonia	6	3	2		1			6	4	11	5																
Erysipelas	1				1			1	6	4	2																
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	3																										
Tuberculosis: Respiratory																											
Non-Respiratory.....																											
TOTALS	139	10	4	4	4	30	14	6	24	14	18	7															

developed the disease ten days after arrival. Subsequent investigations showed that the infection was due to *B. paratyphosus* B.

The case rate for the disease is .06 as compared with .03 for England and Wales and .04 for the Smaller Towns. The mortality was nil.

During the year twenty-three Widal tests were carried out, of which five were positive.

Poliomyelitis.

One case only of this disease was notified during the year. The patient, a boy aged 5 years attended a private school in the Borough and investigation did not disclose any source of infection. He was removed to the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, for treatment.

Tuberculosis. Respiratory.

Thirteen new cases, seven males and six females, were notified in the year under review as compared with twenty in 1937. One case only, a male, was notified in the age groups over 45 years and all the females were in the age groups 15-35 years.

Tuberculosis. Non-Respiratory.

Eight cases were notified under this head and the case rate is .22 per 1,000 population as compared with .17 for the previous year and .27 for 1936. Six of the cases notified were in the age group 5-10 years. The parts affected were cervical glands (3), abdominal glands (2), intestines (1), foot (1) and spine (1).

A review of the incidence of tuberculosis in the Borough over the periods 1920-1929 and 1930-1938, whilst it affords no evidence of an appreciable decline in the non-respiratory form of the disease, shows that the case rate for the respiratory form for the latter period is lower. The averages of the rates for the earlier period are .19 and .71 per 1,000 population respectively, whilst for the nine years ending 1938 the corresponding rates are .18 and .49.

Pneumonia.

There has been a fall in the incidence of this disease as compared with the previous year, particularly in certain age groups, one case only having been notified between the ages of

three years and twenty years as compared with eleven in 1937. The number notified in the age-group under one year is high on account of an outbreak at a babies' Home. (see page 40).

There is a slight preponderance in the notifications of males over females. The cases notified were classed as pneumonia (18); lobar pneumonia (9); broncho pneumonia (7); and influenzal pneumonia (4). The disease was most prevalent during the first quarter of the year.

The case rate is 1.05 per 1,000 population as compared with 1.10 for England and Wales and .98 for the Smaller Towns. The mortality rate is .52 as compared with .49 for 1937.

Tuberculosis. New cases and mortality during 1938. TABLE XIV.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
5	—	—	2	4	—	—	—	—
15	1	3	—	—	2	1	—	—
25	2	3	—	1	2	3	—	1
35	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
66 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	7	6	2	6	7	8	1	1

Erysipelas.

Fourteen cases were notified during the year as compared with nine in the previous year. There were equal numbers of males and females and the majority of the cases occurred in the age-group 35-65 years.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Two deaths only were registered during the year as due to influenza, and four of the cases of pneumonia notified during the year were classed as influenzal. Of the other non-notifiable diseases whooping cough alone reached epidemic proportions, and two deaths were registered under this head. The death-rate from measles was nil.

QUARTERLY NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES. TABLE XV.

Disease.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Totals.
Scarlet Fever	17	4	7	17	45
Diphtheria	5	3	3	1	12
Pneumonia	25	5	2	6	38
Erysipelas	5	5	4	—	14
Poliomyelitis	—	—	1	—	1
Enteric Fever (including Para-Typhoid)...	—	1	1	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1	—	1	1	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	2	—	1	3
Tuberculosis :-					
Respiratory	1	2	4	6	13
Non-Respiratory	3	1	2	2	8
Totals	57	23	25	34	139

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN WARDS. TABLE XVI.

WARD.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Poliomyelitis	Enteric (including Para-Typhoid)	Puerperal Pyrexia	Ophthalmia, Neonatorum.	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	TOTAL
Trinity	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	12
Hill	5	2	10	1	—	—	1	1	—	2	22
Boldmere East	5	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	11
Boldmere West	9	5	4	6	—	—	1	1	3	1	30
Wylde Green	6	—	13	2	—	1	—	—	4	—	26
Maney ...	7	2	8	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	27
Walmley	5	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	11
Total	45	12	38	14	1	2	3	3	13	8	139

VACCINATION STATISTICS FOR YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1938.

Number of births registered	...	...	...	...	437
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	195
Insusceptible to vaccination	...	...	...	...	2
Died before vaccination	...	...	...	...	9
Cases under postponement	...	...	...	...	5
Removal to other districts	...	...	...	...	44
Number of cases not to be found	...	...	...	...	8
Cases remaining unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	7
Conscientious objections	...	...	...	...	167

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Factories.

The Factories Act of 1937 became operative on July 1st, 1938, and has brought about certain changes in administrative procedure, with extension of the duties of Local Authorities in regard to sanitary and other matters. The expression workshop has been omitted in the Act and the distinction has been made between factories employing mechanical power and factories not employing mechanical power. With the coming into force of the Act the opportunity has been taken of making a closer survey of those establishments which might be held to come within the definition of the latter category.

The total number of factories on the register during the year was 171, of which 63 used mechanical power. Included in this total are 16 bakehouses, reference to which is made under the head of food supplies (page 45).

During the year 264 inspections of factory premises were made for the purpose of their supervision in respect of health matters within the jurisdiction of the Local Authority. All the defects found were of a minor character and details of those remedied are set out in the Sanitary Inspector's statement (pages 29 and 30).

FACTORIES. TABLE XVII.

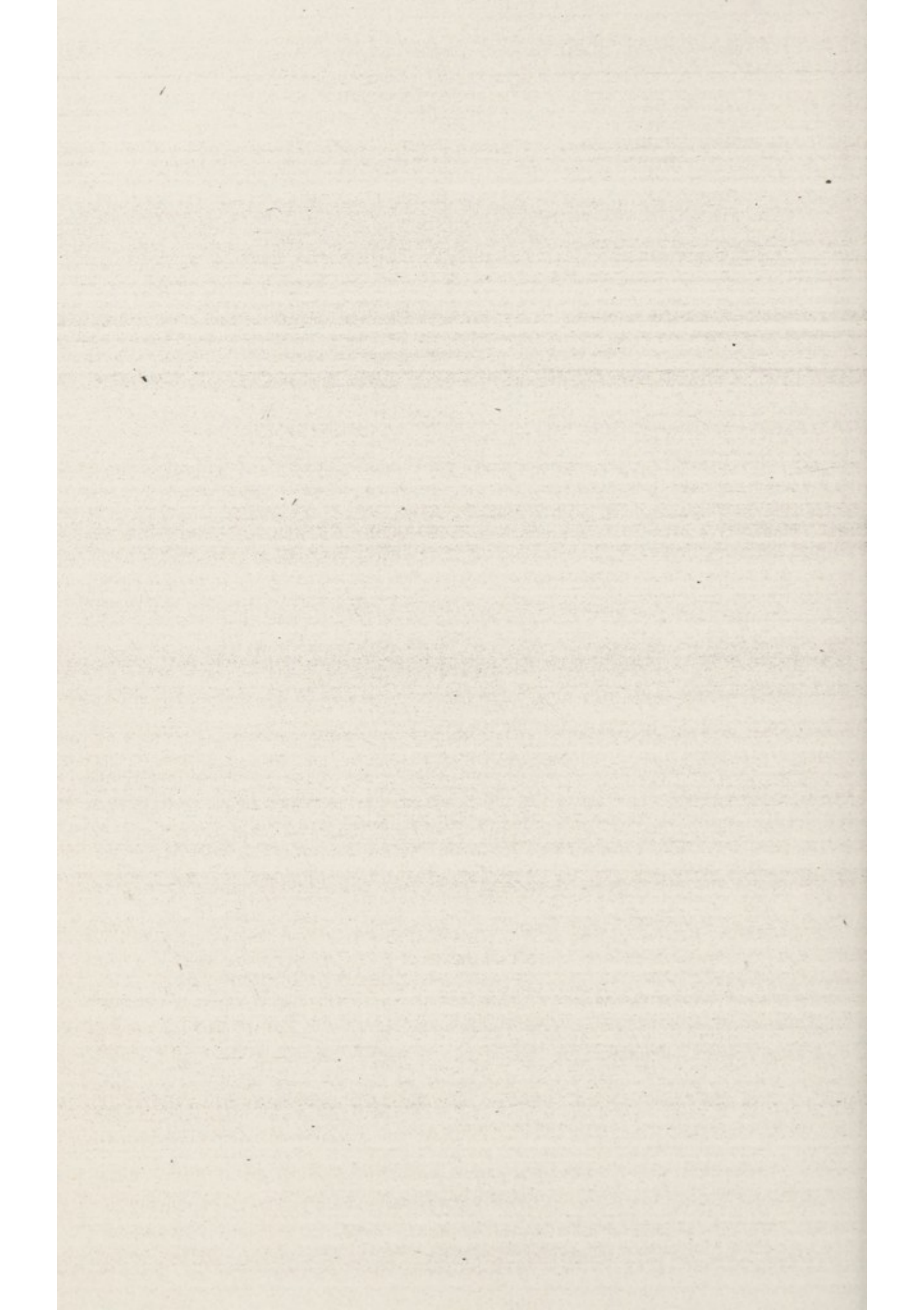
1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health. Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices	Prosecu- tions.
Factories with mechanical power	177	22	—
Factories without mechanical power	85	13	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)....	2	—	—
TOTAL	264	35	—

2.—Defects found.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re- medied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness(S.1).....	24	24	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2).....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).....	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	38	34	—	—
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Other offences	9	7	—	—
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule of the Factories Act, 1937).				
TOTAL	76	70	—	—

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3. Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

NIL.

4. Registered Factories without power.

Factories without power on the Register at end of year.	Number.
Dressmakers	11
Bakehouses without power	6
Plumbers	5
Joiners and Builders.....	13
Farriers	3
Millinery	3
Boot repairers	6
Photographers	3
Saddler	1
Motor and cycle repairers	21
Tailors.....	3
Stonemason	1
Watch repairer	1
Radio supply	6
Golf Club Maker	1
Hand Weaving	1
Restaurants and Hotel Kitchens	7
Builders Merchant.....	1
Timber Merchant	1
Gas Fitting.....	1
Wreath Making.....	4
Printing	1
Dry Cleaning.....	1
Mower Servicing	1
Catering Rooms (Sutton Park)	5
Sign Writing	1
Total	108

5. Other Matters.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :-	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	nil.
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5. 1901)	nil.
Notified by H.M. Inspector	nil.
Reports of action taken sent to H.M. Inspector	nil.
Others	nil.
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at the end of the year	nil.
Total	nil.

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