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THE HEALTH

OF

WEST BROMWICH


Annual Report for 1942

W.S. Walton, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., B.Hy., G. . .

Medical Officer of Health

W.W. Foakes, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
A.M.Inst.P.C.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector



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TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST BROMWICH.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report, the contents of which have been curtailed in accordance with Circular 2773 (England), issued by the Ministry of Health.

As reported last year, the Health Committee continued to make adjustments in its services to meet the exigencies of war-time conditions. Practically the full peace-time activities have been maintained and facilities have been extended for such additional work as Scabies and Diphtheria prevention, issue of special foods to children at Clinics for the Ministry of Food, and issue of clothing coupons to expectant mothers for the Board of Trade.

The general health of the town remained satisfactory during the year. There was however an increase in what might be termed minor illness and correspondingly an increase in short term absences from work generally.

The death rate of 11.01 was the lowest recorded since 1928 and the birth rate of 19.71 was higher than that of recent years. A very pleasing fact, and an outstanding one in the health annals of West Bromwich, has been recorded; the infantile mortality rate of 45.6 was the lowest ever since official records have been kept. For an industrial town the figure is highly creditable but it can and must be lowered still further.

I would draw your attention to another factor which will affect the social services and development of the town. In 1929 approximately 33.3% of all deaths in the town occurred among people over 65 years of age; in 1942 the percentage was 44.2. Additional figures are given in the report. The age distribution of the population is moving over to the older groups. I suggest that the various departments of the Corporation should consider this important change in planning for the future.

Infectious Disease conformed more or less to the average of the previous two or three years except Measles which was more prevalent than usual. Diphtheria showed an increasing virulence in the latter part of the year, when many serious cases were admitted to hospital. I would draw your attention to the fact that there are many children under five and quite a proportion of school children not yet immunised, despite the publicity given by the Council to the town's immunisation scheme.

The increase in the number of notifications and deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis continued to be serious and disquieting; the details are set out in this report.

Close supervision was given to the purity of food, and milk supplies; difficulties in preparation, transport and untrained staffs all increased the possibilities of contamination and adulteration. This section of Public Health work becomes even more important in war-time than in peace-time. Several cases were taken to Courts with a view to bringing to the notice of all food dealers and purveyors the necessity for very careful supervision and adherence to recognised standards.

TO HIS HONORABLE THE MAYOR, ALBANY, N.Y. AND MEMBERS
OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your report of the
contents of which have been furnished in accordance with
Circular 2773 (Health), issued by the Ministry of Health.

As reported last year, the Health Commission continued
to make advances in its efforts to control the
epidemic conditions. It is gratifying to note that
the health conditions have been maintained and that
the epidemic conditions have been controlled. It is
gratifying to note that the health conditions have
been maintained and that the epidemic conditions
have been controlled. It is gratifying to note
that the health conditions have been maintained
and that the epidemic conditions have been
controlled.

The general health of the town remained satisfactory
during the year. There was however an increase in the
number of cases of influenza and pneumonia in about
the same proportion as in the previous year.

The death rate of 11.12 was the lowest recorded since
1910 and the birth rate of 21.12 was the highest since
1910. The mortality rate of 11.12 was the lowest
recorded since 1910 and the birth rate of 21.12
was the highest recorded since 1910. The mortality
rate of 11.12 was the lowest recorded since 1910
and the birth rate of 21.12 was the highest
recorded since 1910.

I would draw your attention to the fact that
all efforts to control the epidemic conditions
have been maintained and that the epidemic
conditions have been controlled. It is gratifying
to note that the health conditions have been
maintained and that the epidemic conditions
have been controlled. It is gratifying to note
that the health conditions have been maintained
and that the epidemic conditions have been
controlled.

Intensive disease control work was done in the
course of the previous year. It is gratifying
to note that the health conditions have been
maintained and that the epidemic conditions
have been controlled. It is gratifying to note
that the health conditions have been maintained
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controlled.

The health of the town remained satisfactory
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pneumonia in about the same proportion as
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It is gratifying to note that the health
conditions have been maintained and that the
epidemic conditions have been controlled. It
is gratifying to note that the health
conditions have been maintained and that the
epidemic conditions have been controlled.

A feature of the year's work was the continuing great demand for hospital facilities for maternity cases. New wards opened in 1940 and the additional 24 beds brought into use during 1941 did not offer sufficient accommodation. Bookings were restricted yet nevertheless over 1,000 cases were dealt with. The Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee took further steps to bring the domiciliary midwifery treatment and clinics into closer co-operation with the hospital facilities and under the direct supervision of the Senior Resident Obstetrical Officer at the Hospital. In this way the Service was strengthened and the best specialist advice made readily available for all cases.

The Council's General Hospital at Hallam had a record year and there was an increase of 31.8% in admissions, of 300 births and of 500 operations over the figures for the year before. The Health Committee's consistent policy of providing first class medical, nursing and general services has enabled the hospital to advance each year. The present accommodation is strained to the uttermost. The visiting consultants through their own medical committee keep in close touch with the Health Committee and its medical officers. During the year the hospital was recognised by the Royal College of Surgeons and also approved by the Central Midwifery Board as a complete self contained school for training of midwives (part 1).

A special word of thanks is due to the general practitioners whose ranks were further depleted during the year. The proportion of doctors per 1,000 of the population in West Bromwich was still much below the average of the rest of the country.

The Department is specially grateful to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Medical Services, Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, War Nurseries, School Medical, Mental Welfare and Emergency Committees for their kind interest and consideration. I should like to thank my staff for the loyal, efficient and cheerful manner in which they have carried out their work, often long after ordinary duty hours.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,




MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

A feature of the year's work was the continuing
great demand for hospital facilities for maternity cases. New
wards opened in 1940 and the additional 24 beds brought into
use during 1941 did not allow sufficient accommodation.
Bookings were restricted for several months over 1,000 cases were
dealt with. The Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee
took further steps to bring the obstetric maternity treatment
and clinics into closer co-operation with the hospital facilities
and under the direct supervision of the Senior Resident Obstetric
Medical Officer of the Hospital. In this way the services were im-
proved and the best specialist advice made readily available in
all cases.

The Council's General Hospital at Millers had a record
year and there was an increase of 31.8% in admissions, of 30%
births and of 50% operations over the figures for the year ending
1940. The Health Committee's continuing policy of providing first class
medical, nursing and general services has enabled the Hospital to
advance each year. The present accommodation is estimated to be
adequate. The visiting consultants brought their own medical
services into close touch with the Health Committee and its
Medical Officers. During the year the Hospital was recognised
by the Royal College of Surgeons and also approved by the Central
Milkery Board as a complete all round school for training
of midwives (para 1).

A special word of thanks is due to the general practice
firms whose staffs were further depleted during the year. The
proportion of births was 1,700 of the population in West
was still well below the average of the rest of the country.

The Department is especially grateful to the Chairman,
Vice-Chairman and members of the Health Committee, Health
Committee and Child Welfare, War Nurseries, School Medical, Health
Welfare and Maternity Committees for their kind interest and
consideration. I should like to thank my staff for the loyal,
efficient and cheerful manner in which they have carried out
their work, often long after ordinary office hours.

I am,
Sir, Madam, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

BIRTHS

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
Birth Rate	17.13	19.71

DEATHS

Deaths in members of H.M. Forces are not included in local Statistics.

The total number of deaths was 690 compared with 1,014 in 1941

	<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
<u>Death Rate</u>	12.79	11.01 ϕ
<u>Maternal Deaths:</u>		
Sepsis	Nil	1
Other Causes	3	4
<u>Maternal Death Rate</u>	2.23	3.05
<u>Infantile Deaths</u>	92	72
<u>Infantile Death Rate</u>	68.3	45.6

ϕ The death rate is the lowest since 1928.

Principal Causes of Death

The following table indicates the principal causes of death during the year.

Heart Disease	170
Cancer	121
Intra-cranial	
vascular lesions	91
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	65
Pneumonia	48
Bronchitis	48

Heart disease, Cancer, Intra-cranial lesions and Tuberculosis occupy the same relative prominence as in 1940 and 1941. There was a marked reduction in the number of deaths due to Pneumonia and Bronchitis.

Deaths from violent causes (excluding deaths from war operations) have not increased during the war years as is shown hereunder

	<u>1939</u>	<u>1940</u>	<u>1941</u>	<u>1942</u>
Suicides	12	8	6	6
Road Accidents	55	16	15	12
Other Violent Causes)		31	34	30
	<u>67</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>48</u>

BIRTHS

1942
12.71

1941
12.12

Birth Rate

DEATHS

Deaths in members of N.M. Forces are not included in Local Statistics.

The total number of deaths was 300 compared with 1,014 in 1941

	1942	1941	Death Rate
<u>Infantile Deaths</u>	75	92	68.3
<u>Infantile Death Rate</u>	45.8	68.3	
<u>Maternal Deaths</u>	2.78	2.23	
Other Causes	1	2	
Maternal Death Rate	11.01	12.79	

The death rate is the lowest since 1928.

Principal Causes of Death

The following table indicates the principal causes of death during the year.

Heart Disease	170
Cancer	121
Intra-cranial	
- vascular lesions	21
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	23
Pneumonia	42
Bronchitis	48

Heart disease, Cancer, Intra-cranial lesions and Tuberculosis occupy the same relative prominence as in 1940 and 1941. There was a marked reduction in the number of deaths due to pneumonia and bronchitis.

Deaths from violent causes (excluding deaths from war operations) have not increased during the war years as is shown hereunder

	1942	1941	1940	1939
Outlets	6	6	8	12
Road Accidents	12	12	12	12
Other Violent Causes	30	34	31	35
	<u>48</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>59</u>

Deaths during the last 10 years

<u>Causes of Death</u>	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942
Cancer	104	114	114	133	112	120	107	110	112	121
Heart Disease	158	156	143	184	170	182	168	167	168	170
Pneumonia	107	79	110	74	95	108	74	84	74	48
Bronchitis & other Respiratory diseases	61	72	70	73	56	57	64	113	108	54
Cerebral Haemorrhage etc.	38	48	48	54	55	58	61	81	81	91
Tuberculosis -										
(a) Pulmonary	57	70	57	42	61	53	56	75	75	65
(b) Non-Pulmonary	15	6	6	10	5	10	11	12	7	11
(c) Total (all forms)	72	76	63	52	66	63	67	87	82	76

There were no deaths due to enemy action.

Deaths in the 14-45 age groups

In this age group the number of deaths was 109. Compared with pre-war figures - an average of 147 for the 10 years 1930-39 - the reduction in mortality here is somewhat surprising in view of recruitments into the Services of the more physically fit, which would increase the proportion of those already suffering from disease or defects left at home involving the probability of an increased mortality rate. It is highly probable that the treatment of certain diseases by new or improved drugs (the sulphonamide group for example) is responsible for the decline: this factor was referred to in connection with reduction in deaths from Pneumonia in my Report for the year 1941.

Increasing Age at death

This feature of vital statistics is worthy of note.

Local statistics for the inter-war years (1919-1938) show that an increase in the percentage of all deaths occurring in persons over 65 years of age was progressively maintained. In 1919 the figure was 28.61% and 40.43% for 1938. Grouped in five year periods there was an increase of approximately 4% in each period, the figures being 27.20, 31.82, 35.26 and 39.39 respectively.

Infant Deaths

The rate of 45.6 per 1,000 live births is the lowest recorded in the Borough and favourably compares with 49 for the whole of England and Wales.

The table which follows shows that the deaths under 1 month, mainly due to premature birth and congenital defects were fairly constant, in proportion to the total deaths 1936-1942. The diversity in the remaining groups is such as to preclude drawing of any conclusion which would indicate a special line of investigation into these deaths. One notable feature is the reduction in the numbers in the 6 to 12 months group during the period 1936 - 1942.

Infant Deaths in Age Groups for 10 years 1933-1942

YEAR	Under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	TOTAL
1933	56	28	19	24	18	142
1934	40	22	11	16	10	99
1935	45	18	27	21	20	131
1936	53	17	19	7	12	108
1937	54	13	20	11	8	106
1938	53	12	11	10	4	90
1939	53	12	10	7	5	87
1940	45	26	16	5	10	103
1941	43	14	28	6	2	93
1942	37	12	11	8	4	72
10 Years Average	47.9	17.1	17.2	11.5	9.3	103.0

Infant Deaths, 1942 - Causes of Death

	M.	F.	Total
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	-	1
Whooping Cough	1	1	2
Tuberculosis - non-pulmonary	2	-	2
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Pneumonia	7	4	11
Diarrhoea	7	7	14
Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	2
Premature Birth	13	5	18
Congenital Malformations, Infantile Diseases and birth injuries	13	4	17
Syphilitic Diseases	1	-	1
Violent Causes	1	-	1
All Other Causes	1	1	2
Total	48	24	72

INFECTIOUS AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES

(a) Infectious Diseases - Incidence

	Notifications	
	1941	1942
Scarlet Fever	180	268
Diphtheria	139	165
Pneumonia	48	56
Meningococcal Meningitis	12	7
Erysipelas	16	14
Measles	261	194
Whooping Cough	132	55
Others	14	18
Totals	802	777

(b) Deaths from Infectious Disease (R.G. figures)

	1941	1942
Measles	2	-
Whooping Cough	4	2
Diphtheria	13	16
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	-
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	75	65
Non-Pulmonary	7	11
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	6	5
Typhoid Fever	1	-
Totals	<u>109</u>	<u>99</u>

(c) Deaths from Respiratory Diseases (R.G. figures)

	1941	1942
Bronchitis	99	48
Pneumonia	74	48
Other Respiratory diseases	<u>9</u>	<u>6</u>
Totals	<u>182</u>	<u>102</u>

Report on Infectious Diseases Hospital

Diphtheria - One hundred and seventy three cases were admitted, of which 159 were West Bromwich cases. The disease was no less virulent than formerly, as shown by the fact that there was no reduction in the death rate. There were 13 deaths from Diphtheria, of these one was under 2 years of age, three were 3 years, three 4 years old, four between 5 and 8 years and two were 16 years. The seasonal incidence of this disease was the same as in previous years, the majority of cases occurred between October and December.

Scarlet Fever - The number of cases was 255, of whom 192 were from our own area. There was no death from Scarlet Fever. Sixty-six cases developed complications, including 17 otorrhoea, 16 adenitis, 8 heart lesions, 1 acute mastoiditis (operation), 1 nephritis, 3 secondary tonsillitis and 5 albuminuria: 35 cases were given serum.

Miscellaneous - Among the miscellaneous cases admitted there were 10 measles, 2 whooping cough, 11 pemphigus neonatorum (of whom 2 died), 4 chicken pox, 3 dysentery, 5 erysipelas, and 2 cases of cerebro spinal fever both of whom died. There were no cases of enteric fever.

Cases of Service personnel admitted were 1 Scarlet Fever, 1 Diphtheria and 4 mumps.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The number of persons immunized during 1942 is as follows :-

<u>Children</u>	<u>Other Persons</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Under 5 - 15 yrs. years.		
2,777	2,871	5,658
	10	

(b) Deaths from Infectious Diseases (W.D. 1942)

Year	1941	1942
Typhoid Fever	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Total	3	3

(c) Deaths from Respiratory Diseases (W.D. 1942)

Year	1941	1942
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Total	1	1

Report on Infectious Diseases Hospital

Diagnosis - One hundred and seventy three cases were admitted of which 152 were West Nile fever cases. The illness was no less virulent than reported, as shown by the fact that there was no infection in the adult sera. There were 15 deaths from Dengue, of these one was under 2 years of age, the other 14 were 2 years old. Two recovered 5 and 8 years and the other 12 years. The seasonal incidence of this disease was the same as in previous years, the majority of cases occurring between October and December.

Scarlet Fever - The number of cases was 252, of which 128 were from our area. There was no death from Scarlet Fever. Sixty-six cases developed complications, including 19 meningitis, 10 adenitis, 8 heart lesions, 1 acute myocarditis, 1 peritonitis, 1 pyelitis, 2 secondary tonsillitis and 5 abscesses. 35 cases were given serum.

Meningitis - Among the meningitis cases admitted there were 10 meningitis, 2 tubercular meningitis, 11 pyogenic meningitis (of whom 5 died), 4 coliform meningitis, 2 cryptococcal, 2 cases of meningitis spinal fever, both of whom died. There was no case of aseptic meningitis.

Cases of Dengue fever were reported during the year 1942. There were 128 cases and 4 deaths.

Respiratory Diseases Hospital

The number of persons admitted during 1942 is as follows:-

Other Diseases	1941	1942
Other Diseases	1	1
TOTAL	1	1

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The attendance at the Welfare Clinics was most satisfactory having regard to war conditions.

Two Day Nurseries, each to accommodate 40 children, were opened during the year, and are doing most excellent work.

There is only one Maternity Home in the Borough; this was visited periodically and inspected.

Home visits paid by Health Visitors to expectant mothers were 437, compared with 449 in 1941. Dental treatment for expectant mothers was given to 231 patients, dentures being supplied in 37 cases. One hundred and thirteen pre-school children were dentally treated.

Clothing coupons were issued in 953 cases, and fruit juices, cod liver oil, etc., for the Ministry of Food were distributed at Infant Welfare Clinics.

Maternal Deaths, 1942.

Sepsis	1	
Other causes	4	
	<u>5</u>	Death Rate 3.05

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

The number of midwives in the service of the Authority was 10; the number of confinements attended was 839, 701 as midwives and 138 as maternity nurses. The Resident Obstetric Officer at Hallam Hospital has been in close consultation with the Medical Officers and Midwives throughout the year. The emergency mobile unit was requisitioned on 3 occasions.

TUBERCULOSIS

West Bromwich Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Notifications.

1936	...	...	52	1936	...	...	76
1937	...	...	66	1937	...	...	79
1938	...	...	63	1938	...	...	93
1939	...	...	67	1939	...	...	108
1940	...	...	87	1940	...	...	148
1941	...	...	82	1941	...	...	136
1942	...	...	76	1942	...	...	180

The above table shows that while the number of deaths from Tuberculosis has increased slightly during the last seven years the number of new cases has increased considerably. The increase in new cases is due partly to the improvements made by the Health Committee and its Medical Officers in ascertainment during the years 1939-42. Facilities for examination of contacts and re-examination of all children under 5 years have been considerably increased during the last few years and the number of X-Ray examinations made for the Dispensary has increased from 155 in 1936 to 501 in 1942 and to 220 in the first quarter of 1943.

The Committee agreed to increase X-ray facilities two or three years ago, and the effect has been to contribute to increased ascertainment since most of the cases with history of bronchitis etc. have been X-rayed.

In my last Report I referred to the need for strengthening the tuberculosis service both nationally and locally and the Ministry of Health Memo 266T issued 1943 will afford considerable assistance to Tuberculosis Officers.

The attendance at the ... laboratory having regard to the conditions. Two day ... were opened during the year, and ... There is only one ... was visited periodically and inspected.

Home visits were by ... members were 437, compared with 420 in 1941. ... 147 expectant mothers were given ... being supplied in 37 cases. ... children were dentally inspected.

Clothing coupons were issued in 1942, and ... cod liver oil, etc., for the Ministry of Food were distributed at ...

Internal Deaths, 1942

Deaths	1
Death Rate 5.00	1

Maternity Mortality

The number of ... The number of ... and 128 as ... The Medical Officer at ... emergency mobile unit was ...

STATISTICS

Post-Natal Deaths from Tuberculosis

Year	Deaths	Rate
1936	20	...
1937	25	...
1938	30	...
1939	35	...
1940	40	...
1941	45	...
1942	50	...

The above ... The number of ... The increase in ... The number of ... The number of ...

The ... The number of ... The number of ...

In ... The number of ... The number of ...

New Cases referred to the Dispensary

	1942	Males	Females	TOTAL
Pulmonary		150	131	281
Non-Pulmonary		6	4	10
Totals		156	135	291

	1941	Males	Females	TOTAL
Pulmonary		129	81	210
Non-Pulmonary		5	3	8
Totals		134	84	218

Notification and Registration

Notifications received during the year were:-
 Pulmonary 139, Non-Pulmonary 14. The number on the Notification Register at 31.12.42. was 510 and the Dispensary Register 376.

Examinations

New cases examined numbered 291, and the total attendances at the Dispensary was 2123. Radiological examination was carried out in the case of 501 patients.

Home Conditions and After-Care

Domiciliary visits paid by the Health-Visitors and District Nurses amounted to 1,116.

The Voluntary Care Committee continues to give excellent assistance to necessitous patients: the year's expenditure was £36.7.0½d.

Sanatoria

One-hundred-and-seventeen patients were sent to Sanatoria. The average duration of stay was 87.8 days.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS

The particulars of mental defectives in the Borough on the 31st December, 1942 were as follows:-

A. Defectives ascertained as "subject to be dealt with"

	M.	F.	TOTAL
1. Under "Order"			
(a) (1) In Institutions (excluding those in State Institutions)			
Under 16 years	11	6	17
16 years and over	66	82	148
(2) On Licence from Institutions			
Under 16 years	2	-	2
16 years and over	8	14	22
(b) (1) Under Guardianship (excluding cases on Licence)			
Under 16 years	-	-	-
16 years and over	1	4	5
(2) On Licence from Guardianship	-	-	-

	M.	F.	TOTAL
2. In 'place of safety'			
Under 16 years	-	-	-
16 years and over	-	-	-
3. Under Statutory Supervision	37	39	76
Awaiting removal to an Institution	1	-	1

Defectives not at present "Subject to be dealt with"

Reported to Local Authority
from reliable source

(1) Children between 14-16 years	10	4	14
(2) Other Cases	36	35	71
	<u>172</u>	<u>184</u>	<u>356</u>

HOSPITAL SERVICES

HALLAM HOSPITAL

Report of the Medical Superintendent

In the year 1942 the Hospital made noteworthy progress in many departments of its activities. The number of in-patients treated was a record in its history, for 5,680 were admitted, an increase of 31.8% over the numbers for 1941. Over 500 more operations were performed than in 1941, bringing the total to 2,009. Similarly, nearly 300 more births took place in the maternity wards, totalling 1,005.

In overtaking an all-round increase of some 30% in the work of the hospital, accommodation has been severely taxed, and the strain upon the medical and nursing staff in providing a 24 hour service without a proportionate increase in their numbers, has been very considerable.

Although additional maternity accommodation was opened, a new total of 60 beds was still inadequate to the demands and, with great reluctance, a system of restricting bookings had to be instituted. It is hoped that this will be a temporary measure of short duration, as plans have been made to erect temporary buildings to provide an additional 20 beds and accommodation for the necessarily increased nursing staff. These plans only await the sanction of the Minister of Health and the requisite building priorities before being put into commission.

The turnover of patients has been more rapid, 4,873 of the total patients admitted remaining in hospital for periods of less than 4 weeks. Health resolves itself into two components - Positive Health and Negative Health, and the continual tendency of the duration of illness to diminish bears an interesting relation to each of them. Negative Health is primarily the concern of the medical profession and the hospital. Research into the causes of disease, the development of rational treatment and the discovery of new drugs, of which perhaps the most striking in recent years have been the sulphonamide group, all result in the more rapid cure or alleviation of disease. Positive Health it is now recognised, is the concern of the Nation, for factors adverse to positive health such as ignorance, bad housing and economic uncertainty can only be remedied on a national basis. The importance of the last factor is vividly illustrated today, when an abundance of work and high wages constitute an almost embarrassing stimulus to positive health, in that difficulty is frequently experienced in preventing patients from

1. In place of safety
Under 15 years
15 years and over

2. Under Secretary Supervisor
Awaiting removal to an Institution

Definitely at present "subject to be dealt with"

Reported to Local Authority From reliable sources		Colours between 15-16 years	
(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
34	4	36	35
31	7	37	31
<hr/>		<hr/>	
172	104	173	66

HOSPITAL REVIEWS

MALDEN HOSPITAL

Report of the Medical Superintendent

In the year 1942 the Hospital made noteworthy progress in many departments of its activities. The number of in-patients treated was a record in the history, for 5,800 were admitted, an increase of 21.7% over the number for 1941. Over 500 cases operated upon were performed and in 1941, bringing the total to 2,000. Similarly, nearly 300 more births took place in the maternity wards, totaling 1,000.

It constituted an all-round increase of some 30% in the work of the hospital, accommodation has been severely taxed, and the strain upon the medical and nursing staff in providing 24 hour service without a proportional increase in their number has been very considerable.

Altogether additional maternity accommodation was opened, a new total of 60 beds was still inadequate for the demands and with great reluctance a system of restricting bookings had to be introduced. It is hoped that this will be a temporary measure of short duration, as plans have been made to erect temporary buildings to provide an additional 30 beds and accommodation for the necessary increased nursing staff. These plans only await the sanction of the Minister of Health and the medical building will be completed before being put into operation.

The turnover of patients has been very rapid, 4,000 of the total patients admitted remaining in hospital for periods of less than a week. Health receives local into two categories - Positive Health and Negative Health, and the continual tendency of the question of illness to diminish bears an interesting relation to each of them. Negative Health is primarily the concern of the medical profession and the hospital. Research into the cause of disease, the development of rational treatment and the discovery of new drugs, of which perhaps the most striking in recent years have been the sulphamide group, all result in the more rapid cure of infectious diseases. Positive Health is now recognized as the concern of the Nation, for factors adverse to positive health such as ignorance, bad housing and general unhygiene can only be remedied on a national basis. The improvement of the latter factor is vitally important today when an abundance of work and high wages contribute to almost universal standards of positive health, in that it is largely dependent upon the improvement in prevailing conditions from

returning to work before they are properly fit. Nevertheless, in no instance has any harmful effect followed.

The clinical resources of the hospital were still further augmented by the appointment of Mr. Milnes Walker as Consulting Chest Surgeon, and the establishment of a comprehensive scheme for the surgical treatment of diseases of the lung and chest.

Two events of importance to the status of the hospital took place during the year. The Royal College of Surgeons, after a survey, recognised the post of House Surgeon as providing a sufficiently high standard of surgical practice to admit the holder as a candidate for its highest professional examination. This is a considerable source of satisfaction as the privilege is seldom given to non-teaching hospitals or municipal hospitals outside the London area.

The Central Midwives Board recognised the hospital as providing the necessary teaching and equipment for the training of midwives, and empowered the hospital to establish its own courses of lectures by members of its medical staff and the staff of the University of Birmingham.

In this brief account of a year of progressive achievement, I would record my grateful appreciation of the constructive interest and ready co-operation of the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, the Consultant and Resident Medical Staff, the Matron and Nurses Staff, and the Steward and Clerical Staff.

W. E. WIMBERGER.

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>	<u>Children</u>	<u>Total for</u> <u>1942.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>1941</u>
Admissions & Births	1,012	2,323	2,345	5,680	4,800
Discharges & Deaths	1,021	2,278	2,300	5,599	4,700
<u>Cases were admitted as follows:-</u>				<u>1942</u>	<u>1941</u>
County Borough of West Bromwich				3,625	2,800
Other Authorities				1,935	1,800
Miscellaneous (War Casualties)				120	200
				<u>5,680</u>	<u>4,800</u>
<u>Operations</u>				<u>1942.</u>	<u>1941</u>
Major				365	300
Minor				1,144	1,100
				<u>1,509</u>	<u>1,400</u>
				<u>1,509</u>	<u>1,400</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

Admissions during the year

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Other Cases	TOTAL
West Bromwich	194	162	10	1	27	394
Other Authorities	60	10	-	1	6	77
Service Cases	1	1	-	-	4	6
Totals	255	173	10	2	37	477

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS

The Emergency Hospital scheme was further developed during the year. A number of nurses as additional members of the Civil Nursing Reserve were trained, and a proportion of beds was left ready for potential air raid casualties.

All the services including -

- 2 Class A 1 Hospitals
- 4 Fixed First Aid Posts
- 6 Cleansing Stations
- 3 Mobile First Aid Posts
- 6 Ambulance Depots
- 3 First Aid Points
- 4 Medical Aid Posts
- 2 Mortuaries

remain much the same as reported for 1941.

SUPERANNUATION MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The undermentioned superannuation medical examinations were carried out during the year by the Medical staff:-

Number of examinations	82
Accepted	78
Deferred for re-examination	3
Rejected	1
Number of re-examinations	8
Accepted	8
Rejected	-

HEALTH DEPARTMENT
LODGE ROAD,
WEST BROMWICH.

15th July, 1943.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL

Statistics during the year

TOTAL	Cholera Cases	Shigellosis Cases	Measles	Dysentery	Scarlet Fever	Other
204	27	1	10	182	102	102
77	8	1	-	10	60	60
6	4	-	-	1	1	1
217	37	2	10	193	263	263

SAID PRECAUTIONS

The Emergency Hospital scheme was further developed for the year. A number of nurses as well as members of Civil Nursing Reserve were trained, and a provision of was left ready for potential air raid casualties.

All the services including -

- 2 Clinics & 1 Hospital
- 4 Fixed First Aid Posts
- 6 Community Stations
- 3 Mobile First Aid Posts
- 6 Ambulance Buses
- 3 First Aid Points
- 4 Medical Aid Posts
- 2 Mortuaries

in which the same are reported for 1941.

AMBUANCE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The undermentioned ambulance medical examinations carried out during the year by the Medical Staff:-

Number of examinations	Number of re-examinations
Accepted	Accepted
79	79
Deferred for re-examination	Deferred for re-examination
3	3
Rejected	Rejected
1	1
Number of re-examinations	Number of re-examinations
Accepted	Accepted
8	8
Deferred for re-examination	Deferred for re-examination
2	2
Rejected	Rejected
-	-

DEPARTMENT
S. R. R. R.
SECTION
17, 1941.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1942.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report on the work of the Sanitary Department for the year 1942. This report, in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health contains only the salient features of the work done during that year.

The year has been noteworthy for the work carried out in respect of the inspection of tinned foods. Considerable time and attention was also given to the distribution, handling and production of heat treated milk.

An important case under the Food and Drugs Act was proceeded with during the year and a conviction obtained. This case was of national importance.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough.

Record of Inspections, 1942.

The number of inspections made during the year was 15,155 as under :-

Houses inspected under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, etc.	523
Miscellaneous Inspections	6,770
Re-inspections	4,430
Theatres, Cinemas, etc.	43
Lodging Houses	52
Factories and Workshops	103
Shops, Food Premises and Slaughterhouses	3,000
Bakehouses	46
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops	178
	15,155

Notices served.

	<u>Informal</u>	<u>Statutory</u>	<u>Total</u>
Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936.	947	233	1,180

The number of sanitary improvements effected as a result of these notices was 1,533.

Rats and Lice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Although no statutory notices have been served such useful work has been done in rat destruction. One hundred and thirty-one visits were made by your ratcatcher during the year; baits and traps were laid and in addition 529 live rats were caught and destroyed. Sulphur gas has also been used with good effect in a number of cases.

Infectious Diseases.

Number of visits made by Sanitary Inspectors	13
Number of disinfections carried out.	441

To the Chairman and Members of the Executive Committee

I have the honor to acknowledge to you the Annual Report on the work of the Society for the year 1954. This report, in accordance with the instructions of the Executive Committee, contains only the essential features of the work done during that year.

The year has been noteworthy for the work carried out in respect of the inspection of financial records. Considerable time and attention was also given to the distribution, handling and production of best treated milk.

An important case under the Food and Drugs Act was proceeded with during the year and a conviction obtained. This case was of national importance.

General Circumstances of the Year

Record of Inspections, 1954

The number of inspections made during the year was 12,122 as under:-

Hotels and other catering premises	1,200
Public houses	1,500
Restaurants, canteens, etc.	1,000
Ice-cream parlours	500
Theatres, cinemas, etc.	1,000
Lodging houses	1,000
Public and private shops, food premises and other premises	1,000
Public houses	1,000
Factories, concerns and all shops	1,000
Total	12,122

Other Events

Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936

The number of notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936 was 1,200.

Other Events, 1954

Although no statutory notices have been served, the following have been done in the district. The district and other areas were visited by your inspectors during the year. In addition to the 12,122 inspections made, the following were also carried out. The number of other notices served was 1,200.

Other Events, 1954

Number of visits made by sanitary inspectors
Number of establishments visited was

Court Proceedings under Public Health Act, 1936.

Five summonses were issued during the year under Section 94 in connection with 146, 152, 154, 156, 158 and 160, Hall Green Road. After several adjournments the work was completed at Nos. 146, 156, 158 and 160, Hall Green Road and orders were made and costs were inflicted in each case of 10/- with regard to Nos. 152 and 154.

Disinfestation.

Number of Council Houses disinfested with HCN.	6
Number of houses treated with insecticides	18

Housing.

Number of houses the subject of Demolition or Clearance Orders demolished during the year.

By Owners	6
By Local Authority	Nil

Total number of houses demolished since the inception of the Slum Clearance Programme.

Clearance Areas	1,431	
Demolition Orders	474	1,905

The total population displaced from the 1,905 houses was 8,690 persons.

Inspection and supervision of Foods.

Milk Supply.

Considerable trouble was experienced during the year with heat treated milks - Pasteurised and Sterilized. Many complaints were received of dirty bottles and of extraneous matter in these milks and action was taken under Section 22 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

The following table gives the results of the Bacteriological Examination of milks.

Designation	Methylene Blue Test		B. Coli		Bacteria per c.c.	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Absent	Present	Above 100,000	Below 100,000
Accredited Tuberculin-tested	7	1	7	1	-	-
Undesignated Pasteurised	2	-	2	-	-	-
	12	3	12	3	-	-
	-	-	-	-	9	16
Totals	21	4	21	4	9	16

Five samples of Sterilized Milk were also submitted for Bacteriological Examination and gave counts of 210, 150, 40, 10 and 40 bacteria per c.c. respectively.

Biological Samples.

Three samples were obtained all of which were negative.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

The number of visits made to Dairies and Cowsheds was one hundred and seventy-eight.

There are 10 registered cowkeepers in the Borough of whom two are registered as "Accredited".

The number of licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1938 was 21.

Proceedings under Sections 10 and 22, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A sealed bottle of Sterilized Milk sold to a householder contained such a large quantity of dirt that the milk was taken before a Justice of the Peace and condemned as unfit for human consumption. This sample was analysed and found to contain 940 parts per 100,000 of extraneous dirt.

Two other samples from the same firm were also found to contain 5 parts per 100,000 and 70 parts per 100,000 of extraneous dirt respectively.

Samples of Graded Milk obtained from the same firm did not comply with the standard laid down by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923 and a notice was served upon this firm under Section 22 to appear before the Health Committee with reference to cancellation of registration. After a lengthy hearing a decision was deferred for six months to enable the firm to effect improvements in sterilization, treatment and transport of the milk.

Meat and Other Foods.

Number of Slaughterhouses actively engaged on slaughtering pigs	3
Number of visits made to slaughterhouses	685
Number of visits made to shops and food premises.	2,315
Number of animals notified for slaughter under Public Health (Meat) Regulations	332

	Pigs.
Carcases Inspected and Condemned.	
Number killed	6,766
Number inspected	6,766
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>	
Whole carcasses condemned	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	126
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.99
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>	
Whole carcasses condemned	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	384
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	5.8

Summary of Meat and other Foods condemned as diseased or unsound.

Article	Tons	cwts	qrs	lbs.
Fork	3	15	3	1
Carried Forward	3	15	3	1

Brought forward	3	15	3	1
Bacon		8	0	0
Sausage		5	1	13
Rabbits		1	0	0
Cheese			3	0
Eggs			3	0
<u>Canned foods: cwts.crs.lbs.</u>				
Canned Meat	16	2	3	
" Fish	6	0	0	
" Fruit	6	1	6	
" Jam	7	3	6	
" Vegetables	10	3	5	
" Milk	10	0	0	2 17 1 20
Miscellaneous				1 18
TOTAL		7	9	2 10

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A total of 241 samples of foods and drugs was taken for chemical analysis during the year and of this number 115 were milk and 126 other foods and drugs. A table of the samples submitted for analysis is appended.

	Samples analysed		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory (Adulterated)	
	Milk	Other foods	Milk	Other foods	Milk	Other foods
1st Quarter	37	22	35	22	2	-
2nd "	18	33	18	31	-	2
3rd "	20	20	19	19	1	1
4th "	40	51	39	50	1	1
TOTALS	115	126	111	122	4	4

Of the 241 samples submitted for analysis 8 were certified as adulterated or 3.3 per cent of the total samples taken. The percentage of milk samples adulterated was 3.5 and of other foods and drugs 3.1.

The following table gives particulars of the adulterated samples and action taken.

No. of Sample	Article	Deficiency or Adulteration.	Action taken
6762	Milk (Informal)	Contained 1% of Vinegar	Vendor warned
6767	Milk (Informal)	Contained approximately 5 parts per 100,000 of extraneous dirt (See also Sample No. 6853).	Action taken under Section Food and Drugs Act, 1938.
6797	Egg Substitute Powder. (Informal)	Contained only 1.55% of Carbon Dioxide.	Vendor warned

No. of Sample	Article	Deficiency or adulteration	Action taken
6837	Saccharin Tablets (Informal)	Did not bear label required by S.R & O No. 2129.	Vendor warned
6853	Milk (Informal)	Contained 940 parts per 100,000 of moist dirt.	Sample condemned under Section 10, Food & Drugs Act, 1938 and action taken under Section 22 Food & Drugs Act, 1938.
6867	Syrup of Figs (Informal)	Did not consist of Syrup of Figs but similar to Compound Syrup of Figs, B.P.C. diluted with 25% of water.	Vendor warned Old Stock withdrawn.
6905	Milk (Informal)	Contained 70 parts per 100,000 of moist dirt.	See also sample No. 6853.
6933	Baking Powder (Informal)	Contained only 3% Carbon Dioxide.	Vendor warned.

Legal Proceedings under Section 3, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Summonses were issued in connection with two samples of Edible Gelatine obtained from a West Bromwich firm which contained Arsenic to the extent of 1/10th of a grain per pound in one sample and 1/33rd of a grain per pound in the other. At the hearing warranty defences were established and the defendants were acquitted.

The Manufacturers were then summoned for giving false warranties under Section 85 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and fines were inflicted of £5 with £5 costs in the one instance and £2 with £3 17. Od. costs in the other. This case established a standard laid down by the Royal Commission in 1903 as a standard under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

Five samples were obtained during the year one of which was unsatisfactory and was referred to the Local Authority in which the manufacture took place.

Public Cleansing.

House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Total number of houses and other premises from which refuse was collected.	21,598
Total number of Loads of refuse collected	21,152
Total tonnage of refuse collected	21,057
Total tonnage of Nightsoil collected	476
Tonnage collected from cesspools	1,035

No. of copies	Article	Author	Date
100	Sociology	S. N. Sanyal	1935
100	Economics	S. N. Sanyal	1935
100	History	S. N. Sanyal	1935
100	Literature	S. N. Sanyal	1935
100	Education	S. N. Sanyal	1935
100	Law	S. N. Sanyal	1935

1. Proceedings of the Indian National Congress, 1935.

The Indian National Congress held its annual session at Calcutta in 1935. The session was held from December 1st to December 14th, 1935. The session was held at the Grand Hotel, Calcutta. The session was held in the presence of a large number of delegates from all over India. The session was held in the presence of a large number of delegates from all over India. The session was held in the presence of a large number of delegates from all over India.

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Total number of copies	Total number of copies	Total number of copies	Total number of copies	Total number of copies	Total number of copies
100	100	100	100	100	100
100	100	100	100	100	100
100	100	100	100	100	100
100	100	100	100	100	100
100	100	100	100	100	100

Gross cost of collection	£18,498
Gross cost of Disposal	£8,281
Gross cost per ton of collection	16s.4.72d.
Gross cost per ton of disposal	7s.4.07d.
Cost of collection and disposal per thousand population.	£334. 14. 9d.

Difficulties were again experienced during the year owing to the shortage of suitable labour to replace that called up for the Forces. The effect of this shortage and replacement by older men has been to increase the average age from 32 years pre-war to 46 years of the present male employees. In most cases the replacements are medically unfit. Female labour is used for salvage work but the number of women suitable for this work is limited. Transport difficulties have also contributed to the disadvantages under which the Department carried out its duties.

Salvage.

The Campaign for salvage continued during the year and in November a direction was served under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939 requiring the Corporation to collect kitchen waste and deliver this waste to Messrs. Normansell's factory at Tipton. This direction has added to the strain under which the Department has laboured particularly with regard to labour and transport difficulties.

The monthly totals of salvage collected during 1942 were as under :-

	Tons cwt. qrs			£ s. d.		
January	76	6	0	292	1	6
February	74	5	0	241	9	7
March	105	7	0	352	11	9
April	140	7	0	525	12	7
May	95	15	0	408	17	3
June	119	15	0	630	17	4
July	85	0	0	427	4	1
August	151	17	0	638	13	7
September	114	3	0	587	1	4
October	97	10	0	388	4	5
November	87	17	0	379	2	7
December	133	5	2	441	10	4
	1,281	7	2	5,213	11	9

The total tonnage of salvage collected during the previous year was 983 tons 13cwt. 3qrs. which was sold for £3,298. 13. 10d.

The following comparative table gives the increase over the previous year to the nearest decimal figure of the various materials salvaged.

Material	1940		1941		Increase		Decrease
	Tons	£	Tons	£	Tons	£	
Wastepaper	554.4	2259.5	647.9	3622.5	93.5	1363.0	-
Black Scrap	69.5	128.4	125.3	230.8	55.8	102.4	-
Baled tins	262.8	525.6	311.8	599.5	49.0	73.9	-
Non-ferrous scrap	4.1	111.8	1.7	51.8	-	-	2.4
Bottles, Jars etc	9.2	33.0	13.7	78.2	4.5	45.2	-
Carried forward	900.0	3058.3	1120.4	4582.8	202.8	1584.5	2.4

Material	1941		1942		Increase		Decrease	
	Tons	£	Tons	£	Tons	£	Tons	£
Brought forward	900.0	3058.3	1120.4	4582.8	202.8	1584.5	2.4	60.0
Allet	32.7	20.4	41.6	26.0	8.9	5.6	-	-
Wines	11.3	39.5	9.7	37.2	-	-	1.6	2.3
Kitchen Waste	-	-	70.2	105.3	70.2	105.3	-	-
Rubber	-	-	18.0	20.0	18.0	20.0	-	-
Miscellaneous	11.6	14.6	4.9	14.5	-	-	6.7	.1
Logs & Bagging	27.9	165.8	36.5	527.7	8.6	361.9	-	-
Totals	983.5	3298.6	1281.3	5313.5	308.5	2077.3	10.7	62.4

Yours obediently,

W.W. FOAKES, M.R.Son. I.,
M.S.I.A., A.M.Inst.P.C.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR,
SUPERINTENDENT OF REFUSE
REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL.

Year	Month	Day	Hour	Temp	Wind	Humidity	Pressure	Notes
1900	Jan	1	10	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	Clear
1900	Jan	2	11	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0	Clear
1900	Jan	3	12	12.0	12.0	12.0	12.0	Clear
1900	Jan	4	13	13.0	13.0	13.0	13.0	Clear
1900	Jan	5	14	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	Clear
1900	Jan	6	15	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0	Clear
1900	Jan	7	16	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.0	Clear
1900	Jan	8	17	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	Clear
1900	Jan	9	18	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	Clear
1900	Jan	10	19	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	Clear
1900	Jan	11	20	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	Clear
1900	Jan	12	21	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0	Clear
1900	Jan	13	22	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.0	Clear
1900	Jan	14	23	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	Clear
1900	Jan	15	24	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	Clear
1900	Jan	16	25	25.0	25.0	25.0	25.0	Clear
1900	Jan	17	26	26.0	26.0	26.0	26.0	Clear
1900	Jan	18	27	27.0	27.0	27.0	27.0	Clear
1900	Jan	19	28	28.0	28.0	28.0	28.0	Clear
1900	Jan	20	29	29.0	29.0	29.0	29.0	Clear
1900	Jan	21	30	30.0	30.0	30.0	30.0	Clear

Yours obediently,

W. B. Smith
 123 Main Street
 New York, N.Y.