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BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION  
OF THE BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR 1937.



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BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A. H. KYNASTON, M.R.C.S. (Eng.),  
L.R.C.P. (Lond.), D.P.H.

1937

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HALL,  
WEDNESBURY.

May, 1938.



### **HEALTH AND HOUSING COMMITTEE.**

Chairman - - Councillor L. Whitehouse, J.P.

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor C. Collins, J.P.).

Alderman A. Beebee, J.P.	Alderman J. Mark, J.P.
Alderman B. W. Griffiths, J.P.	Alderman A. H. Westbury, J.P.
Councillor Dr. A. Frost.	Councillor P. Griffiths, J.P.
Councillor T. Hollingsworth.	Councillor D. C. Jackson.
Councillor T. King.	Councillor Dr. G. I. Lambe.
Councillor T. Large.	Councillor G. W. Price.
Councillor F. A. Wadsworth.	Councillor Mrs. D. M. Wesson.

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### **MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.**

Chairman : Alderman A. H. Westbury, J.P.

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors (as above).

Co-opted Members : The Mayoress, Mesdames Greenhough, J.P., Jackson, Large, Walton, Wearing, J.P., Whitehouse and Wilson.

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### **AILING BABIES & CHILDREN'S HOSTEL SUB-COMMITTEE.**

Chairman : The Mayoress.

Councillor Mrs. D. M. Wesson, Mesdames Greenhough, J.P., Jackson, Large, Walton, Wearing, J.P., Whitehouse and Wilson.

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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### Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

A. H. Kynaston, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer :

Miss L. M. Allen, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

### Consultant Obstetrician :

J. S. M. Connell, F.R.C.S.

### Veterinary Surgeon :

H. Yeomans, M.R.C.V.S.

### Chief Sanitary Inspector :

H. Topping, A.R.S.I.

### Additional Sanitary Inspector and Shops Act Inspector :

F. W. O'Hara, A.R.S.I.

### Health Visitors and School Nurses :

Miss C. L. Evans, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Superintendent Health Visitor and Child Life Protection Visitor).

Mrs. A. E. Boffey, C.M.B.

Miss A. A. Bradley, S.R.N., C.M.B. (H.V.Cert.R.S.I.).

Miss S. E. Allan, S.R.N., C.M.B. (H.V.Cert.R.S.I.)

### Clerks :

Chief Clerk : Miss C. Hill.

Miss D. Burgess.

Mr. J. A. Jackson.

Miss K. E. Hurley.

Mr. J. W. Barber.

Mr. A. Higgs.

## STAFF AILING BABIES' AND CHILDREN'S HOSTEL :

### Matron :

Miss A. Davies, C.M.B.

### Staff Nurse :

### Probationer Nurses :

Miss J. Fellows.

Miss W. Mills.

Miss F. Shaw.



**TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF  
THE BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.**

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on your Public Health Services for the year 1937, prepared in accordance with instructions contained in Circular 1650 of the Ministry of Health.

In its pages you will find a record of work on behalf of the health and well-being of the people of our Borough.

In addition to the carrying out of routine day by day duties, we have continued to deal with those major problems peculiar to the present age—the abolition of the slum dwelling, the arrangements for the abatement of gross overcrowding, the improvement of midwifery and the allied services, the initiation of an Air Raid Precautions Casualty Service, and a general increase in Public Health propaganda—it will, therefore, be evident how increasingly responsible the work of a Public Health Department becomes.

Good health is the basis of physical and mental fitness on which we can alone depend for that steady morale and robust effort which shall enable us to survive and overcome the dangers and difficulties which lie ahead.

It was the realisation of this which made 1937 the year for the commencement of a great national campaign for the spread of knowledge of the laws of health and the fuller utilisation of the Public Health Services.

I would desire once again to express to the Chairmen and members of the various Committees my gratitude for help and encouragement accorded us, to thank my colleague, Dr. Allen, and every member of the staff for their loyalty and keenness and to acknowledge the willing and helpful assistance rendered us by private practitioners and the officers of other departments.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

*A. H. Lynskey.*

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Wednesbury.

May, 1938.



## SECTION A.

### STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) ... ..	2,025
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid. 1937 ... ..	33,130
Population, Census 1931 ... ..	31,531
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) accord- ing to Rate Books ... ..	8,006
Rateable Value (1/10/1937) ... ..	£131,185
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1936-37—£487. 0s. 10d.	

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The population is mainly artisan, chiefly engaged in iron and steel manufacture, tube manufacture, engineering, hot drop stamping, constructional steel-work, railway carriage building, edge tool manufacture, bolts and nuts manufacture, electrical engineering, ironfounding and kindred trades.

I am indebted to Mr. A. S. Morgan, the Manager of the Employment Exchange, for the appended statistics:—

Unemployed at end of :	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Men age 21 and over -	2515	1923	1361	890	656
Young Men (18 - 20 inclusive) - -	116	81	14	11	18
Boys (14-17 inclusive)	9	14	4	5	12
Women age 21 and over	123	134	76	75	99
Young Women (18-20 inclusive) - -	13	19	8	4	5
Girls (14-17 inclusive)	6	3	6	10	8
Total - - - -	<u>2782</u>	<u>2174</u>	<u>1469</u>	<u>995</u>	<u>798</u>

Made up of:—

Wholly employed -	1907	1320	1023	699	520
Temporary stoppages or short time workers	875	854	446	296	278

The numbers in June, 1937, 614 were the lowest since January, 1921, when numbers on the live Registers were 772.

The number of contributors to Unemployment Insurance is 10,384 males and 2,835 females, total 13,219.

Mr. J. Parkes, Clerk to the Wednesbury Guardians Committee, informs me that the number of persons in receipt of Public Assistance at the 31st December, 1937, was 512, the respective figures for 1936, 1935, 1934 and 1933 were 609, 716, 670 and 711.



# VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	Males	Females	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.
Live Births :				
Legitimate -	589	321	268	... 18.1
Illegitimate -	12	5	7	
Stillbirths -	28	11	17	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births. ... 44.5
Deaths -	417	235	182	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. ... 12.5
Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :—				
		Deaths		Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	...	—	...	—
No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes		1	...	1.5
		—	...	—
Total	...	1	...	1.5
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—				
All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	61.5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	62.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	5
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	3
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	...	...	...	1

**The Vital Statistics for 1937 again indicate the relatively sound condition of the health of the people of the Borough and should be not only a source of gratification, but a stimulus for persistence in the efforts which the Public Health Services are making for the attainment of a "Fitter Britain."**

**The Infantile Mortality Rate of 61.5 per 1,000 live births is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough.**

**In 1897 the rate for deaths of children under one year of age was 205.7 per 1,000 births, whilst the general death rate was 19.7 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 12.5 per 1,000 for 1937.**

Table 1 gives a summary of the Vital Statistics for 1937 and for the five previous years for the Borough of Wednesbury and for England and Wales. Table 2 gives the causes of death in age groups and ward distribution.



TABLE I.  
VITAL STATISTICS DURING 1937 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year	Population estimated to middle of year	Births		Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District				ENGLAND & WALES		
		Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Of Non-residents Registered in the District	Of Residents not Registered in the District	Number	Rate per 100 Net Births	At all Ages	Rate per 1000 of the Population	Birth	Death	Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Births.
1932	32120	592	18.4	207	6.4	2	139	51	86.1	346	10.7	15.3	12.0	65.0
1933	32080	579	18.04	272	8.4	3	128	61	105.3	400	12.1	14.4	12.3	64.0
1934	32030	605	18.8	256	7.9	6	99	38	62.8	355	11.1	14.8	11.8	59.0
1935	32420	628	19.3	230	7.0	3	147	64	101.9	380	11.7	14.7	11.7	57.0
1936	32830	600	18.2	233	7.9	5	140	41	68.3	378	11.5	14.8	12.1	59.0
Av'ge	32296	601	18.55	239	7.5	4	130	51	84.8	371	11.4	14.8	11.9	60.0
1937	33130	601	18.1	282	8.5	4	131	37	61.5	417	12.5	14.9	12.4	58.0

**The Standardised Death Rate** for the Borough of Wednesbury is 14.37 (12.5 x 1.15) and is the Death Rate which would have occurred if the age and sex distribution had been the same as that for the country as a whole.



TABLE II.  
CAUSES OF DEATH, IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION, YEAR 1937.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and over	Total	Males	Fe- males	WARDS.			
															King's Hill.	Market	Town Hall.	Wood Green.
Typhoid Fever etc.	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	4	1	2	1	—	2
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	1	—	—	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	5	13	8	5	2	1	7	3
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	—	—	1	4	7	6	2	4	2	27	17	10	4	4	7	12
Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	2	—	—
Other Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Paralysis of Insane, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2	18	10	1	—	1
Cancer	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	5	12	25	45	27	27	2	9	12	14
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	4	7	5	2	2	1	3	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	10	12	26	11	15	4	8	8	6
Heart Disease	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	3	10	16	54	87	40	47	28	11	16	32
Aneurysm	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	9	14	9	5	—	4	3	3
Other Circulatory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	20	30	16	14	7	8	4	11
Bronchitis	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	6	31	21	10	14	6	5	6
Pneumonia	7	7	—	1	—	—	—	3	4	3	—	3	2	1	1	1	—	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	2	7	6	1	2	2	1	2
Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Diarrhoea etc. (under 2 yrs.)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
Other Liver Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	4	2	1	1	2	2
Nephritis	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	8	4	4	3	1	2	2
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, etc.	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	9	8	6	4	4	3
Senility	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	33	15	18	11	8	7	7
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3	2	1	—	—	1	2
Violence	—	2	1	—	2	3	2	—	1	2	6	19	14	5	5	5	6	3
Other defined causes	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	2	11	22	14	8	8	8	5	1
Causes ill-defined	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	37	21	8	2	8	9	16	21	35	67	193	417	235	182	117	88	94	118



## SECTION B.

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### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority will be found on page 3.

The general provision of health services as reported in the Survey Reports of 1930, amplified or amended in subsequent Annual Reports, remained in force without alteration.

On September 6th Dr. N. R. Beattie and Dr. D. M. Taylor, Medical Officers of the Ministry of Health, commenced a survey of the Borough's Health Services.

During the year the Ambulance was used on 354 occasions, 270 being cases of illness, 84 accident cases. In April new regulations as to use and an amended scale of charges were approved.

The erection of the new Infant Welfare Centre and School Clinic at Mesty Croft was commenced in September, 1937.

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### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Population of area served by the Council ... 33,130

Number of Births notified during the year :—

(a) Live Births ... 636

(b) Still Births ... 31

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667

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Number of Births notified by Midwives ... 659

Number of Births notified by Doctors ... 8

Number of Births in Hospital ... 56

Number of Births in other Institutions ... 96

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births ... 61.5



### Infant Welfare Centres.

Albert Street	...	Mondays and Thursdays	2.30 p.m.
King's Hill	...	Tuesdays and Fridays	2.30 p.m.
Mesty Croft	...	Wednesdays	- - 2.30 p.m.

Attendances.	Sessions.	New Cases.		Total Attendances.	
		Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.
Albert Street	... 100	200	28	3650	2760
King's Hill	... 98	123	22	2435	1754
Mesty Croft	... 52	110	27	2064	1794
Total attendances (all Centres)		...	14,457.		

Attendance new cases under one year of age, percentage notified live births ... 68.08.

**In 1931 total attendances numbered 8,661, the attendances in 1937 showing an increase of 5,796 or 66.9% on these figures, no mean tribute to the value and appreciation of the services rendered by the Authority at its Infant Welfare Centres.**

### Ante-natal Clinic.

Albert Street, Fridays, 2.30.

Sessions held.	New Cases.	Percentage total notified births.	Total Attendances.
51	172	25.7	424

### Institutional Treatment.

In-patient treatment was provided for 59 mothers in Hallam Hospital, 27 being referred through the Ante-natal Clinic, 32 being sent by their own doctor.

The Council's Consultant Obstetrician paid one visit for a home consultation with a private practitioner.

### Home Visits by Health Visitors.

To Expectant Mothers.	To Children under 1 year of age.		To Children between the ages of 1 and 5 years.	
First Visits.	Total Visits.	First Visits.	Total Visits.	Total Visits.
165	380	622	2481	2808
Total Visits (all purposes), 5669.				



### **Midwives.**

There are 8 Midwives practising in the Borough, 7 of whom have been employed by the Staffordshire Nursing Association on behalf of the County Council since 1st November.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee on the 12th January, 1937, resolved that an application be made for delegation of all powers under the Midwives Acts, 1902-1936, to the Corporation ; permission for this delegation was subsequently refused by the Ministry of Health.

Compensation was made to Midwives in one instance where a booked case had been admitted to hospital for confinement as the result of advice given at the Ante-natal Clinic.

17 sterilised maternity outfits were sold during the year.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**

8 cases were notified during the year ; in no instance did impairment of vision result.

### **Free Milk, etc.**

Liquid or dried milk, etc., was supplied to necessitous expectant and nursing mothers and children up to five years of age on the recommendation of a Medical Officer—in accordance with the Authority's scale at an approximate cost of £202.

### **Child Life Protection.**

The Superintendent Health Visitor (Miss C. L. Evans) is the Child Protection Visitor.

Sections 206 to 220 of the Public Health Act, 1936, deal with Child Life Protection and require any person undertaking for reward the nursing and maintenance of a child under the age of nine years apart from his parents or having no parent to give notice thereof to the welfare authority ; in the case of a first child proposed to be received not less than seven days' notice and in the case of any other child not less than forty-eight hours' notice.

The number of persons who were nursing and maintaining children for reward at the end of the year was one, one child being thus received.

One Boarded-out Child was supervised for the Staffordshire County Council.



### Orthopædic Treatment.

Cases of orthopædic defect occurring amongst children under the age of 5 years are referred to Mr. G. P. Mills, F.R.C.S., at the Walsall Orthopædic Clinic on the second Wednesday in each month.

31 new cases were referred during the year; total attendances numbered 148, and in addition 208 attendances were made for massage.

In-patient treatment is provided when required at the various branches of the Royal Cripples' Hospital, Birmingham.

Cost of treatment, appliances provided, etc., is recovered whenever possible in accordance with the Authority's approved scale.

## REPORT ON MATERNAL AND INFANT MORTALITY AND THE WORK OF THE ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, INFANT WELFARE CENTRES, AILING BABIES' HOSTEL AND ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT CLINIC DURING 1937,

by

**Dr. MARGARET ALLEN (Assistant Medical Officer of Health).**

### Maternal Mortality.

There was one death as the result of pregnancy and child-birth in the Borough in 1937.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births.	England and Wales.
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	0	—	0.94
Other Puerperal causes ...	1	1.5	2.17
	<u>1</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>3.11</u>

It is encouraging to find that the maternal death rate for the Borough in 1937 is again below that for England and Wales as a whole. There was no death from puerperal sepsis. As I stated in a former report, there is no reason why the Borough should have a high maternal death rate—the Maternity Services are, on the whole, adequate, and with the passing into law of the Midwives' Act of 1936 it is hoped that there will be closer co-operation between the various branches, only with efficient team work can the fullest value be obtained from the services provided.



It is to be regretted that the Borough was not given authority for the Administration of this Act which would have enabled the exercise of a greater degree of authority and supervision.

The mother herself, however, has an important contribution to make to this team work. Without her co-operation the team cannot function. Until the expectant mother learns to take advantage of the facilities provided and regards ante and post-natal supervision as a matter of course, the finest maternity services will be of little value.

### **Infantile Mortality.**

The number of infant deaths registered under 1 year of age was 37, and the infantile death rate for 1937 was 61.5, the lowest ever recorded for the Borough. The corresponding figure for England and Wales is 58. This rate for Wednesbury is one more closely in accord with that for England and Wales than has ever previously been attained.

It is a fact that the infant death rate of a country or town is one of the best indications of the state of health of that country or town and of the sanitary conditions existing. When it is remembered that the infant death rate for Wednesbury in 1897 was 205.7 per 1,000 births, the present rate can only be regarded with gratification.

### **Ante-Natal Clinic.**

Sessions held.	Total Attendances.	New Cases.	Percentage total notified births.
51	424	172	25.7

In 1937 the Ante-natal Clinic was held each Friday at the Albert Street Centre at 2.30 p.m. There were 51 sessions and the average attendance per session was 8. Both the total attendances and the number of new cases show an increase on those of 1936.

The new cases represent 25.7 per cent. of the total notified births. This figure is also an improvement on that for 1936. Although the attendances at the Ante-natal Clinic have increased steadily during the last few years, they are still far from satisfactory. In England as a whole in 1936 the number of women in attendance at ante-natal clinics expressed as a percentage of total notified births was 48.85, nearly double the corresponding figure for Wednesbury in 1937.



During the latter part of the year the Midwives' Act, 1936, came into force, and already greater co-operation between the various branches of the maternity service is manifest. Each expectant mother who wishes to be examined by a doctor at the Municipal Ante-natal Centre attends with her Midwife. The Midwife takes part in the examination, watches the doctor examining and has a verbal report on each patient. The expectant mother can, of course, if she prefers, attend her own doctor. The Midwife must ensure that each case is examined by a doctor during pregnancy, the choice of doctor being left to the expectant mother.

While not much difficulty is experienced in persuading women to make their first visit to a clinic, it is exceedingly difficult to make them realise the importance of subsequent visits. The mother of several children is the greatest offender in this respect ; she argues that because several confinements have been normal subsequent ones will be normal also, but this is a fallacy. Often an abnormal confinement follows several normal labours. The number of visits to the ante-natal centre is of necessity limited, and it is extremely important that no attendance should be missed.

Abnormalities found at the examinations are referred to general practitioners, to a consultant or to hospital for confinement if this is found to be necessary. The expectant mother is also advised concerning diet, minor ailments and general hygiene of pregnancy. Midwives visit their cases regularly at their homes and so have an opportunity of seeing that advice given at the centre is carried out.

Extra nourishment is supplied if this is considered to be necessary on medical grounds and if the income is inadequate.

The aim of the ante-natal clinic is twofold—educative and remedial. It is to be hoped that under the new midwifery service attendances will be more numerous and more regular.

### **Infant Welfare Centres.**

In 1937 attendances at the Infant Welfare Centres again increased. The total attendances were 14,457 and 68.08 per cent. of all children born alive during the year attended.

While this steady increase in the number of infants and toddlers attending the Centres is to be viewed with satisfaction, it must inevitably result in an increase in the number of sessions held. With large overcrowded sessions it is



difficult for the medical and nursing staff to give that individual care and attention which are such an essential part of child welfare work.

The Mesty Croft Centre, for example, had one session weekly in 1937. This session has been held in unsuitable and inadequate premises and has been overcrowded. With the completion of the new Mesty Croft Clinic two sessions will be held weekly.

The Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health in his report for 1936 states that "the basis of the well-established organisation for the welfare of infants and young children is home visiting by trained health visitors and attendance at infant welfare centres." Home visiting is fully as important as attendance at the centres, and attendances at the centres can only be maintained by adequate home visiting. Since 1930 attendances at the Wednesbury centres have risen from 8,661 in 1931 to 14,457 in 1937, but there has been no increase in the number of health visitors. There has been a steady extension of the work of the maternity and child welfare service, but to maintain efficiency and for further extension an additional health visitor is urgently required. The health visitor to-day has a range of responsibility formerly undreamed of, and the manifold duties of the service can only be carried out satisfactorily if the personnel is numerically adequate.

Facilities for gratuitous immunisation against diphtheria are available at the Infant Welfare Centres. Protection is offered to each child on attaining the age of one year. The protection consists of three injections of serum into the skin of the arm and the injection itself leaves no redness or swelling. The response to immunisation has been disappointingly poor and education of the parents appears to be necessary.

Our grateful thanks are due to the many voluntary workers who give their unstinted services at the welfare centres. Child welfare work has many branches and many of its problems remain to be solved. Progress is, however, being made and this is in part due to the happy combination of voluntary and official effort.

### **Ailing Babies' and Children's Hostel.**

The Municipal Hostel for babies and toddlers up to the age of five years continues to be of great service to the Borough.

During the year 69 patients were treated, the number of new cases admitted being 53.



The Hostel contains 18 cots and is for the treatment of babies suffering from errors of feeding, prematurity and wasting. It is also for the treatment of toddlers suffering from chronic ailments and debility following acute illness. The Hostel is not suitable for cases of acute disease and is in no sense a substitute for a children's hospital.

It has, however, a very definite work to do. Weakly, marasmic babies who undoubtedly would perish if left at home, with the prolonged nursing and care obtainable at a babies' home like the hostel, survive; such survival, moreover, does not necessarily mean a future delicate child, for these weakly babies, once adequate digestion is established, often become strong, healthy children.

For toddlers too, the hostel is invaluable. Children suffering from debility following diseases are especially liable to succumb to other infections unless restored thoroughly to health by adequate rest and nourishing food. These restoratives are not always to be found at home.

Owing to the type of case admitted, the average stay in the hostel is necessarily lengthy. Parents do not always realise that this must be so and occasionally remove their children before health is firmly established. This often results in a re-admission with the patient in as bad a state as at the beginning and consequent loss of time. Parents on the whole, however, do appreciate the work of the hostel and are very willing to take advantage of its services.

### **Artificial Sunlight Clinic.**

The out-patient Artificial Sunlight Clinic is held at the Hostel twice weekly, and is a most valuable ally of the maternity and child welfare work.

61 patients were treated during the year, the total attendances numbering 1,050.

I have great pleasure in tendering my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Hostel Sub-Committee for their real interest and support in the work of the Hostel, to the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kynaston, for his constant help and supervision, and to the Matron, Miss A. Davies, and her Nurses for their devoted services.

The Hostel also owes a debt of gratitude to all its many friends who have sent gifts of clothing and toys during the year and who have made garments for the little patients.



TABLE III.  
CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	TOTAL	WARDS			
											Kings Hill	Market	Town Hall	Wood Green
Measles	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculous Meningitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Convulsions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Bronchitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diarrhoea	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Enteritis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Syphilis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Congenital Malformations	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Premature Birth	7	1	1	1	8	1	1	1	1	8	3	1	2	2
Congenital Debility	4	1	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	2
Other Causes	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10	1	5	2	2
TOTAL	11	1	1	3	16	8	5	4	4	37	9	8	11	9



## SECTION C.

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### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### Water.

The whole of the area is supplied by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company; the supply is satisfactory in quality and ample in quantity.

Mr. F. J. Dixon, M.Inst.C.E., M.I.Mech.E., Engineer-in-Chief to the Company, states:—

“The water normally supplied in Wednesbury is a mixture of underground waters from two different localities.

**Source No. 1** consists of a group of pumping stations in the Cannock Chase District.

**Source No. 2** consists of a group of pumping stations in the district between Sutton Coldfield and Lichfield.

Both these groups pump water from wells and boreholes sunk in the new red sandstones of the Triassic Geological period.

The water is pumped direct to the consumer without treatment from all pumping stations in these groups except two.

At one of these exceptions the water is passed through rapid mechanical filters for the elimination of a slight iron content, and at the second the water is sterilised by ozone treatment.

There are no large storage reservoirs on these systems, as the storage is underground, but there are service reservoirs which act as balancing tanks to maintain the supply during periods of maximum demand.

The water at each source of supply is examined bacteriologically and chemically at least once a month.

These examinations are continued at all Service Reservoirs, one of which comes within the Borough boundary.

Further tests are made of the water at taps in the towns supplied, the point in Wednesbury being the Company's premises at Wood Green.



15 samples of water were taken actually within the Borough last year, and these showed both bacteriologically and chemically that the water supplied to the Borough was pure and wholesome."

In addition to the Company's bacteriological and chemical control, samples are from time to time submitted by our Sanitary Inspectors to the County Analyst and Bacteriologist. 4 samples were forwarded during the year.

Reports from Mr. Jones and Dr. Menton on a sample taken in September are appended:—

Staffordshire County Council,  
Chemical Laboratory,  
County Buildings, Stafford.  
14th September, 1937.

To Borough of Wednesbury.

#### CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

Sample of South Staffordshire Water, "No. W.4.," taken from standpipe in yard common to six houses, 9 a.m., 7th September, 1937. Weather fine. Submitted the same day by hand.

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solid Matter dried at 212°F. ...	47.5
Free and Saline Ammonia ... ..	Nil
Albuminoid ... ..	Nil
Nitric Nitrogen ... ..	0.19
Chlorine ... ..	13.6
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F. ...	0.003
Appearance ... ..	Clear
Injurious Metallic Contamination ...	None
pH Value ... ..	7.4
Hardness before Boiling ... ..	11.80°
Hardness after Boiling ... ..	4.00°
Temporary Hardness ... ..	7.80°

This water is chemically of satisfactory quality, but must be passed bacteriologically before being considered suitable for drinking.

(Signed) E. V. JONES, F.I.C.,  
County Analyst.



Staffordshire County Council,  
Public Health Department,  
County Bacteriological Laboratory,  
Martin Street, Stafford.

10th September, 1937.

Report of Bacteriological Examination of a Sample of Water  
submitted on 7th September, 1937, by Wednesbury Borough.

**Description of Sample :**

No. W.5. South Staffordshire Waterworks Co., taken  
from standpipe in yard common to six houses.

**Count :**

On nutrient agar after 48 hours'	
incubation at 37°C.      ...      ...	3 colonies per ml.
On nutrient agar after 72 hours'	
incubation at 20-22°C.      ...      ...	47 colonies per ml.

**Coli Aerogenes Content (presumptive Coli)** Nil per 100 ml.  
after 48 hours'  
incubation at  
37°C.

**Remarks.**

The Ministry of Health Report No. 71 suggests that  
when a Public Water Supply contains not more than two pre-  
sumptive coli per 100 ml. the sample may be regarded as  
reasonably satisfactory.

This sample shows no bacteriological evidence of recent  
sewage pollution.

(Signed) J. MENTON,  
Bacteriologist.

**Drainage and Sewerage.**

Mr. Arthur Booth, M.I.M.C.E., M.I.Struct.E., Borough  
Engineer, reports :—

**Sewerage.**

During the year good progress was made on the Valley  
Trunk Sewer Scheme, which commenced on the 18th August,  
1936. The erection of the Pumping Station and installation  
of automatic electrically-operated pumping plant, Detritus  
tank with electrically-operated Elevator, Screen and Flow  
Recorders, Overflow Chambers, etc., at the Sewage Disposal  
Works being completed and the 3½ miles of Trunk Sewer laid



with the exception of branch connections from Ejector Chambers, which work will be completed by the end of March, 1938. Part of the Sewer was put into use on the 31st December, 1937.

Sewers have been laid by the Estate Developers to serve houses on the Hydes Road Estate (128 houses), Brunswick Park Estate (350 houses) and by the Corporation on the Crankhall Lane East Estate (290 houses), all of which are now in course of erection.

### **Surface Water Drainage.**

Main surface water drains have been laid by the Estate Developers to serve the two private Estates above mentioned, and by the Corporation on the Crankhall Lane East Estate. In addition similar main drains have been laid in Manor House Road.

### **Sewage Disposal.**

The media of two choked percolating filters has been washed and re-graded.

### **Rainfall.**

The total rainfall for the year was 26.58 inches.

### **Closet Accommodation.**

	End of	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Water Closets	...	6966	7296	7565	7749	7872
Waste Water Closets		165	164	156	153	142
Privies and Pail Closets		62	58	58	53	43

**In 1927 there were 275 waste water closets and 1,430 privies and pail closets.**

### **Public Cleansing.**

#### **Refuse Accommodation.**

	End	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Dust Bins	...	7635	8193	8336	8874	8952
Privy Middens	...	45	42	42	40	37
Ashpits	...	25	18	17	17	6
Cesspools	...	20	20	20	20	19

### **Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

The Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, together with the Tabular Statement furnished under article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations 1935, for the year under review, commences on page 35.



In view of the increasing duties which fall to this department the Authority should seriously consider the appointment of another additional Sanitary Inspector. The accommodation provided for the Sanitary Department of the Borough is entirely inadequate and the approach unhygienic ; there is no accommodation for interviewing people and the staff are overcrowded.

### **Shops.**

Work under the Shops Act, 1934, is carried out by Mr. F. W. O'Hara, the Additional Sanitary Inspector, who is the Inspector appointed under this Act.

### **Swimming Baths and Pools.**

The Corporation own indoor first and second class baths in Walsall Street.

The water is chlorinated and controlled by bacteriological and chemical tests.

There are no open-air swimming pools in the area.

### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

Disinfestation is carried out by the Local Authority in accordance with the memorandum drawn up in February, 1935, as printed in last year's report, page 20.

Infested houses have the picture rails, architraves round doors and windows and skirting boards removed if suspicious ; if found infested they are destroyed on a certificate of the Sanitary Inspector. If the bedding or articles of furniture are found to be old and badly infested, they are either destroyed voluntarily or on a certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors. Otherwise the houses are sprayed with insecticide and in addition fumigated with sulphur dioxide. The process is repeated if found necessary.

In order to ensure that belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses the Housing Manager forwards to the Chief Sanitary Inspector names and addresses of all people about to be moved into Council houses. They are visited by the Additional Sanitary Inspector and arrangements made for removal. The whole of the bedding, mattresses, etc., is removed for steam disinfection, old and useless articles of any kind are destroyed and the remainder of the furniture sprayed with insecticide and, if required, fumigated with sulphur dioxide.



Mr. T. W. Burns, the Housing Manager, on whose staff Miss E. Hartland is employed as Council House Supervisor, reports as follows :—

During the year 63 premises were dealt with :

(a) Council Houses	(1) Infested ...	19
	(2) Disinfested ...	19
(b) Other Houses	(1) Infested ...	44
	(2) Disinfested ...	44

On acceptance of a Council House Tenancy, with the key, the ingoing tenant is handed a Municipal Tenant's Handbook containing full information regarding house management, cleanliness and the Municipal Services available for ratepayers. Shortly after possession has been taken, the house is visited by the Supervisor, who compiles a record of home conditions ; this, where conditions are found to be satisfactory, is filed with the tenancy papers ; where conditions are unsatisfactory the record is not filed and the home is periodically visited until satisfactory conditions are attained. All tenants are instructed how to avoid vermin by keeping picture rails, skirtings, door frames, lamp shades, etc., free from cobwebs and dust. They are also instructed how to recognise the presence of bugs, bugs' eggs, etc.; how to keep sinks, baths, drains, lavatories, cooking utensils, stores, etc., clean, and are given every information and encouragement to enable them to maintain a clean, healthy home.

Tenants are instructed to inform the Housing Department immediately the presence of vermin is suspected or observed. On receipt of this information the Sanitary Department is informed and immediate action taken for the eradication of these pests. After disinfestation the rooms are redecorated.

It is intended that the whole of the Corporation Houses shall be periodically visited, but as there are over 2,500 houses and only one supervisor, this has been impossible, and up to the present work has been concentrated on the unsatisfactory cases."

### **Schools.**

During the year various hygienic improvements have been carried out.

It was not necessary to close any school or department on account of the prevalence of infectious disease.



## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

The statistics required under this section will be found in Table 1 of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report on page 35.

#### Slum Clearance.

On the 2nd March, 1937, an Inquiry was held by A. J. A. Illingworth, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, in regard to 135 houses recommended for demolition by the Council in the Dale Street Clearance Areas.

On the 11th May, 36 houses in the Wood Green Clearance Area were represented for demolition, on the 16th June, 173 houses in the Portway Road Area Scheme 2, and on the 17th November, 16 houses in the Holyhead Road and Queen Street Clearance Area.

On the 7th December R. N. Stuart, Esq., A.M.I.C.E., an Inspector of the Ministry of Health, held an Inquiry in regard to 20 houses recommended for demolition in New Street, and 26 houses in Church Street and Little Hill.

Particulars of individual houses represented for demolition during 1937 under Section II. of the Housing Act of 1936 are as follows :—

Number of houses represented	...	...	203
Number of demolition orders made	...	...	175
Number of undertakings accepted	...	...	9
Number of houses consideration deferred	...	...	19
Number of appeals	...	...	1
Number of houses involved in appeals	...	...	1
Appeals withdrawn (houses involved, 1)	...	...	1
Appeals dismissed (houses involved, —)	...	...	—
Appeals upheld (houses involved, —)	...	...	—

During the year the number of houses demolished and persons displaced was as follows :—

	Houses Demolished.	Persons Displaced.
Clearance Areas	8	44
Individual Demolition Orders	230	611
	<hr/> 238 <hr/>	<hr/> 655 <hr/>



Mr. Arthur Booth, M.I.M.C.E., L.R.I.B.A., M.I.Struct.E. (Borough Surveyor and Architect), has given me the following statement regarding houses erected by the Corporation:—

Number of houses erected from 1st January to 31st December, 1937:—

(a) By the Corporation—Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	93
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	133
				<hr/> 226

Number of houses erected from 1st January, 1919, to 31st December, 1937:—

(a) By the Corporation:—				
Housing Act, 1919	...	...	...	362
Housing Act, 1924	...	...	...	1060
Housing Act, 1925	...	...	...	11
Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	994
Cemetery Lodge	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 2428
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	790
				<hr/> 3218

Of the houses built for slum clearance under the Housing Act of 1930, 18 were erected in 1933, 216 in 1934, 340 in 1935, 327 in 1936 and 93 in 1937.

The rate of demolition is now entirely governed by the speed with which the building trade can provide new houses.

Two-roomed bungalows, specially constructed, are provided for the needs of displaced old couples, and where a member of a family to be re-housed is a notified case of Tuberculosis, the house allotted is one specially situated and constructed, the windows being of "Vita Glass."

### Overcrowding.

The Minister of Health in exercise of his powers under Section 68 of the Housing Act, 1936, ordered 1st July, 1937, to be the appointed day for the purpose of Section 62 of the Act (which provides for entry in rent books or similar documents of a summary in the prescribed form of certain provisions of the Act relating to overcrowding) and that the appointed day for the purpose of Sections 59 and 64 (which contain provisions as to offences in relation to overcrowding) and Section 60 and Sub-section (2) of Section 6 of the Act shall be the 1st January, 1938.



A report on the state of overcrowding in the Borough was submitted to the Health and Housing Committee on the 18th March, 1936, and a summary thereof was included in my Annual Report for that year. During 1937 no houses were built specially for overcrowding, so that some 500 houses still remain to be provided for cases of overcrowding existing in houses not likely to be scheduled for demolition.

During the year 49 overcrowded families were, however, re-housed as the result of slum clearance, and 22 overcrowded families accommodated in re-let Council houses.

On the 17th November, 27 cases of Tuberculosis in urgent need of re-housing were reported to the Health and Housing Committee.

The Borough Treasurer, Mr. J. S. Hodges, informs me that under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act advances totalling £5,180 were made in respect of 13 houses during 1937.

Since 1934, when the Act was brought into operation in the Borough, £18,390 has been loaned in respect of 46 houses.

Particulars of inspections of dwelling houses will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

## SECTION E.

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### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

In the main work under this section is carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and is reported on by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. Sampling under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders are carried out by the Public Health Department of the Staffordshire County Council, and I am indebted to Dr. W. D. Carruthers, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the following particulars of work carried out :—

Samples taken in Wednesbury M.B. during 1937  
under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders.

#### Specially Designated Milk :—

	Number submitted.	Cleanliness		Tb.
		Satis.	Unsatis.	
"Tuberculin Tested" ...	5	5	—	—
"Accredited" ...	8	8	—	—
"Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised"	1	1	—	—
"Pasteurised" ...	*9	7	2	—
	<u>23</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>

\* 8 Samples passed the phosphatase test.

#### Undesignated Milk :—

2 samples submitted which were both satisfactory from a cleanliness standpoint and were free from tubercle-bacilli.

Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Samples taken in Wednesbury during 1937.

Article of Food.	No. of Samples.	Genuine.	Adulterated
Milk ...	41	35	6
General Foods ...	13	11	2

Six samples of milk from three retailers were slightly deficient in fat and the vendors in each case were cautioned.



Two samples of dripping both taken from the same retailer contained a very slight excess of water and acidity and the vendor was cautioned.

Invariable sampling of Milk is made by our Inspectors where it might be the mode of conveyance of infectious disease and tests are made of Milk supplied to Schools and the Babies' Hostel—all samples are submitted to the County Bacteriologist at Stafford.

I must again draw attention to the unhygienic conditions prevailing in the market by allowing the sale of unwrapped and uncovered articles of food, other than fruit and vegetables.

### **Nutrition.**

Constant stress during the year has been laid on the basic value of milk as a food and the safety factor of consuming only Pasteurised Milk.

Propaganda by personal teaching in this direction is achieved at the consultations with the thousands of mothers met at School Inspections, Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-natal Clinics, and in lectures given to the general public by members of the medical staff.

The nutritional values of food in general—the obtaining of the utmost value at the least cost and the best mode of preparation—are by no means neglected in these talks and lectures.

Aproximately half the school population receive a daily ration of Pasteurised Milk, either free or at the reduced price available.

The value of Milk as a food has received emphasis too in the campaign to encourage the wider use of the nation's health services.



## SECTION F.

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### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Table 4 on page 32 shows the incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) in the area during the year 1937.

The number of notifications recorded 223, compares with 219 in 1936, 175 in 1935, 241 in 1934 and 179 in 1933.

Scarlet Fever notifications decreased by 32, whilst Diphtheria notifications increased by 10 over the numbers for 1936.

During the year 192 throat swabs were sent for examination to the County Laboratory, 24 being positive for Diphtheria, 168 negative.

One case of Paratyphoid occurred, the source of the infection was not traced and the patient, a little girl, made a good recovery.

Influenza of a mild type was prevalent in the first quarter of the year.

During the year further conferences took place to consider the scheme for the provision of better and more unified hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease arising in the south of the County—at times of pressure the securing of accommodation by authorities with no infectious disease hospitals of their own has become increasingly difficult and a source of great anxiety.

#### **Immunisation.**

The Council's Scheme inaugurated in September, 1936, has continued in operation during the year, immunisation being offered to children of from one to five years of age through the Infant Welfare Centres, and to children of from 5 to 8 years inclusive in attendance at the Elementary Schools of the Borough.

The material used was T.A.F., 3 x 1 c.c. injections at two weekly intervals.

Immunising material is supplied free to doctors when parents prefer immunisation to be carried out at their own expense by their usual medical attendant.



No pre-Schick tests are made and as yet no post-Schick testing has been carried out ; up to the end of 1937, 336 children have completed a course through the School Medical Service and 62 children through the Infant Welfare Service.

When a case of Diphtheria occurs in a home, the other children are often brought for immunisation. This, of course, is equivalent to taking out an insurance policy after the fire has occurred—the ideal age for protection is immediately after the first birthday.

No case of Diphtheria has as yet occurred amongst children who have received this protective treatment, nor have any severe reactions been experienced.

### **Tuberculosis.**

Table 5 on page 33 is a return of the new cases and mortality during 1937.

Total notifications were 41, deaths 29 ; in 1913 notifications numbered 100 and deaths 51.

At 31st December, 1937, the numbers on the register were :—

Pulmonary, Males	78	Non-Pulmonary, Males	43
Females	66	Females	18
	<hr/> 144		<hr/> 61

Total, all forms, 205.

During the year 181 Sputum Tests have been made, 48 were positive and 133 negative.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Tuberculosis Officer (Dr. D. J. Loughran).

The Tuberculosis Dispensary in Russell Street is administered by the County Council. Sessions are held on Mondays from 5 to 7 p.m. for men and on Wednesday mornings from 10 to 12 for women and children.

### **Venereal Disease.**

Cases for diagnosis and treatment are referred to the Special Department at the Guest Hospital, Dudley. Times of sessions : Men, Mondays and Fridays, 9.30 to 12.30 and 5 to 7 p.m. Women and children, Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays 2.30 to 4 p.m., and Fridays 10 to 12 a.m.

Bacteriological work in connection with venereal disease is carried out by Dr. J. Menton at the County Laboratory, Stafford.

### **Vaccination.**

Dr. G. E. V. Morris, the Public Vaccinator, reports as follows :—

#### Vaccination Statistics. Year 1937.

Number of Births	...	...	...	...	583
Number of Vaccinations	...	...	...	...	38
Number of Statutory Declarations	...	...	...	...	477
Number of Deaths Unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	17
Number of Postponements	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Removals	...	...	...	...	15
Number of cases to be accounted for	...	...	...	...	29

You will notice that out of 583 births only 38 were vaccinated, in other words, 6.5 out of every 100. This is truly appalling. I am afraid that only another epidemic of Small-pox such as that of 1923 will cause the public to wake up to their responsibilities.

(Signed) GEORGE E. V. MORRIS



TABLE IV.  
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) IN AGE GROUPS  
AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

DISEASE.	AGE GROUPS.										Total Cases notified	WARDS.				Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	King's Hill.	Market	Town Hall	Wood Green	
Small-pox .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	7	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever .....	-	1	1	1	7	33	9	3	8	-	-	-	9	1	11	27	28
Diphtheria .....	-	1	1	-	4	16	8	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	12	12	20
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	2
Pneumonia .....	-	6	2	5	1	16	6	5	19	8	12	7	19	26	14	28	-
Erysipelas .....	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	3	7	7	7	9	4	6	8	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	1	-
TOTAL .....	9	7	4	6	12	66	25	11	35	15	19	14	57	43	45	78	51
																	33

1937. Incidence Rate per 1,000 of the population :—Scarlet Fever 1.8; Diphtheria 1.02; Pneumonia 2.6; Puerperal Pyrexia 0.1; Erysipelas 0.8.

TABLE V.

## TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1937.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	1	1	3	2	—	1	—	—
5-15	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	1
15-25	3	4	4	—	1	4	—	—
25-35	2	2	1	—	4	3	—	1
35-45	3	2	1	—	5	1	—	—
45-55	1	2	—	—	3	—	—	—
55-65	1	1	—	—	3	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total	13	15	10	3	17	10	—	2

Ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths 1 in 29.





# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR



## TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

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Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

### ANNUAL REPORT.

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report, containing particulars of the work carried out by the Sanitary Department during the year ended the 31st day of December, 1937.

It will be seen that, as in the last few years, considerable time was devoted to work in connection with the provisions of the Housing Act, together with the routine work of the Department in other respects.

No doubt the difficulties experienced in re-housing the people to be displaced from houses subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders will be reduced to a minimum when the new houses now in course of erection become available for occupation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

HERBERT TOPPING,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

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### REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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#### Inspections.

The total number of visits for all purposes amounted to 4,195, a figure which must be regarded as very satisfactory. Of these, 754 were made whilst work was in progress and 3,441 in connection with specific matters. The details of the various visits will be found in Table VII.

#### Notices Served.

334 Preliminary Notices were served in addition to a large number of letters sent to owners, agents or occupiers, requiring them to carry out sanitary improvements.

In accordance with your instructions, 41 Statutory Notices were served, particulars of which are set out in Table VIII.



### **Sanitary Improvements Effected.**

A large number of sanitary improvements were effected, pursuant to the notices served, particulars of which will be found in Table X.

### **Legal Proceedings.**

In one case legal proceedings were instituted, and particulars of the result are set out in Table IX.

### **Work Carried Out in Default.**

In three cases—respecting eleven houses—where the owners failed to comply with Statutory Notices served upon them, the Council authorised the work to be carried out in default, and the cost involved was £925 10s. 0d.

### **Provision of Houses.**

During the year 226 new houses were provided ; 93 were built by the Council and 133 by private enterprise.

### **Demolition of Houses.**

During the year 238 houses were demolished.

### **Re-housing Occupants of Unfit Houses.**

During the year 654 persons were displaced from unfit houses and re-housed in houses erected by the Council.

### **Repairs, Improvements and Re-conditioning.**

24 houses were made fit for human habitation as the result of informal action, and 48 as the result of intimation or Statutory Notices.

### **Clearance Areas.**

Particulars respecting Clearance Areas will be found in the Report of the Medical Officer of Health.

### **Undertakings.**

Eleven draft undertakings affecting thirty-one houses were prepared, some of which were of a very complex nature and considerable time was taken in their preparation.

### **Individual Demolition Order Procedure.**

203 houses were represented as unfit for human habitation : Demolition Orders were made respecting 175 ; in three cases undertakings affecting 9 houses were accepted, and in 10 cases affecting 19 houses consideration was deferred.



### Appeals.

There was one appeal affecting one house, which was subsequently withdrawn.

### Overcrowding.

In accordance with the standards of the Housing Act, 1936, and particulars ascertained during the Overcrowding Survey, there were, at the beginning of the year 623 overcrowded houses. Unfortunately, apart from exceptional cases, it was not possible to deal with the overcrowding as thoroughly as may be desired. Those cases which occurred in unfit houses were, of course, dealt with.

### Unfit Houses.

TABLE I.

## ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE HOUSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS WITH RESPECT TO UNFIT HOUSES.

### 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) ... ..	1273
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	2019
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... ..	428
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	428
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	400
(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 ... ..	93

### 2. Remedy of Defects during the year with Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ..	11
--	----



### 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  | 72  |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:   |     |
| (a) By Owners  | 60  |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners  | 12  |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :   |     |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied   | 41  |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :   |     |
| (a) By Owners  | 38  |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners  | 3   |
| (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :  |     |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made  | 170 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders   | 238 |
| (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   | 1   |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit | 1   |

### 4. Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV.) Overcrowding.

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the beginning of the year | 580  |
| (ii) Number of families dwelling therein                             | 780  |
| (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein                             | 2842 |



(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	8
(c)	(i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	21
	(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	147
(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						3
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report						—

### **Eradication of the Bed Bug.**

During the year systematic work was carried out to eradicate the bed bug:—

#### **1. Infested Houses :**

The number of houses found to be infested with bugs was :

Council houses	...	...	...	...	...	19
Other houses	...	...	...	...	...	44

The number of houses disinfested was :

Council houses	...	...	...	...	...	19
Other houses	...	...	...	...	...	44

In four cases the houses were found to be infested on more than one occasion.

#### **2. Method Employed to Free Infested Houses of Bugs :**

- (a) Bedding etcetera is removed to the Sanitary Depot for disinfection by steam.
- (b) Articles badly infested and of little or no value are destroyed, and in some cases bedding etcetera was replaced by the Council at a cost of £15 14s. 0d., which will be repaid to the Council by instalments.
- (c) Walls sprayed with insecticide and rooms fumigated with either sulphur or formaldehyde.
- (d) When necessary, picture rails, architraves around doors and windows and skirting boards, etcetera, are removed and, if found to be infested, burnt.



**3. Method employed to ensure that belongings of a tenant are free from vermin before removal to a Council house :**

The Housing Department notify the Sanitary Department of all people to be removed to a Council house, and, in this connection, 163 houses were visited by a Sanitary Inspector and arrangements made for all old and useless articles to be destroyed, for the bedding, etcetera, to be removed to the Sanitary Depot for disinfection by steam, and the infested furniture fumigated with sulphur in the van and afterwards sprayed with insecticide before it is removed to a Council house.

4. The whole of the disinfestation work is carried out by the employees of the Sanitary Department of the Corporation and no charge is made.

**5. General :**

So far the results have justified the methods employed. Owing to its danger and various other reasons it was not thought advisable to adopt the method of disinfestation by hydro-cyanide gas.

**Infectious Diseases.**

The cases of infectious disease notified were investigated and where the patient was removed to hospital disinfection was carried out after removal. Where the patient was nursed at home the case was visited from time to time during the progress of the disease, printed instructions were given for preventing the spread of the disease and the necessary disinfection was carried out at the termination of the period of infectivity.

**Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders.**

The particulars respecting the work in pursuance of these Statutes are as follows :—

**1. REGISTERED.**

Number of cowkeepers ... ..	1
Number of dairies, milkshops, etc. ... ..	42
Number of dairymen ... ..	74

**2. APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.**

	Number of Applications	Granted	Refused
Cowkeepers ... ..	—	—	—
Dairies, Milkshops, etc. ... ..	—	—	—
Dairymen ... ..	1	1	—



## 3. VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Farms and Cowsheds (cows kept) ...	6
Dairies, Milkshops, etc. (no cows kept) ...	57

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

The particulars of the Licences granted under this Order are as follow :—

LICENCES					GRADE		
Number Issued	Producers	Bottlers	Dealers	Supplementary	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited	Pasteurised
23	—	—	5	18	8	8	7

**Slaughterhouses and Food Supplies.**

There are six slaughterhouses on the register, as follow :

Registered ...	1
Licensed (duration indefinite) ...	3
Annual Licences ...	2

Only two of the slaughterhouses are at present in use.

Over 213 visits were made to the slaughterhouses. The owners voluntarily destroyed or surrendered diseased or unsound food when their attention was called to its condition, the total weight of meat destroyed being over 2 tons and 9 cwts., together with offals, as shown in Table III.

105 visits were paid to the markets and the food exposed for sale was inspected.

Other premises where food is sold were also visited and the food exposed for sale inspected.

Table No. III. shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected and the particulars of food condemned and destroyed.

TABLE II.

**Bacteriological, Chemical and Biological Examinations.**

Particulars of the Bacteriological (B), Chemical (C), and Biological (Bi.) Examinations of Water, Milk and Foods made during the year.

No.	B, C, or Bi.	Description of Sample	Nature of Examination.	Results.
1	B	Bathwater (1st class)	Purity	Satisfactory. No B Coli.
2	B	" (2nd class)	"	ditto.
3	C	" (1st class)	"	Satisfactory.
4	C	Drinking Water.	"	ditto.
5	B	" "	"	Satisfactory. No evi- dence of pollution. No B Coli.
6	C	Bathwater (1st class)	"	Satisfactory.
7	B	" ( " )	"	Satisfactory. No B Coli.
8	C	" (2nd class)	"	Satisfactory
9	B	" ( " )	"	Satisfactory No B Coli.
10	B	Milk (T.T.)	Cleanliness	Satisfactory—Methylene Blue Test.
11	B	Milk (T.T.)	Tuberculosis	No tubercular bacilli
12	B	Milk (Pasteurised)	Cleanliness	Satisfactory—Methylene Blue Test. N B Coli. Bacteriological Count 1,000 per c.c.
13	B	(Milk Pasteurised)	"	Satisfactory—Methylene Blue Test. No B Coli. Bacteriological Count 3,00 per c.c.
14	B	Milk (T.T. Pasteurised)	"	Satisfactory—Methylene Blue Test
15	Bi.	Milk (Accredited)	Tuberculosis	No tubercular bacilli
16	Bi.	Milk (Pasteurised)	"	ditto.
17	Bi.	"	"	ditto.
18	Bi.	"	"	ditto.
19	B	Drinking Water	Purity	Satisfactory
20	B	Milk (Sterilized)	"	No bacilli typhosus



TABLE III.

No. of Visits		CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.							PARTICULARS OF MEAT CONDEMNED AND DESTROYED						
Markets	Slaughter-houses	Particulars	Cattle ex- cluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Details	Disease or cause of destruction.	Approximate Weight					
105	213	Number killed (approximate)	81	—	11	414	20075	2 Pigs 298 Pig heads 147 Pig fry 40 Pig stomachs 1 Pig 111 Pig mesenteries 1 Pig mesentery 6 Pig fry 1 Pig fry	Tubercular " " Unwholesome Tubercular Inflammation " Echinococcus veterinorum " Tubercular Fatty infiltration Cirrhosis Tubercular " Cirrhosis Tubercular	— 1 — — — — — — — —	2 19 — — 1 — — — — 3	3 2 — — 3 — — — — 3	6 25 — — 16 — — — — 6		
		Number inspected	81	—	11	353	4750								
		ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS :													
		Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	1							
		Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned :	3	—	—	—	—	16							
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis :	3.69	—	—	—	—	.35							5		
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY:															
		Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	2								
		Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	—	—	298	MARKETS Beef 1 Beast head	Tubercular "	— —	— —	1 —	12 —		
		Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	4.92	—	—	—	6.31								

### **Offensive Trades.**

One application for the consent of the Local Authority to the establishment of a fish-frying business within the Borough was received and granted.

### **Factories and Workshops.**

The Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health respecting the administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, is shown in Table XI.

There are 89 workshops, including 17 bakehouses, on the register. A detailed list of the trades carried on in workshops is set out in Table XI.

### **Workshops.**

These have been periodically visited and the regulations respecting cleanliness, lighting, etc., have been carried out.

### **Outworkers.**

When lists have been received containing names and addresses of homeworkers, the premises have been visited and found to be in order.

### **Bakehouses.**

These have been visited from time to time and generally found in fair order.

### **Allotments and Insect Pests.**

The Allotments were visited periodically to see that the Allotments Rules were complied with, and literature was distributed to the allottees.

More than 71 acres were cultivated as allotments, of which more than 37 acres were under the direct supervision of the Council.

Table III. gives particulars respecting allotments in the Borough.

It should be noted that some of the land now cultivated as allotments was purchased for housing and will ultimately be used for that purpose.



TABLE IV.

Particulars.	No. of Allottees	AREA.		
		Acres	Roods	Poles
1. Land purchased by Council ...	241	29	1	30
2. Other land held by the Council and used for Allotments ...	136	8	2	0
3. Private Allotments ...	450	32	0	30
Totals ...	827	70	0	20
Number of Applications and Area of land applied for ...	63	2	0	0
Number of Applications and Total Area of land applied for and not granted ...	—	—	—	—

Total amount of rent received in respect of Allotments

		£	s.	d.
General ...	...	59	0	0
Tenancy on Housing Lands ...	...	30	0	0
Total ...	...	£89	0	0

## Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse.

**The Town :** The town is industrial in character and comprises 2,025 acres, the total number of inhabited houses being 8,006, and the Rateable Value was £128,735, a penny rate producing £490 0s. 0d. The population was 33,103.

**Period of Report :** The report generally is for the year ended the 31st December, 1937, but so far as the figures refer to the removal and disposal of refuse the year is taken as ending the 31st March, 1938. This is in order that the figures may easily be compared with those of former years and synchronise with the Corporation's ledgers, and is thought preferable as more actual figures may be given instead of estimated.

**Particulars.** The figures given in Table VI. are taken from the Corporation Books, and show the particulars for the year ended the 31st March, 1937, the latest complete details available. They are given to permit comparison with those for the year ended the 31st March, 1938.

**Depot :** The work of collection and disposal of house and trade refuse is carried out directly by and under the supervision of the Council from the Sanitary Depot, High Bullen, which comprises stabling for seven horses, a garage for three motor vehicles and the necessary shedding and storage for carts, equipment and etc. When the Isolation Hospital was abandoned, the Steam Disinfector was removed to the Depot and is now chiefly engaged for the purposes of disinfection with regard to the housing under the Slum Clearance Programme.

**Staff :** The total number of men employed in connection with the Depot is 23, but as other work incidental to the Sanitary Department, such as disinfection and the occasional opening and cleansing of drains, is undertaken, the men actually engaged in the removal and disposal of refuse is as follows :—

Foreman :	General	...	...	...	...	1
Others :	Collection	...	...	...	...	17
	Disposal	...	...	...	...	4
	Yardman	...	...	...	...	1
Total						23



**Vehicles :** For the purposes of Collection and Disposal of Refuse and work in connection with Disinfestation, there are :—

- One 3 ton "Karrier" Mechanical Refuse Collecting Vehicle.
- One 2 ton "Fordson" Mechanical Refuse Collecting Vehicle.
- Seven Horses and Carts ; and
- One 1 ton "Morris" Van (ex Ambulance).

**Collection :** As all the refuse is not passed over a weigh-bridge an occasional load is weighed and the average taken for the purpose of estimating the total weight.

**Weight of Refuse :** 9,253 loads of refuse were removed. The average weight of a load of refuse—including all vehicles—was 22 cwt., and the total number of loads was 9,253, which gives the following details :—

Total weight of refuse	...	...	10,178 tons.
Weight per 1,000 houses	...	...	790 tons.
Weight per 1,000 population	...	...	308 tons.
Weight per 1,000 population per day (365 days)	...	...	16.9 cwt.

7859 tons of refuse were removed by five horses and carts, and 2,319 tons, or 22.7%, by the two mechanical refuse collecting vehicles.

**Method of Collection :** The refuse from dust bins is removed once in seven days, and from ashpits, privies, privy middens and cesspools when required.

**Receptacles :** The number of refuse receptacles in the Borough is 8,914, as follows :—

Dust bins	...	...	...	...	8,852
Ashpits	...	...	...	...	37
Privy middens	...	...	...	...	6
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	19
Total					8,914

**Costs :** The net costs were as follows :—

		Including Loan Charges	Excluding Loan Charges
Collection	...	£4,036	£3,870
Disposal	...	997	982
Total	...	£5,033	£4,852

**Disposal :** The refuse is deposited on low-lying ground and is well covered with soil or other suitable refuse the same day. About 200 tons of the more objectionable refuse was destroyed in the incinerator.

All the refuse, with the exception of 213 loads, was deposited at the four tips, viz.: Moxley, Blackhams, Manor Road, and the Mounts. The Regulations respecting Controlled Tips were observed.

The average haul to place of disposal, half a mile.

The methods of collection and disposal are as follow :—

				Number of Vehicles.	Percentage of refuse collected.
<i>Collection :</i>					
Horse Vehicles	...	...		5	77.3
Mechanical Vehicles	...	...		2	22.7
				Tons.	Percentage of Total
<i>Disposal :</i>					
Controlled Tipping	...	...		9978	98.1
Incineration	...	...		200	1.9
Totals	...	...		10,178	100.0



TABLE V.  
COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE  
YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1938.

	No. OF RECEPTACLES EMPTIED AND CLEANED					No. OF LOADS OF REFUSE REMOVED						WHERE DEPOSITED							
	Privy Middens	Privy Cisterns	Dry Ashpits	Dust Bins	Cesspools	Dry Refuse	Mixed Refuse	From Cesspools	Trade Refuse	TOTAL	Percentage of Mixed Refuse	Moxley	Blackham's	Manor Road	Mounts	Others	TOTAL		
	78	53	16	405070	47	8634	65	219	335	9253	70	296	4616	Nil.	4218	213	9253		

TABLE VI.

## HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31st March, 1937.

	I.—COLLECTION.		II.—DISPOSAL.		TOTALS.	
	Including Depreciation on Loan Charges	Excluding Depreciation on Loan Charges	Including Depreciation on Loan Charges	Excluding Depreciation on Loan Charges	Including Depreciation on Loan Charges	Excluding Depreciation on Loan Charges
REVENUE ACCOUNT :—						
Gross Expenditure .....	£ s. d. 3830 7 10	£ s. d. 3694 7 10	£ s. d. 940 19 1	£ s. d. 931 19 1	£ s. d. 4771 6 11	£ s. d. 4626 6 11
Gross Income .....	94 9 6	94 9 6	76 14 10	76 14 10	171 4 4	171 4 4
Net Cost .....	3735 18 4	3599 18 4	864 4 3	855 4 3	4600 2 7	4455 2 7
UNIT COSTS :—						
Gross Expenditure per ton .....	7 4.24	7 1.11	1 9.67	1 9.47	9 1.91	8 10 6
Gross Income per ton .....	2.17	2.17	1.76	1.76	3.93	3.93
Nett Cost per ton .....	7 2.07	6 10.9	1 7.91	1 7.71	8 9.98	8 6.5
Nett Cost per 1,000 population .....	113 15 11	109 13 6.8	26 6 5.7	26 0 11.9	140 2 5	135 14 6.76
Nett Cost per 1,000 houses .....	472 12 0	455 8 0	109 6 6	108 3 6	581 18 6	563 11 6
RATE POUNDAGE :—						
Nett Cost, equivalent rate in £ .....	7.94	7.66	1.84	1.82	9.79	9.48
Percentage of equivalent rate to total rate in £ .....	4.62%	4.45%	1.07%	1.06%	5.69%	5.51%

Area of Borough 2,025 acres. No. of houses 7,905. Population 32,830. Total Refuse Collected 10,417 tons. Disposal (a) Controlled Tipping 10,217 tons. (b) Incinerator 200 tons. Weight in cwts per 1,000 17.39 cwt. Rateable Value £127,513. Total Rates in £—14/4d. Product of a Penny Rate £470.



TABLE VII.

**Particulars of Inspections made and Visits paid during 1938.**

House-to-house inspections	...	...	...	...	517
Miscellaneous inspection, including houses inspected after complaints	...	...	...	...	2019
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	754
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	203
Visits to Markets	...	...	...	...	105
Visits to Butchers, Fish, Game and Poultry Shops	...	...	...	...	73
Visits to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	57
Visits to Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	79
Visits respecting Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	219
Visits respecting Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	163
					<hr/> 4,195 <hr/>
Number of Preliminary Notices	...	...	...	...	337
Number of Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	41
Number of Letters written to Owners re Nuisances	...	...	...	...	197
Reports sent to Surveyor re Dangerous Buildings	...	...	...	...	3
Reports sent to Water Company re Waste of Water	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Houses Disinfected (after infectious disease)	...	...	...	...	116
Number of Verminous Houses Disinfested other than where occupants were removed to Council houses	...	...	...	...	63

TABLE VIII.

NOTICES SERVED AND NUMBER OF HOUSES IN  
CONNECTION WITH NOTICES.

NATURE OF DEFECTS.	Preliminary Notices		Statutory Notices	
	Notices served.	No. of Houses in connection with Notices.	Notices served.	No. of Houses in connection with Notices.
Filthy and dilapidated houses ...	81	117	20	25
Filthy and dilapidated outbuildings	22	61	—	13
Defective paving & surface channels	—	11	—	5
Defective eaves and down-spouting	—	12	—	4
Insufficient drainage ...	—	1	—	—
Foul, untrapped or defective drainage	—	—	—	—
Choked drainage and water closets	19	31	2	1
Insufficient ashpit accommodation	176	332	1	2
Insufficient closet accommodation	—	—	—	—
Insanitary ashpits ...	—	1	—	—
Insanitary sinks ...	1	9	—	—
Fooling of sanitary conveniences used in common ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowded houses or rooms ...	—	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept ...	—	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations ...	6	6	1	1
Water in cellars ...	8	17	—	—
Houses unfit for habitation	—	—	—	—
Polluted wells ...	—	—	—	—
Dangerous wells or cisterns	—	—	—	—
Insufficient water supply ...	—	1	—	1
Dairies and Milkshops ...	—	—	—	—
Bakehouses ...	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workshops ...	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging Houses ...	—	—	—	—
Houses Let in Lodgings ...	5	5	—	—
Slaughter-houses ...	—	—	—	—
Defective roofs ...	10	39	—	14
Defective and Dangerous Chimneys	—	—	—	—
Dangerous boundary walls	—	1	—	—
Defective sanitary accommodation for workmen ...	—	—	6	5
Defective water closet connections...	2	6	—	—
Insanitary waste water closets ...	4	15	—	1
Unfit houses requiring demolition ...	—	—	9	24
Emission of smoke, etc. ...	—	—	2	2
TOTALS ...	334	665	41	97



TABLE IX.

**Result of Legal Proceedings.**

Situation of premises.	Nature of complaint.	Statute under which proceedings were taken.	Result.
127, Dangerfield Lane	Taking in Lodgers in House subject to Demolition Order.	Housing Act, 1936 Section 155 (3).	Fined 5/- and 10/- costs.

TABLE X.

**Sanitary Improvements carried out in pursuance of Inspections  
made and Notices served.**

**Interior of Houses.**

Filthy houses cleansed and limewashed ... ..	17
Houses in which repairs to plastering or woodwork have been carried out ... ..	73
Flooded cellars drained ... ..	6

**Exterior of Houses.**

Defective roofs made watertight ... ..	41
Houses without eaves or downspouting, or with choked or defective spouting, new spouting pro- vided, or existing spouting cleansed and repaired	8
Dangerous chimneys repaired ... ..	3
New earthenware sinks provided in lieu of brick sinks ... ..	15

**Yards and Outbuildings.**

Surface paving in yards provided, renewed or repaired	12
Dangerous wells or cisterns filled in or suitable covers provided ... ..	—
Filthy and dilapidated outbuildings cleansed and repaired ... ..	37

**Drainage.**

Absence of, or insufficient or defective, drainage ...	79
Number of inspection chambers provided to drainage systems ... ..	24
Additional gullies fixed ... ..	43
Choked drains opened and cleansed ... ..	168

**Privies, Water Closets and Ashpits.**

Privies abolished ... ..	6
Middens abolished ... ..	3
Water closets with flush cisterns substituted for privies ... ..	6
Additional water closets provided ... ..	10
Fresh water closets substituted for waste water closets ... ..	11
Dust bins provided ... ..	312
Dry ashpits abolished ... ..	—
Insufficient water supply to water closets; flush provided ... ..	—
Defective water closet connections repaired ...	9



**Water Supply.**

Houses without a proper supply of drinking water ...	—
Stand pipes abolished ... ..	—
Water-taps fixed in wash houses or houses ...	6

**Keeping Animals and Offensive Accumulations.**

Nuisance from keeping of swine abated ... ..	—
Offensive accumulations removed from premises ...	5
Nuisances from the keeping of fowl or other poultry abated ... ..	—

**Overcrowding.**

Houses overcrowded ; numbers reduced ... ..	21
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**Miscellaneous.**

Filthy yards, sanitary conveniences and approaches thereto cleansed by occupiers ... ..	—
--	---

**Housing.**

Houses unfit for human habitation closed or demolished ... ..	238
Back-to-back houses abolished ... ..	—
Vans removed from district ... ..	1

**Cowsheds and Dairies.**

Cowsheds provided with additional lighting ... ..	—
Cowsheds provided with additional ventilation ...	—
Dairy accommodation provided, cleansed, lime- washed or improved ... ..	2

**Factories and Workshops.**

Workshops or workrooms cleansed ... ..	—
Insufficient closet accommodation ; water closets provided ... ..	4
Unsuitable or defective closet accommodation ; water closets repaired ... ..	4
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes ; water closets provided ... ..	2
Urinals provided ... ..	2
Miscellaneous sanitary improvements ; cleansing sanitary conveniences ; overcrowding ... ..	3

TABLE XI.

ANNUAL REPORT for the Year 1937, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises	Number of		Prosecutions
	Inspections	Written Notices	
Factories (including Factory Laundries) Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) : ... .. Workplaces (other than outworkers' premises) :	67	13	—
Totals ...	67	13	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of Ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Want of Urinal accommodation ... ..	2	2	—	—
Emission of Smoke and Grit ... ..	2	2	—	—
Improper discharge of Refuse Water ... ..	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :				
Insufficient ... ..	2	2	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective ... ..	4	4	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	2	2	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouses ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences (excluding Offences Relating to Outwork) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	13	13	—	—



TABLE XI.—continued

3.—REGISTERED WORK SHOPS.			4.—OTHER MATTERS.	
Workshops on the Register at the end of the year.	No.		Class.	No.
Acetylene Welders ...	1		Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :	
Bakers ... ..	17			
Bags ... ..	1			
Boots and Shoes ...	12		Failure to affix abstracts of the Factory and Workshop Act ... ..	—
Breezes ... ..	2			
Black and Coach Smiths ...	3			
Carpenters and Joiners ...	4		Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factories and Workshops Acts (Sec. 5) ... ..	—
Cabinet and Pattern Makers	4			
Clothiers and Tailors ...	4			
Coopers ... ..	1			
Dressmakers ... ..	2			
Engineers ... ..	1			
Forges ... ..	1			
Files ... ..	1			
Greases and Oils ... ..	1			
Galvanizing ... ..	1		Notified by H.M. Inspector...	5
Gun locks ... ..	2			
Hosiery ... ..	1		Report (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	—
Laundry ... ..	1			
Millinery ... ..	2			
Mason ... ..	1			
Motor Garages ... ..	10			
Nut Makers ... ..	1			
Plumbers and Painters ...	3			
Stampers ... ..	1			
Springmakers ... ..	2			
Sugar Boilers ... ..	1			
Wheelwrights ... ..	1			
Weighing Machines ... ..	2			
Tube Fittings ... ..	2			
Foundries ... ..	3			
Total number of Workshops on the Register ...	89			

1st January, 1938.

(Signed) A. H. KYNASTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

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