# [Report 1940] / Medical Officer of Health, Wolverhampton County Borough.

### **Contributors**

Wolverhampton (England). County Borough Council.

### **Publication/Creation**

1940

### **Persistent URL**

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/dhrcqwcs

### License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection 183 Euston Road London NW1 2BE UK T +44 (0)20 7611 8722 E library@wellcomecollection.org https://wellcomecollection.org

# INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

HEALTH OF WOLVERHAMPTON

FOR THE YEAR 1940

BY

R. H. H. JOILY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Digitized by the Internet Archive in 2018 with funding from Wellcome Library

# SECTION A.

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

AREA OF THE BCROUGH 9,113 Acros.  POPULATION (Registrar General's estimate Birth Rate Death Rate 146,300 Death Rate 142,100 Consus 1931) 133,212  NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES 40,840  RATEABLE VALUE £369,045  Sum represented by a Pemy Rate £3,823  Total. Male. Female.  LIVE ) Legitimate 2,318 1,201 1,117 BIRTH BIRTHS Illegitimate 2 39 43 RATE 16,4  STILL BIRTHS 88 47 41  Rate per 1,000 Total Births			
Death Rate	AREA OF THE BOROUGH		9,113 Acres.
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES			146,300
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES	Doath Rato .		142,100-
### RATEABLE VALUE ### Respiratory Tuberculosis (90)	Consus 1931)		
### RATEABLE VALUE ### Respiratory Tuberculosis (90)	NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES		40.840
Sum represented by a Penny Rate			
LIVE   Logitimato	RATEABLE VALUE	• • • •	£969,045
Total, Malo, Fomalo.  BIRTHS) Illogitimato  2,318 1,201 1,117 BIRTH)  BIRTHS) Illogitimato  23 39 43 RATE 16,4  STILL BIRTHS	Sum represented by a Penny Rate		£3,823
LIVE ) Logitimato 2,318 1,201 1,117 BIRTH) BIRTHS) Illogitimato 62 39 43 RATE ) 16,4  STILL BIRTHS			
### BIRTHS   Illogitimato   62   39   43   RATE     16.4    STILL BIRTHS   88   47   41     35.4    Rate per 1,000 Total Births              DEATHS   1,858   974   884   DEATH   RATE     13.1    NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION              (Excess of births ever deaths in the year).  Deaths from Puerperal Gauses.   Deaths.            (a) Puerperal Sopsis   -   RATE PER     0.00              (b) Other Puerperal Causes   8   1,000 BIRTHS   3.20                        DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Logitimato (136)			
### STILL BIRTHS	BIRTHS) Illogitimato 62 39 43 RATE )		16,4
Rate per 1,000 Total Births			
NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION			35 . 4
NATURAL INCREASE OF POPULATION	DEATES 1:858 974 884 DEATH)		
(Excoss of births over deaths in the year).  Deaths from Puerperal Gauses. Deaths.  (a) Puerperal Sopsis RATE PER ) 0.00 (b) Other Puerperal Gauses 8 1,000 BIRTHS) 5.20  DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Legitimate (136) 58 CNE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illegitimate (9) 110 (Total (145) 60  DEATH RATE from Measles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Gancer (206) 5.55  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63			13,1
(Excoss of births over deaths in the year).  Deaths from Puerperal Gauses. Deaths.  (a) Puerperal Sopsis RATE PER ) 0.00 (b) Other Puerperal Gauses 8 1,000 BIRTHS) 5.20  DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Legitimate (136) 58 CNE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illegitimate (9) 110 (Total (145) 60  DEATH RATE from Measles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Gancer (206) 5.55  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	NAMED AT THOO PAST OF PODITION		542
(a) Puorporal Sopsis RATE PER ) 0.00 (b) Other Puorparal Causes 8 1,000 BIRTHS) 3.20  DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Legitimate (136) 58 CNE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illegitimate (9) 60  DEATH RATE from Measles (1) 60  DEATH RATE from Measles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 5.55			
(a) Puorporal Sopsis RATE PER ) 0.00 (b) Other Puorparal Causes 8 1,000 BIRTHS) 3.20  DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Legitimate (136) 58 CNE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illegitimate (9) 60  DEATH RATE from Measles (1) 60  DEATH RATE from Measles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 5.55	Deaths from Duomonal Courses Deaths		
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Logitimato (136) 58  CINE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illogitimato (9) 60  DEATH RATE from Moasles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 5.55  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	(a) Puorperal Sopsis - RATE PER )		0.00
CNE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illogitimato (9) 60  DEATH RATE from Moasles (1) 0.01  " " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 5.55  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	(b) Other Puerperal Causes 8 1,000 BIRTHS)		3,20
ONE YEAR PER 1,000 BIRTHS (Illogitimate (9) 60  DEATH RATE from Moasles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 5.55  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER (Logitimato (136)		58
(Total (145) 60  DEATH RATE from Moaslas (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 5.55			110
DEATH RATE from Moasles (1) 0.01  " " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " Cancer (206) 1,45  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63			60
" " Whooping Cough (4) 0.03  " " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " " Cancer (206) 1,45  " " Respiratory Tuberculesis (90) 0.63			
" " Diarrhoca and Enteritis (13) (Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " Cancer (206) 1,45  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	DEATH RATE from Monsles (1)	•••	0.01
(Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " Cancer (206) 1,45  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	" " Whooping Cough (4)		0.03
(Under 2 yrs. per 1,000 Births) 5.55  " " Cancer (206) 1,45  " " Respiratory Tuberculosis (90) 0.63	W # # Diambara and Babarata (20)		
" " Cancor (206) 1,45  " " Rospiratory Tuborculosis (90) 0.63	(Under 2 yrs, per 1,000 Births),		5.55
" Rospiratory Tuborculosis (90) 0.63			
	" " Cancer (208)	***	7340
" " all forms of Tuborculosis (107) 0,75	" Rospiratory Tuborculosis (90)	***	0.63
	" " all forms of Tuborculosis (107)		0,75

Note:- The figures in the above table are these supplied by the Registrar General.

### SECTION B.

# GENERAL PROVISION OF HEAUTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The work of the Health Department was considerably handicapped during 1940 by the calling up of further members of the male staff and the great difficulty experienced in replacing them by men over military age. Although normal activities were lessened owing to the partial cessation of re-housing, additional Civil Defence duties began to demand more and more of the time of sanitary inspectors.

The Maternity and Child Welfare Service was able to function normally throughout the year in spite of the fact that Health Visitors were voluntarily occupied at First Aid Posts in their leisure time.

### A. VITAL STATISTICS.

### (i) Population.

At the census in 1911 the population of Wolverhampton was 95,357, in 1921 it was 102,373, and in 1931 (following a considerable borough extension) it was 134,400. For the year 1940 the Registrar General has given two items of population -

- (1) for calculating the Birth Rate 146,300
- (2) for calculating the Death Rate 142,100

Since the middle of 1940 a large number of persons have found temporary residence in the town, many of them official or unofficial evacuees although Wolverhampton has not been scheduled as a Reception Area. For this reason the Registrar General's estimate in relation to the average population over the whole year is probably lower than the actual figure. This will cause the various mortality rates to be approximate only.

### (ii) Births.

During the year there were registered to Wolverhampton parents 2,400 births representing a birth-rate of 16.4 per 1,000 population, that for England and Wales being 14.6. Last year the Wolverhampton rate was 16.9.

### (iii) Deaths.

The net deaths amounted to 1,858, equivalent to a death rate of 13.1. For England and Wales for 1940 this figure was 14.3, and for the 126 great towns it was 15.8. In 1939 the Wolverhampton death rate was 11.0. The main causes of the increased mortality were a greater number of deaths from cardiac and circulatory diseases and from bronchitis and pneumonia.

### (iv) Infant Mortality.

The total deaths of infants under one year were 145, comprising 136 legitimate and 9 illegitimate. The infant mortality rate was 60 deaths per 1,000 births compared with 51 in 1939.

### B. TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

No alteration in this service was effected during the year.

#### C. HOSPITALS.

The extensions at the Royal Hospital were completed at the end of 1940 but the new wing had not then been opened.

#### D. INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The scheme of the Joint Board for providing their own Colony for mental defectives has been forced to remain in abeyance.

### NATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### (a) HIDTIVES.

Notifications of intention to practise during 1940 were as follows:-

Trained midwives working in institutions ... 11
Municipal midwives ... 17
Trained midwives working independently ... 14

No complaint about the conduct of any midwife was received. A total of 18 Manicipal Midwives were employed during the year, the average number working at any one time being 15. The mean number of cases attended by a midwife was 78, and the maximum number taken by any one midwife was 141. No serious difficulty arose during the year in filling vacancies in the service. No application was made to the Central Midwives Board to restore to the roll the name of any midwife who had voluntarily surrendered her certificate.

### (b) MATERIAL MORTALITY.

There were eight maternal deaths during the year, giving a maternal mortality of 3.20. A brief summary of these deaths is as follows:-

- (1) Adequate ante-natal care. Death due to toxic vomiting.
- (2) No anto-natal caro. Doath resulted from criminal abortion.
- (3) Adequate ante-natal care, including hospitalisation, Death from mitral disease and auricular fibrillation two hours after delivery.
- (4) Adequate ante-natal care. Death followed sudden eclampsia.
- (5) Adequate ante-natal care, Douth due to Puerperal Mania and Pneumonia.
- (6) Adequate ante-natal care. Cause of death was Haemorrhage resulting from an adherent placenta.
- (7) Adequate ante-natal care. Cause of death Accidental Haemorrhage.
- (8) No anto-natal care. Death due to Septicacmia following abortion.

### (c) ANTE-NATAL CARE.

Women in Welverhampton are gradually becoming more conscious of the desirability for ante-natal care. The number of mothers who fail to avail themselves of the facilities provided in the Borough is developing into a very small minority. During the year 2 937 deliveries took place in Welverhampton As the following table shows most of these were examined by a dector either regularly or at intervals during pregnancy:-

Numbor	attending	the Municipal A.N. Clinic	1,033
11	"	a G.P. under the A.N. Scheme	891
**	11	A.N. Clinic at Women's Hospital	172
**	confined	in Nursing Homes who engaged a doctor	415
"	"	at home known to have engaged a doctor	167
		. Total :	2,668

The number of women attending the Municipal Clinics shows an increase of 157 over the provious was and the number attending doctors under the A.N. Schome shows a decrease of 43.

### (d) INFANT WELFARE.

All the Infant Welfare Centres and Clinics for expectant mothers were open as usual during the whole of 1940, but attendances were kept as low as possible in order to avoid any large assembly of persons, and mothers were discouraged from staying on the premises after they had been in to see the doctor. The actual number of new cases presenting themselves at the clinics was 1,613 compared with 1,582 in 1938, but the total attendances dropped from 24,287 to 17,408.

The lady health visitors paid a total of 27,186 home visits during the year, paying an average of 3,000 visits each. Visits to infants under one year amounted to 7,831 and to children between one and five years 11,931.

Two of the Municipal Welfare Clinics are also First Aid Posts at which three whole-time female First Aid Post Volunteers are always on duty. These women regularly assist at the Baby Clinics held on their promises, and look forward to this work as a change from their routine duties.

# (c) CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

At the boginning of the year there were 42 foster children recorded and 97 visits were paid to them by Infant Life Protection Visitors. Ten of these children were transferred to their mothers or near relatives, six attained the age of nine years, one was adopted, one went into hospital, and one left the district. No new cases of boarded out children were notified or discovered, and only 23 remained on the books at the end of the year.

### '(f) DAY NURSERIES.

During the summer of 1940 very careful consideration was given to the question of the provision as a wartime measure of one or more day nurseries. On the information obtained at that time it was considered that no case had been made out for such a scheme. In Wolverhampton married weamen are not employed in industry to any large extent in peace-time, and those mothers who do go to work are in the habit of leaving their youngest children with a near relative. It is a peculiar feature of the life of the town that so many of the married daughters succeed in living in the same neighbourhood and often the same street as their parents.

### SAVITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

In compliance with the suggestion of the binistry of Health the detailed information required in this section is smitted from this report, but all the particulars have been got out as usual and are being filed for reference.

### (1) NUISANCES.

Apart from the notices under the various statutory clauses giving powers to require particular amenities, 1,219 premises were reported to the Committee during the year, preparatory to the service of formal notices requiring abatement of nuisances.

Three complaints were received regarding alleged excessive noise from factory premises, but in each case the noise was mitigated by the Firms concorned without recourse to legal proceedings.

### (2) OVERCROWDING,

### Cases of Overcrowding Remedied, 1940.

By Displacements under Part 1 of the Housing Act, 1936 Dy Displacements under Part 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	4 25
By Transference of families in overgrowded Council houses to larger houses	10
By allocation of Council houses to families in privately owned houses	26
By removed or reduction in the size of Jamilies	54 119
Cases remodied after service of notices under sections 59 or 66 of the Housing Act; 1936	_2
Total abated	121

### (3) DISTRIFESTATION.

Owing to the state of emergency arising on the outbreak of war in September 1939, the Council's Scheme of disinfestation came to an abrupt end on the 4th September, 1939, and arrangements were made with the Dudley Council to utilise their personnel and plant on one day per week, and thereby carry out the normal procedure of disinfestation in those cases where serious infestation was obvious; this arrangement terminated in May 1940, and as a number of houses in the Dule Street Area remained to be dealt with, Council entered into a contract with Messrs. Associated Fumigators Ltd., to complete the outstanding cases. The firm commenced on the 9th July, 1940, and completed their contract on the 24th September, 1940.

During 1940 the furniture from 200 houses in clearance areas and two individual unfit houses was dealt with by H.C.N. gas (together with steam disinfection of bodding). In addition, the furniture of four overcrowded families was treated prior to removal. Total cases 204.

### (4) OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Under Section 107 (1)(ii) of the Public Health Act, 1936, the control over establishment of the trade of Fish Frying ceased to have effect as from the 1st October, 1940, unless the Council could satisfy the Ministry of Health that a new Order should be made re-scheduling this particular trade as an "offensive trade" for the purposes of the Public Health Act, 1936. Council made very strong representations to the Ministry with a view to continuing control over establishment of this trade, but the Ministry finally decided not to accede to the Council's application. It is most regrettable that the previous control over establishment of this trade has now ceased to function as from the 1st Databar, 1940, for although Byelaws governing the trade remain operative, Council and control the establishment of this trade in unsuitable and undesirable premises.

Description of					: Por	mits :	Statutoril; dis-estab-	; On Regist	
Trado,	:Now				:New Prem/	s Renowals:	lished,	;31st Dec.	
Bone Boiler		+1		-				;	
Fat Molter or Extractor	:	142		1			-	; 1	
Fellmonger and Hide or	:				:		-	: 2	
Skin Dealer			:	1					
Fish Fryer		1	2	1.0	. 1			; 2	
Gut Scrapor .		100	4	1			2	: 14 32	
Rog, Bone and Skin	:				:	A 17	-	: 2	
Dealer		tail .		1	:	1			
Tripe Boiler		100		3		3		: 3	
· )								. 4	
TOTALS		1		7	1 :	7 :	8	: 14	

<sup>\*</sup> Control of such promises coased on the 1st October, 1940.



### HOUSING CONDITIONS.

### (1) THE DALE STREET CLEARANCE SCHEET,

This scheme was originally represented to Council on the 9th January, 1938, but on the 13th March, 1939, Council decided to deal with the scheme as eight separate Areas, three of which were coclared as Clearance Areas. The Public Inquiry was duly held on the 9th August, 1939, but on the outbreak of hestilities, in September, 1959, the Ministry intimated that the Orders would not be confirmed until the cossation of hostilities, unless the Council had special representations to make on the matter. In view of the fact that some 200 houses included on the No.1 Area were in a particularly serious state of disrepair, such special representations were made, and the Compulsory Purchase Order with regard to the No.1 Area was duly confirmed by the Minister on the 30th April, 1940, becoming operative on the 14th June, 1940.

### (2) CLEARANCE SCHELES - YEARLY PROGRESS.

The following table summarises the progress to date :-

:					D	emo]	ished:	No. of Port	
oar :	Stat	uto		Schomo	Pin	lt !	Grey		
925 :	Housi ng	Acts.	1890	:Faulkland Street Improve-	: 2	79		1,498	
930				: ment Area: ".P.O.					
932				·Brickkiln Croft Area: C.P.	0:	67	2 :	308	
933	Housing	Ant.	1930	: do		88			
.934 :	110 (1021112)	da	2000	: ão		3			
11 .		do		:Walsall St. (West) Area OPO.		0.8			
.935 :		do		: do			4		
.936 :		do		. do		20 :			
		do		:Carrion Street Area: C.P.O.					
:						64			3
		do		Walsall St. (East) C.P.O.		500			
.937 :		do		do					
:		do		:Walsall St, (Wost) C.P.O.		7			
:		do		:Wood Street (No.1)Arca. CP					
:		do		:Wood Street (No.2) " Cl.O.		15	;		199
:	Selection .	do		:Shrubbery St, Area: C.P.O.		3	:	11	188
3		do		tWard Street Area: C.P.O.		44	+ + 1	50	
		do		:Navigation St, Area; C.P.C					
1938 :		do		:Walsall St, (West)Area: C.P.		1		9/	
:		do		:Walsall St. (East) Area: C.P.	0:	79	(+)		
		do		twood Street (No. 1) Area: C.P.		***			
		do		:Shrubbery St. Area: C.P.O.		18		75	
		do		: Navigation of Amore P. O.		45	: -:	1.70	
	Housing		1936	· Monmore Green(No.1)Area CF		19			
		do		: Monmore Grn (No. LA) Aroa; Cl.		77		30	7 12
		do		+ Mangaga Com /Ma 21 Angus C. P.	0.	100		44	
		do		:Monmore Grn(No.2A) " :Cl.C	. :	5		13	
		do		:Moseley Village(Nc.1) Area					
		40		: C.P.C.		2	-	13	
1939		0.		do		4		24	
1909	*********	do	1070		0.	2			
	: Housing	nct,	7320	: Whisall "+ (East) Aron: C.P.		14			
	: nousing	ACT.	1936	: Monmore Gree. 'No.11 Area:		143	5	F95	
				: D.O.				-	
		do		: Monmore Grn (No. 2A) Arca: Cl.		2			( 1
		do		: Monmore Grn (No. 3) Area: C.P.	0:	13		32.7	
	3	do		:Monmore Grn (No.4) Area: C.P.				78	2
1940	1	do		: Monmore Grn (No. 1) Area: G.P.	.0:	17	5		)
	9	do		:Moseley Village (No.1)	-	0.1	:	954	
	:			: 10.P.O.	:	64		: 254	
	1	do		:Moseley Village (No.2)	:		:		
	:			: Aren: C.P.O.	1	6		: 19	
		do		:Dale Street (No.1) Area; C.P.	,0:	8	1 -	: 32	
	:			1	:				magnitude (Majnita)
				: TOTALS	:7 5	858	: 35	8,286	

During 1940 oleven Domolition Orders were made on individual unfit houses in default of owner's compliance with Statutory Undertakings. Six of these Orders were cancelled by the County Court Judge on Appeal

Results Ob	tained.	During 1940	Total to Date
(a) Num	ber of persons displaced Under Section 11 Under Section 12 TOTALS	516 Nil 516	7,330 165 7,495
(b) Dem	olition &c, Progress:		
	Houses demolished before Demolition Orders could be served Number of houses demolished pursuant to Demolit.	. Nil	4
	Orders TOTALS	. 163	1,862 1,866
(e) (i)	Statutory Undertakings:-		
(ii)	Complied with and cancelled (Thoroughly resonditioned) Discontinued as separate dwellings and embodied	. 31	222
(iii)	in adjoining houses (including "back-to-back" converted) Undertakings "Not to use for human habitation"	. 3	60
(iv) (v) (vi)	determined (premises rendered fit) Work in Progress Remaining operative (i.e. Not to use as a dwell: Cancelled and Demolition Orders made (on default owners compliance with Undertaking) such Demoli	of	1 51 46
	Orders remaining operative TOTALS	. 5	62 442
	sing Orders:-		
(i) (ii)	Determined (i.e. rendered fit)	Nil	42 23 65
(e) Volu	untary Demolition:-		
(4)	Number of houses voluntarily demolished in anticipation of formal action	21.	357

# (4) NEW HOUSING ACCOMMODATION.

During 1940 there were 172 houses built by the Corporation and 49 by private enterprise.

# (5) THE HOUSING (EMERGENCY POWERS) ACT, 1939:

The following details show the action taken to date with respect to the permanent repair of houses damaged by enemy action:-

	:Referred from :B.E. after :completion of :"First aid" :Repairs.	:pleted by :Corp'n as :"First aid"	:Served	:pleted by	n-:pleted by :Corporation	
ing 1940	: 14	: 6	: 5	: : 3	: 4	1
MI to Date	14	: 6	: 5	: 3	: 4	: 1

# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLY.

## (1) AMENDMENT OR EXTENSION OF STATUTORY POWERS:

As Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, gives more comprehensive powers than Section 66 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936, with regard to the registration of premises whereon Ice Cream and/or Potted or Preserved Foods are manufactured, Council applied to the Ministry of Health for an Order to be made declaring the former Section to be in force within the district. The application was agreed to and under the Wolverhampton (Food) Order, 1940, the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were declared to be in force within the district as from the 1st day of August, 1940.

# (2) BACTERIOLOGICAL AND BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF SAMPLES OF MILK.

Tabular summary is as follows :-

	:samples	: posi : Tube	er repor tive to role bac	illi	: quen	t action	ibse-: i :Numb cul- : sl .938.:Abat	aughtere	vinos d at
Grade of Milk	:ed for :Biolog- :ical ex	:uced :withi c: bor- :ough.	: Prod- : uced n: out- : side : bor- : ough,	:	:No.01 :anim:als :slau- :ghte:	f:Rosult -: of :furth- -: er r:sample	: From : Premise : within : the : Bor- : ough.	:From : s:prem-: :ises : :out: :side :	
Tubarculin Tested Accredited Pestourised	: : 7 : 23 : 4	: - : 3 : -		: - : 3	: - : 3	: Neg.	:	: : :	
Ungraded TOTALS	: 30	: 2	: 2	: 4	: 5 : 8	: Nog.	: 11	: :	45

## (3) PUBLIC ABATTOIR.

One full time Inspector is employed at the Public Abattoir, and a further District Inspector is on duty throughout the week, two Inspectors thus being employed full time on this work.

Discussed or unsound meat and offals of a total of 144 tons were condemned; the figure last year was 165 tons.

During the year, the number of animals slaughtered was considerably above the average, and for the whole year shows an increase of 15,000 over 1939.

Under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, 45 animals were slaughtered, , as against 122 in 1939. 17 of these were totally condomned on account of advanced tuberculosis against 16 similar condemnations last year. Five of the above animals were taken from premises within the borough, and two of these were wholly condemned.

Ante mortem inspection at the sale yards by the Veterinary Officer has resulted in a number of animals being sent to the Abattoir for slaughter. On examination such animals were found to be affected chiefly with tuberculosis or mammitis.

### (4) ICE CREAM.

The following table shows the results of bacteriological examination of Ico Cream :-

tal	-		Number	of bact	cria por	cubic con	EXAMINATION timetre :	THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN	i in	:No. of
nof colc colc son.	:1,000:	to:	5,000: to:	10,000: to:	100,000: to :	500,000 to	: Ovor :	0.01	. C.	:Sumples t:reaching :Pastour'd
В	1	_	_	2	3	_	2	6	2	:standard.

### (5) THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

### (a) Sampling.

383 samples of food and drugs were taken during the year for analysis by the Public Analyst, consisting of 123 formal and 260 informal sumplies. 47 samples (12.27%) consisting of 32 formal samples and 15 informal sumples were found to be non-genuine.

170 milk samples were submitted for analysis, and 35 (20.05%) were reported to be adulterated or below the presumptive standard of 3% milk fat laid down by the Sulc of Milk Regulations. 30 samples of milk were found to contain added water in amounts varying from 1% to 91.0%. 21 of these samples were obtained from 4 producers, and 9 samples were obtained from three producers. Proceedings were instituted in respect of 19 samples. Convictions were recorded in each case, the total fines inflicted amounting to £15, and the costs imposed £32.2.6d.

Three samples of sterilised milk, two informal and one formal, were found to contain 58%, 81% and 91% of extraneous water. Undoubtedly the water gained access to the milk during the processing of the milk due to faulty fitting of the corks. The firm was communicated with and steps were taken to obviate the putting on sale of such milk.

With respect to other non-genuine samples of milk where the deficiency was one of milk fat in each case, samples taken at the farm proved that the deficiency was a natural one, or else the deficiency was so small as not to justify the institution of proceedings. In 3 instances letters of warning were sent by the Town Clork to the vendors concerned. 7 "Appeal to Cow" samples were taken at various farms situated outside the borough. One sample was found to contain a small amount of added water, a sample taken from a similar milking the following day was genuine.

Three samples of a substance popular with vegetarians marketed as "Nut Butter" and at the same price as genuine butter, were found to be in all respects within the definition of "margarine" as contained in the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

No infringement of the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations or the Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations were reported.

### (b) Preservatives.

All samples submitted for analysis are examined for the presence of a preservative. No prohibited preservatives or colouring matter were found, and no preservative was found in any article of food to which the addition of a preservative of any description is forbidden.

Two samples of sausage were found to contain preservative within the permitted limit, but declarations of its presence were not made; proceedings were instituted; convictions were recorded and a fine of £2 and 13/6d, costs was inflicted in each case.

### INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES,

In the winter of 1939-40 Welverhampton had a low incidence of infectious diseases, an experience shared by the rost of the county. In the latter part of 1940 there was an epidemic of whooping cough and also an increased, virulence in the type of diphtheria prevalent indicated by a rising mortality rate.

### SCARLET FEVER,

375 cases of scarlet fover were notified, 91 less than 1939. The diagnosis was revised in 9 giving a not incidence of 366 or 2,5 per 1,000. 249 or 66% were treated in hospital. No deaths were recorded. 'Return' cases numbered 16 or 6.4%. Encouragement is given to practitioners to treat cases at home when satisfactory isolation can be arranged but unfortunately it is not possible in the majority of cases.

# DIPHIHETIA.

186 notification of diphtheria were received. Deducting 29 cases of revised diamosis, the not incidence was 157 or 1.1 per 1,000, compared with 0.6 per 1,000 in 1939. It was noted that virulence appeared to increase in the latter part of the year, the mortality rate rising and young adults apparently more at risk than usual. There were 23 deaths, a case mortality rate of 12.2% for the year, The case mortality in each quarter was :-1st quarter 4%; 2nd quarter 6%; 3rd quarter 8%; 4th quarter 17%.

### BEASIES.

Measles did not reach a high incidence in any part of the year, 328 cases were notified and one death was recorded.

### WHOOPING COUGH.

There was a rising incidence of wheeping cough during the year reaching epidenic prevalence in November and December. The total cases notified was 644 and three deaths were recorded.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

ENTERIC FEVER: Two cases were notified, No deaths occurred,

CEREBRO-SPINAL FAVER: 19 cases were notified and 18 treated in hospital. Five deaths were recorded, two of which had not been notified. The number of deaths seems high compared with the number notified. The cases were spread more or less evenly over the year, Welverhampton not showing the increased incidence which occurred in the early part of the year in most areas of the country.

ANTERIOR POLICITELITIS: A short cutbreak of policycelitis occurred in August and September when 25 of the 27 cases notified in the year occurred. There was one death. Both children and adults were affected and cases were scattered throughout the town.

EMYSIPELAS: 54 cases were notified. Ton were treated in hospital and two deaths were recorded.

MICE MALITIS LETHARGIGA: None notified. Two deaths registered.

541 cases were treated at the Borough Hospital including 55 from other local authorities.

### (a) SCARLET FEVER.

277 cases of scarlet fever were admitted, a decrease of 142 on the previous year. Deducting 12 in which the diagnosis was revised leaves a not total of 265, Complication rates were as follows :- adonitis 6,7%, otitis modia 5.6%, mastoiditis 0.4%, nophritis 0.4%, albuminuria 0.8%, rhoumatism 1,1% and endocarditis 0,4%. There were no deaths.

### (b) DIPHTHERIA,

193 cases were treated, an increase of 27 compared with 1939. Included in the total are 13 from other areas. Subtracting 32 in which the diagnosis was revised and 3 which proved to be 'carriers' leaves a net total of 158 actual cases of diphtheria. There were 20 deaths, a case mortality rate of 12.7% (compared with 8.8% in 1939). The increased mortality coincides with an increasing virulence observed clinically to which may be correlated the high incidence of paralyses, o.f. paralysis of the palate occurred in 42 patients (26.8%).

Analysis of Deaths (a) by Ago: 0-5 years 8, 5-10 years 10, over 10 years 2,
(b) by Dry of Disease on admission:3rd day or carlier 7, 4th day or later 13,
(c) By Day of disease at death :Within one week of enset 13, 2nd week or later 7.

As might be expected with the virulent type of infection, there was a high proportion of oarly deaths, 13 dying within one week of enset. Haemorrhagic features usually typical of such cases were exceptional.

# Laryngoal Diphtheria or 'Croup',

Number treated 5, trachestony performed in 3, deaths 2.

# Diphthoria Carriers .

Number treated 3. (Nasal 1, Throat 2).

# Immunised Persons admitted as suffering from Diphtheria.

Two cases were admitted known to have been immunised proviously. One was a temporary carrier associated with pnoumococcal tensillitis and the other was a simple tensillitis with no evidence of dightheria infection.

# Respiratory Paralysis.

The Both Rospirator was brought into use on two occasions, viz :-

- (1) A boy aged 5 years developed partial paralysis of the diaphragm on the 49th day of a severe attack of diphtheria. Paralysis was complete on the 52nd day and he was then placed in the Both respirator. He had associated paralyses of the palate and pharynn. He succumbed to heart failure on the 55th day.
- (2) A boy of twelve years was admitted on the sixth day of a severe attack of anterior policayelities. Both logs and one arm were already paralysed. Next day he had paralyses of his intercostal muscles and the diaphragm was acting but feebly. He was placed in the respirator with relief to his respiratory distress. He was maintained in the respirator continuously for nine weeks and thereafter was allowed increasing periods daily out of the respirator until it was possible to dispense with its use entirely after twelve weeks when full dispense and intercestal action had returned,

Other diseases treated during the year included :- -

Anterior Poliomyolitis	1.5
Corebro-Spinal Moningitis	4
Entoric Fover	2
Erysipelas	4
Measles	5
Maps:	1
Rubolla	17
Whooping Cough	2

### Antorior Poliomyelitis.

Of the 15 cases admitted there was one death, a child of eight years admitted moribund with respiratory failure superimposed on a pre-existing empyema. The paralyses observed were :- upper limbs 3, lower limbs 12, respiratory 1, ocular 1. The one case of respiratory paralysis was treated with success in the Both respirator. Cases were maintained in isolation for six weeks and thereafter transferred as fit for continuation of treatment of paralyses at an orthopaedic clinic.

### Corebro-Spinal Meningitis.

All cases were treated with sulphapyridine. One case died, a child of eight months.

### Enteric Fover.

The two cases treated made straightforward recoveries. One was a B. Typhosus infection, the other a Paratyphoid B infection.

### Erysipelas.

All four cases were of the facial type and made good recoveries.

# Deaths from causes other than diphtheria were as follows :-

Anterior Policycl tis	1
Corebro-Spinal Meningitis	1
Acute Pemphisus	1
Whooping Cough	1

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

In 1940 propaganda was pursued by the further display of the film "Growing to Houlth and Happiness" (at local cinemas), the issue of leaflets to parents of children attending infant schools and direct approach to parents at welfare centres.

A total of 1,106 schoolchildren were immunised comprising 924 dono in school, 155 at welfare centres and 27 at the Borough Hospital. In addition, 394 children under school age were immunised, 362 at welfare centres and 32 at the Borough Hospital, making a grand total of 1,500 for the year.

Immunisations done at the various welfare centres and at the Borough Hospital are summarised below :-

Welfare Centre.	Pre-School	School	No. of
	Children.	Children	Injections
Lea Road Ward Street Stafford Street Park Lene Moseley Village	159 37 45 117	80 15 5 55	568 111 131 377 8
Borough Hospital Total:	362	155	1,195
	32	27	116
	394	182	1,511

The immunising agent used was Alum Precipitated Toxoid, the Initial dose being 0.2 c.cm. and the final dose 0.5 c.cm., with an interval of one menth except in cases immunised at the Borough Hospital in which it is only possible to allow a fortnight's interval. As a check on the efficacy of the immunising agent, Schick Tosts are carried out six menths after. The results indicate that with one menths interval between the injections 96.3% are rendered immune, and with a fortnights interval 90.5%

# Schick Tests at Welfare Centres.

Irvunising Agent. A.P.T.	Schick Test	No. Tested.	Percentage.
0.2 c.cm and 0.5 c.cm. Monthly interval	Negative Positive	183 7	96.3 3.7
A.P.T.			
0.2 c.cm and 0.5 c.cm. Fortnightly interval	Negative Positive	21 2	90,5 9.5
-			

Children found susceptible by the Schick Test are given a further inoculation and retested three months later. The results are as follows :-

# Schick Tests after Ro-inoculation.

A.P.T., 1 months interval		Primary Course A.P.T., fortnights interval	
Positive.	Negativo,	Positive.	Negative.
-	12	-	5

### TUBERCULOSIS.

- (i) Notification Register: The register on 31st December, 1940, included 362 males and 300 females suffering from Pulmonary tuberculosis, and 95 males and 79 females suffering from Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis, making a total of 836 cases.
- (ii) Incidence: New cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health amounted to 123 compared with 119 in 1939 and 163 in 1938.
- (iii) Mortality: From Respiratory tuberculosis the deaths were 57 males, 33 females. From Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis the figures were 9 males, 8 females. This gives a tuberculosis death rate of 0.75 per 1,000 population, the Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary rates being 0.63 and 0.12 respectively.

### VENERRAL DISEASES.

There was no significant change in the number of new cases of syphilis or generations attending the Wolverhampton Treatment Centre during 1939 and 1940. The mean number of new cases of syphilis registered during 1934-1938 was 283 whilst the figures for 1939 and 1940 were 210 and 225 respectively. As regards generation, the mean number of new cases for the same quinquennium was 332 whilst the figures for 1939 and 1940 were 255 and 209. This drop affected males and females in almost equal proportions. One possible explanation is the greater extent to which this form of V.D. is now dealt with by the general practitioner. The percentage of defaulters from treatment showed little variation being 4% in the case of syphilis and 7.7% in the case of generations.