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**BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY**



# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Chief Sanitary Inspector

**1949**

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.**

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*Chairman* : Alderman L. Whitehouse, J.P.

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor L. B. Gardner, J.P.)

Alderman Mrs. E. Price.

„ G. W. Price, J.P.

Councillor M. Allen.

„ G. G. Garman, M.C.

„ R. Hammond.

T. Hollingsworth, J.P.

S. Rogers.

N. L. Small.



Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report in respect of the year 1949 drawn up in accordance with Circular 2/50 of the Ministry of Health, dated 25th January, 1950.

Regulations made by the Minister of Health direct that a Medical Officer of Health in respect of the district for which he is appointed, shall as soon as practicable after the 31st day of December in each year make an Annual Report to the local authority for the year ending on that date on the sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration and vital statistics of the district, containing, in addition to any other matters upon which he may consider it desirable to report, such information as may from time to time be required by the Minister, and furnish the Minister with as many copies of such report as the Minister may from time to time require.

It would be a poor Public Health Committee and a still poorer Medical Officer of Health however, who judged their success merely by the banishing or delaying of premature death or by the prevention of sickness and disease in the community they serve.

For true health consists of more than this—it is surely the attainment of the maximum well being of body, mind and spirit.

In the general population, how many we see gaunt and grim and older than their years with bad posture, unhealthy colour and lack lustre eye.

By contrast I remember a boy at a School Medical Inspection who, when I said "Well John, (it may have been Tom, Dick or Harry) how are you?" replied "I am never ill, sir, and I am in good spirit." Needless to say no physical defect was found, his cheeks were rosy, his eyes shone and he radiated vitality and a sense of energy, power and joy.

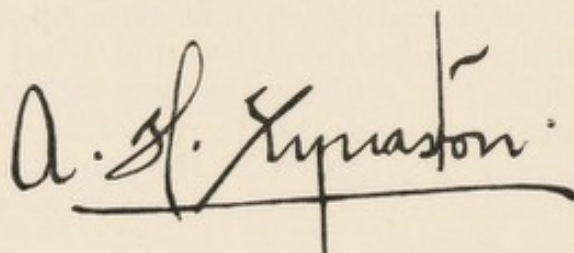
Why should not everyone commensurate with their age be similarly endowed? In the prevention of sub-normal health not amounting to disease, but retarding the full attainment of man's physical, mental and spiritual potentialities, much could be accomplished.

There is a tendency that we may feel, with national death and infantile mortality rates now lower than ever recorded, that the highest possible results are within sight of achievement but positions hardly won can all too easily be lost and my preceeding paragraphs will have shown that perfection is yet far distant.

Much, once your responsibility, has been removed from your care and this report has features missing which you were wont to regard with interest and some measure of pride, many vital aspects of public work however, remain within the Authority's jurisdiction. I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their help and consideration during the year under review.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "A. S. Xyrason". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Wednesbury, Staffs.

17th June, 1950.



## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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### *Medical Officer of Health :*

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

*(Six elevenths of whose time is allotted to the Staffordshire County Council for duty as Area Medical Officer to their No. 9 Area Health Committee.)*

### *Chief Sanitary Inspector :*

F. J. Turner, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

### *Additional Sanitary Inspectors :*

G. O. Wright, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

F. Holman, R.S.A.S., M.S.I.A.

### *Veterinary Surgeon :*

J. McClemont, M.R.C.V.S.

### *Clerical Staff :*

Miss A. James.

Miss M. Fellows (*Half-time Staffs. C.C. School Health Service*).

### *Sanitary Department :*

Mr. S. Matthewson.      Mr. G. Amos.      Mr. R. J. Deeley.

## SECTION A.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres) ... ..	2,025
Registrar-General's estimate of civilian population	
1949 ... ..	34,910
Population (Census, 1931) ... ..	31,531
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1949) according to	

## Rate Books :—

(i) Council houses ... ..	3,711
(ii) Other Houses ... ..	5,455
Total ... ..	9,166

Rateable value at 31st December, 1949 ... ..	£155,105
Sum represented by a penny rate 1948/49 ... ..	£615

## Vital Statistics :—

	Total.	Males.	Females.	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of Civilian Population.
Live Births	652 ...	357 ...	295	
Legitimate	639 ...	352 ...	287	18.67
Illegitimate	13 ...	5 ...	8	
				Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Still births	19 ...	8 ...	11	28.31
Legitimate	19 ...	8 ...	11	
Illegitimate	— ...	— ...	—	Per 1,000 Civilian Population. 0.54

					Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population.
Deaths	378 ...	201 ...	177		10.82

## Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
No. 29 Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis ... ..	Nil	Nil
No. 30 Other Maternal Causes ... ..	Nil	Nil

## Deaths on infants under one year of age :—

Total ...	26	Male ...	14	Female ...	12
Legitimate	25	Male ...	13	Female ...	12
Illegitimate	1	Male ...	1	Female ...	—



Death Rate all causes under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	39.87
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	39.12
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	76.92

		Rate per 1,000 Civil- ian Population
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..	57	1.63
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ..	1	0.028
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... ..	4	0.11

Year.	Mid Year Popula- tion.	Live Births.		Deaths.			
		No.	Rate.	All Ages.	Rate.	Under 1 year.	Rate.
1937 ...	33,130 ...	601 ...	18.1 ...	417 ...	12.5 ...	37 ...	61.5
1938 ...	33,370 ...	601 ...	18.0 ...	406 ...	12.1 ...	43 ...	71.5
1939 ...	33,650 ...	608 ...	18.1 ...	385 ...	11.5 ...	35 ...	58.0
1940 ...	32,080 ...	571 ...	17.8 ...	390 ...	12.2 ...	35 ...	61.0
1941 ...	32,400 ...	594 ...	18.3 ...	384 ...	11.9 ...	38 ...	64.0
1942 ...	32,230 ...	633 ...	19.6 ...	327 ...	10.1 ...	31 ...	49.0
1943 ...	32,090 ...	643 ...	20.0 ...	351 ...	10.9 ...	25 ...	38.8
1944 ...	32,460 ...	662 ...	20.3 ...	367 ...	11.3 ...	31 ...	46.8
1945 ...	32,200 ...	672 ...	20.8 ...	371 ...	11.5 ...	25 ...	37.1
1946 ...	33,140 ...	668 ...	20.1 ...	335 ...	10.1 ...	31 ...	46.4
1947 ...	33,690 ...	693 ...	20.5 ...	374 ...	11.1 ...	28 ...	40.4
1948 ...	34,460 ...	696 ...	20.19 ...	372 ...	10.79 ...	32 ...	45.97
1949 ...	34,910 ...	652 ...	18.67 ...	378 ...	10.82 ...	26 ...	39.87

The Registrar General's Civilian Population for the Borough of Wednesbury for 1949 is given as 34,910, an increase of 450 over the estimated mid-year population for 1948.

The Standardised Death Rate for the year 1949 for the Borough of Wednesbury is 13.41 (10.82 x 1.24) 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.

Provisional Rates for 1949 for England and Wales :—

Live Births, 16.7 ; Deaths, 11.7 ; Infants under one year of age, 32.

The Birth Rate although lower than last year at 18.67 is above that for towns of comparable size and two points above the rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate at 39.8 although less than last year (46) is still above that for England and Wales (32).

The Death Rate at 10.82 is lower than that of England and Wales and of the 148 Towns with a Resident Population of 25,000 to 50,000 at the 1931 census.



*The rates for Tuberculosis, referred to on page 18, shew how much yet remains to be achieved in combatting this persistent enemy—better housing is the first line of attack.*

### **Social Conditions.**

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

I am indebted to Mr. C. E. Choyce, Manager of the Employment Exchange for the following figures:—

Unemployed Wednesbury on 5th December, 1949.

			18 years and over.		Under 18.		Total.		Temporary stoppages.		Wholly Un- employed.
Males	...	...	44	...	—	...	44	...	4	...	40
Females	...	...	19	...	—	...	19	...	—	...	19

### **Registrar General's 1949 Vital Statistics.**

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1949, Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	126 County England and Wales.	148 Smaller Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) 50,000 at 1931 Census)	Towns (Resident Population 25,000— 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County	Wednes- bury.
--	--	---	--	---	------------------

Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population.

#### *Births.*

Live Births	...	...	16.7 (a)	18.7	...	18.0	...	18.5	...	18.67
Still Births	...	...	0.39 (a)	0.47	...	0.40	...	0.37	...	0.54

#### *Deaths.*

All Causes	...	...	11.7	...	12.5	...	11.6	...	12.2	...	10.82
Typhoid and Para- typhoid	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Whooping Cough	...	...	0.01	...	0.02	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.00
Diphtheria	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Tuberculosis	...	...	0.45	...	0.52	...	0.42	...	0.52	...	0.85
Influenza	...	...	0.15	...	0.15	...	0.14	...	0.11	...	0.14
Smallpox	...	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis...	...	...	0.01	...	0.02	...	0.02	...	0.02	...	0.00
Pneumonia	...	...	0.51	...	0.56	...	0.49	...	0.59	...	0.60

(a) Rates per 1,000 total population.

	126 County	148 Smaller		
England and Wales.	Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	Wednesbury.

Certain Infectious Diseases :

*Notifications (Corrected).*

Typhoid fever	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.00
Paratyphoid fever	...	0.01	...	0.02	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.00
Cerebro-spinal fever	...	0.02	...	0.03	...	0.02	...	0.02	...	0.00
Scarlet fever	...	1.63	...	1.72	...	1.83	...	1.46	...	2.74
Whooping Cough	...	2.39	...	2.44	...	2.39	...	1.70	...	3.00
Diphtheria	...	0.04	...	0.05	...	0.04	...	0.07	...	0.22
Erysipelas	...	0.19	...	0.20	...	0.19	...	0.17	...	0.20
Smallpox	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00	...	0.00
Measles	...	8.95	...	8.91	...	9.18	...	8.54	...	14.83
Pneumonia	...	0.80	...	0.91	...	0.65	...	0.55	...	0.63
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	0.13	...	0.13	...	0.12	...	0.18	...	0.00
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	0.01	...	0.01	...	0.02	...	0.01	...	0.02
Food Poisoning	...	0.14	...	0.16	...	0.14	...	0.19	...	0.00

*Deaths.*

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

All causes under one year of age	...	32 (b)	...	37	...	30	...	29	...	39.8
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	3.0	...	3.8	...	2.4	...	1.7	...	6.1

*Notifications (Corrected)*

Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

Puerperal fever and pyrexia	...	6.31	...	8.14	...	5.30	...	6.82	...	0.00
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Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

<i>International List No. and cause</i>	<i>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.</i>		<i>Rates per million women aged 15—44</i>		<i>Wednes- bury.</i>
140 Abortion with sepsis	...	0.11	...	8	...
141 Abortion without sepsis	...	0.05	...	4	...
147 Puerperal infections	...	0.11	...	—	...
142-146, 148-150 Other Maternal Causes	...	0.71	...	—	...

(b) Per 1,000 related live births.



CAUSES OF DEATH IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION, Year 1949.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 19	20 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and over	Total	Males	Fe- males	WARDS.				
															Town	King's Hill.	Manor	Wood Green.	Messy Croft
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	—	—	—	3	1	8	4	4	6	1	27	16	11	4	5	6	3	9
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	1	—	1	1	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	3	—	—	2	1	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (males only)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Uterus (females only)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	4	4	—	—	1	1	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	5	1	—	9	—	2	—	—	4
Cancer of Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	4	2	39	26	13	3	9	8	3	9
Cancer of all other sites	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	30	38	19	19	7	7	14	5	—
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	5	1	13	60	82	43	39	17	21	14	23	—
Heart Disease	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	9	9	5	4	4	4	3	—	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	12	21	13	8	4	3	7	—	6
Bronchitis	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	4	21	12	9	4	4	1	—	—
Pneumonia	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	4	12	2	2	1	—	—	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	4	3	1	2	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea (under two years)	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	2	2	—	—	—	1
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	8	11	6	5	2	4	1	—	—
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	2	7	3	4	—	—	—	—	—



CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER ONE YEAR IN AGE GROUPS AND  
WARD DISTRIBUTION, Year 1949.

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	WARDS.				Totals	Town	King's Hill.	Manor	Wood Green	Mesty Croft
Scarlet Fever ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All other forms of Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Measles ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Infectious Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia ... ..	2	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	1	1	2	-	-
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Diarrhoea ... ..	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	1	2
Premature Birth ... ..	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	1	1	1
Congenital Malformations, etc. ...	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	7	1	1	2	2	1
Other Violent Causes ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Causes ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS ... ..	8	1	1	1	1	5	3	4	2	26	3	4	6	4	9				

## SECTION B.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(as at 31st December, 1949).

#### **Ante-Natal Clinics** (Staffordshire County Council).

Albert Street	...	1st and 2nd Friday, at 2-15 p.m.
King's Hill	...	1st and 3rd Wednesday, at 2-15 p.m.
Mesty Croft	...	2nd and 4th Wednesday, at 2-15 p.m.

#### **Ambulance Service** (Staffordshire County Council).

Main Ambulance Station : Clemson Street, Willenhall. Tel. No. Willenhall 580.

Sub-Station : Myvod House, Wednesbury, operates 6-0 a.m. to 10-0 p.m. Tel. No. Wednesbury 0072.

#### **Chemical Analysis.**

County Analyst : A. Houlbrooke, Esq., M.Sc., F.R.I.C., Chemical Laboratory, County Buildings, Stafford. Tel. No. Stafford 578.

#### **Home Help Service.**

No. 9 (Wednesbury) Area Health Committee, 20, Hydes Road, Wednesbury. Tel. No. Wednesbury 0279.

#### **Hospitals.**

Admission arranged by Medical Practitioner with Hospital Authority.

#### **Immunisation.**

At Infant Welfare Centres and School Clinics.

#### **Infant Welfare Centres** (Staffordshire County Council).

Albert Street	...	Mondays and Thursdays, at 2-15 p.m.
King's Hill	...	Tuesdays and Fridays, at 2-15 p.m.
Mesty Croft	...	Mondays and Thursdays, at 2-15 p.m.



**Maternity.**

Institutional treatment on medical grounds arranged by patient's doctor—for unsuitable home conditions, etc. on application to Health Visitor who will after investigation report case to Hospital Management Committee of Area in which patient resides.

**Public Health Laboratory Service.**

(Directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health) Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford. Tel. No. Stafford 377. Director: Lt. Col. R. N. Phease.

Specimens for bacteriological examination may be left at the Wednesbury Public Health Department by 1-0 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for transmission by van to the laboratory.

**Smallpox.**

Treatment is arranged through the Regional Hospital Board.

**Tuberculosis.**

There is a chest Clinic at Church Street, Wednesbury. Tel No. Wednesbury 0322. Tuberculosis Officer: Dr. Elizabeth S. Frew.

**Venereal Diseases.**

Special Clinics are held at the Guest Hospital Dudley and the Manor Hospital, Walsall.

## SECTION C.

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### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

**Water.**

The Borough of Wednesbury lies within the statutory area of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and Mr. R. A. Robertson, B.Sc., M.Inst. C.E., Engineer in Chief, has given me the following report:—

1. "The water supply to this area and its several parts has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity.



2. The supply to the Borough of Wednesbury is derived from my Company's distribution system in this area which is supplied from thirteen Pumping Stations located to the North and North-East of the Borough. The supply from each of these Stations is examined regularly both bacteriologically and chemically and where treatment is installed bacteriological samples are examined both from the raw water and the water going into supply. The water supply is further sampled at monthly intervals at three points within the Borough and a total of 36 samples were taken at these three points during the year all of which were free from all forms of coliform bacteria. Samples were also examined chemically and the average of the samples examined during 1949 from a sampling point within the Borough which may be regarded as typical of this supply was as follows :—

pH	...	...	...	7.4	
Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	...	...	112		parts per million
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	40.9		" " "
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (N)			Trace		" " "
Albuminoid Nitrogen (N)			.015		" " "
Oxidised Nitrogen (N)	...		3.4		" " "
Oxygen absorbed (3 hr. at 27°C)	...	...	.24		" " "
Temporary Hardness	...		106		" " "
Permanent Hardness	...		81		" " "
Total Hardness	...	...	187		" " "
Iron (Fe)	...	...	.03		" " "
Manganese (Mn)	...	...	Nil		" " "

3. The waters are not liable to plumbo-solvent action. The 12 samples examined from the Watermen's Houses were all free from lead.
4. Protection is afforded against contamination at the Pumping Stations by the use of chlorine, ammonia-chlorine or ozone. This sterilisation is largely precautionary. Contamination of mains followings bursts or laying of new pipes and of service reservoirs following emptying is safeguarded by chlorination for which special apparatus and staff are available. These mains and reservoirs are not brought into re-use until the water has been examined and pronounced satisfactory.
5. The number of houses with a piped water supply in the Borough of Wednesbury at December, 1949, was 9,396. This figure includes 204 houses which are supplied by ten stand pipes and 78 taps in outhouses."



Periodic independent samplings have resulted in satisfactory bacteriological and chemical reports.

### **Drainage and Sewage.**

Mr. Arthur Booth, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.Struct.E., F.R.S.A., M.I. Mun.E., Borough Engineer, informs me that the sewerage system functioned satisfactorily during the year ended 31st December, 1949, and no serious stoppages occurred.

171 new houses were connected to the public sewers.

The treatment of sewage at the Outfall Works was performed satisfactorily. Repairs to filters at these Works were continued.

### **Factories Act, 1937.**

Particulars in respect of matters under Parts I and VIII of the Act are recorded on Form 572 of the Ministry of Labour and National Service reproduced at the end of the report.

## **SECTION D.**

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### **HOUSING.**

Mr. Arthur Booth, F.R.I.B.A., M.I.Struct.E., M.Inst.Mun.E., Borough Architect/Engineer, has given me the following report :—

“ During the year ended 31st December, 1949, 152 traditional houses were completed by the Local Authority and 19 by private enterprise, making a total of 171 permanent houses completed during the year.

During the year an area of land known as the Golf Course was reclaimed and developed with roads and sewers in readiness for building, in respect of which contracts for 210 houses were let and work commenced.

The site will ultimately accommodate approximately 300 houses.”

Mr. R. L. Highfield, Housing Manager, with whom close contact is maintained regarding the allocation of points on medical grounds reports as follows on the year under review :—

“ At the beginning of the year families awaiting rehousing under Demolition and Clearance Orders, numbered 85.



Owing to the worsening of the condition of some of the older property, 23 additional Demolition and Closing Orders were made during the year. 31 families have been rehoused leaving a total of 77 properties still to be dealt with at the end of the year.

Applications still outstanding number 2,446 including 136 Bungalow applications from aged persons.

During the year 150 families have been rehoused on four sites within the Borough as follows :—

Park Lane/Old Park Road	...	...	24
Dale Street	...	...	8
Crew Road	...	...	24
Dingley Road	...	...	94
			<hr/>
			150
			<hr/>

Of the 150 houses provided 19 were tenanted by families from privately owned over crowded houses and a similar number of small sized families from the waiting list were placed in the vacated private houses with the landlords' consent.

The houses were allocated in accordance with the points system adopted on October 6th, 1947, as follows :—

1. Living in unfit houses according to conditions : very bad 5 ; bad 4 ; poor 3 ; minor defects 1 or 2 as allocated by the Chief Sanitary Inspector. (Maximum 5 points).
2. Overcrowded : Calculate points by multiplying the number of persons including all children and adding 1 for an expectant mother by 4 and dividing by the number of bedrooms. (Subject to a maximum of 20 points .
3. Medical (Tuberculosis : Each infectious person 1 to 20 points. Each other person 1 to 5 points as allocated by the Medical Officer of Health. (Maximum 20 points).
4. Persons with no separate room : One person 10 points ; Married couple, 20 points ; Five additional points for each child or other person in family. (Maximum 20 points .
5. War Service in Armed Forces : 1 for each year of service or part of a year. (Maximum 5 points).
6. Length of time married : 1 point for each year of marriage. (Maximum 8 points).
7. Husband and wife forced to live or sleep apart due to overcrowded conditions, 2 points. No points to be allocated where this is due to domestic friction.



## **SECTION E.**

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### **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

Particulars of action taken with regard to meat and other foods, including inspection of meat, slaughterhouses, shops, stalls and vehicles and places where food is prepared with particular reference to the manufacture and sale of ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc., Regulations, 1947 and 1948) and of the ante and post mortem inspection of animals is given in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

#### **Food Poisoning Outbreaks.**

No outbreaks of food poisoning were notified to the Authority during the year.

#### **Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.**

At their December meeting the Council approved that Model Byelaws, as suggested by the Ministry of Food in their circular M.F.18/49, of October 27th, 1949, should be adopted.

## **SECTION F.**

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

A table shewing the incidence of Infectious Diseases will be found on page 20, which also gives Ward Distribution and numbers admitted to hospital.

The weather of 1949 probably will be remembered most for the long succession of sunny months, the frequent and prolonged spells of warm days and the continued shortage of rain, relieved at length by the heavy falls in October.

The winter was exceptionally mild and from the point of view of holiday-makers a long memory would be needed to recall five months to equal the weather over the period May to September.

Such Influenza as there was, was mild in character and the notifications of Acute Pneumonia shewed a fall of forty per cent from 1948.

**Diphtheria.**

There were no deaths, and of the eight confirmed notifications five had received no protective treatment.

**Measles.**

518 cases were notified as compared with 211 in 1948, and 440 in 1947.

The disease generally, despite its high incidence, was only of moderate severity.

**Scarlet Fever.**

Confirmed notifications, 96 ; in 1948, 193.

**Whooping Cough.**

There was a lessened incidence, 105 cases compared with 148 in 1948.

**Smallpox.**

No cases.

**Acute Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis).**

No cases ; one in 1948.

**Tuberculosis.**

The return for the last quarter of the year showed 257 remaining on the Register as compared with 235 in 1948, 202 in 1947, 183, in 1946, 178 in 1945 and 173 in 1938.

		<i>New Cases.</i>		<i>Pulmonary.</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>	
1949	...	56	...	51	...	5	
1948	...	73	...	70	...	3	
1938	...	31	...	26	...	5	

Deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms) : 1949, 30 ; 1948, 33 ; 1938, 20.

Deaths from Tuberculosis 1949 :—

				<i>No.</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 of Civilian Population.</i>
All Forms	...	...	...	30	0.85
Tuberculosis Respiratory					
System	...	...	...	27	0.77
Other forms Tuberculosis	...			3	0.085
Death Rate England and Wales all forms					0.45



**Sputum Examinations.**

The Director of the Public Health Laboratory (Lt. Col. R. N. Phease) has given me the following particulars of examinations made of residents in the Borough during 1949 :—

<i>Sender.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
General Practitioners	105	6	111
Tuberculosis Officer ...	135	30	165
	<hr/> 240	<hr/> 36	<hr/> 276

**MISCELLANEA.****Rainfall.**

The total rainfall for the year ended 31st December, 1949, amounted to 24.16 inches.

**Corporation Sick Pay Scheme.**

<i>Examined.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>
28 ...	27 ...	1 ...	27

**Local Government and other Officer's Superannuation Act, 1937.**

<i>Examined.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>
5 ...	4 ...	1 ...	5

**Estimate of the Sex and Age Distribution of the Civilian Population** for the Borough of Wednesbury at 31st December, 1947, issued from the Registrar-General's Office.

<i>Age.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
All Ages ...	16,502	17,358	33,860
0—4 ...	1,634	1,553	3,167
5—14 ...	2,664	2,426	5,090
15—17 ...	868	812	1,680
18—19 ...	236	551	787
20—24 ...	941	1,331	2,272
25—34 ...	2,906	2,863	5,769
35—44 ...	2,581	2,528	5,109
45—54 ...	2,026	2,202	4,228
55—64 ...	1,432	1,568	3,000
55—59 ...	—	828	828
60—64 ...	—	740	740
65—74 ...	899	1,057	1,956
75—84 ...	293	413	706
85 and over	22	54	76



# NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) IN AGE GROUPS AND WARD DISTRIBUTION, 1949.

DISEASE.	Numbers originally notified	Final numbers after correction													Deaths	Cases Admitted to Hospital			
		Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 64	65 and over	Totals	Town	King's Hill			WARDS. Manor Green	Misty Croft	
Scarlet Fever : Males ... Females ...	48 — 51	— — —	2 4 —	19 9 —	20 29 —	2 6 —	— — —	3 2 —	— — —	— — —	— — —	46 50 —	18 14 —	8 5 —	3 5 —	9 17 —	8 9 —	— — —	26 24 —
Whooping Cough : Males ... Females ...	48 — 57	5 6 —	14 17 —	13 20 —	14 11 —	2 3 —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	48 57 —	13 14 —	5 9 —	5 9 —	18 15 —	7 10 —	— — —	1 1 —
Ac. Poliomyelitis : Males ... Females ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Ac. Polioencephalitis Females ...	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	— — —	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —
Measles : Males ... Females ...	265 — 253	10 7 —	73 72 —	85 89 —	96 81 —	1 2 —	1 — —	1 1 —	— — —	— — —	— — —	265 253 —	49 42 —	45 44 —	31 32 —	63 67 —	77 68 —	1 — —	5 5 —
Diphtheria : Males ... Females ...	8 — 7	— — —	1 — —	1 — —	1 — —	1 — —	— — —	1 1 —	— — —	— — —	— — —	5 3 —	— — —	2 — —	1 — —	1 2 —	1 1 —	— — —	8 7 —
Ac. Pneumonia : Males ... Females ...	19 — 4	1 1 —	— — —	— — —	1 1 —	— — —	— — —	— — —	8 1 —	— — —	2 — —	18 4 —	2 1 —	6 2 —	2 — —	3 1 —	5 — —	— — —	1 — —
Dysentery ... Smallpox ... Ac. Encephalitis lethargica	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Enteric or Typhoid Fever Paratyphoid Fevers Erysipelas :	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Males ... Females ... Cerebro-Spinal Fever	3 — 4	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	1 — —	1 — —	1 — —	3 4 —	2 1 —	— 2 —	1 — —	1 — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Females ... Puerperal Pyrexia : Females ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Ophthalmia Neonatorum : Males ... Females ...	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
Malaria NON-CIVILIANS : Cerebro Spinal Fever—Males	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —	— — —
TOTAL	392	30	183	236	256	17	12	8	1	10	4	757	156	129	89	197	186	2	79

## TUBERCULOSIS—NEW CASES AND MORTALITY, 1949.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
5—14 „	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	1
15—24 „	7	8	—	—	2	2	—	—
25—34 „	3	6	1	2	3	5	—	—
35—44 „	6	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
45—54 „	7	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
55—64 „	5	1	—	—	3	3	—	—
65 and over...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
<i>Totals</i> ...	31	20	2	3	16	11	2	1



TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILIORS OF  
THE BOROUGH OF WEDNESBURY.

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Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

For the year 1st January to 31st December, 1949, I submit the report of the work carried out by my Department.

There have been no changes of staff during the year.

During the year your Additional Sanitary Inspectors, Messrs. G. O. Wright and F. Holman passed the examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Smoke Inspectors.

**Public Health Act, 1936.**

The following table shows the results during the year of Formal and Informal Notices served by the Department :—

Number of Complaints received	...	...	...	493
Number of Informal Notices served	...	...	...	397
Number of Premises Affected	...	...	...	590
Number of Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	358
Number of Premises affected by compliance	...	...	...	502
Number of Formal Notices served	...	...	...	110
Number of Premises affected	...	...	...	121
Number of Formal Notices complied with	...	...	...	74
Number of Premises affected by compliance	...	...	...	81

**Court Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936.**

It was necessary during the year to issue only eight summonses for the non-compliance of Abatement Notices. In seven cases Court Orders against the owners of the properties concerned were made. In the remaining one instance the work was executed before the case was heard and the summons was therefore withdrawn with the payment of Court costs.

The following shows the Type and Number of Defects Found and Remedied :—

<b>General House Defects—Main Buildings.</b>						<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	110	80
House Brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	9	6
House Brickwork pointing	...	...	...	...	...	18	12
Cement Rendering Gables	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Rainwater Spouting	...	...	...	...	...	59	43
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	21	15
Wallplaster	...	...	...	...	...	151	108
Ceiling Plaster	...	...	...	...	...	95	57
Firegrates	...	...	...	...	...	31	23
Firegrate Flues	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Firegrate Ovens	...	...	...	...	...	3	2

						<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Doors	...	...	...	...	...	31	23
Door Casements	...	...	...	...	...	15	8
Door Sills	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Door Fasteners	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
Windows—Glazing	...	...	...	...	...	7	10
Window Frames	...	...	...	...	...	44	36
Window Sills	...	...	...	...	...	9	6
Window Lintels	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Window Sashcords	...	...	...	...	...	48	54
Window Fasteners	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Floors—Quarry	...	...	...	...	...	16	11
Floors—Wooden, Living Room	...	...	...	...	...	17	12
Floors—Bedroom	...	...	...	...	...	14	13
Skirting boards	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Stair treads and risers	...	...	...	...	...	11	6
Stair handrails	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Cellar steps	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Cellar gratings	...	...	...	...	...	15	7
Cellars flooded	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Cellar roofs	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Skylights	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
Gas fittings	...	...	...	...	...	1	—

#### **Wash-houses and Sculleries—**

Roofs	...	...	...	...	...	31	42
Rainwater Spouting	...	...	...	...	...	14	11
Chimneys	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
Windows—Glazing	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Window Frames	...	...	...	...	...	7	6
Window Sashcords	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Window Fasteners	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Doors	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Door Casements	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Sinks	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
Sink wastes	...	...	...	...	...	10	12
Washing boilers	...	...	...	...	...	11	12
Washing boiler flues	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Washing boiler furnaces	...	...	...	...	...	10	5
Water taps	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Water service pipes	...	...	...	...	...	4	6
Firegrates	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Firegrate flues	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Firegrate Ovens	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Ceilings	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Wallplaster	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
Brickwork	...	...	...	...	...	20	11
Brickwork pointing	...	...	...	...	...	17	9



**Bathrooms—**

					<i>Found.</i>	<i>Remedied.</i>
Water Tanks	...	...	...	...	1	—
Bath Wastes	...	...	...	...	1	—

**Water Closets and Coals—**

Roofs	...	...	...	...	20	26
Rainwater spouting	...	...	...	...	5	3
Floors	...	...	...	...	8	9
Doors	...	...	...	...	13	5
Doors casements	...	...	...	...	5	4
Door Fasteners	...	...	...	...	1	1
Water service pipes	...	...	...	...	3	5
Flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	21	23
Overflow pipes	...	...	...	...	1	1
Flush pipes	...	...	...	...	3	2
Pedestals	...	...	...	...	12	16
Pedestal seats	...	...	...	...	5	3
Pan closets	...	...	...	...	2	1
Leaking joints	...	...	...	...	16	10
Brickwork	...	...	...	...	16	2
Brickwork pointing	...	...	...	...	17	9

**Yards—**

Paving	...	...	...	...	6	6
Boundary walls	...	...	...	...	5	5
Steps	...	...	...	...	—	2

**Verandahs or Covered Passages—**

Roofs	...	...	...	...	5	6
Rainwater spouting	...	...	...	...	2	1
Brickwork	...	...	...	...	1	—
Structures	...	...	...	...	1	1

**Drainage—**

Drains defective	...	...	...	...	7	4
Drains obstructed	...	...	...	...	62	65
Gullies defective	...	...	...	...	18	9
Inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	10	9
Inspection chamber covers	...	...	...	...	16	18
Cesspools	...	...	...	...	7	6
Cesspool covers	...	...	...	...	4	4
Waste Water Closet conversions	...	...	...	...	40	46
Vent pipes	...	...	...	...	2	1

**Refuse Accommodation—**

Dustbins	...	...	...	...	136	142
Ashpits	...	...	...	...	1	1
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	2	2

Disinfection is carried out after Infectious Disease cases have either been removed to Hospital or otherwise terminated. Disinfestation refers to Bugs, Beetles, Crickets, Ants, etc.

Number of Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	137
Number of Houses disinfested after removals	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Council Houses disinfested for Bugs	...	...	...	...	12
Number of Council Houses disinfested for other pests	...	...	...	...	20
Number of Other Houses disinfested for Bugs	...	...	...	...	7
Number of Other Houses disinfested for other pests	...	...	...	...	3

Further work was carried out in the conversion of Waste Water Closets to Water Closets and during the year 40 Notices were served requiring conversion and the number of conversions completed during the same period was 46.

### **Housing Act, 1936.**

Under the provisions of this Act the following premises were dealt with as stated :—

#### **Demolition Orders made during the year.**

8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, Church Street, King's Hill.  
 19 and 20, Bright Street, King's Hill.  
 19, Queen Street, Wednesbury.  
 1, 2, 3 and 4, Spring Head.  
 8, Earps Lane.  
 287, 289, 291 and 293, Park Lane.  
 13, 13a and 14, Church Street, Moxley.

#### **The following were re-housed during the year :—**

4 Families affected by Closing Orders.  
 27 Families affected by Demolition Orders.  
 11 Families from the Old Portway Road Area.

#### **The following were demolished during the year :**

35 Premises were demolished following Demolition Orders, and  
 5 Premises were demolished in the Old Portway Road Area.

The three visits shown for Overcrowding, were cases found to need recording for Permitted Numbers as required by the Act.

### **Action taken under the Housing and Public Health Acts with respect to Unfit Houses.**

#### **Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.**

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	711
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	2502



(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	...	31
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose		31
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	... ..	28
(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	... ..	Nil

**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	... ..	Nil
--	---	--------	-----

**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	...	Nil
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices :		
		(a) By Owners	... ..	Nil
		(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	... ..	121
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		
		(a) By Owners	... ..	81
		(b) By Local Authority in default of owners...	... ..	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—			
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	23
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	35

(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 tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil

### Meat and Other Foods.

(Food and Drugs Act and Milk and Dairies Acts and Orders).

The table of inspections under this heading is shown later. The only Slaughterhouse in the Borough is at the Bacon Factory. The columns in the following table shown blank are due to the fact that only Pigs are killed and inspected.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows.	Cows	Calves.	Pigs.
Number killed ...	—	—	—	18,216
Number inspected ...	—	—	—	18,216
<b>All diseased except Tuberculosis :</b>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	20
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	1,557
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuber- culosis ...	—	—	—	8.6
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b>				
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	38
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	974
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	5.5

The amount of meat recorded as condemned in connection with the above table was 16 tons 2 cwts 3 qrs. 12½ lbs. In addition 4 cwts. 3 qrs. 5¾ lbs. is recorded as condemned and unfit for human food in relation to Cured Gammons, Shoulders and Sides of Bacon, which for various reasons were found to be mis-cured or otherwise decomposing. This means that the total weight of meat condemned was 16 tons 7 cwts. 2 qrs. 18¼ lbs.



Other Foods inspected and found unfit for human food included the following :—

	<i>tons.</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
1,460 tins containing food weighing ...	13	2		131½
Imported Bacon weighing ...	1	1		8¾
Imported Rabbits weighing ...	1	3		4
Dried Milk, Cheese and Butter weighing	1	2		18
Fresh Fruit weighing ...			1	0
Fresh Vegetables weighing ...	2	0	0	0
<hr/>				
The total weight of other foods condemned				
is therefore ...	2	18	1	16¼
<hr/>				

### Food Poisoning Outbreaks.

The table required for the report of Food Poisoning Outbreaks has not been printed as fortunately there have been no outbreaks and no matter to report.

### Food Preparing and Storage Premises.

Under the general term Food Preparing and Storage Premises work has been carried out in the supervision of the following :—

Industrial Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	26
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	10
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	...	7
Snack Bar Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	12

In addition there is one Civic Restaurant in the Borough.

### Ice Cream.

During the year there have been 23 new registrations for the Sale of Ice Cream making a total on the Register of 66 premises, which shows the position to be as follows :—

- 1 Vendor makes Ice Cream by the "Hot Mix Process" in proper accordance with the Heat Treatment Regulations.
- 7 Vendors use the "Cold Mix Powder," and
- 58 Vendors purchase Ice Cream from Manufacturers outside the Borough whose premises and methods are satisfactory to the respective Authority concerned.

Under the Heat Treatment Regulations, 59 samples were submitted for Bacteriological Examination. Returns show that :—

- 22 Samples were Grade 1.
- 11 Samples were Grade 2.
- 7 Samples were Grade 3.
- 19 Samples were Grade 4.



In reviewing the results of the Bacteriological Analysis I am glad to report that many of the Grade 4 samples earlier in the year were up-graded as the year progressed.

The samples of Ice Cream that were submitted for Chemical Analysis were all reported as showing a greater Fat Content than the 2.5% minimum suggested by the Ministry of Food.

### **Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.**

On the 1st October these regulations came into operation and you as a Local Authority were authorised to grant Dealer's and Supplementary Licences to those who wished to retail 'designated' milk in the Borough. This required the issue of licences until the 31st December when such would again be issued to cover the following full year of 1950. Therefore, to the end of the year licences were issued as follows:—

<i>Dealer's Licences.</i>				<i>Supplementary Licences.</i>			
Pasteurised	...	...	6	Pasteurised	...	...	13
Sterilised	...	...	38	Sterilised...	...	...	13
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	2	Tuberculin Tested	...	...	11

The Public Health Laboratory Service of the Staffordshire County, situated at Stafford, carry out any Bacteriological and Chemical Examinations required and during the year the following have been submitted and found to be satisfactory:—

- 4 Samples of Milk for Bacteriological Examination.
- 4 Samples of Milk for Chemical Analysis.
- 4 Samples of Water for Bacteriological Examinations.
- 4 Samples of Water for Chemical Analysis.
- 2 Samples of Swimming Bath Water for Bacteriological Examination.
- 2 Samples of Swimming Bath Water for Chemical Analysis.

The Milk samples were those of Milk as supplied to the Schools in the Borough and the Water Samples were as supplied for Domestic Water Supply.

### **Rodent Control.**

This work is carried out by your Additional Sanitary Inspectors under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, and the methods promoted by the Ministry of Food are still found to be suitable and efficient. Great satisfaction is often expressed by the Occupiers of premises who receive this service and it is a pleasure to note their confidence and co-operation.

Six hundred-and-fifty-two visits have been occasioned by the following:—

Number of Complaints received	...	...	...	102
Number of Poison Baits laid	...	...	...	584
Amount of Poison Bait used	...	...	107 lbs.	13 ozs.
Amount of Poison Bait taken	...	...	19 lbs.	6 ozs.



**Factories Act, 1937.**

During the war with reduction of reports, the list of Factories was omitted. I felt that for an Industrial Borough like Wednesbury this should be a permanent feature and with the assistance of the two Additional Sanitary Inspectors, the following list was compiled and shows the types of trades carried on in the Borough.

<i>Mechanical Factories.</i>	<i>No. on Register.</i>
Aerated Waters ... ..	2
Aluminium Castings ... ..	4
Bacon Curing ... ..	1
Bakeries ... ..	6
Bed Fittings ... ..	1
Beer Bottling ... ..	1
Bolts and Nuts ... ..	8
Boot Repairs ... ..	4
Brass Castings ... ..	1
Brickworks ... ..	1
Buckle Covering ... ..	1
Car Frame Repairs ... ..	1
Carpentry ... ..	5
Carriage Works ... ..	1
Chain Makers ... ..	1
Chemical Preparations ... ..	1
Coffin Makers ... ..	2
Cooperage ... ..	1
Die Sinkers ... ..	6
Drop Forgings ... ..	1
Edge Tool Maker ... ..	4
Electrical Accessories ... ..	1
Electricians ... ..	1
Electricity Generating ... ..	1
Enamelling ... ..	12
Engineers ... ..	1
Fabricators ... ..	3
Firewood Cutters ... ..	2
Galvanisers ... ..	10
Garage Motor Vehicle Repairs ... ..	1
Gas Cookers ... ..	1
Hay Merchant ... ..	1
Holloware ... ..	1
Ice Cream ... ..	3
Iron Castings ... ..	1
Laundry ... ..	1
Leather working ... ..	1
Loco Repairs ... ..	1
Metal Pressings ... ..	3
Metal Stampers ... ..	

Oil Storage ... ..	1
Optical Ware ... ..	1
Pattern Makers ... ..	2
Plastic Products ... ..	1
Plating (Chrome) ... ..	1
Pre-cast Housing ... ..	1
Printers ... ..	2
Sack Making ... ..	1
Sausage Making ... ..	3
Sawmilling ... ..	2
Sheet Metal Works ... ..	1
Spring Making ... ..	3
Steel Casting ... ..	2
Steel Milling ... ..	2
Steel Producing ... ..	2
Stockists (Iron and Steel) ... ..	1
Tailoring ... ..	1
Tool Making ... ..	1
Toy Making ... ..	1
Tube—Fittings ... ..	5
Tube Making ... ..	3
Wagon Repairs ... ..	1
Washer Stamping ... ..	1
Water Works Depot ... ..	1
Window Maker (Metal) ... ..	1

*Non-Mechanical Factories.*

Blacksmiths ... ..	1
Boot Repairing ... ..	1
Builders ... ..	3
Carpentry ... ..	1
Electricians ... ..	2
Glaziers ... ..	1
Painters ... ..	1
Photographers ... ..	1
Plumbers ... ..	1
Radio Repairs ... ..	2
Scale Repairs ... ..	1
Scrap Metal Merchants ... ..	2
Sculptors ... ..	1
Tailors ... ..	2
Upholsterers ... ..	1
Watch Repairs ... ..	2
Welders ... ..	2

In future this list will be amended to the number in use at December 31st each year.

The following two tables are those required of the Medical Officer of Health for his Annual Report and show the number of Inspections and the Cases where Defects were Found and Remedied.



FACTORIES ACT, 1937.      ANNUAL REPORT, 1948.  
 PART I.

1.—Inspections.

PREMISES. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c. line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written Notices. (5)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	25	4	Nil	Nil	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	140	198	4	Nil	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. * (excluding out- workers' premises) ... ..	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
TOTAL ... ..	—	165	202	4	Nil	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS. (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted. (7)	M/c. line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	1	1	—	1	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)	9	2	3	—	1	—	9
(a) Insufficient	10	20	20	—	16	—	10
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
(c) Not separate for sexes	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Other offences against the Act (not in- cluding offences relating to Outwork)							
TOTAL	60	23	24	—	18	—	60

\* Electrical Stations (Section 103 (1), Institutions. (Section 104) and sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Sections 107 and 108).

## PART VIII.

SECTIONS 110 AND 111—NIL.



**Collection and Disposal of Refuse.**

(The period under review for this section is from 1st April, 1949, to the 31st March, 1950.)

The point of Disposal of Refuse remains at the Hydes Road Site set aside for Playing Fields. During this period under review, by arrangement with the Borough Surveyor, a little over eight acres was levelled and railed-off. This is now ready for final treatment in accordance with the agreed lay-out.

The greatest difficulty experienced during the year was the maintenance of man-power. My records show that 17 new employees were engaged and 17 employees left. In many of these instances the work was found to be too heavy for the type of man essaying to assist us. It is a pleasure, however, to record that three old and trusted employees retired at the age of 65 years and your Council duly recorded their appreciation at the time. The men referred to were Messrs. Samuel Davies (28 years service), Herbert Young (27 years service) and William Young (27 years service).

The tonnage of refuse collected shows an increase on last year. This is partly due to the increased number of new houses and partly due to the rubbish which some people receive as fuel.

The details of the tonnage and costs of collection and disposal are shown in the table opposite :—

# HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE COST ACCOUNTS.

1949	Year ended 31st March.	1950	Per ton Collected	Per 1,000 houses.	Per 1,000 population	Equivalent Rate in £
£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	s. d.
11,270	<b>Collection and Salvage.</b>					
2,632	Total Expenditure ...	12,766 9 4	1 5 8	1,394 18 9	365 13 11	1 8.82
	Total Income ...	2,737 9 5	5 6	299 2 3	78 8 3	4.46
8,638	NET COST ...	10,028 19 11	1 0 2	1,095 16 6	287 5 8	1 4.36
634	<b>Disposal of Refuse.</b>					
100	Total Expenditure ...	722 1 0	1 5	78 17 10	20 13 7	1.18
	Total Income ...	98 8 9	2	10 15 1	2 16 4	0.16
534	NET COST ...	623 12 3	1 3	68 2 9	17 17 3	1.02
9,172	TOTAL COST OF COLLECTION and DISPOSAL OF REFUSE ...	10,652 12 2	1 1 5	1,163 19 3	305 2 11	1 5.38

(1) Number of tons of refuse collected and salvage collected during the year 1949-50	9,934	(4) Rateable value at 31st March, 1950	£155,109
(2) Number of houses at 31st March, 1950	9,152	(5) Product of a penny rate for 1949-50	£613 4s. 0d
(3) Population at 31st December, 1949	34,910	(6) Weight of refuse collected per 1,000 population per day	15,592 cwts.



The collection of Salvage separate from House Refuse still remains a feature of the work of the Department. The total tonnage collected was 585 tons 7 cwts. and brought in a total income of £2,508.

### Statement of Sanitary Inspections and Visits.

<i>Nature.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
Dwelling-houses (H.A. 1936) ... ..	230
Dwelling-houses (P.H.A. 1936) ... ..	2269
Overcrowding (H.A. 1936) ... ..	3
Dirty Conditions ... ..	10
Verminous Premises ... ..	28
Infectious Disease ... ..	138
Stables ... ..	9
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	39
Butcher's Shops ... ..	30
Ice Cream Shops ... ..	149
Food Preparing and Storing Premises ... ..	119
Other Food Shops ... ..	96
Sanitary Accommodation in Shops ... ..	1
Markets ... ..	37
Slaughterhouses ... ..	406
Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	9
Sampling—Milk ... ..	16
Sampling—Water ... ..	25
Sampling—Ice Cream ... ..	114
Bakehouses ... ..	25
Factories—Mechanical ... ..	198
Factories—Non-Mechanical ... ..	4
Outworkers ... ..	4
Places of Entertainment ... ..	6
Tents, Vans and Sheds ... ..	27
Offensive Trades ... ..	5
Piggeries ... ..	211
House Drainage ... ..	649
Smoke Abatement—Observations ... ..	48
Smoke Abatement—Visits to Plant ... ..	53
Rats and Mice Destruction Act ... ..	652
Accommodation for Storage of Refuse ... ..	288
Collection and Disposal of Refuse ... ..	201
Middensteads ... ..	12
Miscellaneous ... ..	138
	<hr/>
	6249
	<hr/>

I have pleasure in recording my sincere thanks to the Council for the help and goodwill at all times, for the co-operation of all Chief Officers and their Staffs and especially to my own staff for their close and careful attention to all matters.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Madam and Gentlemen,

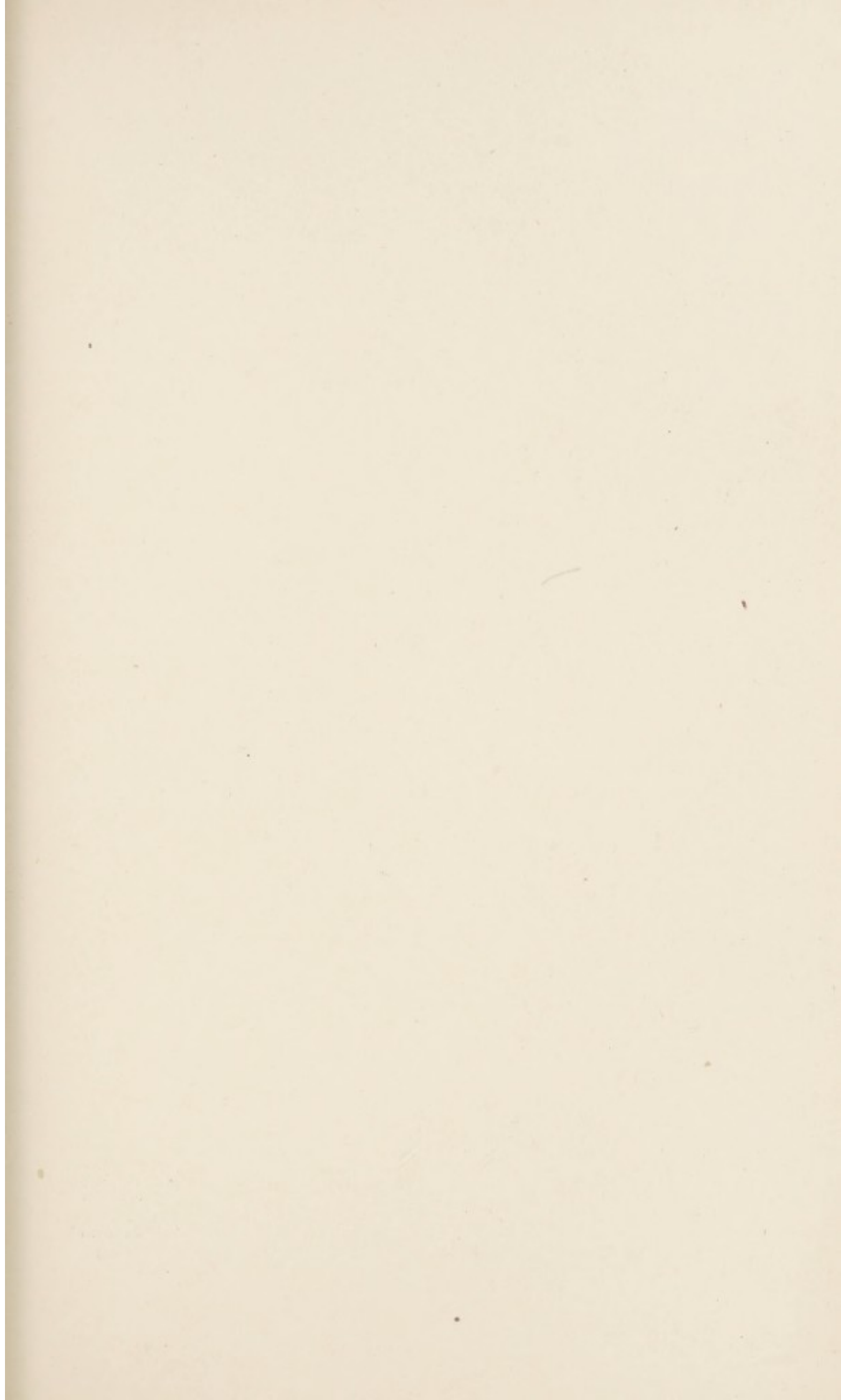
Your obedient servant,

FREDK. J. TURNER,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector,*  
*M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.*









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C. H. Bowcott  
and Sons  
Wednesbury and  
Darlaston  
95908

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