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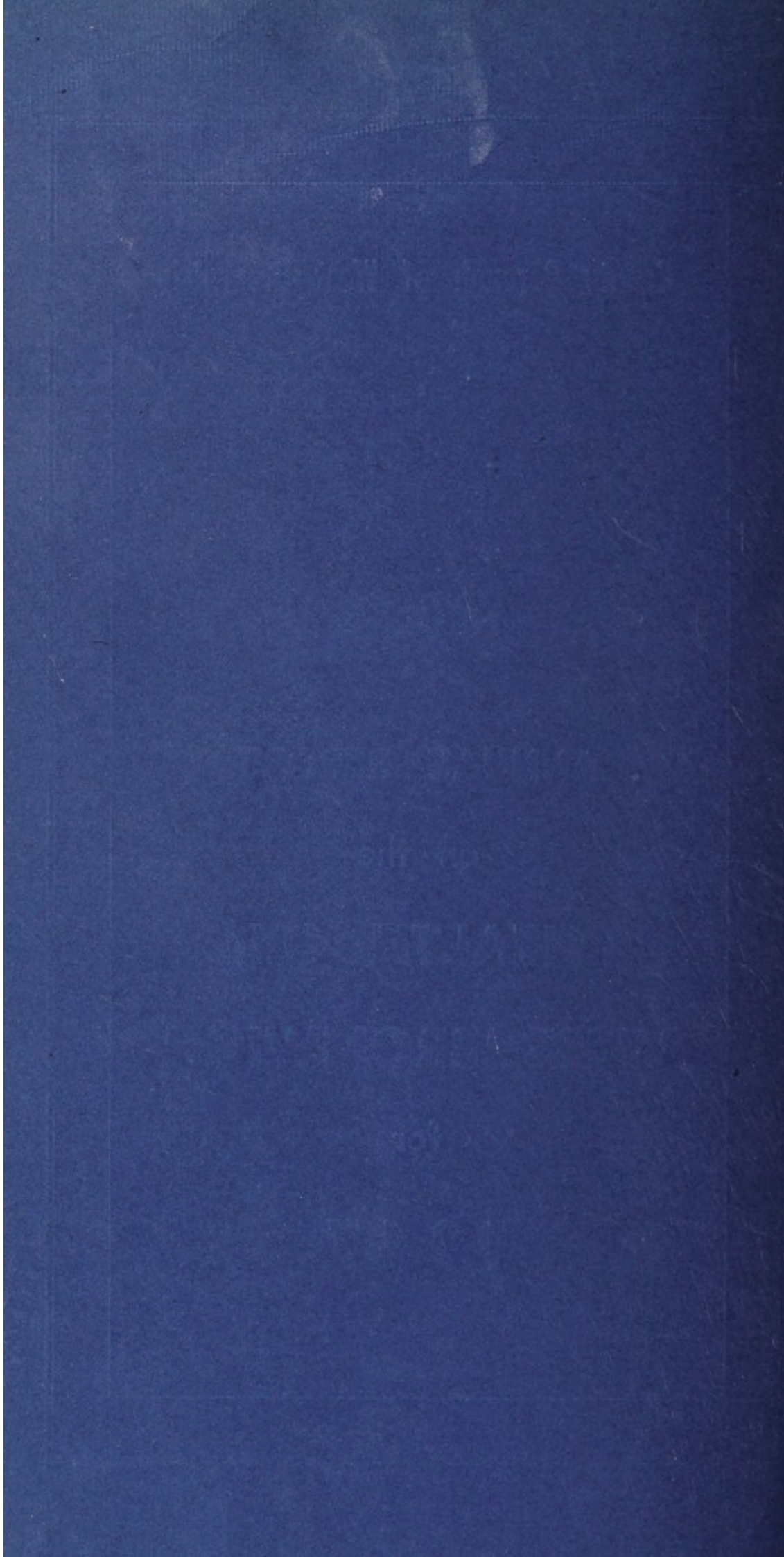
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*P.H.*

County Borough of West Bromwich




**ANNUAL REPORT**  
on the  
**HEALTH OF**  
**WEST BROMWICH**  
for  
**1947**



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## **CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEES,**

**At 31st DECEMBER, 1947.**

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Chairman: Alderman J. T. H. DAVIES, J.P.

Deputy Chairman: Alderman A. GREEN, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Alderman G. C. W. JONES, J.P.)

Alderman A. E. CALDWELL.

Councillor E. M. CARPENTER.

Alderman G. E. POWELL.

Councillor C. E. HAZEL, J.P.

Alderman E. A. SMALLMAN, J.P.

Councillor C. H. WITHINGTON.

### **HEALTH SERVICE COMMITTEE.**

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Deputy Chairman: Alderman A. GREEN, J.P.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Alderman G. C. W. JONES, J.P.)

Alderman A. E. CALDWELL.

Councillor V. M. STEED.

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

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HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Alderman G. C. W. JONES, J.P.)

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Councillor E. M. CARPENTER.

Mrs. M. EVITTS

Councillor C. E. HAZEL, J.P.

Dr. D. SAKLATVALA.

Miss S. A. SMITH.

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

<b>Medical Officer of Health &amp; Chief Tuberculosis Officer</b> ....	J. TUDOR LEWIS, M.D., D.P.H.
<b>Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer</b>	WINNIFRED N. GIBBS, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (to 8.2.47).
<b>Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Clinical Tuberculosis Officer</b> ....	CLIFFORD W. D. COLE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (from 1.5.47).
<b>Assistant Medical Officer of Health</b>	CLIFFORD W. D. COLE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (to 30.4.47). W. J. MORRISSEY, M.B., B.Ch. D.P.H. (from 23.7.47).
<b>Senior Dental Officer</b> ....	G. J. S. LITTLEFIELD, L.D.S. (from 1.8.47).
<b>Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Food and Drugs, Superin- tendent of Refuse Removal and Disposal</b> ....	W. W. FOAKES, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, M.Inst.P.C.
<b>Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector</b>	G. H. SHAW, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector.
<b>District Sanitary Inspectors</b> ....	F. A. OAKES, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector. F. W. BALL, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector, Cert. Smoke Inspector. C. N. JOHNSON, Cert.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
<b>Assistant Cleansing Superintendent</b>	S. T. PERKINS.
<b>Pupil Sanitary Inspector</b> ....	A. W. REEVES.
<b>Superintendent Health Visitor</b>	MISS K. PERRYER, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., Q.N.Cert.

### HEALTH VISITORS/SCHOOL NURSES.

MISS M. E. BLAKEY, S.R.N. S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
MISS G. S. GEDRYCH, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N.  
MISS M. E. GREASLEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.  
MISS I. JOHN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert., Q.N.Cert. (from 1.9.47).  
MISS E. J. M. JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert. (from 1.9.47).  
MISS M. E. JONES, S.R.N., S.C.M.  
MISS E. KING, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.M.P.A.Cert., H.V.Cert.  
MRS. C. PASKIN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

**Pupil Health Visitor** .... Miss J. HIRD, S.R.N., S.C.M., (from 1.9.47).

**Tuberculosis Visitor and Dispensary Sister** .... Miss N. DOBSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., T.A.Cert. (to 30.4.47).  
Miss G. L. SHORE, S.R.N., S.C.M., T.A.Cert. (from 2.6.47).

#### MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

Nurse J. BILLINGHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.      Nurse C. LESTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.  
Nurse A. DORAM, S.C.M.                      Nurse E. NUNN, S.R.N., S.C.M.  
Nurse F. FORGHAM, S.R.N., S.C.M.        Nurse J. PICKSTONE, S.C.M.  
Nurse F. KEYS, S.C.M.                        Nurse M. PIERCY, S.C.M.

**Mental Deficiency Supervisor** .... Miss E. K. HUNTER.

#### CLERICAL STAFF.

**Health Department** .... A. SHAW, Chief Clerk.  
Vaccination Officer.  
K. J. HICKINBOTTOM.  
Miss M. L. HOLDEN.  
Miss M. P. E. ASHMORE.  
Miss D. M. WILKINS.  
Miss J. SIMCOX.  
Miss D. WIGGIN.  
Miss E. PITTWOOD.

**Sanitary Department** .... C. S. STOKES.  
A. J. EVANS (in H.M. Forces).  
Miss K. WHARTON.

#### HALLAM HOSPITAL.

**Medical Superintendent** .... W. E. WIMBERGER, M.B., Ch.B.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

**Pathologist** .... J. C. FORD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
M.B., B.S.

**Matron** .... Miss E. MOORE, S.R.N., S.C.M.,  
T.A.Cert.

**Steward** .... A. E. LISTER.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

**Matron** .... Miss E. MURPHY, S.R.N., S.R.F.N.

#### DAY NURSERY.

**Matron** .... MRS. E. HEAVEN, S.R.N., S.C.M.,  
D.N. (Leeds Univ.)

*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 the Annual Report on the health of West Bromwich for the year 1947.

In some respects it was a year of note, for a great deal of time was given to the planning of the local health services under the National Health Service Act of 1946, and a special committee—the Health Service Committee—was set up to prepare the schemes.

The country as a whole experienced an extensive outbreak of infantile paralysis, but although a few cases arose in West Bromwich we fortunately escaped any serious incidence of the disease. An outbreak of smallpox arose in an adjoining area, which at one time caused considerable anxiety. Fortunately, West Bromwich again escaped, although members of the Public Health Department staff were called out on a number of occasions by local doctors to give an opinion as to whether a case was smallpox. It was necessary to open the Smallpox Hospital at Friar Park to take a doubtful case from an adjoining area, but this eventually proved not to be smallpox.

Dr. Cole was made Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health in June, and Dr. W. J. Morrissey was appointed as Assistant Medical Officer of Health consequent upon Dr. Cole's promotion. Mr. G. J. S. Littlefield was appointed jointly by the Smethwick and West Bromwich Education Committees as Senior Dental Officer, and his advice has been available, so far as dental work is concerned, to the Health Services Committee.

Details of the Vital Statistics will be found on page 5. With the exception of a comparatively high infantile mortality rate, they show that the health of the town was satisfactory. This problem of the high infantile mortality rate is referred to on page 16.

I should like to take the opportunity of thanking all members of my staff for their help and co-operation throughout the year, and also those colleagues from other departments who have rendered a great deal of assistance. I should like also to thank the Chairmen and Members of my various Committees for their unfailing courtesy and consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. TUDOR LEWIS,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

July, 1948,

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION (Registrar General's Estimate mid-1947) 84,160.

AREA (Acres) 7,172.

NO. OF INHABITED HOUSES 22,365.

RATEABLE VALUE (1st April, 1947) £404,821.

PRODUCT OF 1d. RATE £1,640.

GENERAL RATE (1947-48) 25/6.

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

#### Live Births.

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	869	823	1692
Illegitimate	...	43	23	66
Total		912	846	1758

Birth Rate per 1,000 population = 20.89.

#### Still-births.

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	35	17	52
Illegitimate	...	1	1	2
Total		36	18	54

Rate per 1,000 live and still-births = 29.80.

**Deaths** ..... 1013                      **Death Rate** ..... 12.04

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth    3  
 Rate per 1,000 live and still-births    ...    ...    ...    ...    1.66

#### Deaths of Infants under one year of age—

All Infants	96	Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	55
Legitimate	93	Rate per 1,000 legitimate live births			55
Illegitimate	3	Rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births			45

#### Population.

The population figure as supplied by the Registrar General for West Bromwich was 84,160, being an appreciable increase over the figure of 82,670 for the previous year.

### **Births.**

The number of live births in West Bromwich in 1947 was 1,758, the corresponding figure for the previous year being 1,729. This gives a birth rate for 1947 of 20.89 per 1,000 population, which compares with 20.5 for England and Wales and 23.3 for the great towns.

### **Deaths.**

The total number of deaths in 1947 was 1,013 compared with 900 in 1946. This gives a death rate of 12.04 for 1947, compared with 10.89 for 1946. The corresponding figures for England and Wales and the great towns were 12 and 13 respectively.

### **Maternal Mortality.**

Three maternal deaths occurred in West Bromwich in 1947: none of these was due to sepsis. The maternal death rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) during 1947 was 1.66, compared with 1.68 in 1946. The rate for England and Wales for 1947 was 1.17.

### **Infant Mortality.**

In 1947 in West Bromwich, 96 infants under the age of one year lost their lives. This gives a rate of 54.61 per 1,000 live births, compared with 49.74 in 1946. The corresponding rates for England and Wales and the great towns are 41 and 47 respectively. Unfortunately this rate compares unfavourably with that for the country as a whole. More reference is made to this problem in the body of the report.

### **Principal Causes of Death.**

Two hundred and eight people died from heart disease, compared with 161 in 1946; and 145 from cancer compared with 138 in the previous year. Deaths from intra-cranial vascular lesions remained practically unchanged but there was quite an appreciable increase in the deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia compared with the previous year. This might be associated with the exceptionally severe winter which was experienced in 1947. There were 59 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis—two more than in 1946.

### **Deaths from Violent Causes.**

During the year there were 45 deaths from violent causes, 8 from suicide, 10 as a result of road accidents and 27 others. This figure shows a decrease as compared with 49 deaths in 1946.

## DEATHS DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS.

### Causes of Death.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	Yearly Average
Cancer ....	120	107	110	112	121	124	132	173	138	145	128.2
Heart Disease ....	182	168	167	168	170	148	138	143	161	208	165.3
Pneumonia ....	108	74	84	74	48	85	56	39	40	66	67.4
Bronchitis & other Respiratory Diseases	57	64	113	108	54	74	88	95	90	115	85.8
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	58	61	81	81	91	79	77	105	99	98	83.0
Tuberculosis:											
(a) Pulmonary ....	53	56	75	75	65	64	54	54	57	59	61.2
(b) Non-Pulmonary	10	11	12	7	11	7	11	8	9	10	9.6
(c) Total (all forms)	63	67	87	82	76	71	65	62	66	69	70.8

### Increasing Age at Death.

The proportion of deaths which occurred in persons 65 years of age and over was 51.43% compared with 49.77% in 1946.

### Infant Deaths.

The rate of 54.61 per 1,000 live births compares with 47 for the County Boroughs and 41 for the whole of England and Wales.

### INFANT DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS FOR 10 YEARS, 1938—1947.

Year	Under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total
1938	53	12	11	10	4	90
1939	53	12	10	7	5	87
1940	45	26	16	5	10	102
1941	43	14	28	6	2	93
1942	37	12	11	8	4	72
1943	38	15	24	8	7	92
1944	60	20	29	4	4	117
1945	34	13	20	8	5	80
1946	38	15	17	10	6	86
1947	37	17	20	16	6	96
10 Years' Average	43.8	15.6	18.6	8.2	5.3	91.5

# **INFANT DEATHS, 1947—CAUSES OF DEATH.** (Local Registration).

Cause of Death	Under 1 mth.	1—3 mths.	3—6 mths.	6—9 mths.	9—12 mths.	Total under 1 year
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury and Infantile Diseases ... ..	18	2	3	2	1	26
Diarrhœa ... ..	1	7	9	4	—	21
Other Digestive Diseases ...	1	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia ... ..	2	5	5	5	1	18
Premature Birth ... ..	14	—	—	—	—	14
Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	3	—	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	1	1
Measles ... ..	—	—	1	—	1	2
Violence ... ..	—	—	1	1	—	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Nephritis ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
Other Causes ... ..	1	—	1	—	2	4
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>96</b>

Of these children, 93 were legitimate and 3 illegitimate.

## **NEO-NATAL DEATHS IN 1947.**

WHEN DEATH OCCURRED										Total Deaths
1st day	2nd day	3rd day	4th day	5th day	6th day	7th day	1—2 wks.	2—3 wks.	3—4 wks.	under 1 month
21	3	2	3	1	4	—	—	1	2	37

### **Causes of Death.**

Prematurity ... ..	14
Congenital Defects and Birth Injury	18
Pneumonia ... ..	2
Diarrhœa ... ..	1
Other Digestive ... ..	1
Other Causes ... ..	1
	<b>37</b>

Of these children, 36 were legitimate and 1 illegitimate.

## **INFECTIOUS AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES.**

### (a) Infectious Diseases—Incidence.

			Notifications.	
Scarlet Fever ... ..	144	206		
Diphtheria ... ..	29	18		
Meningococcal Meningitis	3	5		
Erysipelas ... ..	19	6		
Measles ... ..	42	666		
Whooping Cough ... ..	195	123		
Pneumonia ... ..	31	67		
Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	6		
Others ... ..	43	52		
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>1149</b>		

From the above, it will be seen that there was a substantial increase in the number of notifications received during the year. This was mainly accounted for by 666 cases of measles which occurred in the early part of the year. It will also be seen that there was an increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever and pneumonia notified, but the number of cases of whooping cough was less.

The country as a whole experienced a very marked increase in the incidence of acute anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) but only six cases were notified in West Bromwich, and fortunately these were of a mild type.

Although there was an outbreak of smallpox in the adjoining districts in the summer of 1947, and one suspected case from another area was admitted into the smallpox hospital, no case arose in West Bromwich.

The number of cases of diphtheria was still further reduced in 1947 to 18, from 29 in 1946 and 87 in 1945.

**(b) Deaths from Infectious Diseases (R.G. figures).**

	1946	1947
Measles ... ..	1	3
Whooping Cough ... ..	4	3
Diphtheria ... ..	2	1
Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..	2	—
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ... ..	57	59
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	9	10
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	2	2
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	1
Totals ... ..	77	79

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

	1946	1947
Bronchitis ... ..	73	92
Pneumonia ... ..	40	66
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	17	23
Totals ... ..	130	181

**Immunisation against Diphtheria.**

The number of children immunised during 1947 was as follows:—

Under 5 years ... ..	1,118
5 to 15 years ... ..	150
Total ... ..	1,268

**Report on Infectious Diseases Hospital.**

This report appears on page 34 under the "Hospital Services" section.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

The public water supply which is provided by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Co. Ltd., and the City of Birmingham Water Department, was generally satisfactory during the year, both in quantity and quality.

Bacteriological examinations were made of twelve samples of water with the following results :—

	Number	Satisfactory
From wells ... ..	5	5
From South Staffs. Water Co. ...	5	5
From City of Birmingham supply	2	2

Two samples of water taken for chemical analysis were satisfactory and free from plumbo-solvent action.

Four samples of water were taken from the Public Baths. One of these was unsatisfactory.

The number of dwelling houses and the population supplied with water from the mains is as under :—

	Houses	Population	Percentage
(a) Direct to houses ... ..	18,938	74,232	87.52%
(b) Houses sharing standpipes ...	990	3,748	4.42%
(c) Houses sharing common taps	1,802	6,840	8.06%

## HOUSING.

As will be seen from the figures given below, very considerable progress was made in the provision of new houses during 1947, and at the time of writing the total of houses provided has been almost doubled.

Although this excellent progress has meant no small amelioration to the unsatisfactory conditions under which many of our people are living, there are, unfortunately, still a large number in need of re-housing. Where there are any health or medical grounds for recommending a new house, due weight is given by the Housing Department; this is especially so where there is a case of tuberculosis in the household. Provision of new houses is bound, under present conditions, to be a slow process, and great credit is due to the forbearance and fortitude shown by many people who are living in overcrowded and undesirable conditions.

**1st January to 31st December, 1947—New houses occupied.**

Temporary Bungalows ... ..	120
Traditional Type Bungalows ...	2
Traditional Type Houses ... ..	132
Duplex Houses ... ..	56
B.S.C. ... ..	90
B.I.S.F. ... ..	80
Orlit ... ..	8
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>488</b>

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The general facilities provided in connection with the Authority's anti-tuberculosis scheme were maintained in 1947 as in 1946.

The following tables show the incidence of tuberculosis from 1941 to 1947. It will be noted that this year shows quite a considerable fall in the number of notified cases, with a corresponding fall in the rate of incidence. This follows the general trend throughout the country.

The total attendances at the Dispensary numbered 3,939 compared with 4,627 in 1946 and 4,364 in 1945. This again showed a large decrease compared with the previous year.

Once again overcrowding and bad housing conditions remained great obstacles in preventing the spread of tuberculosis. Sixty-five of the pulmonary cases notified in 1947 were living in a house with 5 or more persons, and in 32 cases in houses with 7 or more persons.

### Rate of Incidence of Tuberculosis (Primary Notifications).

Year.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total.	Per 1,000 of Population.		
				Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total
1941	102	12	114	1.3	0.15	1.45
1942	139	14	153	1.77	0.18	1.95
1943	156	18	174	1.99	0.23	2.22
1944	160	11	171	2.04	0.14	2.18
1945	154	13	167	1.91	0.16	2.07
1946	150	11	161	1.81	0.13	1.94
1947	111	9	120	1.32	0.11	1.43

### Comparative Table of Deaths and Death Rate.

Year.	Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total.	Death Rate per 1,000 of Population.		
				Pulm.	Non-Pulm.	Total
1941	74	9	83	0.94	0.12	1.06
1942	66	11	77	0.84	0.14	0.98
1943	66	6	72	0.84	0.08	0.92
1944	54	12	66	0.69	0.15	0.84
1945	57	8	65	0.70	0.10	0.80
1946	57	9	66	0.69	0.11	0.80
1947	59	10	69	0.70	0.12	0.82

## Work of the Dispensary.

The number of cases on the Dispensary and Notification Registers during the past seven years are given in the following table.

Year	New Cases Notified	No. on Notif'n Register 31st Dec.	No. on Dispensary Register 31st Dec.	Total Attendances at Dispensary			Total Home Visits
				Exams.	Insp.	Total	
1941	114	444	306	783	928	1,711	862
1942	153	510	376	1,039	1,084	2,123	932
1943	174	517	461	1,233	1,710	2,943	862
1944	171	597	530	1,271	2,312	3,583	1,017
1945	167	655	697	1,590	2,433	4,346	1,657
1946	161	705	856	1,785	2,842	4,627	2,008
1947	120	716	838	1,669	2,270	3,939	2,053

During 1947 the number of new cases examined was 381, 12 of these were transferred from other areas, 4 were old cases returned to Public Medical Treatment, and 16 cases were admitted direct to Sanatorium.

## Examination of Contacts.

The number of 'contacts' examined was 244, and of these 119 were under the age of 20 years. During the year, 23 'contacts' were diagnosed as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis; their age groups were as follows.

0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	over 50	Total
5	7	1	2	2	3	1	—	—	1	1	23

## Sputum Examinations.

	Positive	Negative	Total
General Practitioners	5	25	30
T.B. Dispensary	30	185	215
Heath Lane Hospital	250	90	340
	285	300	585

## X-Rays.

Radiological examination was carried out in 1,067 cases.

## Home Conditions.

The Dispensary Sister paid 2,053 visits (136 first visits and 1,917 re-visits) to the homes of tuberculosis patients, compared with 2,008 in the previous year.

Environmental particulars were obtained in 134 cases, as follows :—

No. who occupied separate bedroom ... ..	40
No. who occupied separate bed in room occupied by	
One other person ... ..	5
Two other persons ... ..	5
Over two other persons ... ..	2
No. who shared bed with other person ... ..	82
	<hr/>
	134
	<hr/>

No. of rooms in houses visited :—

One room and two rooms ... ..	5
Three rooms ... ..	36
Four rooms ... ..	42
Five rooms ... ..	43
Six rooms ... ..	8
	<hr/>
	134
	<hr/>

During the year 40 patients changed houses—34 into Corporation houses and 6 into other houses.

A summary was made of the number of persons living in the house with each case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during 1947. Particulars were obtained in 116 cases and the following table shows the result.

One person in the house ... ..	—
Two persons in the house ... ..	9
Three persons in the house ... ..	18
Four persons in the house ... ..	24
Five persons in the house ... ..	14
Six persons in the house ... ..	19
Seven or more persons in the house ... ..	32
	<hr/>
	116
	<hr/>

Average number in home—5.

## Institutional Treatment.

The following table gives an analysis of the patients who received residential treatment in Institutions.

	M	F	C	Total
In Sanatorium 1st January, 1947	17	12	15	44
Sent in during 1947:				
Pulmonary ... ..	44	40	4	88
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	—	2	3	5
Observation ... ..	—	—	6	6
Discharged during 1947:				
Pulmonary ... ..	35	30	7	72
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	—	1	4	5
Observation ... ..	—	—	7	7
Died during 1947:				
Pulmonary ... ..	9	9	—	18
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	—	—	—	—
In Sanatorium 31st Dec., 1947 ...	17	14	10	41

The average duration of stay in Sanatorium was 106.2 days. The corresponding figures for 1946 and 1945 were 89.2 and 82.37 respectively.

When required it was possible to provide for non-pulmonary cases to be admitted to the Woodlands and Forelands Orthopædic Hospitals under the existing orthopædic scheme.

Mainly due to shortage of nursing and domestic staffs and the growing tendency to prolong the stay of tuberculosis patients in Sanatorium, it has become increasingly difficult to obtain beds for patients, and in fact, some patients were forced to wait over a year for certain forms of Sanatorium treatment. Heath Lane Sanatorium proved invaluable in this respect in coping with the overflow from the waiting lists of other Sanatoria and in providing a temporary haven for those who were unable to be cared for at home.

Beds were also obtained at Standon Hall Orthopædic Hospital for children for whom educational facilities were thus available, but unfortunately owing to the bed situation it was impossible to obtain any vacancies at Himley Sanatorium.

## Re-Fill Clinic.

During the year the number of patients requiring re-fills for Artificial Pneumothoraces continued to increase, and these re-fills were carried out at the Dispensary as in the previous year. 31 patients attended for treatment and 409 re-fills were given.

The number of re-fills carried out during the last few years is as follows:—

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
34	96	111	245	323	462	409

## Orthopædic Treatment.

	M	F	C
Number of patients who received In-patient treatment in Orthopædic Hospitals during the year ...	—	3	9
Number of Out-patient attendances ...	4	6	10
Number of X-rays ...	4	—	2
Appliances ...	—	—	2
No. of attendances for Massage ...	9	—	1

## After Care.

The West Bromwich Tuberculosis Voluntary Care Committee continued to do good work and their assistance proved invaluable to many of the patients and to the Department. This assistance is given mainly in the form of extra nourishment, clothing and special grants.

Appended is a summary of the help given to the various patients during the year :—

	£	s.	d.
Extra Nourishment ...	47	2	2
Clothing ...	1	1	6
Special Grants ...	4	12	6
Christmas Gifts ...	25	0	0
	<u>£77</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>2</u>

## Financial Assistance.

The allowance under Memorandum 266/T ("T.10") has been made through the Borough Treasurer's Department, and where patients have not been eligible for this allowance, the two Social Welfare Officers and the Area Assistance Board have been most considerate, and have allowed patients referred to them the maximum amount possible, but once again this maximum has been totally inadequate in many cases.

One is grateful for the fact that there has been an allowance at all, but the size of the allowance is such that every Anti-Tuberculosis Department in the country has at some time or other made public its despair at asking patients to try to live on it. It is felt that a disease which kills and maims so many of our fellow countrymen calls for a higher allowance in the name of logic and humanity.

Appended below is a table showing the number of patients granted financial aid under Memorandum 266/T.

Number of recipients 31/12/46 ...	45
New cases during the year ...	34
Cases re-admitted ...	11
Number of recipients 31/12/47 ...	38

In 52 cases the allowances ceased for the following reasons.—

Resumed work	...	...	...	...	29
Died	...	...	...	...	3
Admitted to Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	3
Maximum period of allowance expired	...	...	...	...	7
Refused Sanatorium treatment	...	...	...	...	5
Service pension granted	...	...	...	...	2
Other reasons	...	...	...	...	3
					—
					52
					—

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate for West Bromwich was higher than the figure for England and Wales, and even probably higher than would be expected for an industrial town. The reasons for the high infant mortality rate were complex and complicated, but undoubtedly were to be found partly in the unsatisfactory environmental conditions into which many of these children were born, and under which they had to be brought up. The main causes of these infant deaths were congenital malformations, premature birth and the respiratory diseases (pneumonia and bronchitis).

The Health Committee during the year agreed to the provision of a new ad hoc premature baby unit at Hallam Hospital, and plans for this have been approved, and it is hoped that the work will in due course be commenced. If adequate trained staff can be obtained, the provision of such a unit should contribute largely to the saving of many of these infants. Nevertheless, the main means of solving the problem is to try to combat the undesirable environmental conditions, and this in itself is a very difficult problem. No doubt as more houses are built and overcrowding is relieved, much will be done. The Health Committee have, in their plans for the care of mothers and children, agreed to the principle of providing an infant health hostel, and in a highly urbanised and industrial area like West Bromwich, this should do a great deal to save many of these babies.

The high infant mortality rate places a big burden on the health visiting staff, and I should like to congratulate the health visitors on their excellent efforts made to prevent these deaths by their contacts with the parents.

### Midwives.

During the year, the eight municipal midwives attended 603 confinements and paid 2,856 ante-natal and 11,448 post-natal visits.

Two midwives attended Hallam Hospital for the course on the administration of gas and air analgesia, afterwards taking the examination of the C.M.B. and gaining their certificates. Six midwives now hold this certificate.

### **Health Visitors.**

The total number of visits paid during the year was 25,840. Two student health visitors finished their training in Birmingham and commenced work in May. Efforts were made during the year to give extra supervision to sick babies and to follow up all children discharged from hospital.

West Bromwich again assisted in the Birmingham scheme of training for student health visitors. Commencing in September, two student health visitors attended various clinics in the Borough for periods of four weeks in order to gain practical experience—in all, twelve passed through the Department.

All health visitors and midwives attended a course on Health Education, arranged by the Central Council for Health Education, which was held locally.

### **Adoption of Children.**

In connection with the adoption of children, 152 visits of supervision or investigation were paid. During the year, 18 cases for legal adoption passed through the Juvenile Court, and 12 cases for legal adoption passed through the County Court. Six cases had made application for adoption and were awaiting hearing.

### **Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics.**

The Infant Welfare centres were again well attended during the year, the figures being slightly better than for 1946. Educational activities need further development, however.

The attendances at the ante-natal clinics also showed an increase over the previous year's figures.

The post-natal attendances, in spite of the efforts of midwives and health visitors, again showed but a slight increase over the 1946 figure; only about 8% of the mothers attended for examination. More propaganda is needed to encourage mothers to realise the necessity of a post-natal examination.

There were three maternal deaths, this being the same figure as for 1946.

### **Premature Babies.**

Arrangements for the supply of hot water and feeding bottles, etc., for loan, continued as previously. Pressure is brought to bear for the removal of premature babies to hospital, failing this, the health visitor co-operates with the midwife in giving extra supervision. During 1947, 129 premature births were notified; 43 being born at home and

86 in hospital or nursing homes. Of those born at home, 35 were nursed entirely at home, 3 were still-born, and 4 died within 24 hours, with 36 surviving at the end of a month. Of the hospital and nursing home cases, 16 were still-births, 9 died during the first 24 hours, and 53 survived at the end of a month.

### **Illegitimate Children.**

The arrangements described in last year's report continued, and Miss Lavender, the Social Worker of the Lichfield Diocesan Moral Welfare Association, rendered much assistance with these cases. Particular help was received in the placing of mothers and babies in Mother and Baby Homes of the Association, where the child was cared for and the mother given training in domestic duties and home-craft.

The Superintendent Health Visitor is responsible for arranging adoptions of children, and supervising and enquiring into the home conditions of prospective adopters.

### **Day Nursery.**

The work of the Day Nursery at Highfields was greatly handicapped during 1947 by the shortage of trained staff. A further complication arose from the fact that the Ministry of Health gave no decision as to whether the nursery was to be recognised as a training nursery. The result was that it was not possible to recruit students, which meant a further reduction in the staff of the Nursery. Owing to these factors, it was necessary to limit the number of children admitted, and for the greater part of the year the number of children on the register was less than 40.

Following the inspection by members of the staff of the Ministry of Health, certain alterations were effected, and the whole of the interior of the nursery was completely redecorated. The alterations contributed to the easier working of the nursery.

The shortage of staff caused considerable anxiety, and unfortunately there seems to be no prospect of any improvement.

### **Nursing Homes.**

There are two Maternity Homes and three General Nursing Homes registered in the Borough. These were visited regularly during the year by the Medical Officer of Health and also by the Superintendent Health Visitor, and a number of suggestions made by the Department have been put into effect by the proprietors of the Homes.

### **Home Helps.**

The scheme commenced in March with the appointment of one whole-time home help who was employed at the Day Nursery between cases—in all she attended 7 cases. Two part-time home helps were employed and attended 3 cases.

From the number of enquiries received it appears that there would be a definite demand for this service if suitable home helps could be found, but unfortunately it is becoming increasingly difficult to find the right type of woman willing to work whole time.

### Statistical Summary of Work done.

#### Visits paid by Health Visitors—

To expectant mothers	...	...	395
To children under 1 year	...	...	10,010
To children 1—5 years	...	...	15,435
			<hr/> 25,840 <hr/>

#### Infant Welfare Centres—

##### Number of children who attended.

Under 1 year of age	...	...	1,469
Over 1 year of age	...	...	1,933
			<hr/> 3,402 <hr/>

#### Ante-Natal Clinics—

Number of women who attended	...	1,866
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#### Post-Natal Clinics—

Number of women who attended	...	498
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#### Infectious Diseases notified—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	47

#### Domiciliary Midwives employed by the Council—

Cases attended as Midwives	...	594
Cases attended as Maternity Nurses	...	59
		<hr/> 653 <hr/>

## **HOSPITAL SERVICES**

### **HALLAM HOSPITAL—REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.**

During the year 1947 :—

6,161 patients were admitted to the Hospital and 2,477 operations were performed.

1,019 births took place in the Maternity Department.

The average bed occupation was 339, and the total number of patient days was 118,772.

Out-patient attendances numbered 34,212.

Patients were admitted from the following areas :—

County Borough of West Bromwich	...	3,884
Borough of Oldbury	... ..	1,211
Other Authorities	... ..	936
Emergency Medical Service	... ..	130
Total	...	<u>6,161</u>

#### **Clinical Work.**

On pages 23 to 33 is a statistical analysis of all medical, surgical and obstetrical cases admitted during the year. Collection of this information requires a considerable expenditure of medical and lay clerical labour, and although this annual record has been continually kept since 1935, it has not been possible to publish it in recent years on account of paper shortage. It is unquestionably the most important part of a hospital annual report, for it is a survey not only of the variety, but the quality of the work done, and, through criticism and reflection, leads to improvement and progress.

#### **Medical Staff.**

In February, Dr. H. Everley Jones of St. Thomas's Hospital, London, and the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, was appointed to the specialist staff as Paediatrician, with charge of the Children's Department and premature babies.

At the same time, Dr. D. C. Oakley of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, was appointed as Dermatologist with charge of all cases of diseases of the skin.

Both of these appointments have been of the greatest value and have augmented the range and resources of the clinical departments.

#### **Post Graduate Medicine.**

The Hospital received the honour of recognition by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists as providing the requisite training and experience for its higher qualifications of Diploma and Membership. Similar recognition was accorded by the Royal College of Surgeons of England for its Fellowship some six years ago.

#### **Pathological Department.**

In the year, some 12,182 examinations were carried out and reports furnished, and is a considerable increase on previous years.

By arrangement with the West Bromwich and District Hospital, it was found possible to co-ordinate the two hospital pathological departments so that they are becoming interchangeable and interdependent under the charge of one Pathologist. This has enriched the resources of both hospitals to their mutual advantage.

An animal house has been prepared and equipped for breeding and pathological work, and has been inspected and licensed by the Home Office.

### **X-Rays Department.**

Contracts were made for re-equipping the Department with a 4-valve 40 kilowatt input Phillips plant, with motor driven tilting couch and rotating anode tubes, at a cost of £3,000. A Solus Schall treatment unit was installed during the year.

### **Laundry.**

Contracts were entered into for the replanning and re-equipping of the laundry with new machinery at a cost of £10,000. The work is not expected to be completed for another year, and will provide for a substantial increase in output.

### **An Appreciation.**

In this, the last report to be addressed to the successors and representatives of the citizens of West Bromwich who conceived and created Hallam Hospital, it is appropriate that its growth and history should be briefly summarised.

On 24th May, 1914, the first patient was admitted to a part of the Workhouse Infirmary which had been set aside by the Board of Guardians as a sick ward. For some 12 years the simple purposes of a sick ward were served, and on 30th September, 1926, the Guardians having carried out a building programme and appointed a small medical staff, opened Hallam Hospital. Considerable development rapidly followed, and an administrative block and operating theatre, together with a nurses' home were built.

Owing to a national shortage of general hospital accommodation, which had hitherto been provided solely by voluntary agencies, the Local Government Act of 1929, in addition to abolishing the Boards of Guardians and other provisions, required local authorities to make arrangements for the general hospital treatment of patients and gave them wide powers to do so. The Corporation of West Bromwich immediately took full advantage of its statutory powers, and on 1st April, 1930, Hallam Hospital was appropriated from the Guardians and from then onwards administered solely by the Public Health Committee. It is noteworthy that the Board of Guardians had anticipated the act by some four years, in being aware of local needs and making provision for them. Also interesting is the fact that Hallam Hospital was the second Poor Law Hospital in the country to be appropriated by the Public Health Authority; whilst even today, 18 years after the Act became operative, numerous general hospitals are still administered by Social Welfare Committees as the legal successors of the Boards of Guardians.

A period of clinical development and consolidation followed, which was aided by growing training schools for nurses and midwives. In 1936, Hallam House was closed and later demolished, and in 1939 a modern maternity unit was erected on a considerable part of its site. During the war years, ambitious plans for structural development and improvement had, inevitably, to be abandoned, but a considerable expansion of medical services and ancillary departments took place.

When the Hospital is transferred to the Minister of Health in July, 1948, some 96,000 in-patients will have been treated in its wards, and the following analysis shows their relative numbers and increase in the three phases of the hospital's development :—

BOARD OF GUARDIANS—INFIRMARY SICK WARD.

May, 1914—September, 1926 (12 years, 4 months)—  
9,000 in-patients = 730 in-patients per annum.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS—HALLAM HOSPITAL.

October, 1926—March, 1930 (3 years, 5 months)—  
12,900 in-patients = 3,700 in-patients per annum.

HEALTH COMMITTEE OF WEST BROMWICH CORPORATION.

April, 1930—July, 1948 (18 years, 3 months)—  
74,000 in-patients = 4,100 in-patients per annum.

*Note :* Of the 74,000 patients, 25,000 were admitted in the years 1944—1948 = 6,250 in-patients per annum for the last 4 years.

This is no mean achievement, and is eloquent testimony of the service rendered to the citizens of the area by the Guardians and their officials who, 22 years ago were possessed of vision and enthusiasm, and the Corporation which, despite financial and other difficulties, continued the task. The Health Committee and the Corporation may feel justifiably proud that West Bromwich, which is neither a large nor a wealthy town, when considered in relation to other towns possessing comparable hospital services, has been able to develop and maintain a generous hospital service of considerable size and reputation. When, on 5th July, 1948, the Hospital is transferred to the Minister of Health, the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Corporation will relinquish their trust with the certain knowledge that they have ably and worthily discharged their obligations, and in so doing, express their hope that the future development and status of the hospital will in every sense reflect their labours and aspirations in its past.

W. E. WIMBERGER,  
*Medical Superintendent.*

AN ANALYSIS OF ALL MEDICAL, SURGICAL AND  
OBSTETRICAL CASES TREATED IN HALLAM  
HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR ENDED  
31st DECEMBER, 1947.

Summary.

	Discharged	Died	Total
Blood and Blood Forming Organs ...	41	2	43
Bones, Joints and Muscles ...	102	2	104
Breast. ...	28	5	33
Circulatory System ...	108	58	166
Digestive System ...	810	96	906
Ear, Nose and Throat ...	623	—	623
Endocrine Glands ...	21	—	21
Eye ...	7	—	7
Male Generative System ...	46	15	61
Female Generative System ...	148	4	152
Pregnancy ...	1390	2	1392
Puerperium ...	36	2	38
Births ...	990	—	990
Neo-Natal Affections ...	31	54	85
Infections ...	62	4	66
Injuries ...	301	24	325
Malformations ...	179	4	183
Metabolism ...	42	12	54
Nervous System ...	96	55	151
Mental Diseases ...	58	5	63
Nose ...	29	—	29
Pyogenic Infections ...	106	5	111
Respiratory ...	280	78	358
Skin ...	78	2	80
Teeth and Gums ...	16	—	16
Urinary System ...	82	19	101
Unclassified ...	53	3	56
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>5763</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>6214</b>

### Blood and Blood Forming Organs.

	Discharged	Died	Total
Adenitis—Axillary ... ..	1	—	1
Adenitis—Cervical ... ..	9	—	9
Adenitis—Inguinal ... ..	10	—	10
Adenitis—Maxillary ... ..	2	—	2
Adenitis—Tuberculous ... ..	9	—	9
Anaemia, Microcytic ... ..	2	—	2
Anaemia, Pernicious ... ..	1	—	1
Anaemia, Secondary ... ..	1	—	1
Anaemia, Splenic ... ..	1	—	1
Haemophilia ... ..	1	1	2
Leukaemia ... ..	—	1	1
Cervical Lymphosarcoma ... ..	2	—	2
Purpura ... ..	2	—	2
	41	2	43

### Bones, Joints, Muscles and Fasciae.

Arthritis, Acute ... ..	1	—	1
Arthritis Osteo ... ..	8	—	8
Arthritis, Rheumatoid ... ..	6	—	6
Arthritis—Tuberculous ... ..	4	—	4
Bursitis ... ..	9	—	9
Carcinoma, Bone secondaries ... ..	3	1	4
Cartilage Injuries (Knee) ... ..	8	—	8
Congenital Dislocation of Hip ... ..	1	—	1
Fibrositis ... ..	11	—	11
Lipoma and Fibroma ... ..	7	—	7
Malformations and Deformities ... ..	2	1	3
Psoas Abscess ... ..	1	—	1
Perthes Disease ... ..	7	—	7
Spinal Caries ... ..	2	—	2
Synovitis ... ..	12	—	12
Osteomyelitis—Acute ... ..	7	—	7
Osteomyelitis—Chronic ... ..	11	—	11
Others ... ..	2	—	2
	102	2	104

### Breast.

Breast Abscess ... ..	12	—	12
Carcinoma ... ..	13	5	18
Fibroadenosis ... ..	3	—	3
	28	5	33

### Circulatory System.

	Discharged	Died	Total
Aneurysm ... ..	—	2	2
Angina Pectoris ... ..	1	—	1
Angeioma ... ..	2	—	2
Arterio Sclerosis ... ..	12	7	19
Atheroma ... ..	2	—	2
Cardiac Asthma ... ..	—	1	1
Congestive Cardiac Failure ... ..	24	28	52
Coronary Thrombosis ... ..	2	2	4
Embolism ... ..	1	—	1
Endocarditis ... ..	2	1	3
Femoral Thrombosis ... ..	2	—	2
Heart Block ... ..	3	—	3
Myocardial Degeneration ... ..	15	16	31
Pericarditis ... ..	2	—	2
Phlebitis ... ..	6	—	6
Rheumatic Carditis ... ..	9	1	10
Syncope ... ..	4	—	4
Varicose Veins and Ulcers ... ..	21	—	21
	108	58	166

### Digestive System.

Achalasia ... ..	1	—	1
Appendicitis—Acute ... ..	146	1	147
Appendicitis—Sub-Acute ... ..	44	—	44
Appendicitis—Recurrent and Chronic ... ..	36	—	36
Appendicitis with Peritonitis ... ..	24	3	27
Appendix Abscess ... ..	19	2	21
Carcinoma—Colon ... ..	9	7	16
Carcinoma—Liver ... ..	—	2	2
Carcinoma—Oesophagus ... ..	—	4	4
Carcinoma—Pharynx ... ..	—	1	1
Carcinoma—Pancreas ... ..	4	1	5
Carcinoma—Rectum ... ..	5	6	11
Carcinoma—Stomach ... ..	4	17	21
Cholecystitis ... ..	27	1	28
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	—	1	1
Colitis ... ..	4	1	5
Constipation ... ..	20	—	20
Diverticulitis ... ..	5	1	6
Dyspepsia ... ..	11	—	11
Enteritis ... ..	20	—	20
Fissure-in-ano ... ..	4	—	4
Fistula-in-ano ... ..	6	—	6
Gall Stones ... ..	10	1	11
Peptic Ulcer ... ..	60	2	62
Peptic Ulcer—Perforated ... ..	25	6	31
Gastritis ... ..	8	—	8

			Discharged	Died	Total
Gastro Enteritis (infant)	...	...	38	15	53
Haematemesis	...	...	39	5	44
Haemorrhoids	...	...	31	—	31
Hernia—Femoral	...	...	8	—	8
Hernia—Inguinal	...	...	75	—	75
Hernia—Strangulated	...	...	23	6	29
Hernia—Umbilical	...	...	24	—	24
Intestinal Obstruction	...	...	13	6	19
Intussusception	...	...	1	1	2
Ischio Rectal Abscess	...	...	14	—	14
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	5	—	5
Necrosis of Liver	...	...	—	2	2
Pancreas-acute necrosis	...	...	2	—	2
Papilloma of Tongue	...	...	1	—	1
Parotitis	...	...	4	—	4
Pneumococcal Peritonitis	...	...	1	—	1
Prolapse of Rectum	...	...	3	—	3
Parasites	...	...	2	—	2
Pyloric Spasm	...	...	6	—	6
Pyloric Stenosis (Infant)	...	...	7	1	8
Proctitis	...	...	1	—	1
Pylephlebitis	...	...	—	1	1
Stomatitis	...	...	3	—	3
Tuberculous Peritonitis	...	...	5	1	6
Volvulus	...	...	1	1	2
Others	...	...	11	—	11
			810	96	906

#### Ear, Nose and Throat.

Aural Polypus	...	...	1	—	1
Mastoiditis—Acute	...	...	23	—	23
Mastoiditis—Chronic	...	...	2	—	2
Otitis Externa	...	...	1	—	1
Otitis Media	...	...	59	—	59
Otitis Media—Chronic	...	...	9	—	9
Prominent Ears	...	...	1	—	1
Quinsy	...	...	1	—	1
Tonsillitis	...	...	35	—	35
Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	491	—	491
			623	—	623

#### Endocrine Glands.

Colloid Goitre	...	...	4	—	4
Thyrototoxicosis	...	...	17	—	17
			21	—	21

## Eye.

			Discharged	Died	Total
Conjunctivitis	...	...	3	—	3
Corneal Ulcer	...	...	1	—	1
Excision of Eye (Injury)	...	...	1	—	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	2	—	2
			7	—	7

## Male Generative System.

Epididymo—Orchitis	...	...	7	—	7
Hydrocele	...	...	8	—	8
Prostatic Carcinoma	...	...	4	4	8
Prostatic Adenoma	...	...	16	11	27
Urethra—Ruptured	...	...	3	—	3
Varicocele	...	...	3	—	3
Others	...	...	5	—	5
			46	15	61

## Female Generative System.

Bartholin's Abscess	...	...	2	—	2
Carcinoma of Cervix and Uterus	...	...	8	3	11
Caruncle	...	...	1	—	1
Cervical Erosion	...	...	8	—	8
Cervical Polypus	...	...	5	—	5
Dysmenorrhoea	...	...	9	—	9
Endometritis	...	...	2	—	2
Fallopian Cyst	...	...	1	—	1
Fibroids	...	...	15	—	15
Hydro Salpinx	...	...	3	1	4
Menorrhagia	...	...	16	—	16
Ovarian Cyst.	...	...	12	—	12
Prolapse	...	...	29	—	29
Retroversion of Uterus	...	...	4	—	4
Salpingitis	...	...	4	—	4
Salpingo Oophoritis	...	...	1	—	1
Sterilization	...	...	5	—	5
Sterility	...	...	4	—	4
Subinvolution	...	...	3	—	3
Vaginal Injuries	...	...	4	—	4
Vulvo Vaginitis	...	...	3	—	3
Others	...	...	9	—	9
			148	4	152

## Pregnancy.

			Discharged	Died	Total
Abortion—Complete	...	...	16	—	16
Abortion—Incomplete	...	...	80	—	80
Abortion—Inevitable	...	...	18	—	18
Abortion—Threatened	...	...	19	—	19
Ante-Partum Haemorrhage	...	...	20	—	20
Breech	...	...	14	—	14
Caesarean Section	...	...	16	1	17
Disproportion	...	...	16	—	16
Eclampsia	...	...	3	—	3
Ectopic Gestation	...	...	7	—	7
Foetal Malformation	...	...	10	—	10
Hydatidiform Mole	...	...	6	—	6
Hyperemesis	...	...	7	—	7
Hypertension	...	...	10	—	10
Hysteria	...	...	2	—	2
Malpresentation	...	...	78	—	78
Parturition—Uncomplicated	...	...	872	—	872
Placenta Praevia	...	...	11	—	11
Pregnancy with anaemia	...	...	8	—	8
Pregnancy with Diabetic Coma	...	...	—	1	1
Pyelitis	...	...	32	—	32
Retained Placenta	...	...	23	—	23
Spurious Labour Pains	...	...	13	—	13
Toxaemia	...	...	69	—	69
Twins	...	...	7	—	7
Miscellaneous complications of Pregnancy	...	...	33	—	33
			1390	2	1392

## Puerperium.

Breast Affections	...	...	6	—	6
Eclampsia	...	...	1	—	1
Perineal Lacerations					
*(Anaesthetic Death)	...	...	5	*1	6
Phlebitis	...	...	6	—	6
Post Partum Haemorrhage	...	...	6	—	6
Puerperal Insanity	...	...	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	8	1	9
Others	...	...	3	—	3
			36	2	38

## Babies.

Born in Hallam Hospital	...	...	990	*—	990
*29 deaths shown under Neo-Natal Affections Classification.					

### Neo-Natal Affections.

			Discharged	Died	Total
Atelectasis and Prematurity	...	...	—	16	16
Erythroblastosis Foetalis	...	...	8	2	10
Injuries at Birth	...	...	6	—	6
Intra-Cranial Haemorrhage	...	...	1	7	8
Malformations	...	...	9	9	18
Prematurity	...	...	7	20	27
			31	54	85

### Infections.

Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Gonorrhoea	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Malaria	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
Measles	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	12	—	12
Rheumatism—Acute	...	...	...	...	17	1	18
Septicaemia	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Others	...	...	...	...	6	—	6
					62	4	66

### Injuries.

Burns and scalds	...	...	...	...	17	4	21
Concussion	...	...	...	...	24	—	24
Contusions	...	...	...	...	9	—	9
Cut Throat	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Dislocations	...	...	...	...	15	—	15
Foreign Bodies	...	...	...	...	10	—	10
Fractures	...	...	...	...	131	13	144
Fractured Skull	...	...	...	...	12	2	14
Haematoma	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Intra-Abdominal	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Intra-Cranial	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Lacerations	...	...	...	...	50	1	51
Poisoning	...	...	...	...	11	2	13
Shock	...	...	...	...	8	—	8
Others	...	...	...	...	10	—	10
					301	24	325

### Malformations.

	Discharged	Died	Total
Branchial Cyst ... ..	1	—	1
Dermoid Cyst ... ..	1	—	1
Hallux Valgus ... ..	3	—	3
Hare Lip and Cleft Palate ... ..	5	1	6
Meningocele ... ..	—	1	1
Pes Planus ... ..	1	—	1
Phimosis ... ..	135	—	135
Talipes ... ..	26	—	26
Torticollis ... ..	1	—	1
Others ... ..	6	2	8
	<hr/> 179	<hr/> 4	<hr/> 183

### Metabolism.

Coeliac Disease ... ..	3	—	3
Diabetes Mellitus ... ..	17	—	17
Diabetic Complications ... ..	14	6	20
Gout ... ..	1	—	1
Malnutrition ... ..	2	1	3
Marasmus ... ..	1	4	5
Pink Disease ... ..	1	1	2
Scurvy ... ..	1	—	1
Others ... ..	2	—	2
	<hr/> 42	<hr/> 12	<hr/> 54

### Nervous System.

Angio Neurotic Oedema ... ..	1	—	1
Arterio Spasm ... ..	2	—	2
Cerebral Abscess ... ..	—	3	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	20	34	54
Cerebral Tumour ... ..	2	4	6
Chorea ... ..	7	1	8
Disseminated Sclerosis ... ..	5	—	5
Epilepsy ... ..	8	—	8
Facial Palsy ... ..	1	—	1
Herpes Zoster ... ..	1	—	1
Hydrocephalus ... ..	1	—	1
Meningism ... ..	7	—	7
Meningitis ... ..	7	5	12
Meningitis—Tuberculous ... ..	—	8	8
Myopathies ... ..	1	—	1
Neuralgia ... ..	1	—	1
Neuritis ... ..	14	—	14
Parkinsonism ... ..	3	—	3
Subacute Combined Degeneration ... ..	1	—	1
Tabes Dorsalis ... ..	1	—	1
Others ... ..	13	—	13
	<hr/> 96	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 151

### Mental Diseases.

				Discharged	Died	Total
Functional Psychosis	...	...	...	10	—	10
Hysteria	...	...	...	7	—	7
Mania—Acute	...	...	...	1	—	1
Melancholia	...	...	...	4	1.	5
Anxiety States	...	...	...	24	—	24
Schizophrenia	...	...	...	5	—	5
Senile Dementia	...	...	...	7	4	11
				58	5	63

### Nose.

Epistaxis	...	...	...	8	—	8
Epithelioma	...	...	...	1	—	1
Nasal Polypi	...	...	...	3	—	3
Rhinitis—Atrophic	...	...	...	2	—	2
Septal deviation	...	...	...	3	—	3
Sinusitis	...	...	...	12	—	12
				29	—	29

### Pyogenic Infections.

Abscesses	...	...	...	48	—	48
Boils	...	...	...	4	—	4
Carbuncles	...	...	...	11	—	11
Cellulitis	...	...	...	24	1	25
Gangrene	...	...	...	2	4	6
Infections of Hand	...	...	...	11	—	11
Ulcers	...	...	...	6	—	6
				106	5	111

### Respiratory.

Asthma	...	...	...	8	2	10
Bronchiectasis	...	...	...	5	1	6
Bronchiolitis	...	...	...	2	—	2
Bronchitis—Acute	...	...	...	33	2	35
Bronchitis—Chronic	...	...	...	17	2	19
Carcinoma of Bronchus	...	...	...	7	16	23
Carcinoma of Larynx	...	...	...	1	1	2
Collapsed Lung	...	...	...	1	—	1
Embolism	...	...	...	—	1	1
Emphysema	...	...	...	1	—	1
Empyema	...	...	...	3	—	3
Endothelioma of Pleura	...	...	...	—	1	1
Fibrosis of Lung	...	...	...	4	—	4

				Discharged	Died	Total
Haemoptysis	...	...	...	3	—	3
Infarction	...	...	...	4	1	5
Laryngeal Obstruction	...	...	...	—	2	2
Laryngitis—Acute	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pleural Effusion	...	...	...	12	—	12
Pleurisy	...	...	...	10	—	10
Pneumonia—Broncho	...	...	...	47	24	71
Pneumonia—Hypostatic	...	...	...	—	8	8
Pneumonia—Lobar	...	...	...	82	9	91
Pneumonia—Unresolved	...	...	...	11	3	14
Pneumothorax	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pneumonitis	...	...	...	6	—	6
Tuberculosis—Miliary	...	...	...	3	—	3
Tuberculosis—Primary	...	...	...	7	—	7
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	...	...	...	11	5	16
				280	78	358

#### Skin.

Cysts—Sebaceous	...	...	...	5	—	5
Dermatitis and Seborrhoea	...	...	...	9	1	10
Drug Eruptions	...	...	...	1	—	1
Eczema	...	...	...	7	—	7
Erythema Nodosum	...	...	...	1	—	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	12	—	12
Naevus	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pediculosis	...	...	...	1	—	1
Psoriasis	...	...	...	3	—	3
Scabies	...	...	...	10	—	10
Sycosis	...	...	...	2	—	2
Tinea Circinata	...	...	...	3	—	3
Epithelioma	...	...	...	4	1	5
Urticaria	...	...	...	3	—	3
Others	...	...	...	16	—	16
				78	2	80

#### Teeth and Gums.

Haemorrhage following extraction	...	...	...	2	—	2
Dental Abscess	...	...	...	9	—	9
Dental Caries	...	...	...	3	—	3
Gingivitis	...	...	...	2	—	2
				16	—	16

### Urinary System.

	Discharged	Died	Total
Calculus ... ..	5	1	6
Cystitis ... ..	6	—	6
Diverticulosis of Bladder ... ..	2	—	2
Enuresis ... ..	1	—	1
Hydronephrosis ... ..	6	1	7
Nephritis—Acute ... ..	6	1	7
Nephritis—Chronic ... ..	4	5	9
Nephritis—Subacute ... ..	3	1	4
Papilloma and Carcinoma of Bladder	2	2	4
Perinephric Abscess ... ..	1	—	1
Polycystic Kidneys ... ..	2	—	2
Pyelitis ... ..	32	—	32
Renal Carcinoma ... ..	2	2	4
Renal Colic ... ..	3	—	3
Renal Glycosuria ... ..	1	—	1
Renal Tuberculosis ... ..	1	—	1
Retention of Urine ... ..	2	—	2
Uraemia ... ..	1	6	7
Others ... ..	2	—	2
	82	19	101

### Unclassified.

Exhaustion ... ..	1	—	1
Healthy Infants admitted with mothers	18	—	18
N.A.D. ... ..	30	—	30
Senility ... ..	4	3	7
	53	3	56

## PATHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

The following is a summary of the work carried out in the Pathological Department during 1947.

### Examinations.

Blood counts ... ..	1,327
Urines Micro Bact., etc. ... ..	4,040
Fæces Chemical and Bact. ... ..	261
Effusions ... ..	66
Sputum ... ..	753
K.L.B. ... ..	934
Hæmolytic Streptococci ... ..	1,284
Vaginal swabs ... ..	389
Pus ... ..	145
Blood ureas ... ..	237
Blood sugars ... ..	156
Blood chemistry ... ..	336
Wasserman reactions ... ..	1,412
Fractional test meals (complete) ...	121

Other examinations	...	...	...	125
Pathological Histology	...	...	...	584

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Total examinations ... 12,170

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Post Mortems	...	175	Hallam Hospital
		51	Coroners

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital continued to function throughout the year in almost the same way as in previous years, the only significance being the drastic reduction in staff, which compelled the closing of two wards. Young nurses have not been forthcoming for training and the hospital in consequence suffered as every other hospital in the country is suffering from gross shortage of staff.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—The number of cases admitted to the wards as Scarlet Fever was 170, but revised diagnosis reduced the figure to 161, an increase of 59 over the previous year. There were no fatalities in the series, and only 62 cases developed complications. These complications included 4 heart lesions and 3 mastoids. There was also one case of persistent albuminuria.

**DIPHTHERIA.**—During the year there were 16 cases of Diphtheria admitted, and a further 4 cases of Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever. The number of cases admitted as Diphtheria, but later with diagnosis not confirmed amounted to 18. The fall in the number of cases of Diphtheria admitted is almost certainly due to the campaign to encourage parents to have their children immunised, and the most striking feature of the year was the fact that for the first time adults outnumbered children in the number of cases admitted.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Among the miscellaneous cases admitted were 24 cases of measles, 3 cases of whooping cough, 2 cases of erysipelas, 1 poliomyelitis, 1 cerebro-spinal meningitis, 5 german measles and 27 impetigo.

**SMALLPOX.**—The year was remarkable for the outbreak of smallpox in the surrounding districts, and one case of observation smallpox from another district, was admitted to the Smallpox Hospital, Friar Park. This case eventually did not turn out to be smallpox, and West Bromwich maintained a clean record for this disease throughout the year.

### Admissions during the year.

	Tuber- culosis	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Other Cases
West Bromwich	68	161	16	137
Other Authorities	—	.1	2	1

**TUBERCULOSIS.**—68 cases were admitted to the wards throughout the year. All the wards functioned to full capacity, although handicapped by the shortage of nursing and domestic staff. The waiting list for this hospital never grew to such proportions as to

cause grave anxiety, but should the shortage of nurses continue, it is impossible to forecast what the position may become.

Tribute is due to the Matron of the Hospital, and the staff, nursing and domestic, for the way in which they carried on without complaint, even without sufficient leisure time and always overworked. No patients were ever refused admission, and no patients or their relatives ever complained of having inadequate attention.

### SUPERANNUATION MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The undermentioned superannuation medical examinations were carried out during the year by the Medical Staff—

Number of examinations	...	...	...	162
Accepted	...	...	...	125
Deferred for re-examination	...	...	...	11
Rejected	...	...	...	26
Number of re-examinations	...	...	...	4
Accepted	...	...	...	3
Deferred for re-examination	...	...	...	1

### VENEREAL DISEASES.

From the figures supplied by the Clinics it would appear that there was very little difference in the incidence of these diseases in West Bromwich in 1947 as compared with 1946.

Local cases treated during the year were as follows:—

	Birmingham	Dudley	Total
Syphilis	29	—	29
Gonorrhoea	25	1	26
Conditions other than Venereal	95	2	97
Total cases	149	3	152
Total Attendances—outpatients	1,926	90	2,016

### Regulation 33B.

The following notifications were received during the year under Defence (General) Regulation 33B.

	M.	F.	Total
No. of persons in respect of whom Form 1 was received	2	1	3
Primary notification	2	1	3
Secondary notification	—	—	—

Informal enquiries were made in respect of all notifications, and cases were followed up unofficially under the Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

## MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS.

The particulars of Mental Defectives in the Borough on the 31st December, 1947, were as follows:—

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

	M.	F.	Total
1. Under 'Order.'			
(a) (1) In Institutions (excluding cases on licence).			
Under 16 years of age ...	7	7	14
16 years of age and over	69	87	156
(2) On Licence from Institutions.			
Under 16 years of age ...	2	—	2
16 years of age and over	16	18	34
(b) Under Guardianship (excl. cases on licence).			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	—	—
16 years of age and over	2	5	7
2. In "place of safety."			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	—	—
16 years of age and over	—	—	—
3. Under Statutory Supervision ...	59	56	115
Awaiting removal to an Institution	1	—	1

### B. Defectives not at present "subject to be dealt with" but for whom the Local Authority may subsequently become liable.

1. In Institutions or under Guardianship dealt with under Section 3	—	—	—
2. Reported to the Local Authority from reliable source and recognised by them as Mentally defective but as to whom no action under the Mental Deficiency Acts has been taken—			
(a) Children between the ages of 14 and 16 years ...	—	—	—
(b) All other cases ...	31	23	54
	<hr/> 187	<hr/> 196	<hr/> 383

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1947

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Annual Report on the work of the department for the year 1947.

The year under review has again been one of great difficulty. The shortage of labour and building materials with the many restrictions due to the existing conditions, have had an adverse effect upon the work of the department. In many instances, repairs carried out only last for a very short time owing to the age and unfitness of the houses. It is hoped that the time is not too far distant when the clearance of these unfit houses and the rehousing of their occupants, now living under very unsatisfactory conditions, can be undertaken as an organised programme.

The work of Meat and Food inspection has again been arduous, and visits have often been made outside normal office hours.

The abnormal conditions existing, have also affected the work of Public Cleansing, and the exceptional weather experienced at the beginning of the year caused serious dislocation of this service. The Salvage figures, however, in spite of the difficulties at the beginning of the year, are very similar to those of the preceding year.

The Staff has remained unchanged. To Messrs. Shaw, Oakes, Ball, Johnson and Perkins and the members of the clerical staff, I am indebted for loyal and continuous co-operation in dealing with the ever-increasing duties and responsibilities of the Department.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 16,835, details as under :—

Special Housing Inspections	...	...	201
Houses inspected under Public Health Acts,			
Housing Acts, etc.	...	...	1,498
Miscellaneous Inspections	...	...	5,226
Re-inspections	...	...	6,049
Theatres, Cinemas, etc.	...	...	15
Lodging Houses and Houses let-in Lodgings			31
Factories	...	...	105
Shops and Food Premises	...	...	1,954
Bakehouses	...	...	34

Dairies	...	...	...	...	148
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	94
Food and Drugs Act visits	...	...	...	...	441
Slaughterhouses (including Cottager's Pigs)	...	...	...	...	696
Fumigation	...	...	...	...	280
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	63
					<hr/>
					16,835
					<hr/>

### Complaints Received.

A total of 1,283 complaints were received at the office and investigated by the District Inspectors during the year.

### Notices Served.

	Informal.	Statutory.	Total.	Houses in connection therewith.
Notices served under the Public Health Act, 1936	1,800	417	2,217	3,806

There was an increase of 223 informal notices, and a decrease of 24 Statutory Notices compared with last year.

The severe weather at the beginning of the year caused shortages to be very pronounced, particularly in roofing and plumbing materials. It is very important that consideration should be given to the clearance of the old unfit houses as soon as the housing position improves.

As a result of the service of notices, 3,508 improvements (repairs to houses, etc.), were effected, details as under :—

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED IN PURSUANCE OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND NOTICES SERVED.

### Interiors of Houses.

Houses cleansed or redecorated	...	...	88
Repairs to plastering, brickwork or woodwork carried out	...	...	437
Ventilation provided or improved	...	...	153
Flooded cellars drained or filled in	...	...	5

### Exteriors of Houses.

Horizontal damp-proof courses inserted	...	3
Damp external walls—brickwork repaired or covered with impervious material	...	40
Defective roofs made weathertight	...	664
Spouting renewed or repaired or cleansed	...	197
Chimneys repaired or repointed	...	88

### **Yards, Outbuildings and Washing Accommodation.**

Outbuildings cleansed and repaired	...	293
Earthenware sinks provided or existing sinks repaired	...	32
Dangerous wells or cisterns abolished or suitable covers provided	...	3
Surface paving provided, renewed or repaired	...	7
Dangerous boundary walls repaired	...	10

### **Water Supply.**

Insufficient water supply—remedied	...	140
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### **Drainage.**

Defective drainage relaid or repaired	...	40
Choked drainage opened and cleansed	...	186

### **Sanitary Conveniences.**

Additional water closets provided	...	3
Water closets repaired	...	22
Defective connections repaired or pedestals renewed	...	162
Defective flushing apparatus repaired or insufficient water supply remedied	...	291
Privies abolished or converted to water closets	...	6
Defective dustbins renewed	...	546

### **Offensive Accumulations.**

Accumulations removed	...	5
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### **Factories and Workshops.**

Additional water closet accommodation provided or existing accommodation improved	...	78
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### **Tents, Vans and Sheds.**

Vans removed	...	4
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Overcrowding Remedied.	...	2
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Miscellaneous.	...	3
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3,508

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It will be noticed that particular attention was given to roofs, this was necessary due to the severe gales experienced during March and April.

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

## **RESULTS OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.**

Summonses were issued in 22 instances with the following results :—

Situation of Premises	Nature of Complaint	Acts or Byelaws under which proceedings were instituted	Result
45 & 47, Reform St.	Dilapidated houses	Public Health Act, 1936, Section 94	Summons withdrawn on completion of work. Costs 4/-
28a, Bull Lane	Dilapidated house	do.	do.
46, 48, 50, 52, 54 & 56, Horton St., Greets Green	Dilapidated houses	do.	do.
93a, & 95, Guns Lane	do.	do.	Court Order Costs 9/6
142, 144, 146 & 148, Bull Lane	do.	do.	do.
63, 65, 67 & 69, Guns Lane	do.	do.	Court Order Costs 7/6
154a & 154b, Great Bridge Street.	do.	do.	do.
71 & 73, Guns Lane	do.	do.	do.
34, Littleton Street	Dilapidated house	do.	do.
111 & 113, Overend St.	Dilapidated houses	do.	do.
110, Sams Lane	Dilapidated house	do.	do.
10 & 12, Bond Street	Dilapidated houses	do.	Summons withdrawn on completion of work.
85, 87, 87a & 87b, Union Street	Dilapidated houses	do.	Costs 4/-
			do.
152, Dartmouth Street	Dilapidated house	do.	Court Order Costs 7/6
94a, 94b & 94c, Oak Rd.	Dilapidated houses	do.	do.
46, Sheepwash Lane	Dilapidated house	do.	do.
			Summons withdrawn on completion of work.
77, 79, 81 & 83, New St., Hill Top	Dilapidated houses	do.	Costs 4/-
73, Fisher Street	Dilapidated house	do.	Court Order Costs 7/6
			Summons withdrawn on completion of work.
53, Claypit Lane	do.	do.	Costs 4/-
47, Claypit Lane	do.	do.	do.
142, Waddington Ave.	do.	do.	do.
168 & 168a, Greets Green Road	Dilapidated houses	do.	do.

Summonses were issued in 22 cases for the abatement of nuisances caused by the dis-repair of houses. In 12 cases Orders were obtained and the remaining cases were withdrawn as the work was completed before the hearing. In a number of other cases the work was completed before the issue of the summons.

### **Common Lodging Houses and Houses let-in-Lodgings.**

The Common Lodging House in Spon Lane, and the ten registered Houses-let-in-Lodgings in the Borough have been regularly inspected.

### **Theatres and Cinemas.**

Fifteen inspections were made of the nine cinemas in the Borough, and improvements to sanitary accommodation were effected after notification.

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

Forty notices were served under the above Act, details as under :—

	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	1	1
Insufficient sanitary accommodation ... ..	7	6
Defective sanitary accommodation ... ..	27	17
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes	5	5

Eleven notices were outstanding at the end of the year.

### **Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919 and Infestation Order, 1943.**

The work under the above Act was continued during the year, and the scheme for the treatment of private dwelling houses was completed in April. The sewers in the Borough were also treated for rat infestation. In all, 158 manholes were treated and prebaited were taken in 8 instances.

All the tips in the Borough were examined during the year for rat infestation, and when rat infestation was discovered, baits were laid. The total number of baits laid during the year was 5,816.

### **Disinfection.**

270 disinfections were carried out at premises following Infectious Diseases.

### **Disinfestation.**

The work of disinfestation of furniture removed from old houses before being taken to the new Corporation houses was carried out during the year. During the year, furniture from 280 houses was treated in this manner. The furniture is moved in the Corporation's Furniture Van, and fumigated with H.C.N. (Cyanosorb) before being taken to the new house.

Infested houses are sprayed with an insecticide solution containing D.D.T. A total of 65 houses were sprayed with this solution during the year.

### **Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution.**

A total of 63 observations were made during the year. This figure does not give any indication of the time spent on this work. The observations taken are never less than 30 minutes and often of

60 minutes duration. After each of these observations, the Works are visited and notified of the result of the observation.

Improvements were made in most cases, and in cases where inferior fuel was the cause of the nuisance, the Ministry of Fuel and Power were notified with a view to more satisfactory fuel being provided.

At one factory, a chain grate stoker was installed to a Lancashire Boiler, and at another Works, an Underfeed Automatic Stoker was fitted to a Vertical Boiler, with satisfactory results.

At another factory where the vertical boiler was a constant source of complaint, an underfeed stoker was being installed at the close of the year.

Visits had to be made to a Metal Refining Works during the year, with reference to the emission of zinc oxide. It was found these emissions were due to technical difficulties and to errors and omissions on the part of the operatives.

A nuisance caused by a grit emission from a grinding shop at a foundry received attention and alterations were made to the cyclone and ducts to improve the apparatus. This nuisance was still receiving attention at the end of the year.

Several other cases of grit emission were also dealt with.

Complaints were also received of emission of gases from a Hydro-fluoric Acid Plant. A note of appreciation must be recorded for the ready assistance given by Dr. L. E. Hockin, Ministry of Health Alkali Works Inspector.

A number of complaints were received of the dense clouds of steam arising from a cooling tower of a chemical works. As the result of representations, it was agreed to erect another cooling tower of a more modern design, on a site away from houses.

### Housing.

The deterioration in many of the totally unfit houses became very pronounced during the year, and it was necessary for 10 houses to be dealt with by Demolition Orders owing to their dangerous condition.

At the end of the year, 177 houses upon which demolition or clearance orders were operative, were still occupied.

Twenty-three unfit houses were demolished during the year.

The total number of houses demolished under the Council's Slum Clearance Schemes now stands at :—

Clearance Orders ... ..	1,620
Demolition Orders ... ..	526
Total ... ..	2,146

In addition, there were 266 houses still occupied at the end of the year which were the subject of Compulsory Purchase Orders made by the Council in 1938, and which had not been confirmed by the Ministry.

Owners are loathe to spend money on repairs to houses scheduled as unfit when the length of life of these houses is so uncertain.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODS.

### Meat Inspection.

The normal routine inspection of all food animals slaughtered in the Borough was carefully followed, and in addition routine visits were made to butchers' shops. The tonnage of meat condemned is given in the summary of foods dealt with as diseased or unsound.

There are three slaughterhouses actively engaged in the slaughter of pigs, and a total of 458 visits was made to these establishments. The number of animals notified under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations—Cottagers' Pigs—was 713, all of which were inspected, involving 238 visits to pig-keeper's premises.

The following table required by the Ministry of Health sets out the number of carcasses inspected and particulars of condemnations.

#### PIGS.

Number killed	...	...	...	...	...	4,358
Number inspected	...	...	...	...	...	4,358

#### ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	83
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1.99%

#### TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.

Whole carcasses condemned	...	...	...	...	9
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	...	...	...	...	162
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	3.92%

### Other Foods.

As in former years, careful attention has been given to premises where food is sold, prepared or manufactured for sale, including shops, and many improvements have been carried out. In particular, at the premises of a manufacturer of meat products, a new meat-cutting and sausage-making room was provided.

The number of visits made to food premises was 1,954.

## SUMMARY OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AS DISEASED OR UNSOUND.

Article	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Pork ... ..	1	17	3	1
Beef (imported) ...		3	1	19
Bacon ... ..		2	2	21
Eggs ... ..			2	25
Cheese ... ..			2	23
Cereals ... ..				24
Bread & Confectioneries		14	—	6
Fruit (Fresh & Dried)		9	—	—
Miscellaneous Foods ...			1	26
	3	9	—	5
Tinned Meats, Fish Fruit, Vegetables, Milk and Jam ... ..	2	2	3	7
Total ...	5	11	3	12

### Milk Supply.

Owing to the encroachment of building operations, one of the farms producing milk was compelled to give up cow-keeping, and the total of farms registered for cow-keeping is now 10. A total of 94 visits was made to these farms. The severe gales experienced in the early months of the year caused damage to farm buildings, and repairs had to be effected to four cowsheds.

### Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

Ninety-four samples of milk were taken for Bacteriological examination and submitted to the University of Birmingham for analysis, with the following results:—

Class of Milk	No. of Samples	Appropriate Test	No. of Samples	
			Passed	Failed
Pasteurised Tuberculin Tested	44	Methylene Blue & B. Coli	40	4
Tuberculin Tested	7	Methylene Blue & B. Coli	2	5
(Pasteurised) Accredited	1	Methylene Blue & B. Coli	1	—
	24	Methylene Blue & B. Coli	15	9
Undesignated	18	Methylene Blue & B. Coli	10	8
Totals	94		68	26

The percentage of samples failing the tests was 27.66% compared with 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % last year.

### Heat Treated Milk.

Ninety-six samples of heat-treated milks were taken, all of which satisfied the Phosphatase Test. One of the samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.

### Biological Examination of Milk.

Twelve samples of milk were taken from the farms in the Borough for Biological examination, one of which was certified as positive. The Ministry of Agriculture was informed, and after visits by the Ministry's Inspector, the affected animal was slaughtered.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Two hundred and forty-four samples of foods and drugs were taken and submitted for analysis to the Public Analyst during the year. Appropriate action was taken where the sample was unsatisfactory, and in many cases where the labelling of drugs was at fault, the stocks were withdrawn and re-labelled.

Proceedings were pending at the end of the year in connection with a sample of Quinine and Phosphorus Tablets deficient of Quinine Sulphate and Calcium Phosphate.

	Samples Analysed		Satisfactory		Unsatisfactory	
	Milk	Other Foods	Milk	Other Foods	Milk	Other Foods
1st Quarter ...	11	44	10	41	1	3
2nd Quarter ...	16	36	16	31	—	5
3rd Quarter ...	12	42	12	41	—	1
4th Quarter ...	32	49	32	42	—	7
Total ...	71	171	70	155	1	16

The percentage of unsatisfactory samples calculated on all samples received was 7.03%.

Comparison with previous years gives the following results:—

1944	1945	1946	1947
8.7%	8.3%	7.86%	7.03%

### Legal Proceedings under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Nature of Complaint	Section	Result
Bottle of Sterilised milk containing a dead mouse	Section 9 (Sale of food unfit for human consumption)	Vendor fined £7 with £2 12s costs
Milk deficient of 10% of fat	Section 3 (Sale of food not of the nature, substance or quality demanded)	Case withdrawn owing to death of Defendant

## Ice Cream.

Some difficulty was experienced in arranging for the Bacteriological examination of Ice Cream, but by the good offices of Dr. J. T. Lewis, Medical Officer of Health, and Dr. Ford, Pathologist, the Bacteriological Laboratory at Hallam Hospital undertook these examinations.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment etc.) Regulations, 1947, came into operation during the year, and as a result of these Regulations the majority of manufacturers went over to the "cold mix." In one instance a new Pasteuriser was installed; a heating and cooling plant was installed at another manufacturer's premises; and a refrigerator was put in in a third instance. In two cases vendors discontinued the sale of Ice Cream.

There are 24 premises registered for the Sale and Manufacture of Ice Cream and 32 premises registered for Sale only of Ice Cream.

Twelve samples of Ice Cream were taken for Bacteriological examination with the following results:—

Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV
8	3	1	Nil

## Public Cleansing.

The heavy falls of snow during February and March seriously dislocated the collection of both house refuse and salvage. During the severe weather, tribute must be paid to the dustmen who never gave up trying to maintain a collection under very great difficulties. Many of the houses, however, were inaccessible owing to snow, and it was impossible to resume the normal collection for many weeks in view of the accumulations which had occurred.

Two Morris collection vehicles with "Eagle" bodies were obtained to replace obsolete vehicles during the year, and the position with regard to replacement of parts for the older lorries became very difficult. The labour position was also very difficult, and there is no sign of an improvement in the recruitment of young men to the Cleansing Services.

The erection of new houses has had its effect on the Cleansing Service, and the districts have had to be reorganised. Owing to increased wages, costs have increased, but it must also be borne in mind that the greater distance of carry and transport also had their effect on the costs of collection and disposal.

## House Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Total number of premises from which refuse was collected	...	...	...	...	22,365
Total number of loads of refuse collected	...	...	...	...	19,745
Total tonnage of refuse collected	...	...	...	...	23,815
Total tonnage of nightsoil collected	...	...	...	...	277

Total tonnage collected from cesspools	...	1,754
Gross cost of collection	...	£27,028
Gross cost of disposal	...	£10,456
Gross cost per ton of collection	£1	2s. 8.37d.
Gross cost per ton of disposal		8s. 9.37d.
Gross cost of collection and disposal per ton	£1	11s. 5.75d.
Net cost of collection and disposal per ton	£1	7s. 4.16d.
Net cost of collection and disposal per 1,000 population	£387	13s. 4d.
Net cost of collection and disposal from each premises per annum	£1	9s. 1.44d.

#### Output of Refuse per annum (excluding cesspool contents).

Output	1945	1946	1947
Per 1,000 of population ...	280.56 tons	285.17 tons	260.15 tons
Per house ...	20.78 cwts.	20.86 cwts.	19.72 cwts.

There was an increase in the number of loads collected, but a decrease in tonnage collected compared with last year.

During the year, 2,083 new dustbins were supplied by this Department to owners and estate agents.

#### Recovery of Waste and Dormant Materials.

The total tonnage of waste materials salvaged during the year, and income received was as follows :—

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ...	369	16	2	2,357	12	2
Baled Ferrous Scrap ...	342	15	3	630	12	4
Black Scrap ...	48	11	3	64	14	11
Non-Ferrous Scrap ...	2	6	3	92	13	11
Textiles ...	5	16	—	88	8	6
Bottles and Jars ...	8	15	—	96	7	7
Cullet ...	94	14	3	47	7	7
Bones ...	12	5	1	70	10	4
Kitchen Waste ...	530	11	3	795	19	2
	1,415	13	2	4,244	6	6

Bonuses and Allowances received :—

					£	s.	d.
Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	...	269	6	10
Waste Paper	...	...	...	...	83	1	9
Total ...					£4,596	15	1

In spite of the difficulties at the beginning of the year, the quantity of salvage collected compares very favourably with the previous year.

The totals of salvage collected and income received from 1940 to 1947 were as under :—

			Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.		£	s.	d.
1940	...	...	938	1	—	...	2,485	4	9
1941	...	...	983	13	3	...	3,298	13	10
1942	...	...	1,281	7	2	...	5,313	11	9
1943	...	...	1,733	3	2	...	5,616	3	10
1944	...	...	1,587	14	—	...	4,619	12	1
1945	...	...	1,307	2	—	...	3,807	2	1
1946	...	...	1,430	6	—	...	4,750	16	4
1947	...	...	1,415	13	2	...	4,596	15	1
Total		...	10,677	1	1	...	£34,487	19	9

Yours obediently,

W. W. FOAKES, M.R. San.I., M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.  
Chief Sanitary Inspector,  
Superintendent Refuse  
Removal and Disposal.