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County Borough of Wolverhampton

INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

10, PARKS ROAD,
OXFORD

The
Health Services
of
Wolverhampton
in 1950

ANNUAL REPORT

by

J. F. GALLOWAY, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

School Medical Officer.



County Borough of Wolverhampton.



INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL
MEDICINE

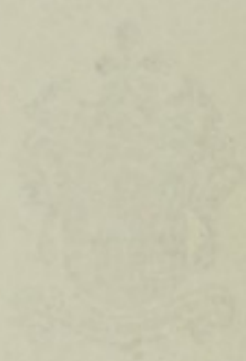
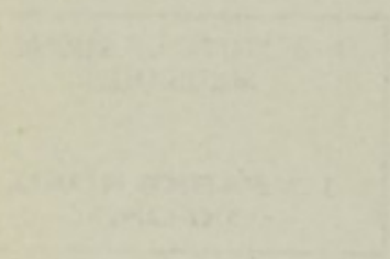
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OXFORD

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1950

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School Medical Officer.

REPORT OF THE



ANNUAL REPORT

Medical Officer of Health

1920

J. F. GALLAGHER
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
STATE OF NEW YORK

State of New York

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

as at 31st December, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health J. F. Galloway, M.D., Ch.B.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M.,
D.P.H.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer
of Health W. C. Campbell, L.M.S.S.A.

Senior Assistant Medical Officer for
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Assistant Medical Officer for
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Analyst F. G. D. Chalmers, M.A., B.Sc.,
F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector F. Binns Hartley, M.S.I.A.,
M.R.San.I.

Supervisor of Midwives Mrs. M. Dugald Gordon.

Superintendent Health Visitor ... Miss D. E. Tonks.

Superintendent of District Nurses ... Miss E. Hill.

Home Help Supervisor Miss M. Saunders.

Chief Clerk J. Darby.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

1950

Medical Officer of Health
J. R. Callaway, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M.

Chief Medical Officer
W. G. Campbell, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M.

Assistant Medical Officer for
Maternity & Child Welfare
M. G. Brown, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M.

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Assistant Medical Officer for
Maternity & Child Welfare
M. G. Brown, M.D., F.R.C.P., D.P.M.

Health Offices,
59, Waterloo Road,
Wolverhampton.
August, 1951.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County
Borough of Wolverhampton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of Wolverhampton for the year 1950. Dr. R. H. H. Jolly, who presented to you the 29 preceding reports, retired in May, 1950, after holding office since 1921.

The estimated population increased during the year by 2,100, attributable equally to an excess of births over deaths and to immigration. Both the birth rate and the death rate were lower than those general in big towns; the mortality among infants in the first year of life was the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton.

The outbreak of poliomyelitis which occurred during the year was the cause of justifiable alarm, as 62 confirmed cases occurred resulting in three deaths. At the same time it should be remembered that concurrently tuberculosis was causing 87 deaths and accidents 50 deaths, without arousing a similar degree of concern, and both are more preventable than poliomyelitis.

Although the 87 deaths due to tuberculosis represented the lowest tuberculosis death rate ever recorded in Wolverhampton, the rate was substantially above that of the rest of the country, and the number of deaths of children from non-pulmonary tuberculosis was unduly great. Difficulty was experienced in finding institutional accommodation for advanced infectious cases and the additional provision for this type of patient which is being made at the Isolation Hospital is very necessary.

The commonest sites for fatal cancer were in males, the lung, followed by the stomach; in females, the breast, followed by the stomach; when both sexes are considered together the stomach was the commonest site, and then the lung. Recent investigations have shown that heavy smoking is a factor in the occurrence of cancer of the lung.

The demand for domiciliary nursing services increased; with an aging population and an apparent shortage of hospital accommodation a growing demand for these services is expected and their expansion will be necessary. There is a similar growth in the demand for home helps.

The condition of many houses in the borough is unsatisfactory. There still are over 2,000 occupied houses which were considered twelve years ago to be unfit for human habitation and which, but for the war, would have been demolished not later than 1942. The structure and amenities of these houses have continued to deteriorate and, with the lapse of time, approximately 3,000 additional houses have reached a standard warranting their demolition. Since 1946, the Housing Committee has allocated 50 houses annually for families displaced from unfit houses. This was the most that could be spared for the purpose, in view of the large housing waiting list, but nevertheless is only a tithe of what is required.

The references in this report to such satisfactory features as declining infant mortality and tuberculosis death rates, and the virtual elimination of diphtheria and typhoid, may suggest that the Public Health Service is leaving itself with a diminishing field of preventive work, but the reverse is in fact the case for not only does the maintenance of these satisfactory conditions call for unceasing effort, but also new fields of activity constantly arise. The prevention and after-care of mental illness and the growing proportion of old people in the population are two of the problems which will call for increasing attention from Health Departments.

The cost of the National Health Service in 1950-51 was over £400 millions. The cost of the hospital and specialist services throughout the country amounted to £5 5s. od. a head; in Wolverhampton the Executive Council spent £3 10s. od. a head on the provision of general practitioner, dental and ophthalmic services and on the provision of medicine and appliances; the Local Health Authority, which is the Wolverhampton Town Council, spent 2/9 a head on the ambulance service and 8/- a head on other local health authority services including domiciliary midwifery, home nursing, domestic help and the provision of day nurseries. The proportion of the 8/- a head devoted to purely preventive services was about 3/- a head.

I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation of the staff of the Health Department, to thank those who have assisted me in the compilation of this report, and my colleagues in other departments who have so willingly provided information for it. I would also like to acknowledge my indebtedness to Dr. Jolly whose consideration and forethought did so much to eliminate the difficulties inherent in a new appointment.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement, interest and support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. GALLOWAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

A. Summary of Statistics.

1. Comparison of Statistics.

	1920.	1930.	1940.	1949.	1950.
Population	102,324	134,300	146,300	160,000	162,10
Area in Acres	3,525	7,105	9,113	9,113	9,11
Inhabited houses	21,330	31,715	40,840	43,562	44,17
Birth Rate	28.3	18.1	16.4	18.1	16.
Death Rate	12.6	10.9	13.1	11.2	11.
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	87.	64.	60.	39.	36
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)	—	42.4	35.4	26.7	25
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	3.10*	5.13	3.22	0.34	1.
Cancer Death Rate	1.07	1.36	1.45	1.42	1.
Tuberculosis Death Rate	1.14	0.91	0.75	0.60	0.
Pulmonary only	0.92	0.72	0.63	0.56	0.
Rateable Value	£477,217	£716,589	£969,045	£1,035,677	£1,052,7
Product of Penny Rate	£1,776	£2,780	£3,760	£4,229	£4,2

* Per 1,000 live births.

II

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1950.

Area of Borough	9,113 Acres.			
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	162,100.			
Number of Inhabited houses (31st March, 1950)	44,176.			
Rateable Value (31st March, 1950)	£1,052,764.			
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£4,256.			
	Male	Female	Total	Rate.
Live births				
Legitimate	1,328	1,256	2,584	
Illegitimate	74	65	139	
Total	1,402	1,321	2,723	16.8 per 1,000 population.
Still births				
Legitimate	39	28	67	
Illegitimate	—	3	3	
Total	39	31	70	0.43 per 1,000 population. 25.1 per 1,000 total births.
Deaths	960	820	1,780	11.0 per 1,000 population.
Natural Increase			943	
Infantile Mortality				
Legitimate	68	27	95	36.8 per 1,000 live legitimate births.
Illegitimate	2	—	2	14.4 per 1,000 live illegitimate births.
Total	70	27	97	35.6 per 1,000 live births.
Maternal Mortality				
Abortion with sepsis	—	—	—	
Abortion without sepsis	—	—	—	
Puerperal infection	—	—	—	
Other Maternal Causes	3			1.07 per 1,000 total births.
Total		3		1.07 per 1,000 total births.
Deaths from Tuberculosis				
Pulmonary	51	22	73	0.45 per 1,000 population.
Non-pulmonary	9	5	14	0.09 per 1,000 population.
All forms	60	27	87	0.54 per 1,000 population.
Deaths from Infectious Diseases				
Influenza	7	8	15	
Meningococcal infections	2	2	4	
Acute poliomyelitis	1	2	3	
Infantile Diarrhoea	3	—	3	
Whooping Cough	2	—	2	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	
Measles	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	
Enteric	—	—	—	
Deaths from Cancer	143	129	272	1.68 per 1,000 population.

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1950 (R.G.).

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents within the Borough.							
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and under 75 yrs.	75 years and over
All causes ...	1780	97	20	13	136	430	461	61
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	73	—	—	—	38	31	4	—
Tuberculosis, other ...	14	1	8	3	2	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease ...	7	—	—	—	—	4	2	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	7	—	1	1	—	1	1	—
Cancer of Stomach ...	52	—	—	—	6	17	24	—
Cancer of Lung, Bronchus ...	41	—	—	—	3	21	11	—
Cancer of Breast ...	27	—	—	—	2	14	8	—
Cancer of Uterus ...	10	—	—	—	1	7	2	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	140	—	—	—	13	43	44	—
Leukaemia & Aleukaemia	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Diabetes ...	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Vascular Lesions of nervous System ...	241	—	—	—	1	34	90	1
Coronary Disease & Angina ...	119	—	—	—	2	39	44	—
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	86	—	—	—	2	11	26	—
Other Heart Disease ...	347	—	—	1	13	61	92	18
Other Circulatory Disease ...	35	—	—	—	2	5	11	—
Influenza ...	15	—	—	—	4	2	2	—
Pneumonia ...	67	7	3	—	3	16	16	—
Bronchitis ...	121	3	—	1	4	33	29	—
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	20	—	—	—	1	11	5	—
Ulcer of Stomach, Duodenum ...	22	—	—	—	2	10	8	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	12	3	—	—	1	3	1	—
Nephritis, Nephrosis ...	19	—	—	—	4	7	3	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	9	—	—	—	—	—	4	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations	21	14	1	—	4	2	—	—
Other Defined & Illdefined Diseases ...	193	60	1	3	13	39	24	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	18	—	1	2	9	1	3	—
All Other Accidents ...	32	4	1	1	1	7	4	—
Suicide ...	11	—	—	—	1	9	1	—
Homicide & Operations of War ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

B. General Statistics.

1. Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of Wolverhampton (including members of the armed forces stationed in the area) at the 30th June, 1950, was 162,100. This is an increase of 2,100 in a year of which only 943 is accounted for by the excess of births over deaths; the remainder is due to immigration.

2. Inhabited Houses.

At the 31st March, 1950, there were 44,176 inhabited houses. They consisted of:—

Domestic	...	...	...	...	42,095
House Shops	...	...	...	...	1,725
Off-Licences	...	...	...	...	52
Unlicensed Hotels and Boarding Houses					7
Licensed Premises	...	...	...		297

3. Births.

The total number of live births allocated to the Borough was 1,402 males and 1,321 females, a total of 2,723 (which is 180 less than in 1949), giving a birth rate of 16.8 per thousand population. The birth rate for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) was 17.6, and for the whole of England and Wales it was 15.8.

Of these 2,723 births, 139 or 5.1 per cent were illegitimate. Last year the proportion was 5.0 per cent.

4. Still Births.

These numbered 70 (of which 3 were illegitimate). These 70 represent rates of 25.1 still births per 1,000 births (live and still-born) and 0.43 still births per 1,000 population. The still birth rate for the 126 Great Towns was 0.45 per 1,000 population and for the whole of England and Wales it was 0.37.

5. Marriages.

The number of marriages registered in Wolverhampton during the year was 1,568.

6. Deaths.

The number of deaths, comprising 960 males and 820 females, was 1,780 (a decrease of 8 when compared with the previous year) giving a death rate of 11.0 per 1,000 population. The death rate for the 126 Great Towns was 12.3 per 1,000 population and for the whole of England and Wales it was 11.6.

The principal causes of death were:—

(a) Diseases of the Heart and Circulation.			
Heart Disease	...	...	347
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	241
Coronary disease	...	...	119
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	86
Other circulatory diseases			35
			—
			828 (46.5% of all deaths).
(b) Cancer			
			272 (15.3% of all deaths).
(c) Diseases of the Respiratory Tract.			
Pneumonia	...	...	67
Bronchitis	...	...	121
Other respiratory diseases	...		20
			—
			208 (11.7% of all deaths).
(d) Tuberculosis, all forms			
			87 (4.9% of all deaths).
(e) Suicide and Violence.			
Suicide	...	...	11
Homicide	...	...	1
Motor vehicle accidents	...		18
All other accidents	...		32
			—
			62 (3.5% of all deaths).
(f) Prematurity			
			39 (2.2% of all deaths).

7. Infant Mortality.

There were two deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age (or 14.4 deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births) and 95 deaths of legitimate infants (or 36.8 per 1,000 legitimate live births). The total of 97 infant deaths represents an infant mortality rate of 35.6 per 1,000 live births, the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton. The rate for the 126 Great Towns was 33.8 per 1,000 live births.

The neo-natal mortality rate, i.e., the number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births, was 25.0. Of the 97 deaths under one year of age, 68 (i.e., 70 per cent) occurred within the first month of life.

8. Maternal Mortality.

There were three maternal deaths in 2,793 live and still births, giving a maternal mortality rate of 1.07 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. The rate for England and Wales was 0.86.

9. Deaths from Tuberculosis.

There were 87 deaths from tuberculosis representing a tuberculosis death rate of 0.54 per 1,000 population, the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton, but still substantially above that of the 126 Great Towns, which was 0.42, and that for England and Wales which was 0.36.

Pulmonary tuberculosis was responsible for 73 of these deaths, or 17 less than the previous year; 51 of the deaths were of males, with the greatest number occurring between the ages of 45 and 54 years; 22 of the deaths were of females with the greatest number occurring between the ages of 25 and 34 years.

The deaths due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis were 14, or 8 more than the previous year; apart from a middle-aged man who died of tuberculosis of the kidney and a young woman who died of tuberculous meningitis, the remaining 12 deaths were of children between 11 months and 8 years of age who died of tuberculous meningitis or miliary tuberculosis.

10. Deaths from Infectious and Notifiable Diseases.

There were 67 deaths from pneumonia (representing 0.41 per 1,000 population) but only a small proportion of these deaths occurred among the 167 cases of acute pneumonia which were notified. It must be assumed therefore, that the majority of patients who died from pneumonia suffered from the disease as a terminal complication.

There were 15 deaths from influenza (0.093 per 1,000 population), four deaths from meningococcal infections (0.025 per 1,000 population), three deaths from acute poliomyelitis (0.019 per 1,000 population) and two deaths from whooping cough (0.012 per 1,000 population).

There were no deaths from scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria, dysentery, smallpox, acute encephalitis, typhoid, paratyphoid, erysipelas, food poisoning or puerperal sepsis.

11. Deaths from Cancer.

There were 272 deaths from cancer giving a death rate of 1.68 per 1,000 population. Of these deaths, 143 occurred in males and the most frequent sites of the disease were the lungs (35 cases), the stomach (26 cases) and then the rectum and the colon. Among the 129 deaths which occurred in females the most frequent sites of the disease were the breast (27 cases), the stomach (26 cases) and then the colon and the uterus.

C. Natural and Social Conditions.

1. Geology.

Wolverhampton stands astride a ridge which is the watershed between the Severn and the Trent. To the east of the ridge the land slopes down to and merges with the industrial area of the Black Country, and on the west it spreads out to the Shropshire plain. The highest points in the borough are at Bushbury Hill to the north and Colton Hills in Upper Penn to the south, each being about 600 feet above sea level. The lowest levels, slightly less than 350 feet, are to the north-west side in the vicinity of the airport and racecourse.

The town lies on the western flank of the exposed coalfield of South Staffordshire. The junction of the Carboniferous and Triassic Series cuts diagonally across the town from north-east to south-west. Thus the south-eastern part of the town is situated on barren upper coal measures with productive coal measures at the extreme south-east. The north-west part lies on Triassic strata—Bunter and Keuper Sandstone. Almost the whole area of the town is overlain by boulder clay and unbedded sand and gravel with the exception of the area of the productive coal measures in the south-east, a Triassic area in the north and a narrow tongue of upper coal measures extending northwards from the centre of the town.

2. Meteorology.

The chief meteorological features of 1950 were a mild winter and a cool summer.

Various recording thermometers were away being checked during January but the usual readings were taken at the West Park station during the remainder of the year.

The total rainfall was 28.55 inches and this amount was slightly more than the average. September had the greatest rainfall (4.64 inches) and February and November were the next wettest months, each with over four inches of precipitation. March was the driest month (0.73 inches). Snow was recorded during January and December.

The hottest day was 6th June, with a shade temperature of 79.8°F., while the lowest recorded temperature was 19.2°F. on two occasions, 26th and 28th February. (No records were available for January).

3. Occupations.

Wolverhampton's industrial history can be traced back to the seventeenth century when, following the decline of the town's wool trade, it began to be known for the manufacture of locks and keys; the padlock on the town's coat of arms symbolises the early importance of this trade. To this was added the making of buckles and other hardware, and before the middle of the eighteenth century tinplate and japanning trades were carried on to a considerable extent. The town's importance as an industrial centre, however, is really based on the heavy industries of coal and iron, to which the local resources made a great contribution. Brennan in his "Wolverhampton Social and Industrial Survey 1945-46" states that "gradually the relative importance of these industries declined and new ones came to take their place. By about 1860, nearly half the hardware industry of the Black Country was centred in Wolverhampton. The concentration of the manufacture of roofing sheets was still greater. But by 1890 these two

important trades were well on the decline for various reasons . . . The japanning trade, which was connected with that of hardware, was similarly affected. But 1880 to 1885 saw the establishment of an electrical industry. Then came cycles, later motor cars, and finally aircraft to relieve the town of its dependence on its old industries. At present there are other tendencies which point away from this metals-vehicles evolution. But . . . the point to be made is that whereas Wolverhampton's place in the general Black Country development was roughly the same as that of any other town, i.e., the town specialising in one or two of the many localised but connected industries which went to make Birmingham a metals centre, in adapting itself to changing conditions, it now possesses a diversification approaching that of Birmingham."

Today the principal occupations in Wolverhampton in the order of the numbers employed are classified as General Metals (including manufacture and secondary processes and products), Mechanical Engineering (especially vehicles), Commerce (mostly distributive), Transport and Communications (mainly rail and omnibus), Electrical Engineering, Building, Rubber (tyres), Textiles (rayon), Professional Services (mainly educational), Public Administration (National and Local Government) and Personal Services (mostly private domestic service, hotels and restaurants).

4. Unemployment.

Unemployment is negligible in amount. It is mainly among the unskilled and the aged and it cannot be attributed to any particular industry.

SECTION II.

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

A. Hospital, Specialist and Allied Services.

1. Hospitals.

The Wolverhampton Hospital Management Committee is responsible for institutions and clinics in an area that extends from Wolverhampton to Bridgnorth, Much Wenlock, Broseley and Shifnal. Those in or near Wolverhampton are:—

The Royal Hospital, Cleveland Road, Wolverhampton, a hospital of 310 beds for the treatment of general medical and surgical patients.

The Women's Hospital and Bath Road Annexe, Wolverhampton, which has 76 beds used for gynaecological and complicated maternity cases only.

The Queen Victoria Nursing Institution, Wolverhampton, a hospital of 43 beds used for private patients only.

New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton, a hospital of 636 beds (including 257 mental hospital beds) for the treatment of general medical and surgical cases, diseases of children, maternity patients, isolation patients, and accommodation for the chronic sick and mental patients. In addition accommodation serviced by the Hospital Management Committee for 586 persons who are the responsibility of Wolverhampton Corporation is provided under Part III of the National Assistance Act in the buildings formerly known as New Cross Institution.

Wolverhampton and Midland Counties Eye Infirmary, Wolverhampton, a hospital of 100 beds used for ophthalmic cases only.

The Beeches Maternity Home, Wolverhampton has 16 beds used for private maternity cases only.

Penn Children's Hospital, Wolverhampton, containing 30 beds.

The Isolation Hospital, Wolverhampton, containing 60 beds.

Old House, Penn, a hospital of 14 beds for women, used for post-operative patients requiring nursing.

Sister Dora Convalescent Hospital, Milford, a hospital of 24 beds for men, used for post-operative patients requiring nursing.

Patshull Residential Rehabilitation Centre, Patshull, has 60 beds and is used as a male residential rehabilitation centre for selected accident cases.

2. Sanatoria.

There is no hospital accommodation in the area provided specially for the treatment of tuberculosis, and pulmonary cases usually are sent to Prestwood Sanatorium. In view of the urgent demand for beds, a ward containing 16 beds at the Borough Isolation Hospital was opened in September, 1950, for the reception of female patients likely to derive benefit from active treatment.

Orthopaedic cases generally receive treatment at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

3. Chest Clinics.

The Anti-tuberculosis Clinic in Bell Street provides chest clinic facilities for both Wolverhampton and the surrounding district. The premises are too small for the demands made upon them and the Hospital Management Committee hopes to extend them.

4. Venereal Diseases Clinic.

This is situated at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, and provides a service for both Wolverhampton and the surrounding district.

5. Nursing Homes.

There are three private maternity homes together containing 35 beds and three private nursing homes containing 23 beds.

6. Bacteriology.

Laboratory facilities are available at the Stafford Laboratory of the Medical Research Council's Public Health Laboratory Service and at the Pathology Laboratory of the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

B. Local Executive Council Services.

1. General Medical Service.

At the end of March, 1951, 159,771 people living in Wolverhampton were on doctors' lists, representing 98% of the population. Their medical care was undertaken by 111 medical practitioners, 64 of whom live within, and practise from 57 surgeries within the borough.

The cost of this service for the year ending the 31st March, 1951, was £156,481, equivalent to 19/4d. a head of the population.

2. Pharmaceutical Service.

There were at the end of March, 1951 under contract with the Executive Council 41 firms or persons having 60 places of business (45 in the borough) dispensing all medicines, 3 firms or persons supplying drugs not required to be dispensed and 13 firms or persons (9 in the borough) supplying appliances.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March, 1951, was £125,031, equivalent to 15/5d. a head of the population.

3. Dental Service.

At the end of March, 1951, there were 43 dental practitioners on the Executive Council's list.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March, 1951, was £190,900, equivalent to £1 3s. 7d. a head of the population.

4. Ophthalmic Service.

The service enables a patient to have his sight tested by either an ophthalmic medical practitioner or an ophthalmic optician and then, if glasses are necessary, to have them provided either by an ophthalmic optician or a dispensing optician. There were at the end of March, 1951, under contract with the Executive Council 7 ophthalmic medical practitioners, 13 ophthalmic opticians and 7 dispensing opticians. Dr. Jevons, Assistant School Medical Officer, is one of the ophthalmic medical practitioners and prescribes spectacles for school children who require them.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March, 1951, was £85,373, equivalent to 10/6d. a head of the population.

5. General.

The cost of administration for the year ending 31st March, 1951, was £9,245, equivalent to 1/1d. a head of the population. The total cost of the services therefore was £567,030, equivalent to £3 9s. 11d. a head of the population.

C. Local Authority Health Services.

1. Clinics.

At the beginning of the year it was decided to discontinue the subsidiary ante-natal clinic at Fordhouses held on Friday morning. Patients attending this clinic were transferred to the Monday morning clinic. It was also decided to discontinue the subsidiary ante-natal clinic held at Ward Street on Monday morning and patients attending this clinic attended the Thursday morning clinic there. The Wednesday afternoon immunisation sessions held at Park Lane, Lea Road and Lowe Street Centres were discontinued for a period coinciding with the prevalence of poliomyelitis in the town.

Below is a list of clinics held during the year:—

Ante-Natal.	Infants & Toddlers.
Fordhouses, Monday 9 a.m.	Fordhouses, Monday & Friday 2 p.m.
Park Lane, Tuesday & Friday 9 a.m.	Park Lane, Tuesday & Friday 2 p.m.
Lowe Street, Tuesday 9 a.m.	Lowe Street, Tuesday 2 p.m.
Lr. Stafford St., Wednesday 9 a.m.	Lr. Stafford St., Wednesday 2 p.m.
St. Oswalds, Wednesday 9 a.m.	St. Oswalds, Wednesday & Thursday 2 p.m.
Ward Street, Thursday 9 a.m.	Ward Street, Monday & Thursday 2 p.m.
Lea Road, Thursday & Friday 9 a.m.	Lea Road, Monday, Tuesday & Friday 2 p.m.
Post Natal Clinic.	Immunisation Clinics.
Lowe Street, Thursday 2 p.m.	Park Lane, Wednesday 2 p.m.
Family Planning Clinic.	Lea Road, Wednesday 2.30 p.m.
Lowe Street, Monday 2 p.m.	Lowe Street, Wednesday, 3 p.m.

2. Care of Mothers and Children.

(a) **Births and Still Births.** There were 2,749 infants born alive during the year to parents normally resident in Wolverhampton; of these infants 1,507 were born at home and 1,242 in institutions.

The still births numbered 71, and of these 23 were born at home and 48 in institutions.

These figures exceed those given by the Registrar General as they include a small number of births which the Registrar General has transferred to other areas.

(b) **Infant Deaths.** There were 117 deaths of children under the age of five years; of these 97 failed to survive the first year, and of these 68 failed to survive the first month. The causes of death are given below:—

Cause of Death.	0—4 Weeks.	1—12 Months.	1—4 Years.
Prematurity	38	1	—
Congenital abnormalities	10	4	2
Atelectasis	8	—	—
Haemorrhagic disease of newborn	1	—	—
Kernicterus	1	—	—
Purpura haemorrhagica	—	1	—
Umbilical haemorrhage	1	—	—
Cerebral birth injury	3	—	—
Intussusception	—	3	—
Gastroenteritis	1	2	—
Pneumonia	3	4	1
Bronchitis	1	2	1
Whooping Cough	—	1	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	3	1
Mumps with encephalitis	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	2
Mastoiditis	—	1	—
Suppurative otitis media	—	1	—
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	—	1	8
Hypoplasia of bone marrow	—	1	—
Accidental asphyxia	—	4	—
Drowning	—	—	1
Road accident	—	—	1
Fractured skull	1	—	—
Status lymphaticus	—	—	1
Totals	68	29	20

(c) **Premature Babies.** During the year 142 babies were born weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less. Of these, 61 were born at home, 11 in private nursing homes and 70 in National Health Service hospitals; 13 of the babies born at home were transferred subsequently to hospital and the remaining 48 were nursed entirely at home. The premature baby nurse visited the homes to assist and advise the mothers.

The weights of the babies born at home were:—

Under 3 lbs.	8
3—4 lbs.	7
4— $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.	46
	—
	61
	—

Of the 48 babies nursed entirely at home, 39 survived the first 28 days; of the 11 born in private nursing homes, all survived the first 28 days.

The premature baby nurse paid 947 visits to premature babies born at home and 224 visits to premature babies discharged from hospitals or nursing homes. In addition, she paid special visits to weakly infants requiring special care.

(d) Illegitimate Children. There were 139 illegitimate children born alive during the year; of these, 74 were males and 65 females; there were also 3 illegitimate still births.

The local authority does not maintain a special home for the reception of expectant mothers, but made grants to the Legge Home (£246) and the Hay Home (£50). When required, arrangements are made for the admission of expectant mothers to homes maintained by the Lichfield Diocesan Moral Welfare Association, to Roman Catholic or to Salvation Army Homes; when necessary, financial assistance is given in meeting the charges made by the homes.

During the year 60 cases applied to the department for help. Two of these applications subsequently were withdrawn, 13 were referred elsewhere and 14 had not been dealt with by the end of the year. The remaining 31 cases were dealt with, as were 11 cases outstanding from the previous year, making a total of 42 cases. Of these, 25 were admitted to moral welfare homes and financial assistance was given to four of them by the local health authority.

In 22 cases the mother kept her baby, in 12 cases it was placed for adoption, in 7 cases it was placed in a residential nursery and in one case the child died.

(e) Child Welfare Centres. Each week, 13 sessions were held for infants and toddlers. The total attendances at these sessions was less than in the previous year, but the number of new cases attending for the first time has shown a slight increase. Following the advent of the National Health Service Act, mothers are now using the infant welfare centres for the purpose

for which they were intended, namely, advice with regard to the feeding and management of the child, and to matters pertaining to the prevention of disease. Fewer cases of ill children, who in any case should be seen in the home or in the doctor's surgery, are finding their way to the infant welfare centres.

Vaccinations and immunisations were carried out at the normal infant welfare sessions in addition to the special immunisation sessions held on Wednesday afternoon. (See Table II).

(f) **Day Nurseries.** Birmingham Road Day Nursery, which had been closed in December, 1949, following an epidemic of Sonne dysentery, was re-opened, and selected children who had been proved to be free from infection on bacteriological examination were re-admitted. Investigation of the remaining children continued and they were re-admitted as soon as they were proved to be non-infective. By the end of January all the children had returned and no further case of dysentery occurred.

The training of nursery students for the Certificate of the Nursery Nurses Examination Board continued in both nurseries. A course of two years training is given, of which nine months is spent by the student in the nursery schools of the Education Department. Two days a week are devoted to further education lectures and the remainder of the time is spent by the students in gaining practical experience in the nursery.

Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough were carried out in the nurseries, except during the months in which poliomyelitis was prevalent. Some alterations in the method of admission of the children into the nurseries was made during the year. Previously two lists had been kept; an ordinary waiting list and a list of children regarded as belonging to a priority class. In the main, children from the latter list only were admitted, but if, as occasionally happened, there was no child on that list corresponding to the age group in which the vacancy occurred, a child from the ordinary list

was admitted. It was decided to cancel the ordinary waiting list and in addition twenty children regarded as non-priority were discharged from the nurseries to make room for the children on the priority list. Since then, there has been no waiting list.

The nurseries continued fully staffed during the year.

Infectious diseases occurring in the nurseries during the year were as follows:—

The Woodlands. Birmingham Road.					
Measles	...	...	...	1	8
Mumps	...	...	...	3	8
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	9

The following is a summary of the attendances at the nurseries during the year:—

The Woodlands. Birmingham Road.					
No. of days open	...	...	260	260	
Attendances under 2 years	...	...	3,242	2,608	
2—5 years	...	...	10,219	4,659	
Average daily attendance					
under 2 years	...	...	12.5	10.0	
2—5 years	...	...	39.3	17.9	

(g) **Orthopaedic Clinic.** Children under the age of five suffering from orthopaedic defects are referred to the orthopaedic clinic at Ward Street where they are seen in the first instance by the orthopaedic surgeon. Children requiring exercises or massage come under the care of the physiotherapist at the clinic.

During the year 1,053 attendances were made by 330 children of whom 112 were attending for the first time.

(h) **Ultra-Violet Light Clinic.** Children suffering from debility and other conditions for which ultra-violet light is regarded as likely to be beneficial are referred by the medical officers at the infant welfare clinics to the special clinics held twice weekly at Ward Street.

During the year, 144 cases made 2,133 attendances.

(i) **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.** During the year only three cases were notified. In no case was there any impairment of vision.

3. Priority Dental Service.

Expectant and nursing mothers who wish to make use of the facilities provided by the local health authority are able to have dental treatment at the Women's Hospital. During the year 51 patients received treatment.

Owing to the depletion of the dental staff of the local authority it has been impossible to bring into operation the scheme whereby the local authority's dental surgeons provide treatment for expectant mothers. They have, however, given dental treatment to 401 children under 5 years of age during the year.

Details are given in Table III.

4. Midwifery.

(a) **General Provision.** During the year 3,911 confinements took place in the borough. Of these, 1,536 were conducted in the mothers' homes, 1,967 were conducted in institutions and 408 in private nursing homes.

Notifications of intention to practise in Wolverhampton during 1950 were received from:—

(i) trained midwives in institutions	43
(ii) municipal midwives	21
(iii) independent midwives	4
(iv) maternity nurses	11

TABLE II.

MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTRES, 1950.

	Ford-Houses	Lea Rd.	Lowe St.	Park Lane	St. Oswalds	Stafford St.	Ward St.	Totals
INFANTS.								
No. of sessions ...	99	149	48	99	99	50	99	643
New cases under 1 year ...	254	236	133	277	148	124	326	1,498
New cases over 1 year ...	73	46	65	28	30	12	88	342
Attendances under 1 year ...	2,219	2,508	1,764	2,604	1,875	1,176	1,840	13,986
Attendances over 1 year ...	303	970	236	488	437	245	441	3,120
Total Attendances ...	2,522	3,478	2,000	3,092	2,312	1,421	2,281	17,106
Average Attendances per Session ...	25.5	23.3	41.7	31.2	23.3	28.4	23.1	26.6
EXPECTANT MOTHERS.								
No. of sessions ...	48	103	48	99	50	48	51	447
New cases ...	116	272	55	178	99	101	157	978
Total Attendances ...	724	1,329	325	1,069	473	604	792	5,316
Average Attendances per session ...	15.1	12.9	6.8	10.8	9.5	12.6	15.9	11.9
RELIEF SESSION. (Supervisor of Midwives)								
No. of sessions ...								
Total Attendances ...						13		13
Average Attendance per session ...						50		50
						3.8		3.8
POST-NATAL CLINIC.								
FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC. (Lowe Street)								
No. of Sessions ...	50							52
New Cases ...	85							52
Attendances ...	180							679
Average Attendance ...								10.7

TABLE III.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

(a) Numbers provided with dental care :

	Examined,	Needing treatment,	Treated.	Made Dentally Fit.
Expectant and Nursing mothers	51	51	51	48
Children under five	500	494	401	86

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided :

	Extractions.	Anæsthetics.		Fillings.	Scalings or Scaling and gum treatment.	Silver Nitrate treatment.	Dressings.	Radio-graphs.	Dentures provided.	
		Local.	General.						Complete.	Partial.
Expectant and Nursing mothers	165	72	13	—	6	—	—	—	1	2
Children under five	1067	20	458	2	—	4	2	1	—	—

Facilities are readily available for X-ray examination at the clinic.

(b) **Municipal Midwives.** There were 20 full-time and one part-time municipal midwives practising at the end of the year. They attended 1,330 cases as midwives and 155 cases as maternity nurses. Altogether, 25,912 visits were paid by domiciliary midwives to women delivered at home; in addition cases delivered in hospital and discharged before the fourteenth day were visited by midwives during the remainder of the lying-in period.

Gas and air was administered to 473 women; three more midwives completed successfully a course of instruction in its administration.

(c) **Ante-natal Clinics.** There were 447 sessions for expectant mothers during the year. The number of new cases attending amounted to 978 and altogether 5,316 visits were paid; this was a decrease on the previous year.

Prior to the introduction of the National Health Service Scheme in 1948, the majority of women attending the clinics of the local authority were those who had booked a midwife only to be in attendance at the confinement, and they visited their private doctor only when deviation from the normal occurred. A domiciliary midwife could call in the services of a private doctor under the "Medical Aid" scheme, and when she did so, the doctor in many cases saw the patient for the first time when labour was advanced. The new Act gave every woman the opportunity of having her doctor present at the confinement and of seeing her doctor at least twice during the ante-natal period.

It was obvious that some re-organisation of the ante-natal clinics was necessary and that close co-operation between clinics, midwives and general practitioners was desirable. During the year, meetings between representatives of the general practitioners and medical officers of the health department were held and a scheme of co-operation drawn up. In addition, midwives were given the full use of equipment and facilities at the ante-natal clinics. Patients attended on certain days to book the midwife and returned for subsequent examination on the day on which their midwife was due to attend.

The scheme began to operate in the latter half of November and it was not possible by the end of the year to judge the effect as far as the ante-natal clinics were concerned.

(d) Post-natal Clinic. A weekly session is held at Lowe Street infant welfare centre on Thursday afternoons. Fifty sessions were held during the year, there were 85 new patients and 180 attendances were made.

(e) Puerperal Pyrexia. During the year 9 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, 5 by doctors in hospital and 4 by general practitioners. Of the latter 4 cases, 3 subsequently were transferred to hospital.

(f) Maternal Mortality. Five maternal deaths were reported during the year, and all occurred in hospital. Two of the patients lived outside the area but had been admitted to a local hospital for their confinements.

The deaths of the three Wolverhampton residents were due to:—

- (i) obstetric shock following forceps delivery,
- (ii) haemorrhage associated with placenta praevia and
- (iii) acute cardiac failure, post-partum anaemia; primary atypical pneumonia.

(g) Maternity Packs. The distribution of maternity packs for women being confined at home and taking advantage of the National Health Service was carried out at the Lea Road welfare centre. It was found that a number of women entitled to a pack did not apply until after the birth, and to these women, provided application was made within 7 days of the birth, maternity sets were distributed containing material necessary in the lying-in period.

Many applications for maternity packs were received from women who were to enter private nursing homes for their confinements but distribution to these patients was discontinued towards the end of the year following the receipt of an instruction from the Ministry of Health stating that these patients were not entitled to them.

Altogether, 1,638 maternity packs and 342 maternity sets were distributed.

(h) **Family Planning Clinic.** This clinic at which married women are advised on methods of birth control is held weekly at Lowe Street welfare centre; only women referred by medical practitioners are admitted to the clinic. Women attending for the first time numbered 52 and a total of 679 attendances was made.

5. Health Visiting.

The arrival of three new health visitors, who had been appointed under the scheme for subsidising their training, brought the staff up to full strength for a short period, although due to subsequent changes it was not maintained. Three further pupil health visitors were appointed to undergo training.

Details of the effective visits made during 1950 are given below:—

Expectant mothers	...	...	...	219
Infants	...	...	...	7,839
Children (1 to 5 years)	...	...	...	12,676
Infectious diseases	...	...	...	940
Special visits	...	...	...	1,741
Total visits	...	...	...	23,415

In addition, health visitors attended 2,373 half-day sessions at the clinics.

An increasing number of visits is being paid to the aged.

6. School Health Service.

In December, 1950, there were 26,556 children attending schools in Wolverhampton; 520 were at the Grammar School, 950 at private schools and 25,086 at county and voluntary schools. The school health service provides routine medical inspection and minor ailment, ophthalmic, orthopaedic, paediatric, aural, child guidance and dental clinics. Special Schools are provided for delicate children and for those who are educationally sub-normal.

During the year, 13 children of school age died, two of them in residential institutions for the mentally defective. Of the remaining 11, three died of tuberculous meningitis, three

lost their lives accidentally (two in road accidents and one by drowning), and the remaining 5 died from bronchitis, leukaemia, acute necrosis of the liver, pneumococcal meningitis and rheumatic fever.

7. Home Nursing.

During the year it was impossible to appoint nurses willing to reside in the nurses' home in Bath Road and accordingly one of the two houses of which the home is comprised was converted to other uses. At the end of December the staff consisted of a supervisor, five full-time state registered nurses, three full-time state enrolled assistant nurses and one part-time state registered nurse.

The number of new cases attended by the nurses was over 20 per cent more than in the previous year. Details of the work of the nurses for the year is given in Table IV and a summary is given below:—

Cases on register on 1/1/50.	New cases.	Total visits.	Cases on register on 31/12/50.
114	1,036	23,620	116

8. Domestic Help.

At the beginning of the year, there were 5 full-time and 10 part-time home helps, but in view of the great demands for this service the number was increased so that at the end of the year there were 7 full-time and 19 part-time workers employed regularly. In addition a few temporary part-time home helps were engaged during the year with a minimum of two hours work daily, for helping in homes where a small amount of assistance was required every day; the experiment proved successful and will be extended.

In 1949 some home helps were employed at day nurseries or other Corporation premises when not required for their normal duties, but the demand for their services as home helps was so great in 1950 that no time was spent on other work.

TABLE IV.

Classified Visits for 1950.

Districts	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Acute Medical	411	528	170	192	243	80	265	779	2,668
Chronic Medical	2,266	1,348	1,658	2,365	783	1,309	2,485	2,379	14,593
Surgical	987	641	267	891	157	428	566	276	4,213
Infectious Disease	19	6	1	—	—	—	3	6	35
Abortion	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	16
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	186	161	500	32	20	43	426	270	1,638
Others	71	83	97	66	179	43	—	15	554
Totals	3,946	2,767	2,693	3,546	1,382	1,903	3,745	3,735	23,717

TABLE V.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION TO END OF 1950.

Age at date of Inoculation	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Total
Under one year	—	1	3	6	4	15	18	29	26	33	10	21	98	38	6	Under five years — 5,086
1-2 years	—	19	125	156	86	437	780	916	889	998	904	950	972	838	713	
2-3 "	—	—	106	175	135	479	399	293	232	308	468	210	286	620	229	
3-4 "	—	—	—	145	93	330	443	216	73	97	268	72	73	175	73	
4-5 "	—	—	—	—	71	339	418	264	82	69	265	41	71	114	57	
5-6 "	—	—	—	—	—	518	531	285	157	101	248	172	104	353	171	5-10 years — 9,922
6-7 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	328	192	160	68	263	126	72	432	324	
7-8 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	103	61	21	216	98	39	291	200	
8-9 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	39	20	88	17	16	62	53	
9-10 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	73	14	12	13	13	
10-11 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56	8	17	1	5	10-15 years — 8,075
11-12 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	23	8	
12-13 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	
13-14 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
14-15 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTALS	—	20	234	482	389	2118	2917	2298	1719	1730	2859	1734	1767	2961	1855	23,083

A course of instruction was given at the Technical College between February and July to a number of home helps, and the syllabus which included subjects such as cookery, household management, home nursing and the use of modern electrical appliances was found to be very helpful, particularly to the younger workers.

The cases assisted by home helps during the year consisted of:—

Maternity	...	...	...	105
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6
Acute illness	...	...	...	156
Chronic illness	...	...	...	67
Total	...	...	...	334

The supervisor investigates the conditions in every case before a home help is sent and subsequently she pays weekly visits. The number of visits paid by the supervisor was 1,948.

9. Vaccination and Immunisation.

(a) **Vaccination against Smallpox.** This procedure, which is now voluntary as the Vaccination Acts were repealed when the National Health Service Act came into operation, is carried out either by the patient's general practitioner or by the medical staff of the local authority. During the year 818 persons were vaccinated and 167 were re-vaccinated. Of those vaccinated, 671 were under one year old and of those re-vaccinated 146 were over 15 years old. Medical officers of the local authority carried out 278 of the 985 vaccinations and re-vaccinations.

As 2,723 infants were born during the year, the 671 vaccinated under one year old represented 25 per cent of those born.

(b) **Immunisation against Diphtheria.** During the year, 641 children under the age of 15 years were immunised by private practitioners and 1,214 by medical officers of the local authority in schools, clinics or nurseries, making a total of 1,855 children immunised against diphtheria. In addition, reinforcing doses were given to 41 children by private practitioners and to 1,404 by medical officers of the local authority, almost entirely in schools, making a total of 1,445.

Immunisation was seriously interrupted during the latter part of the year as the Ministry of Health deemed it advisable to suspend it because of the outbreak of poliomyelitis and not to resume it until new cases of poliomyelitis had ceased to occur.

The estimated percentage of the child population immunised against diphtheria (shown in Table V) is:—

- (i) under 5 years old: population 14,510: immunised 35%
- (ii) 5—15 years old: population 23,810: immunised 76%
- (iii) 0—15 years old: population 38,320: immunised 60%

10. Ambulance Service.

The demands made on the Ambulance Service in recent years have increased steadily but now they appear to be arrested. The number of patients carried, 22,905, shows little change, but the distance travelled, 144,672 miles is over 9,000 miles less than in the previous year.

The staff of 30 and the fleet of 12 ambulances and 5 sitting case cars were able to meet the demands made upon them, details of which are given in Table VI.

Summary of Ambulance Calls.

	Within the Borough.										Mutual Aid.						Totals.			
	Accidents	Emergencies	Amb. Removals	Sitting C. C.	Totals	Amb. Mileage	Sitting C. C. Mileage	Amb. Journeys	Sitting C. C. Journeys	No. of Patients	Accidents	Emergencies	Amb. Removals	Sitting C. C.	Totals	Amb. Mileage	Sitting C. C. Mileage	Amb. & Sitting C. C.'s	Amb. Mileage	Sitting C. C. Mileage
1950																				
January	43	29	700	1532	2304	6391	7935	706	866	2195	3	1	4	4	12	79	87	2316	6470	8022
February	33	15	439	1306	1793	4391	6759	461	730	1842	3	1	10	4	18	173	82	1811	4564	6841
March	36	34	442	1353	1865	4214	6149	508	767	1883	4	1	15	8	28	315	155	1893	4529	6304
April	58	24	438	1036	1556	4146	5724	499	581	1492	4	1	17	14	36	416	181	1592	4562	5905
May	66	26	563	1347	2002	4723	6100	640	663	2011	9	—	51	13	73	888	206	2075	5611	6306
June	73	23	509	1288	1893	5082	6026	585	705	1894	6	1	36	22	65	756	485	1958	5838	6511
July	79	35	446	1358	1918	5134	6732	569	708	1935	15	2	40	25	82	686	481	2000	5820	7213
August	61	27	519	1255	1862	4061	6425	582	655	1830	6	—	26	15	47	530	301	1909	4591	6726
September	56	26	529	1130	1741	3960	5913	598	538	1748	8	1	24	13	46	569	230	1787	4529	6143
October	50	24	525	1373	1972	4966	7769	599	726	2024	8	—	31	32	71	627	591	2043	5593	8360
November	57	28	503	1576	2164	4789	7491	549	781	2225	7	—	12	9	28	305	220	2192	5094	7711
December	67	42	481	1142	1732	4359	6226	586	670	1826	4	1	23	24	52	267	577	1784	4626	6803
TOTALS	679	333	6094	15696	22802	56216	79249	6882	8390	22905	77	9	289	183	558	5611	3596	23360	61827	82845

11. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

(a) **Tuberculosis.** The After-Care Officer investigates the home conditions of cases of tuberculosis, advises them how to obtain financial or other assistance they require and, if necessary, arranges for its provision by the local health authority. The work in connection with tuberculosis comprised:—

New patients referred to After-Care Officer	...	151	
Old patients referred to After-Care Officer	...	90	
			241
Environmental forms completed	...	...	182
Patients provided with milk	...	...	26
Patients provided with clothing	...	...	2
			28
Patients referred to Assistance Board	...	...	72

(b) **Convalescence.** Applications for admission to convalescent homes which cannot be arranged through other channels are made by the After-Care Officer on behalf of suitable patients, who are asked to contribute towards the cost according to their means. This request for a contribution towards the cost is the usual reason for the withdrawal of an application. The following details refer to the cases dealt with during the year:—

Applications received	...	...	50
Admitted to Convalescent Homes	...	...	32
Admitted through another agency	...	...	1
Applications refused	...	...	4
Applications withdrawn	...	...	11
Too ill for admission	...	...	2
			50

(c) **Invalid Aids.** A supply of equipment is available for lending to patients nursed at home, who are required to pay a deposit which is repaid on the return of the equipment in good condition. During the year, the following equipment was provided for 161 patients nursed at home:—

Air rings	...	...	...	71
Bedpans	...	...	...	47
Back rests	...	...	...	31
Mackintosh sheets	...	...	...	23
Urinals	...	...	...	17
Invalid Chairs	...	...	...	10
Bed cradles	...	...	...	5
Other articles	...	...	...	5
				209

12. Mental Health Services.

(a) **Administration.** The Mental Treatment Sub-Committee of the Health Committee meets monthly, and delegates no duties to voluntary associations.

The staff of the Health Department includes one female and two male mental health workers all of whom are officers duly authorised to take initial proceedings in providing care and treatment for persons suffering from mental illness. The female officer devotes most of her time to duties concerned with the ascertainment and supervision of mental defectives, while the two male officers are engaged principally in carrying out the duties of the Local Health Authority under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, and those duties under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946 which refer to the prevention of mental illness, the care and the after-care of persons suffering from mental illness.

The staff of the Occupation Centre for mental defectives has been increased during 1950 and now consists of a supervisor and three assistants, and there are also three part-time guides to escort the children to and from the Centre. A part-time clerk is employed in the office of the Health Department, and the staff of the Town Clerk, who keeps the register of mental defectives, give part-time assistance with clerical and committee work.

The majority of patients suffering from mental illness are admitted at the request of general practitioners, by the duly authorised officers, under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, to New Cross Hospital for a period of three days. Those cases found after observation to require further treat-

ment are transferred to St. George's Hospital, Stafford. Patients who voluntarily request treatment for mental illness are admitted to St. George's Hospital directly from their homes. When a mental defective is certified, one of a panel of medical practitioners who undertake this work is called in, and the same practitioner undertakes any subsequent visits in the patient's home which may be required.

The co-ordination which exists with the Regional Hospital Board and the Hospital Management Committees is capable of further development. The difficulty which this Health Authority, in common with other Health Authorities, has in finding suitable vacancies in institutions for mental defectives has been partially solved by the expansion of Lea Colony and by the transfer from New Cross Hospital to St. Margaret's Hospital, Great Barr Park, of Wolverhampton mental defectives likely to benefit from the special training at Great Barr Park, in exchange for Wolverhampton patients who are too old or infirm for training.

Although the Local Health Authority now has no responsibility for patients admitted to mental deficiency institutions, some Hospital Management Committees ask the Local Health Authority's staff to visit patients on licence, and to visit the homes of patients in order to report for the purpose of the renewal of orders under the Mental Deficiency Act. These arrangements enable contact to be maintained with the patients and their families.

In the field of mental illness the fullest use is not being made of the services of the mental health workers. The direct contact which they have had with the patient in his home could be of considerable assistance to a psychiatrist if they attended the psychiatrist's clinic, and their ability to give the patient after-care would be enhanced if fuller information from the mental hospital was forthcoming on the patient's discharge.

One mental health worker attended a fortnight's residential course organised by the University of Sheffield, another

went to the annual conference of the National Association of Mental Health, and the staff of the Occupation Centre attended a short course held at Stafford.

(b) Work undertaken. The mental health workers carry out important duties concerned both with prevention and after-care. When cases are brought to their notice they try to persuade patients likely to benefit from hospital treatment to seek admission as voluntary patients, and in 1950 one patient in four was admitted to hospital on a voluntary basis. When a patient is in hospital, they help with the problems that often present themselves both to the patient and to his relatives at home resulting from his prolonged incapacity for work. A patient discharged from hospital usually appreciates the friendly interest and help of the mental health workers, the relatives welcome advice about his environmental conditions and if the patient proves unco-operative his relatives are heartened by the advice and assistance which is readily available. At the end of the year, 61 former hospital patients were being visited regularly by the mental health workers.

Acting as officers duly authorised to take initial proceedings under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts in providing care and treatment of persons suffering from mental illness, the mental health workers arranged the admission of 159 patients (71 males and 88 females) to New Cross Hospital for observation, and 45 of them (18 males and 27 females) subsequently were certified and admitted to mental hospitals. In addition 52 voluntary patients (29 males and 23 females) and one temporary patient were admitted to hospital. At the end of the year, 417 Wolverhampton residents (192 males and 225 females) were known to be receiving treatment in mental hospitals.

Under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 4 boys and 4 girls of school age found to be ineducable, and 4 boys and one girl leaving the special school for educationally sub-normal children at the age of 16 were found to require supervision, and these 13 children were placed under statutory supervision. Steps

were taken to keep in touch with a further 18 children leaving the special school at the age of 16 although they were not regarded as requiring statutory supervision.

A summary of the position relating to mental defectives at the end of the year is given below:—

I. Particulars of Defectives on 1st January, 1951.

(1) Number of ascertained mental defectives found to be "Subject to be dealt with"

		Males.	Females.	Total.
(a) In institutions				
(including cases	under 16 yrs.	15	3	18
on licence)	16 yrs. & over.	99	102	201
(b) Under guardianship	under 16 yrs.	—	—	—
	16 yrs. & over	21	24	45
(c) In "places of safety"		2	1	3
(d) Under Statutory Supervision				
(excluding cases on licence)				
	under 16 yrs.	27	18	45
	16 yrs. & over.	101	101	202
Total ascertained				
"subject to be dealt with"		265	249	514
No. of cases included in (b) to (d) above				
awaiting removal to an institution		6	3	9

(2) Number of mental defectives not at present "Subject to be dealt with"

(a) Voluntary supervision	under 16 yrs.	8	7	15
	16 yrs. & over	59	39	98
		67	46	113

II. Particulars of Cases Reported in 1950.

(1) Ascertainment

(a) Cases reported under Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944	8	5	13
(b) Other cases "subject to be dealt with"	—	—	—
(c) Other cases not "subject to be dealt with"	12	6	18
	20	11	31

(2) Disposal of Cases reported in 1950

(a) Placed under Statutory Supervision	8	5	13
(b) Placed under Voluntary Supervision	12	6	18
	20	11	31

III. Cases Removed from list in 1950.

(a) Ceased to be under care	1	2	3
(b) Died, removed from area, lost sight of, etc.	4	4	8
	5	6	11

One unmarried defective gave birth to a child during 1950.

The Occupation Centre had 54 defectives on the register at the end of the year:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
under 16 years	23	20	43
16 years and over	2	9	11
Total	25	29	54

There is need for extension of the present accommodation as there are many more defectives, both children and older persons, who would benefit from occupation centre training; there is also a need for regular occupational classes for older boys and girls where work of commercial use could be taught. These schemes are dependent on the provision of extra accommodation and the first steps have been taken to meet this need.

The Occupation Centre is open during the usual school hours and school holidays are observed. The children under 16 years of age receive free school milk; schools meals are provided at a charge of 6d. each and in special cases are provided free. Training includes hygiene, eurythmics and physical education, speech training, general knowledge and arts and crafts. In addition, children who show any aptitude are instructed in simple reading and writing. The recent purchase of a film strip projector is proving to be a great help.

13. Care of Aged and Infirm.

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act provides for people who, being seriously ill or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to secure proper care and attention. If the medical officer of health certifies that it is necessary to remove any such person, the town council may apply to a court of summary

jurisdiction for an order for removal to a suitable hospital or other place for an initial period not exceeding three months, which may subsequently be extended by the court to six months.

Fourteen cases were brought to the notice of the department by relatives, neighbours, medical practitioners, sanitary inspectors, the police, the Housing Department and the Welfare Services Department. Three of the cases accepted hospital treatment, three accepted suitable institutional accommodation, one accepted the assistance of a home help and another was considered to be of unsound mind. In no case was it considered necessary to seek a court order for removal.

SECTION III. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

1. Incidence.

The corrected notifications per 1,000 population of certain infectious diseases in Wolverhampton, the 126 Great Towns and England and Wales during 1950 are appended:—

Disease.	Wolver- hampton.	126 Great Towns.	England & Wales.
Typhoid	Nil	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid	Nil	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection	0.04	0.03	0.03
Scarlet fever	0.99	1.56	1.50
Whooping cough	2.80	3.97	3.60
Diphtheria	0.01	0.03	0.02
Erysipelas	0.10	0.19	0.17
Smallpox	Nil	0.00	0.00
Measles	6.02	8.76	8.39
Pneumonia	1.03	0.77	0.70
Acute Poliomyelitis including Polioencephalitis			
Paralytic	0.23	0.12	0.13
Non-Paralytic	0.15	0.05	0.05
Food poisoning	Nil	0.16	0.17
Puerperal fever & pyrexia (per 1,000 live & still births)	2.30	7.43	5.81

It will be noticed that there were no cases of typhoid, paratyphoid, smallpox and food poisoning.

2. Scarlet Fever.

This continues to be mild in character and there were no deaths among the 160 cases known to have occurred.

3. Diphtheria.

Notifications reached a low record, and of the 7 cases notified, the diagnosis was confirmed only in two; both cases recovered.

4. Whooping Cough.

There were 453 notifications, a slight increase on the previous year, and two of the cases proved fatal; 17 cases were nursed in hospital.

5. Measles.

Notifications at 976 were less than half those of the previous year. No deaths occurred from the disease; 10 cases were nursed in hospital.

6. Poliomyelitis.

A total of 65 cases were notified, 37 paralytic and 28 non-paralytic. In three of the non-paralytic cases the diagnosis was revised to tuberculous meningitis, sub-arachnoid haemorrhage and infective endocarditis respectively, leaving 62 confirmed cases of which 58 were nursed in hospital. Their age and sex distribution was:—

Age in years.	0—1	1—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25—39	40 & over	Total
Males	—	2	8	2	4	10	2	28
Females	1	6	4	3	9	9	2	34
Total	1	8	12	5	13	19	4	62

There were three deaths, a male aged 26 years and females aged 2 and 4 years.

In 1947 there were 20 cases and one death, in 1948 there were 15 cases and one death and in 1949 there were 4 cases and no deaths.

7. Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

Seven confirmed cases occurred and were admitted to hospital. There were four deaths.

8. Pneumonia.

There were 167 cases of pneumonia notified, a figure which shows little variation from previous years. Although there were 67 deaths from pneumonia, few of these occurred among the notified cases and presumably in the majority of fatal cases the disease occurred as a terminal complication.

9. Miscellaneous.

There were 17 cases of erysipelas with one death, 12 cases of dysentery with no deaths, 9 cases of puerperal pyrexia with no deaths and 3 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum with no impairment of vision.

10. Tuberculosis.

Notification. The numbers of new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1950 and the four preceding years are given below:—

			1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Pulmonary							
Male	...	...	71	101	97	96	80
Female	...	...	55	68	59	59	43
Non-Pulmonary							
Male	...	...	12	16	7	12	7
Female	...	...	9	10	7	12	7
Total	...	...	147	195	170	179	137

The number of cases remaining on the register at the end of 1950 were classified as follows:—

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Male	430	Male	46
Female	255	Female	51
Total	685	Total	97

Deaths. The deaths from tuberculosis in 1950 and the preceding four years are given below:—

			1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Pulmonary							
Male	...	...	44	50	55	59	51
Female	...	...	31	37	28	31	22
Non-Pulmonary							
Male	...	...	9	5	5	5	9
Female	...	...	8	3	2	1	5
Total	...	...	92	95	90	96	87

TABLE VII.

TUBERCULOSIS—1950.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
0 — 1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1 — 5	—	—	2	1	—	—	5	3
5 — 15	1	1	2	—	—	—	3	—
15 — 25	11	16	3	4	3	6	—	—
25 — 35	15	13	—	—	11	8	—	1
35 — 45	16	9	—	1	7	3	1	—
45 — 55	21	1	—	—	16	3	—	—
55 — 65	11	3	—	—	10	2	—	—
65 & up.	5	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Totals.	80	43	7	7	51	22	9	5

The 14 fatal cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis comprised two children aged 18 months who died of miliary tuberculosis, 10 children between the ages of 11 months and 8 years who died of tuberculous meningitis, a female aged 25 who died of tuberculous meningitis and a middle-aged male who died of tuberculosis of the kidney. In four fatal cases among children, they were living in contact with known cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, and in a further two cases, investigations following the death of the children discovered in each case a contact with pulmonary tuberculosis.

Details of notification and deaths are given in Table VII.

11. Venereal Diseases.

The treatment of these diseases is now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, and facilities are provided at the Royal Hospital.

Syphilis. During the year, 58 cases (31 males and 27 females) were dealt with for the first time. Of these, 27 were Wolverhampton residents.

Gonorrhoea. There were 125 cases (103 males and 22 females) dealt with for the first time, and 77 of these were Wolverhampton residents.

Other Conditions. The number of cases dealt with for the first time was 512 (357 males and 155 females) and of these, 294 were Wolverhampton residents.

12. Cancer.

The Registrar-General gave the number of deaths attributable to cancer and allied conditions as 272.

The age distribution of these cases was:—

Age.	Male.	Female.	Total.
0—4	—	—	—
5—14	1	—	1
15—24	—	—	—
25—44	10	15	25
45—64	52	50	102
65—74	53	37	90
75 and over	27	27	54
Total	143	129	272

Cancer and allied conditions were mentioned in the death certificates of 275 local residents, i.e., three more than in the Registrar-General's figures.

The sites of the disease were:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Mouth, nose & pharynx	9	1	10
Larynx	3	2	5
Oesophagus	3	4	7
Stomach	29	26	55
Intestine	—	1	1
Caecum & colon	21	14	35
Rectum	21	8	29
Liver & gall bladder	2	1	3
Pancreas	3	1	4
Lung	35	4	39
Mediastinum	1	1	2
Uterus	—	10	10
Ovary	—	4	4
Vulva	—	1	1
Breast	—	31	31
Kidney	3	1	4
Bladder & urethra	1	2	3
Prostate	6	—	6
Testes & penis	2	—	2
Thyroid	2	1	3
Brain & spinal cord	4	5	9
Skin	1	2	3
Leukaemia, etc	1	1	2
Other sites	3	4	7
Total	150	125	275

SECTION IV.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, F. Binns Hartley,
M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.).

The environmental health services have proceeded during the year under review with the utmost vigour. The staff of Sanitary Inspectors was greatly depleted during the war and post war years, and in consequence routine housing work was given precedence to the detriment of other duties.

A full complement of Inspectors was however employed in 1950. This allowed increased activity in the fields of food hygiene, smoke abatement and factory inspection and the results obtained have been very gratifying and show the interest and enthusiasm with which these duties have been performed.

In the field of food hygiene the Health Committee gave serious consideration to the formation of a Food Traders' Guild and also to the confirmation of Byelaws relative to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food.

It will be noted that mention is made later of the unsatisfactory conditions obtaining in the Retail Market Hall, and that improvements were contemplated. Until these improvements were effected it was considered inadvisable to enforce higher standards upon private traders.

A further call was made upon the Inspectorial Staff in that a detailed survey was made of a proposed smokeless zone for submission to the select Committee of the Houses of Parliament prior to the Authority's promotion of the Wolverhampton Corporation Bill.

1. Water Supplies.

Routine samples of drinking water were taken monthly from the various sources of the public supply; each sample was submitted to both a chemical and a bacteriological examination. The chemical analyses were performed by the

Public Analyst whilst the bacteriological examinations were undertaken by the Pathologist at the Royal Hospital and by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. This latter service operated from November onwards.

During the year, 37 samples were submitted for chemical analysis and 38 for bacteriological examination. The reports received in each instance indicated that the supplies were satisfactory.

At the request of the occupiers of one factory, a sample of drinking water was taken from a deep well borehole on the premises. This sample was submitted to the Pathological Laboratory, The Royal Hospital, for bacteriological examination and proved to be satisfactory.

Wastes of water from defective water fittings were observed in 123 instances and were referred to the Water Engineer for attention.

2. Sampling of Swimming Bath Water.

Samples of swimming bath water were taken regularly from the two swimming baths owned by the Council. A total of 11 chemical and 13 bacteriological samples were submitted for analysis and examination and all proved to be satisfactory.

3. Sanitary Accommodation.

Conversions to Clean Water System. One waste water closet provided in connection with a dwelling house and one trough closet for use by the employees at a factory premises were converted satisfactorily to the clean water system.

Privies, Privy Middens, Pan and Pail Closets and Cesspools Existing. The following is a summary of those known to be in use at the end of the year:—

Privies and Privy Middens	...	...	...	9
Pan & Pail Closets	...	...	...	45
" " " "	(Merridale Playing Fields)			2
" " " "	(Cannock Road, Playing Fields)			4
			Total	60
Cesspools	...	...	...	41

4. Offensive Trades.

An application was received for permission to re-establish the offensive trade of Gut Scraping within premises previously used for this purpose. The premises were satisfactory and permission was subsequently granted.

36 routine inspections were made during the year to the 7 offensive trade premises now existing within the borough.

The following tables summarise the improvements recorded, the notices served and the trades established.

Improvements Recorded:

Walls, cleansed or redecorated	...	...	...	...	3
Floors cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Surface channel drainage renewed	...	...	...	...	1
Washbasins provided	...	...	...	...	1
Sufficient supply of hot and cold water provided	...	...	...	...	1
Impervious receptacles for offal or trimmings provided	...	...	...	...	3
Sufficient and suitable means of storage for waste materials provided	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	1

Notices:

Served	...	...	...	...	7	—
Complied with	...	...	...	...	5	—

Class of Trade.	Applications received.		Permit Granted		Statutorily dis-established	No on Register 31st Dec., 1950.
	New Premises	Renewals	New Premises	Renewals		
Bone Boiler	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fat Melter or Extractor	—	1	—	1	—	2
Gut Scraper	1	1	1	1	—	2
Rag, Bone and Skin Dealer	—	1	—	1	—	1
Tripe Boiler	—	1	—	1	2	1
Totals	1	4	1	4	2	7

5. Places of Public Entertainment.

Investigations were made during the year with respect to the conditions prevailing at cinemas, theatres, one racecourse and a football ground, situated within the borough. As a result, extensive alterations and improvements were effected in several cases.

Racecourse. The original sanitary accommodation in connection with certain sections of the racecourse was constructed of wood with paved floors, consisting of 17 pail closets and two urinals for males and 22 pail closets for females, which were generally in an unsatisfactory condition.

As a result of representations to the management a scheme was adopted with a view to providing brick built structures and the conversion of the existing pail closets into wash-down water closets.

Subsequently, the whole of the insanitary conveniences were dispensed with, four brick built structures were erected containing 17 water closets and two large urinals for males, and 23 water closets for females, with the provision of adequate means of lighting and ventilation. Each of the water closet compartments was fitted with a rapid filling type of flushing apparatus. A new 6 inch drainage system was laid connecting the conveniences to an enlarged brick built cesspool some distance away from these conveniences.

Arrangements have been made for the cesspool to be emptied at the termination of each day's meeting.

Upon inspection of the public bars and restaurants it was ascertained that there was an absence of adequate hot water supplies for the washing of utensils. Additional gas and electrically operated water heaters have now been installed.

The counters were found to be badly worn and of open jointed woodwork. New polished wooden counters have been fitted to each of the bars.

Football Ground.

An inspection of the public bars at this football ground revealed that although each bar was fitted with a properly drained wash-up sink the means of obtaining hot water supplies for the washing of utensils and glasses was unsatisfactory.

In certain instances, hot water was obtained from small urns and in others was conveyed from the central bar in containers. Most of the bar fittings and utensils were liable to gross contamination as the bars were situated directly below the stands and terracing and had unlined ceilings.

The brewery company controlling the bars was approached, and electric immersion heaters have now been fitted to each of the twelve bars, the larger bars being fitted with two such heaters.

The ceilings of all the bars have been underdrawn and the walls and ceilings redecorated.

The sanitary accommodation to the ground was found to be in the main, reasonably satisfactory. The number of water closets and urinals has been increased from time to time during the year by the management, but in spite of improved means of ingress and egress, nuisance is still likely to occur and can hardly be avoided where large numbers of persons attempt to make use of limited sanitary accommodation during relatively short periods.

Theatres and Cinemas. During the year routine inspections were made of all cinemas and theatres within the borough. Improvements to the sanitary accommodation at the cinemas were in a few cases effected, but in the main they were found to be very satisfactory and well maintained.

The two theatres which are of older construction had not comparable facilities and in each case the management was contacted and extensive alterations were undertaken to increase the accommodation for both male and female patrons and to incorporate suitable washing facilities.

The annexes in many cases were not aerially disconnected from the auditoriums and in these cases intervening ventilated spaces were constructed.

The artists' dressing rooms in one instance were not adequately ventilated. This was remedied by a system of artificial ventilation.

All the bars in the theatres were provided with suitable wash-ups incorporating adequate supplies of hot water from gas or electrically heated calorifiers.

6. Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises.

Section 87 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936, which requires the registration of all persons carrying on business as Hairdressers or Barbers, and of the premises used for the purpose of such business or trade, also empowers the Corporation to make Byelaws for the regulation of such premises. Byelaws made place definite responsibilities upon the person carrying on the trade, with respect to cleanliness of the premises, furniture, fittings and all appliances used; hair clippings must be swept up and placed in proper receptacles, neck wool must not be used in connection with more than one person, and all shaving appliances must be cleansed immediately before use on each person.

During the year under review, 12 applications for registration were received and subsequently the persons and premises concerned were registered. An extension to and the modernization of one of the largest hairdressing establishments in the Borough was undertaken during the year. Prior to alteration the accommodation consisted of 22 "Wet" and 11 "Dry" cubicles; this was increased to 28 "Wet" and 21 "Dry" cubicles. The department was located on the second floor of a departmental store, and the additional cubicles constructed had of necessity to project to the centre of the floor; considerable lengths of waste pipe were therefore involved. Representations were made to the Architect employed and it was decided that the wastes should be divided into four main sections, each section to be installed in 2 inch copper and to incorporate an anti-syphonage system in 1½ inch copper. In addition, it was suggested that special deep seal hairdressing traps should be fitted to each washbasin. By this system the maximum length of waste pipe to be used was less than 50 feet. The waste pipes were then discharged into a centrally situated 3 inch L.C.C. vertical shaft fixed to a main stanchion through three floors and ultimately made to discharge over a gully in

a sub-basement. The installation of a gas boiler in the main boilerhouse provided the necessary hot water to all washbasins. Large numbers of towels used in the business are maintained in a clean condition by treatment in the Stores' laundry.

The following table summarises the action taken in connection with hairdressing premises during the period under review:—

	Applications 1950.			Removed from Register during 1950	Number on Register 31/12/50
	Received	Granted	Notices Served		
Persons as Hairdresser or Barber	12	12	11	12	175
Premises	12	12	11	12	175

INSPECTION OF PREMISES.

Number of premises inspected prior to registration	...	12
Number of inspections of registered premises	...	424

SUMMARY OF IMPROVEMENTS RECORDED.

Washbasins provided	...	2
Waste pipes trapped, renewed or repaired	...	2
Drainage provided or improved	...	2
Walls, ceilings, etc., cleansed and/or redecorated	...	4
Floors cleansed	...	1
Receptacles provided for hair clippings, etc.	...	2
Sterilisation apparatus provided	...	1
Other sanitary improvements	...	3

7. Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.

During the year, 16 applications were received for entry in the Local Authority's list of persons entitled to sell poisons under Part II of the above-mentioned Act, and these were accordingly granted. Seventy persons' names were removed leaving a total of 175 on the list at the end of the year.

102 routine visits were paid to premises with respect to the sale of poisons.

8. Sanitation, Housing, etc.

The following tables summarise the inspections made, the notices served and the improvements recorded with respect to sanitation, housing, etc.

INSPECTIONS.

	Visits.	Re-visits.	Total.
Complaints received ...	—	—	2,023
Visits:—			
Dwelling Houses—			
Inspections, Housing ...	56	182	238
Overcrowding ...	42	—	42
General Repairs ...	7,418	8,604	16,022
Common Lodging Houses	118	—	118
Houses Let-in-Lodgings	2	—	2
Tents, Vans, Sheds ...	84	—	84
Places of Public			
Entertainment ...	139	—	139
Keeping of Animals ...	74	—	74
Infectious Diseases ...	279	—	279
Miscellaneous ...	4,844	—	4,844
Totals ...	13,056	8,786	21,842

NOTICES:

	Served.		Complied with.	
	Inti-mation.	Statu-tory.	Inti-mation.	Statu-tory.
Housing Acts ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	2	—	2	—
Dwelling Houses (P.H.)	1,568	881	955	676
Common Lodging				
Houses ...	—	—	—	—
Houses-Let-in-Lodgings	—	—	—	—
Places of Public				
Entertainment ...	3	—	7	—
Totals ...	1,573	881	964	676

IMPROVEMENTS RECORDED.

Drainage Work:—							
New drains laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Obstructed drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	255
Public sewers repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Obstructed public sewers cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	194
Tests made	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
Sanitary Conveniences:—							
Conversions—Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ —Pail Closets (Racecourse)	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
„ —Trough Closets (Factories)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Additional	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Separate for sexes provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Urinal accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Intervening ventilated space provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Ventilation and lighting provided or improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	199
New W.C. pedestal basins fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Miscellaneous works	...	...	...	...	...	...	594
Other Sanitary Fittings:—							
New sinks fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Additional sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Washbasins provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Other Works:—							
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	717
New eaves gutters fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	89
Eaves gutters cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
New rainwater downpipes fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Rainwater downpipes cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	137
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	220
Paving of yards and passages	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses cleansed—dirty	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
—verminous	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Cooking facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous works	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,719
Keeping of Animals:—							
Removal of manure	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Piggeries discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

9. Fumigation, Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Fumigation with hydrogen cyanide was carried out by a firm of specialist contractors at a flour and provender mill situated within the borough.

This process is carried out annually and is employed chiefly to destroy the Mediterranean Mill Moth, the larvae of which spin fine webs in the milling machinery and cause obstructions to the flow of flour.

A duty is imposed upon every person undertaking fumigations of this nature to notify the Medical Officer of Health of his intention to proceed in order that a Sanitary Inspector may visit and ascertain that all necessary precautions are taken during the process. Notifications in writing were received in this instance, and the fumigation was ultimately carried out satisfactorily.

A request was received for the disinfection of a parcel of clothing before its despatch abroad. The clothing was disinfected and a free from infection certificate issued.

Demands with respect to the treatment of bedding and personal clothing have resulted in the treatment of the articles by steam disinfection at the Corporation's Steam Disinfector. In almost every case the cost of the treatment was recovered by the Corporation.

The following table summarises the action taken during the year:—

Articles Steam Disinfected:—

Mattresses	...	...	...	...	...	40
Blankets	...	...	...	...	...	75
Pillows	...	...	...	...	...	23
Quilts	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sheets	...	...	...	...	...	22
Rugs	...	...	...	...	...	8
Personal Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	160
Miscellaneous articles	...	...	...	...	...	48

Articles Sprayed:—

Blankets	...	...	...	...	...	48
No. of Rooms Sprayed	...	...	...	...	...	22
No. of Rooms Fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	135
No. of other Buildings Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	12

Vermin Destruction:—

No. of Rooms Sprayed	...	...	...	...	...	123
No. of Rooms Fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	73
No. of Library Books Fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	163

10. Atmospheric Pollution.

Efforts to obtain a cleaner atmosphere have been vigorously maintained during the year. A major step in this direction was the passing of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1950. The Act operated from 1st July, 1950, and gives the Local Authority power to set up smokeless zones, that is, areas in which the emission of smoke will be prohibited, and provision is also made for prior approval of furnaces for steam raising or manufacturing purposes. By virtue of this Act, the Corporation have power to introduce district heating schemes and the operation of such schemes should result in less fuel being burnt in the premises served.

In connection with the presentation of the Wolverhampton Corporation Bill to Parliament, a survey of the central area of the town was carried out and a typical specimen smokeless zone defined. A detailed analysis was made of all apparatus consuming fuel within the zone and the quantities and type of fuel ascertained. It was found that there was already a trend towards the use of smokeless appliances, both as regards the fuels used and the apparatus in use.

Smoke Abatement. In an industrial area such as Wolverhampton, there are many and varied installations from which smoke is emitted. The term "smoke" includes soot, ash, grit and gritty particles, emitted from an installation in which fuel is burnt.

During the year, 140 observations were carried out, some as the result of complaints, but most of them as a routine measure. Twenty-two of these observations indicated an excessive amount of smoke and in each case the premises concerned were visited and the plant inspected.

In a number of instances, improved methods of firing or disposal of waste material effected an immediate reduction in the amount of smoke. From fourteen premises the emission of smoke was particularly heavy, and informal or statutory notices for abatement of the nuisances were served in respect

of six of these cases. At the remaining eight premises, work which would abate or reduce the nuisance was in hand or projected. The smoke abatement provisions in the Public Health Act, 1936, may not be exercised so as to obstruct or interfere with certain specified processes and several of the more serious nuisances already mentioned originated from these processes.

Grit from cupolas, and dust from pulverised fuel burning plant caused nuisances in some localities, but in each case arrangements had already been made for work to be carried out and the nuisances should ultimately be abated.

Most of the fuel used in industrial apparatus is in the form of bituminous coal, and in many instances the excessive smoke is due to inefficient hand firing. There is a trend to automatic stoking, mainly on the grounds of economy. An automatic stoker properly adjusted and maintained, usually results in a considerable reduction, often for practical purposes, the virtual elimination of smoke.

During the year under review, smoke has been reduced to negligible proportions in each case where installations have been provided with automatic apparatus. One installation has proved so satisfactory that other similar furnaces are to be modified in the same manner.

Other alterations and repairs to furnaces etc., have been carried out during the year, resulting in a reduction in the amount of smoke emitted.

Droplets due to the condensation of water vapour emitted from a cooling tower have for some time been a source of nuisance to the occupiers of premises in the vicinity. At the direction of the General Purposes Committee a detailed survey was made and the nature and extent of the nuisance ascertained.

It is understood that modifications are contemplated to reduce the emission of water vapour and so eliminate the cause of the nuisance.

Measurement of Pollution. This Authority in common with many others, carries out investigations to determine the degree of atmospheric pollution in the area.

Polluting matter in the atmosphere consists of grit particles which fall to the ground near their point of origin; fine suspended particles in the form of smoke, and gases.

Solid matter which falls to the ground is collected in gauges specially designed for the purpose by the Department of Industrial and Scientific Research, to whom the results of all investigations are submitted. Two such gauges are in use in the Borough, one at the Public Abattoir, Cleveland Road, and one in Bantock Park. The results indicate that the deposit during 1950 amounted to 108.59 tons per square mile at Bantock Park, whilst at the Public Abattoir the deposit was 269.96 tons per square mile. This latter figure represents an annual deposit of three and one-eighth ounces per square yard.

The concentration of smoke in the atmosphere is ascertained by the separation of fine suspended particles from the air by means of a smoke filter installed at the Health Department. Results are obtained as a daily average and expressed in milligrams per cubic metre. The concentration had a seasonable variation. In January it was 0.1495 milligrams per cubic metre, whilst in July the figure was 0.0119 milligrams per cubic metre.

Gases are produced during the process of combustion, and of these, sulphur compounds are particularly objectionable. The acids formed by their dissolution in water have a very destructive effect on building fabrics, plant life, etc. Two types of apparatus have been installed in different parts of the borough to measure the concentration of sulphurous gases in the atmosphere.

One method by which these gases are measured is based on their reaction with lead peroxide applied to a specially prepared surface. The apparatus used in this method is located at the following premises:—

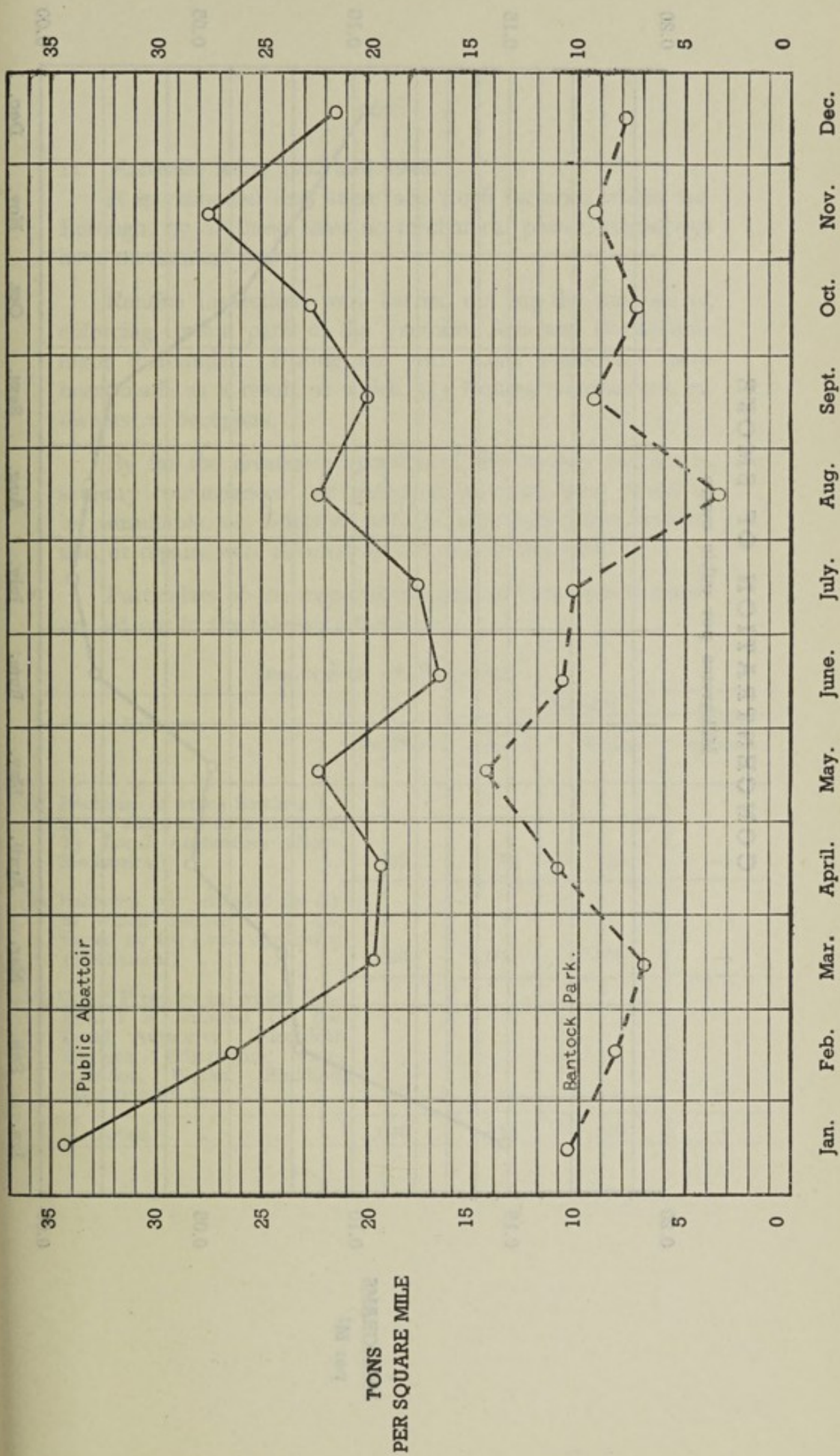
Oxley Park Golf Course, Stafford Road.
Transport Department, Park Lane.
Public Abattoir, Cleveland Road.
Borough Engineer's Department, Legge Street.
Bantock Park, Bradmore.

The coating of the exposed surfaces is analysed monthly and the results expressed as the weight of SO_3 collected in milligrams per 100 sq. centimetres per day; this figure represents the daily average during the month. The results vary with the seasons, in the worst period during the winter the concentration is four times as heavy as that during the best period of the summer.

Sulphur dioxide was also measured at the Health Department, by the volumetric method. By this means the day to day variations in the concentration of SO_2 were recorded, and the results indicated that the winter concentration was four times that obtaining during the summer.

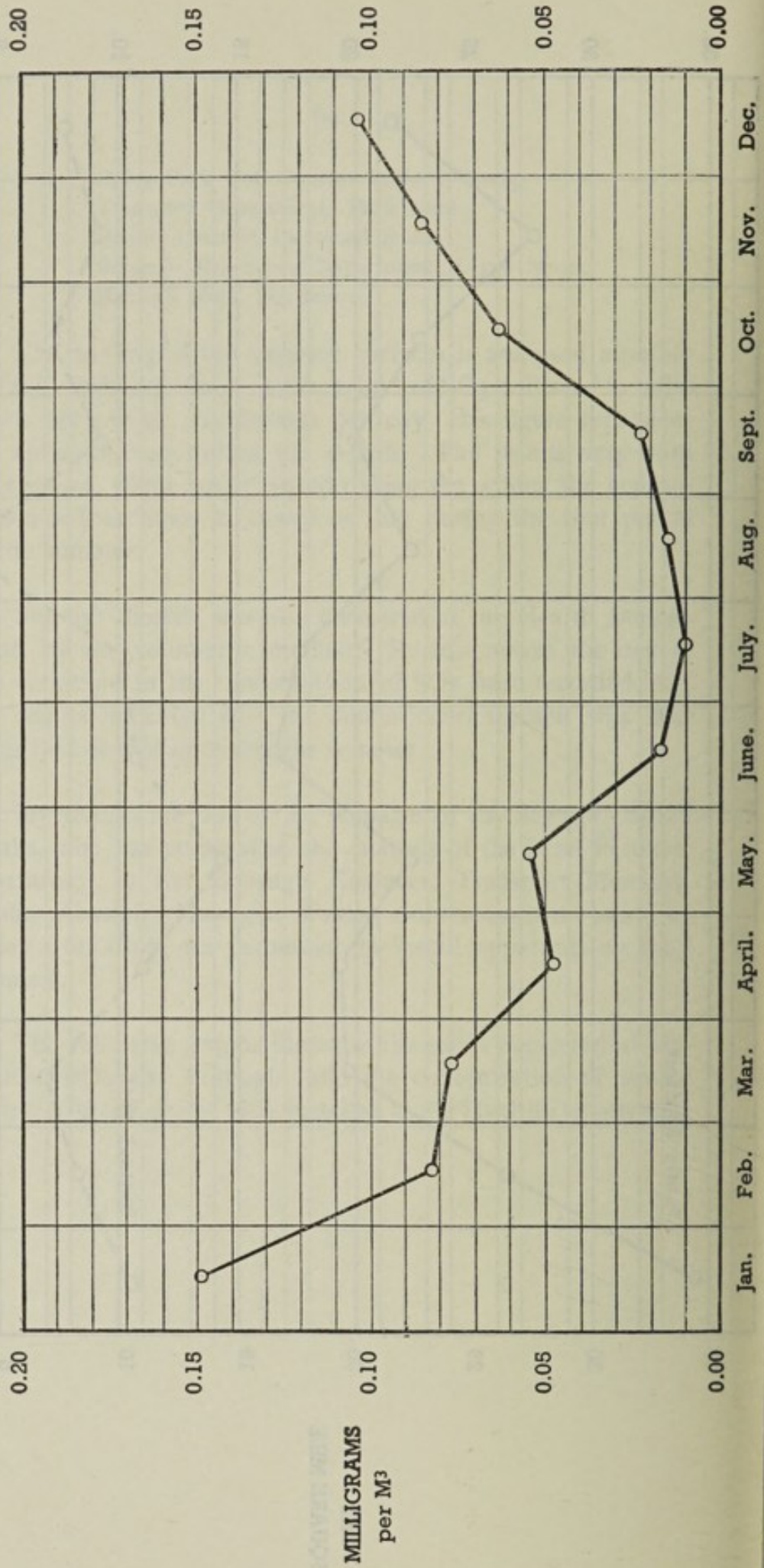
My thanks are due to the Manager of the Sewage Outfall Works, who has undertaken the analysis of the Lead Peroxide apparatus; to the Borough Engineer, Transport Manager, Public Abattoir Manager, Parks Superintendent and the Oxley Golf Club, for permission to install apparatus on their premises.

The following graphs illustrate the solids deposited at two points within the Borough, and the concentration of smoke recorded by the smoke filter installed at the Health Department.



CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE

Milligrams per cubic metre



11. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

It is estimated that there are 1,035 factories within the Borough, 97 of these have no mechanical power, whilst 939 have mechanical power.

Routine inspections were carried out for the purpose of enforcing certain parts of the Factories Acts and Regulations made thereunder. During the year, 1,044 inspections have been made as a result of which 313 Notices were served on owners or occupiers.

By far the greatest proportion of the Notices referred to sanitary conveniences. At 300 premises these were found to be unsuitable or defective and in 172 cases improvements and/or repairs were effected by the end of the year.

Particulars of the inspections made and the defects found are set out in the following tables:—

Inspections of Factories.

Premises.	No. on Register.	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Prose- cutions.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities (Non-Mechanical)	97	37	10	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Mechanical)	939	1,007	303	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Electrical Stations, Engineering Construction Works, Building Operations)	60	—	—	—
Totals	1,096	1,044	313	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which Prosecutions Instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred.		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	10	9	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient ...	8	4	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	300	172	—	28	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	1	—	2	—
Other offences against the Act	28	24	22	4	—
Totals ...	348	210	22	37	—

Outworkers: Lists of Outworkers received during 1950.

Description of Homework.	No. of Outworkers.	
	February.	August.
Making, repairing or altering of wearing apparel	8	6

12. Canal Boats.

The duties of inspection and examination of Canal Boats within the district devolve upon the Chief Sanitary Inspector and two Assistant Inspectors.

Situated within this area are the junctions of three canals, namely, the Shropshire Union Canal, the Birmingham Canal and the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal. Since nationalisation these are all controlled by the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive, who now own most of the boats plying on these canals.

As Wolverhampton is situated on the main route from Birmingham to Manchester and the North West, boat traffic is comparatively heavy. Within the area is a British Waterways Depot, a boat dock, and facilities for boats to tie up when not working. As a result, there is usually a number of boats in the area, and routine inspections are made at frequent intervals.

During 1950, 189 boats were inspected; these were occupied by a total of 491 persons, of which 181 were children.

As a result of these inspections, 72 infringements of the Public Health Act, Canal Boats Act and Regulations were found. Twenty-five of these related to the Registration Certificates which were either torn, not being carried on the boat, or incorrect.

Of the remaining infringements, thirteen were due to defective painting. The Regulations obtaining require the interior of Canal Boat cabins to be painted every three years, but docking facilities are proving inadequate.

An analysis of the infringements found is detailed in the following table:—

Certificates (absence of or defective)	25
Marking of Boats	5
Overcrowding	3
Painting, (defective or overdue)	13
Water Vessels (absence of or defective)	3
Cabins leaking	18
Dilapidations	5
Total	72

Thirty-five of the Notices served were not complied with at the end of the year.

13. Rats and Mice Destruction.

At the beginning of the year, the destruction of rats and mice was continued in accordance with the scheme laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and adopted by the Council for the financial year, 1949/50.

On the 31st March, 1950, the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into force; this Act repealed the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The Ministry decided to make grants to local authorities in respect of their expenditure under Part I of this new Act. Under the scheme, subject to local authorities fulfilling the conditions laid down, grants may be made equal to one half of the expenditure incurred by them in the performance of their functions, so far as not recovered thereunder.

The Council again decided that no charge should be made for treatment carried out at private dwellings, except when it is done in default of a notice under Section 4; in such an instance, costs should be recovered in full from the householder as it is not the Minister's intention that any part of the cost of treating premises, where the owner or occupier is unco-operative, should fall on public funds. In actual fact, during the year there has been continued co-operation from this source, and it has not been necessary to take action of this latter nature.

Local authority properties, including sewage disposal works, refuse tips, refuse destructors, markets, abattoir, civic restaurants and schools, were treated whenever necessary. Under the new scheme, expenditure incurred in treatment of premises, occupied or maintained by the local authority for the purposes of trade, does not rank for grant-aid. Sewer maintenance treatments, in accordance with the methods of the Ministry, were applied on two occasions, bait bases and poisons being alternated.

As previously, grant-aid is not available in respect of expenditure incurred in treatment of infestations at commercial and industrial premises, and such expenditure has to be fully reimbursed. During the year, agreements were signed by the occupiers of factories, cinemas, food premises and various types of shops and stores for the services of the rodent operatives. The necessary treatments were carried out, and the expenditure subsequently recovered.

The local authority is instructed to furnish an annual report to the Ministry, who have drawn up a standard form for the purpose.

The main method employed in the destruction of rats and mice was, of course, the use of poison after preliminary pre-baiting. (During the year, the Ministry recommended that Alpha-naphthyl-thiourea should be added to the list of available poisons, but that it should not be used for general sewer treatments. This poison will, therefore, always be available for use in dealing with any surface infestation in the treatment of which the laying of any other recommended poison baits is undesirable because they may have recently been used). A subsidiary method employed, especially in dealing with mice, was the use of "Dak" (a sticky substance). Traps were used with success on certain occasions, while ferrets proved very effective in some circumstances for the purpose of the destruction of rats.

SUMMARY, 1950.

	No. of Premises Visited.	Total No. Of Visits Paid,	By Poison Baits.		No. Killed by			Grand Total Account- ed for.
			Esti- mated Kill.	No. of Bodies re- covered.	Traps.	Dak.	Ferrets.	
Private Dwellings :								
Rats Destruction ...	334	1406	691	168	6	—	191	888
Mice Destruction ...	177	793	1039	513	—	67	—	1106
Local Authority Premises :								
Rats Destruction ...	36	241	405	114	—	—	254	659
Mice Destruction ...	18	68	261	102	—	23	—	284
Business Premises:								
Rats Destruction ...	69	615	534	144	44	16	21	615
Mice Destruction ...	33	210	686	298	—	45	—	731
Totals—								
Rats Destruction ..	439	2262	1630	426	50	16	466	2162
Mice Destruction ...	228	1071	1986	913	—	135	—	2121

SECTION V.

1. Housing—Clearance Schemes.

The two Clearance Schemes initiated before the war but not yet completed are the Moseley Village (No. 1) Clearance Area comprising 174 houses and the Dale Street (No. 1) Clearance Area comprising 374 houses.

At the end of the year the number of houses still remaining to be dealt with to clear these two Areas were as follows:—

		Coloured "Pink"	Coloured "Grey"
Moseley Village (No. 1) Clearance Area	...	21	1
Dale Street (No. 1) Clearance Area	...	129	20

2. Individual unfit Houses.

The Council have continued their activities under Sections 11 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, and certain progress was made during the year with regard to Demolition Orders being carried into effect.

The following details constitute an analysis of the action taken under this Part of the Act, together with the results obtained during the year now under consideration.

Inspections:—

Section 11 ... 238

Represented to Committee:—

Section 11 ... 56

Orders Made:—

Section 11 (Demolition) ... 36

„ 11 (Undertakings not to use for human habitation accepted) ... 1

Houses Demolished:—

Section 11 ... 10

Persons Displaced:—

Section 11 ... 32

Houses Voluntarily Demolished:— ... 1

3. Summary of Houses dealt with.

Year	Statute	No. Houses Repres- ented.	No. Closing Orders made.	Demol- ition Orders made.	No. Houses Closed	No. Demol- ished.	Statutory Under- takings accepted	Complied with.	Closing Orders Deter- mined.
1950	1936 Act	56	—	36	—	10	1	—	—
Totals	1925 Act	95	95	31	95	87	—	—	—
	1930 Act	1,072	49	916	49	*804	88	88	39
	1936 Act	1,675	25	1,203	25	1,110	279	247	3
Totals under various Statutes		2,842	169	2,150	169	2,001	367	335	42

*These figures include 4 houses which were demolished before Demolition Orders could be served.

4. General.

At the present time approximately 5,800 houses await action under the Housing Acts in addition to 171 houses still remaining to be dealt with in the Moseley Village (No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order and Dale Street (No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order.

These consist of some 70 houses remaining in the Dale Street Compulsory Purchase Orders and Clearance Areas not confirmed by the Minister, 2,184 in 36 other areas included in the Council's Slum Clearance Programme in 1938 and 3,550 other low standard properties.

It will be seen that on the present allocation of new houses devoted to slum clearance, 50 per annum, it would take over 100 years to deal with the present register of low standard properties.

Many of these houses are completely worn out and it is felt that the desirability of making an increased allocation of houses for slum clearance should be considered at an early date.

SECTION VI.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. Meat Inspection.

Public Abattoir. The Staff at the Abattoir comprises one full-time Inspector and one part-time Clerk.

During the year the services of two Sanitary Inspectors have been available in rotation, when required, principally during the peak period of killing.

The Abattoir is the Ministry of Food slaughtering centre and distributing depot for an area which includes one county borough, three boroughs, 6 urban districts and 1 rural district. The population served from the Abattoir is approximately 400,000, and the value of the meat and offals supplied averages £30,000 weekly.

Meat and offals condemned during the year amounted to 370 tons 17 cwts. 0 qrs. 13 lbs. This is the highest total recorded and is 141 tons 7 cwts. 0 qrs. 27 lbs. above last year's total. The amount condemned is made up of 133 tons 18 cwts. 2 qrs. 23 lbs. of meat and 236 tons 18 cwts. 1 qr. 18 lbs. of offals. Condemned meat shows an increase of 49 tons 11 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs. over last year and offals an increase of 91 tons 15 cwts. 3 qrs. 15 lbs.

The increases are distributed as follows:—

Meat affected with Tuberculosis:—

1950	...	89 tons	16 cwts	3 qrs.	27 lbs.
1949	...	56 "	6 "	2 "	15 "
		33 "	10 "	1 "	12 "

Meat affected with other diseases:—

1950	...	44 tons	1 cwt.	2 qrs.	24 lbs.
1949	...	28 "	0 "	2 "	24 "
		16 "	1 "	0 "	0 "

Offals affected with Tuberculosis:—

1950	...	159 tons	15 cwts.	2 qrs.	14 lbs.
1949	...	92 "	0 "	2 "	18 "
		67 "	14 "	3 "	24 "

Offals affected with other diseases:—

1950	...	77 tons	2 cwts.	3 qrs.	4 lbs.
1949	...	53 "	1 "	3 "	13 "
		24 "	0 "	3 "	19 "

Animals slaughtered during the year numbered 104,882 against 91,845 last year. The increase is 13,037.

The following table gives the increase among the various animals slaughtered:—

	Cattle (other than cows)	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Goats.
1950	14,025	8,712	21,103	54,731	5,973	338
1949	9,562	6,354	19,475	52,986	3,266	202
	4,463	2,358	1,628	1,745	2,707	136

Of the 14,025 cattle (other than cows) slaughtered, 27 were wholly condemned for generalised tuberculosis, and 7 on account of other diseases. 333 cows were wholly condemned for generalised tuberculosis and 139 for other diseases, from the total of 8,712.

Compared with last year, the percentage increase or decrease in the number of animals showing disease is as follows:—

	Cattle.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.
All diseases except tuberculosis	-4.27	+5.27	+0.06	+0.06	-0.35
Tuberculosis only	-1.14	+4.57	-0.05	—	+0.94

The evidence of tuberculosis as found in cattle and in cows during the past 10 years is given below. The figures indicate infection wherever found and in whatever degree.

Year.	Cattle examined.	Percentage affected with tuberculosis.	Cows examined.	Percentage affected with tuberculosis.
1941	10,632	13.04%	4,426	41.52%
1942	7,487	11.96%	4,645	52.93%
1943	10,663	14.12%	4,850	64.45%
1944	11,815	14.66%	6,539	62.57%
1945	16,868	17.25%	5,892	59.16%
1946	12,463	16.28%	6,548	55.55%
1947	10,519	13.43%	7,315	49.42%
1948	11,015	10.21%	5,824	54.07%
1949	9,562	9.88%	6,354	52.86%
1950	14,025	8.52%	8,712	56.47%

Under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order 1938—1946, 32 cows were slaughtered during the year. 9 cows were condemned as being affected with advanced tuberculosis. Of the 32 cows slaughtered 2 were from farms situated in the Borough. The inspections were carried out in collaboration with the Veterinary Inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Inspections for *Cysticercus Bovis* have been carried out in all cattle and cows during the year. 34 animals showed evidence of infection—27 bullocks and heifers and 7 cows. No case of generalised *cysticercus bovis* was found. Where the cyst was present, suspected offals were destroyed and the carcase removed to the Cold Storage Depot at Birmingham, on instructions from the Ministry of Food.

Of the meat (in carcase form) and offals submitted for inspection, which were received from premises outside the Borough 2 tons 3 cwt. 3 qrs. 25 lbs. of meat and 17 cwt. 0 qrs. 21 lbs. of offals were destroyed. The amount condemned suggests that the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, Part II, 8(2) regarding notification of slaughter and of diseased conditions have not been complied with.

Private Slaughterhouse. At one private slaughterhouse in the borough, 7,382 pigs were slaughtered, an increase of 453 over last year. At these premises 1 ton 8 cwt. 0 qrs. 2 lbs. of meat and 1 ton 3 cwt. 0 qrs. 1 lb. of offals were condemned. Condemnation was mainly on account of tuberculosis. 255 pigs showed some evidence of disease and 6 were wholly condemned.

Cold Stores. Of imported meat inspected in Cold Stores 1 ton 9 cwt. 2 qr. 0 lbs. were condemned. From one consignment of sheep and lamb carcasses which were affected with Black-spot mould, one carcase was wholly condemned, and in 87 carcasses extensive trimming was necessary, the weight of the carcase and trimmings amounting to 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 22 lbs.

138 tins of corned beef and 25 tins of corned mutton were condemned on account of mould, rust or blown tins.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Private Slaughter- house. Pigs.
Number killed	14,025	8,712	21,103	54,731	5,973	7,382
Number inspected	14,025	8,712	21,103	54,731	5,973	7,382
All diseases except T.B. Whole carcases condemned	7	139	119	107	35	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,985	4,902	89	3,325	117	14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	14.13	57.86	0.98	6.27	3.54	0.28
T.B. only. Whole carcases condemned	27	333	5	—	7	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,178	4,587	2	—	303	246
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	8.52	56.47	0.02	—	5.20	3.34

2. Improvements and renovations at the Public Abattoir.

Representations were made to the Markets Committee with reference to the contraventions at these premises of the various statutes obtaining, and in consequence the following work was undertaken and completed during the year under review:—

- a. The re-arrangement of the distribution of carcases in the Cooling Hall so as to prevent soiling by contact with the floor.
- b. The provision of washbasins properly drained; provided with constant supplies of hot and cold water and situated so that they are readily accessible to all persons engaged in slaughtering and meat handling.
- c. Increased urinal accommodation for male employees.

- d. The proper screening of the W.C's and urinals provided in the office building and in the annexe adjoining the Canteen for male employees.
- e. The use of the Canteen bathroom annexe as a food store was discontinued and a separate ventilated food store constructed.
- f. The provision of hot water supplies to the annexes used by the male employees in the office block.
- g. The replacement of all broken and worn glazed brick-work to the walls of the slaughterhouses.
- h. The provision of W.C. accommodation and washing facilities for the female employees in the office block.
- i. The provision of metal tables for use by the meat inspectors and the installation of improved artificial lighting at points where meat inspection is undertaken.

In addition, attention was drawn to the inadequacy of the water supplies to the lairages. The remedying of this matter is at present receiving consideration.

3. Unsound food condemned and destroyed—food shops.

The undermentioned articles of food were examined during the year under review and were either voluntarily surrendered or officially seized and subsequently destroyed:—

Bacon and Ham	...	...	1 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	1 cwt. 2 qrs. 4 lbs.
Fish	...	...	18 cwts. 0 qrs. 12½ lbs.
Fruit	...	...	3 qrs. 13½ lbs.
Meat	...	...	2 cwts. 1 qr. 27 lbs.
Miscellaneous Articles	...	...	7 cwts. 2 qrs. 23 lbs.
Total weight	...	...	1 ton 12 cwts. 0 qrs. 16 lbs.

4. Milk Supply.

During the year, the Register of dairies and distributors under the Milk and Dairies Regulations was completed.

The great bulk of the milk supply in the Borough consists of sterilised and pasteurised bottled milk. There are now only six small dairies within the Borough retailing loose milk. Their supplies are drawn from the larger dairies and consist of bulk pasteurised milk. The amount of loose pasteurised milk sold is very small and it is anticipated that within the near future the retail sale of loose milk will cease altogether. There are several producer retailers within the Borough but these do not come under the control and supervision of the Local Authority.

There are four dairies in the Borough licenced for the pasteurising and sterilising of milk. All have modern plant installed for the processing of milk and for the incidental processes of washing and filling bottles. Close supervision is given to the processing of milk by frequent routine visits and plant inspection at the dairies and routine sampling of the milk and milk bottles for bacteriological examination. The number of unsatisfactory results obtained from these examinations were comparatively very few and the milk supply of the Borough may be considered to be a satisfactory one.

In one large dairy where the boilerhouse communicated with the part of the dairy into which the milk supplies were received, action was taken which resulted in the erection of a brick wall so as to disconnect the boilerhouse from the dairy.

Dairies and Milkshops. During the year, 142 applications were received with respect to registration and for the issue of the necessary licences, which were subsequently granted.

REGISTRATIONS.							
Number of Persons and Firms on Register	...	...	...	...	...	...	533
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Bottled Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	477
Dairies outside Borough retailing milk within	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Retail Purveyors	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Persons registered to sell loose milk at Dairies, Milkshops, or on rounds	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Dealers, Sterilisers and Pasteurisers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Licences:—							
Tuberculin Tested:—							
To bottle and sell	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
To sell only	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised):—							
To bottle and sell	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
To sell only	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pasteurised:—							
To bottle and sell	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
To sell only	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Accredited:—							
To bottle and sell	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
To sell only	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
VISITS AND NOTICES.							
Visits:—							
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	769
Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Notices:—							
Intimation	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Statutory	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Improvements Recorded:—							
Cleansed—Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Drainage:—							
Provided or improved	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

SAMPLES.

Class of Milk.	No. Samples Taken.	Appropriate Tests.	Passed.	Failed.
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	8	Methylene Blue	8	—
Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	11	Methylene Blue	10	1
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	119	Phosphatase	118	1
		Methylene Blue	112	3
		Coliform	1	—
Pasteurised	177	Phosphatase	175	2
		Methylene Blue	169	8
Sterilised	135	Turbidity	135	—

5. Ice Cream.

On the whole a satisfactory standard of hygiene was maintained during the year in manufacturing and retail establishments. The improvements recorded include the installation of additional machinery and equipment, new and larger cold storage accommodation, and in one case, the discarding of roller towels in favour of a hand drier of the hot-air type.

Seventy-seven applications for registration for the sale of ice-cream, two for the manufacture of ice-lollies and one for the manufacture of ice-cream were received and approved. It is of interest to note that the seventy-seven premises registered for the sale of ice-cream dealt only with the wrapped product. The total number of premises now registered for manufacture and sale are 17 and 178 respectively.

Methylene Blue Test. The number of samples taken for submission to the Methylene Blue Test was 163 as compared with 99 for the previous year. The progress recorded in the previous year has been fully maintained, as the following comparative tables show. Of 24 "complete cold mix" samples taken, 20 were placed in grade 1, 2 in grade 2, 2 in grade 3, and none in grade 4.

Chemical Analysis. Samples taken for Chemical Analysis numbered 145 as compared with 103 in 1949. The average fat content was 10.43% as compared with 9.64% for the previous year.

In addition to the above, 31 chocolate bars were taken for analysis and showed an average fat content of 20.31%.

**Summary of results of Methylene Blue Test applied to samples
taken during the years (a) 1949 (b) 1950.**

Year.	Total No. of Samples Taken.	PROVISIONAL GRADE.			
		1	2	3	4
1949	99	45 45.45%	23 23.23%	19 19.19%	12 12.12%
1950	163	86 52.76%	40 24.54%	28 17.18%	9 5.52%

(a) Ice Cream Manufactured within the Borough.

Year.	Total No. of Samples Taken.	PROVISIONAL GRADE.			
		1	2	3	4
1949	53	21 39.62%	13 24.53%	12 22.64%	7 13.21%
1950	76	42 55.26%	16 21.05%	12 15.79%	6 7.90%

(b) Ice Cream Manufactured outside the Borough.

Year.	Total No. of Samples Taken.	PROVISIONAL GRADE.			
		1	2	3	4
1949	46	24 52.17%	10 21.74%	7 15.22%	5 10.87%
1950	87	45 51.72%	23 26.44%	16 18.39%	3 3.45%

6. Synthetic Cream.

Two samples of synthetic cream submitted to the Methylene Blue Test were reported as satisfactory.

7. Ice-Lollies.

The popularity of the ice-lollies was reflected in the increased sales. Apart from the locally made brands a large number of other varieties were obtainable.

Though considerable doubt seems to exist as to the extent to which the Food and Drugs Act and the Heat Treatment Regulations apply to the manufacture of ice-lollies it was decided by the Health Committee in 1949, that such premises should be registered under Sec. 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938; a timely decision as subsequent events proved.

At one time the proprietors of almost every shop housing a refrigerator decided to manufacture, and in some cases refrigerators were purchased specially. Premises on the whole were unsatisfactory, washing and sterilising facilities were totally inadequate and standard equipment non-existent. The "mix" sometimes consisted of fruit cordial with water but more often than not mineral water alone was frozen. Egg cups were used as moulds and the sticks were made from packing cases and in some instances from firewood.

Registration checked further expansion of these methods of manufacture and resulted in the required standard being attained in three of the shops. It is of paramount importance that premises used for the manufacture of ice-lollies receive supervision as strict as that exercised over premises used for the manufacture of ice-cream; in the absence of registration this would prove extremely difficult.

8. Ice Cream, etc. Preparing Premises.

The following table summarises the improvements recorded and the notices served.

Premises removed from the Register:—						
(a) For Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	—
(b) For Sale	...	...	...	...	...	17
Inspections of:—						
Manufacturers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	377
Vendors' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	701
Purveyors' Vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	2
Analysis of Improvements Recorded:—						
Walls, ceilings, etc., cleansed and/or redecorated						2
Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired	...	...				2
Storage accommodation improved	...	...				2
Sufficient supply of hot water provided	...	...				7
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...				33
Notices.						
Intimation	...	...	...	...	Served.	Complied.
Statutory	...	...	...	...	13	10
					—	—

9. Sampling.

During the year 413 samples of food and drugs were taken for analysis by the Public Analyst, consisting of 195 formal samples and 218 informal samples. Fifty-four samples (13.1%) consisting of 32 formal and 22 informal samples were found to be non-genuine or bearing an unsatisfactory label or description.

Of the 165 samples of milk taken for analysis, 42 (25.45%) consisting of 27 formal samples and 15 informal samples were found to be below the prescribed standard. Of these, 31 samples (18.78%) consisting of 19 formal samples and 12 informal samples were found to contain extraneous water varying from 4% to 20% and 11 samples (6.66%) were reported to be deficient of fat in amounts varying from 3% to 23%. The fact that 31 samples were found to contain added water would appear to be serious but these samples concerned three producers only. In no case was a sample of milk taken on retail sale found to contain added water. Proceedings were instituted in each case, one producer being fined £6 and £1 1s. od. costs, in a second case a fine of £3 on each of two summonses was inflicted with £16 10s. od. costs, and in a third case the producer was fined £10 on each of five summonses, a total of £50, with special costs of £7 7s. od. In three instances, samples of milk taken from retailers were found to be deficient in fat. In each case follow up samples were taken at the farms supplying the retailers and were found to be deficient in fat showing that the deficiency was a natural

one. The producers concerned were advised on action to be taken to improve the quality of the milk yielded by their herd.

Of the food samples other than milk no case of serious adulteration was found.

A sample of Gelatine contained sugar equal to 10% Dextrose which was not declared on the label. The manufacturers were communicated with and the label was withdrawn.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938: Summary of Samples taken 1950.

Article.	Number Examined.			Number Adulterated.		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Aspirin		2	2			
Baking Powder ...		2	2			
Beer	7		7			
Beverages		2	2			
Bicarbonate of Soda ...		1	1		1	1
Borax		1	1			
Brandy	1		1			
Cake & Pudding Mixtures		11	11			
Castor Oil		1	1			
Cereals		6	6			
Cheese		2	2			
Cloves		1	1			
Coffee		1	1			
Coffee & Chicory ...		7	7			
Crystallised Fruit ...	1		1			
Dried Fruit		6	6			
Epsom Salts		1	1			
Fish Paste		3	3			
Gelatine	2	2	4	2	2	4
Gin	1		1			
Jam		20	20			
Jellies	1	13	14	1	1	1
Lemon Cheese	1	9	10		2	2
Marmalade		8	8			
Medicinal Paraffin ...		2	2			
Milk	129	36	165	27	15	42
Milk "Appeal to Cow"		12	12			
Milk F.C. Condensed ...		2	2			
Milk of Magnesia ...		1	1			
Miscellaneous		22	22			
Mustard		1	1			
Nutmegs		2	2			
Olive Oil		3	3			
Pepper	1	2	3			
Pepper Compound ...		5	5			
Rum	7	1	8			
Salad Cream	1	5	6	1	1	2
Sauces		17	17			
Sausage	31		31	1		1
Synthetic Cream ...		3	3			
Vinegar, malt		5	5			
Whisky	12		12			
Totals	195	218	413	32	22	54

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Administrative Action Taken Regarding Samples Reported not to be Genuine During the Year Ending 31st December, 1950.

No. of Sample.	Article of Food.	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity.	Legal Proceedings		Observations
				Fine Inflicted £. s. d.	Costs imposed £. s. d.	
7	Milk	Informal	Extraneous water 9%.			} See No. 11.
8	Milk	Informal	" " 5%.			
11	Milk	Formal	{ " " 10.5%.			} From same producer.
12	Milk	Formal	Deficient of fat 8%.	6 0 0	1 1 0	
15	Gelatine	Formal	Extraneous water 10.5%.			} See sample No. 88.
18		Informal	Contained 7% sugar not declared on label			
20	Milk	Informal	Extraneous water 4%.			} From same producer.
21	Milk	Informal	" " 7%.			
22	Milk	Informal	" " 7%.			
23	Milk	Informal	" " 4.5%.			
24	Milk	Formal	" " 11.7%.			
27	Milk	Formal	" " 11.7%.			
28	Milk	Formal	" " 9.4%.			
29	Milk	Formal	" " 14.1%.			
30	Milk	Formal	" " 12.9%.	3 0 0	16 10 0	
31	Milk	Formal	" " 13.5%.			
32	Milk	Formal	" " 13.5%.			
33	Milk	Formal	" " 4.10%.			
35	Milk	Formal	" " 10.0%.			
36	Milk	Formal	" " 12.30%.			
38	Milk	Formal	" " 5.8%.	3 0 0	---	
75	Milk	Formal	" " 20.0%.			
76	Milk	Formal	Deficient of fat 13%.			} Further samples taken and found genuine.
77	Milk	Formal	" " 23%.			
87	Beef Sausage	Formal	" " 10%.			} Vendor cautioned.
88	Gelatine	Formal	Deficient of meat 12%.			
		Formal	Contained sugar equivalent to 10% Dextrose not declared			Letter sent to manufacturer.

127	Milk	Formal	Percent of fat	0%.	Samples taken at farm. See samples Nos. 161 and 162.
153	Milk	Formal	"	6%.	
161	Milk	Formal	"	10%.	
162	Milk	Formal	"	10%.	
180	Lemon Cheese	Informal	Deficient of 2% of the required amount of soluble solids.		Samples taken from farm. Formal sample. genuine.
208	Strawberry Jam	Informal	Deficient of 4.6% of the required amount of soluble solids.		
141	Salad Cream	Informal	Contained only 0.2% Egg Yolk.		
214	Salad Cream	Formal	Egg Yolk content 0.3% instead of 1.35%.		
215	Table Gelatine	Informal	Deficient of 17% of sugar.		See sample No. 214. Article withdrawn from sale.
252	Milk	Informal	Extraneous water 10%.		
253	Milk	Informal	"	15%.	
254	Milk	Informal	"	9%.	
255	Milk	Informal	"	4.7%.	Samples taken from same producer.
256	Milk	Informal	"	13%.	
257	Milk	Informal	"	10%.	
264	Milk	Formal	Extraneous water 12%.	10 0 0	
265	Milk	Formal	"	13%.	Letters of warning sent to vendors by Town Clerk.
266	Milk	Formal	"	12%.	
267	Milk	Formal	"	7.7%.	
268	Milk	Formal	"	7.40%.	
295	Table Gelatine	Formal	Total sugars 47.5%. Deficient of total sugars 15.5%.	10 0 0	"Appeal to Cow" samples deficient of fat. Article withdrawn from sale.
303	Table Jelly	Formal	Total sugars 50%. Deficient of total sugars 13%.	10 0 0	
379	Milk	Formal	Deficient of fat 16%.	10 0 0	
396	Bicarbonate of Soda—B.P.	Informal	Contained an excessive amount of insoluble matter.	10 0 0	

10. Catering Establishments.

Regular routine inspection of hotels, restaurants, cafes, Civic Restaurants, school kitchens, etc., has been carried out during the year and many improvements such as the provision of additional sinks, hot water supplies, improved washing and toilet accommodation for staff, refrigerated storage for food, re-laying of floors, tiling of walls and the replacement of worn out equipment have been carried out.

A number of restaurants have installed dish washing machines. Where these are not installed it is desirable that there should be at least two sinks with hot and cold water supplies, the first for utensil cleansing and the second for utensil rinsing. The water in the rinsing sink should be hot enough to render cloth drying of utensils unnecessary. Special attention has been given to this problem and also to the provision of full facilities for the washing of hands.

In several instances substantial reconstruction and re-equipping of existing kitchens have resulted in what are virtually new premises of a much higher hygienic standard than existed previously. In some cases the standard reached both in respect to the premises and equipment and the day to day operation of the business might well serve as a model of what is required of a modern catering establishment.

There is a growing tendency for occupiers of licensed premises to make application to the Ministry of Food for catering licences, sometimes for the service of cooked meals but generally for the preparation and sale of snacks and sandwiches. In most instances the ordinary public house is without facilities for the storage and preparation of food other than the licensee's private quarters. While it may be desirable for the public to be able to obtain food, in addition to liquid refreshment, at licensed houses it is equally desirable that more adequate provision should be made for the preparation of food for sale to the public.

There are thirteen school kitchens and two Civic Restaurants within the borough and these are subject to routine inspections. The two Civic Restaurants and one

school kitchen are situated in premises brought into use during the war years and may be said to reflect in their lay-out and equipment war-time improvisation. Matters observed during routine visits requiring attention were referred to the appropriate department.

A structural defect common to many catering establishments, particularly those that have been in existence for many years is the disproportion between the dining rooms and the numbers catered for and the space allotted to the kitchen and ancillary rooms. The difficulty in obtaining the necessary building licences has prevented in several instances substantial reconstruction of existing premises. There are five underground kitchens within the borough.

In the inspection of catering establishments attention is also given to the examination of food stored and prepared on the premises.

Close attention is also given to the presence of vermin, rats, mice, cockroaches, "steam flies," flies, etc., liable to infest such establishments. Where found, advice is given on remedial measures for dealing with the infestation.

The control of catering establishments in the interests both of the trade as well as of the public cannot be complete and entirely satisfactory without registration of such premises. The provision for registration would be purposeless unless it included the power to refuse registration to use premises for starting a new business unless or until they satisfy certain specified requirements and to remove from the register existing premises where conditions were unsatisfactory and there had been wilful neglect to take remedial action.

11. Provision Shops, Warehouses, and other Shop Premises.

227 inspections of provision shops and warehouses and 972 inspections of other shop premises were made.

The following table summarises the notices served, the improvements recorded and the exemption certificates granted:—

Improvements Recorded:—

Ceilings renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	2
Walls, ceilings, woodwork, etc., cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	5
Suitable and sufficient means of ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	...	—
Suitable and sufficient means of maintaining a reasonable temperature provided	...	...	...	...	1
Suitable and sufficient washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	1
Washing facilities repaired or installed	...	...	...	...	39
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	69

Sanitary Accommodation:—

Suitable and sufficient provided	...	...	...	...	13
Separate means of approach provided	...	...	...	...	6
Sufficient means of lighting provided	...	...	...	...	4
Sufficient means of ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	4
Intervening ventilated spaces provided	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	10

Exemption Certificates Granted:—

From provision of sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	1
From provision of washing facilities	...	...	...	...	—

Notices:—

Served	...	...	...	...	45	—
Complied with	...	...	...	...	60	—

Intimation. Statutory.

12. Wet Fish Shops.

162 visits were made to these premises during the year. Special attention was paid to the condition of the fish boxes and the importance of proper cleansing before returning them to the suppliers was impressed upon the merchants.

Of 9 samples of mussels examined bacteriologically, 7 were below 60% clean. Check samples were obtained and the results are awaited. The bacteriological standards employed in the control of shellfish are:—

“Consignments yielding 100%, 80%, 60% clean raise no comment; in the case of lower percentages, isolated bacteriological results are construed in conjunction with the topographical features and the past history of the beds.”

In addition 2 samples of mussels in vinegar were examined and found satisfactory.

13. Fish and Chip Shops.

During the year under review, the 834 inspections of these premises made showed that the high standard of hygiene previously achieved in the majority of premises had been maintained and that improvements had been effected to the

remainder. Three businesses were established and two were discontinued making a total of 80 operating within the borough. Equipment of the latest type was installed in the newly opened shops; the cooking ranges were of the three pan model hygienically designed and electrically heated and the counters were panelled with smooth impervious materials. Four detached food preparation rooms of brick structure were constructed as a result of notices served. One complaint was received with reference to the quality of the fish exposed for sale but upon inspection this was found to be unjustified.

14. Mobile Fish and Chip Shops.

Three vehicles were converted into fish and chip frying shops and operated from within the borough. The vans were considered unsuitable for the cleansing and preparation of fish and potatoes and in consequence separate food preparation rooms constructed to comply with the provisions of Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, were insisted upon. The vans were reasonably well equipped and maintained in a clean condition.

Many complaints were received and investigated, but the majority proved to be matters other than of a public health nature.

15. Registration of Butchers' Shops and premises where preserved food, etc., is prepared or manufactured.

Two applications were received in accordance with Section 67 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936, for the registration of the persons concerned and their premises for the sale or storage of meat.

Four applications were received in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the registration of premises where Preserved Food, etc., is prepared or manufactured.

The applications were in order and the persons and/or premises were registered.

The following tables summarise the action taken and the results obtained by the end of the year:—

BUTCHERS' SHOPS.				
Number of Persons and Premises on Register	...	...	...	178
No. of inspections of premises	...	...	...	970
Improvements recorded:—				
Walls, ceilings, etc., cleansed and/or redecorated	..	...	...	52
Walls, ceilings, etc., repaired	...	...	...	32
Food storage accommodation improved	...	...	...	17
Receptacles for waste materials provided or replaced	...	...	...	12
Supply of hot water provided	...	...	...	13
Suitable and sufficient washing facilities provided	...	...	...	6
Sufficient supply of soap and towels provided	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	77
Notices:—				
Served	...	...	...	Intimation. Statutory.
Complied with	...	...	...	36 —
				55 —
PREMISES WHERE PRESERVED FOOD Etc., IS PREPARED OR MANUFACTURED.				
Number of Premises on Register	...	...	...	44
No. of inspections of premises	...	...	...	296
Improvements Recorded:—				
Walls, ceilings, etc., cleansed or redecorated	...	...	...	39
Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired	...	...	...	31
Ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	11
Food storage accommodation improved	...	...	...	1
Receptacles for waste materials provided or replaced	...	...	...	3
Sufficient supply of hot water provided	...	...	...	7
Suitable and sufficient washing facilities provided	...	...	...	5
Sufficient supply of soap and towels provided	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	54
Notices:—				
Served	...	...	...	Intimation. Statutory.
Complied with	...	...	...	14 —
				17 —

16. Licensed Premises.

596 inspections were made of the 320 Inns and Off License premises situated within the borough.

Particular attention was paid to the general cleanliness, the state of repair of the premises, the utensils and the fittings, the adequacy of supplies of hot water for glass washing, and to the provision of sufficient toilet accommodation for the persons frequenting the premises.

It was noted that in the majority of the premises hot water supplies were derived from fire back boilers situated in the licencees' living accommodation. This arrangement

proved satisfactory during the winter months but resulted in a complete absence of hot water during the summer months. To remedy this absence of hot water, gas or electrically operated calorifiers are gradually being fitted over all wash-ups.

A series of examinations were performed upon glasses washed in a machine, utilising jets of cold water to which a detergent had been added. Specially designed rubber squeegees scoured and also dried the glasses. The results of the examinations were excellent.

The following table summarises the improvements recorded and the notices served as a result of the inspections made.

Improvements recorded:—

Bars, smoke rooms, beer cellars, cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	65
Bars, smoke rooms, beer cellars, repaired	...	...	...	...	...	46
Sufficient supply of hot water provided	...	...	...	...	...	20
Suitable and sufficient washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sufficient supply of soap and towels provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	...	21

Sanitary Conveniences:—

Suitable and sufficient provided	...	...	...	...	...	9
Urinal accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Urinals repaired and/or rendered satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	7
Lighting provided or improved	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ventilation provided or improved	...	...	...	...	...	2
Separate means of approach provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Screens, doors, fasteners, etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Screens, doors, fasteners, etc., provided	...	...	...	...	...	9
W.C. pedestals fixed	...	...	...	...	...	6
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Compartments cleansed and/or redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	9
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	...	13

Notices:—

Served	...	...	...	...	...	81	—
Complied with	...	...	...	...	...	78	—

Intimation. Statutory.

17. Bakehouses.

309 routine visits were made during the year to the 47 bakehouses situated within the borough. In 15 cases inspection revealed defects necessitating the service of informal notices. In this period two bakehouses closed and one business was established.

Three complaints were received and investigated. Two were in regard to alleged contamination of bread with rodent excreta. These contaminations proved to be grease; owing to the amount of heat to which it is exposed grease often appears in the finished loaf as a black substance so similar in shape and size as to be frequently mistaken for rodent excreta. The third complainant found a corrugated metal fastener in a chocolate éclair. Enquiries revealed this to have been delivered to the bakery in a consignment of sweet fat and unfortunately was not seen until produced by a rightly indignant customer.

4 samples of dried egg and 2 samples of sugar and dried egg powder were examined bacteriologically with satisfactory results. In addition 2 samples of synthetic cream submitted for examination satisfied the Methylene Blue Test.

The following table summarises the improvements recorded and the notices served:—

Analysis of Improvements Recorded:—

Ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls, ceilings, etc., cleansed or redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	9
Walls, ceilings, floors, etc., repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous improvements	...	...	...	...	...	11

Notices:—

					Served.	Complied with.
Intimation	...	...	...	...	15	7
Statutory	...	...	...	...	—	—

18. Retail Market Hall.

It has for some time been realised that the conditions under which food has been sold in the Retail Covered Market were far from ideal, and the Department has experienced serious difficulty in attempting to establish proper standards of hygiene. Representations were therefore made to the Markets Committee with a view to improvements being effected.

After consideration the Markets Committee decided to improve the storage accommodation for food which is at present situated in vaults. The floors were made impervious, the ventilation improved and all the vaults were re-decorated. In addition, hot water supplies were increased, the disposal and collection of refuse were improved, and one experimental display slab of terrazzo was installed to a butcher's meat stall.

The Markets Committee realise that the Market Hall even with these improvements falls short of the standard required. Schemes are at present being prepared for consideration with a view to either its reconstruction or its demolition and rebuilding.

F. BINNS HARTLEY,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

