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FORTY-FOURTH

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

OF THE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

OF

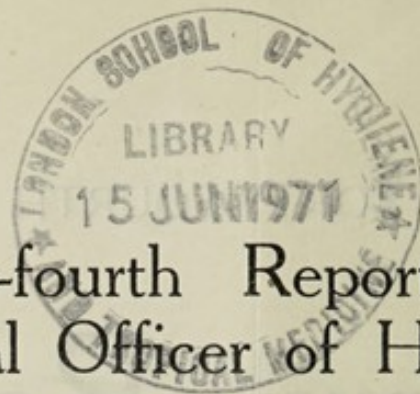
The City of Worcester,

YEAR 1917.



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The Forty-fourth Report of the Medical Officer of Health

being that for the year 1917.

*To the Urban Sanitary Authority of the
City and County of Worcester.*

Gentlemen,

THE Report now presented, in conformity with the War conditions, is considerably condensed, and only the more important aspects of the work are here recorded.

The outstanding features are the great extension of the Child Welfare work, and the work for the treatment of persons suffering from the Venereal Diseases. Many of those persons are innocent victims, and this especially applies to the child born diseased or who died from the same disease before birth. It has been pointed out in many previous Reports that a good proportion of the children who die during the first month of life, and many of the still-births, die from the poison of Syphilis. The machinery now in operation will in time greatly diminish this sacrifice of life. There is difficulty in some cases in persuading the sufferers to undergo

treatment, but enlightenment will come with increased knowledge of the good that will result, and to that end an education of the public is necessary by lectures and the distribution of appropriate literature. This is to be undertaken at once and should be continued year after year.

It will be noted that the Infant death-rate is the lowest on record. There is no more satisfactory feature in the work of preventive medicine in this country than the almost continuous fall in the Infant death-rate during this century. It is especially satisfactory in this City where the death-rate was lamentably high in the past. Not only have infant lives been saved, but the average health of the children has been raised, for good care taken of the baby means also increased care of the older children. The scheme for Infant Welfare begins before birth and continues until the child passes into school life. It cannot stand still, and when War conditions permit, there will be needed more skilled help, both medical and of nurses, to bring it to a fully successful issue.

I am,

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

MABYN READ.

April 17th, 1918.

The Population of the City in the middle of 1917 is estimated at about 50,000. The amount of emigration and immigration has been quite abnormal owing to War conditions.

The Birth-rate for 1917, calculated on a population of 50,000, is 15·45 per 1000. This rate is 2·7 below that of 1916. The births numbered 773, and 47 of these were illegitimate.

The birth-rate of England and Wales was 17·8, and that for the 148 smaller towns, among which Worcester is classed, was 18·0 per 1000.

The Death-rate was 13·54, which is slightly higher than that for 1916, which was 13·3. The rate for England and Wales was 14·4, and that for the 148 smaller towns was 13·2 per 1000.

Only deaths of the civilian population, including discharged soldiers, are included in the figures given in this Report.

The Infant Death-rate was 64 per 1000 births registered during the year. This is the lowest rate recorded. The highest rate of the five preceding years was 89, and the average rate of those years was 83. The rate for 1917 is, therefore, a great improvement.

The rate for England and Wales was 97, and that for the 148 smaller towns was 93.

This City, which in 1907 had an Infant death-rate of 132, has steadily improved since that date; the improvement is coincident with the activities of the Voluntary Infant Health Society and the employment of infant nurses in the City.

The Zymotic Death-rate was '40 per 1000—a low death-rate. The deaths numbered 20: five were from Diarrhœal diseases, eight from Measles, four from Diphtheria (three children under three years of age, all of whom had to undergo tracheotomy for laryngeal obstruction), one each from Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough and Typhoid Fever.

The death-rate from Cancer	... ..	...was	1'34
„ „ Pulmonary Tuberculosis	... „		1'54
„ „ all other forms of Tubercle	„		'24
„ „ Respiratory diseases	... „		2'2

The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act.

The number of cases notified under this Act has been only 120, which is less than one-half of the yearly average of the last 10 years.

Smallpox.—No case has been reported during the year.

Scarlet Fever.—Only 31 cases were notified, the smallest number for the past 20 years. There were 27 primary and four secondary cases. Of the former, 18 were children attending schools, eight were children under school age, and one was an adult, a soldier, who came to his home ill.

There was one death from this disease.

Diphtheria.—There were 57 cases notified, one being a secondary case. There were 12 adults, 30 children of school age, and nine below school age, also five inmates of the General Infirmary. Three children were admitted to the General Infirmary for the operation of tracheotomy, but none of them recovered; they were all under three years of age.

Typhoid Fever.—During the year nine cases were notified, but two were withdrawn. There was no secondary infection in any case, nor was there any relationship between the patients, who lived in widely different parts of the City.

Four of the patients were removed from their homes for treatment, three being admitted to the General Infirmary. One patient, a girl, died two days after notification from rupture of the bowel.

Puerperal Fever.—Two cases only were reported, both from the Lying-in Ward of the Workhouse Infirmary. One of the patients died.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Ten cases were notified. In four instances midwives were present at the birth, in two instances no skilled assistance was at hand, and in the other four doctors were in attendance.

In one child the sight of one eye was destroyed.

In all cases the midwives kept the Rules of the Midwives Board so far as could be ascertained. Inquiries are made at the home immediately the notification is received, and frequent subsequent visits are made by the Nurse until the disease is cured.

Cerebro-spinal Fever. } No case of either of these
Acute Poliomyelitis. } diseases was notified during the
year.

Whooping Cough.—This disease is not notifiable. A few cases were reported from the Schools, but the disease did not assume epidemic form.

Diarrhœal Disease.—Only five deaths of children were registered as due to these diseases, three were under one year of age. This number was much below the average.

Measles (Morbilli) and German Measles (Rubella).

Measles became epidemic in the Autumn of 1916, and the disease continued through the Winter and up to July, 1917.

There were 1167 cases notified during 1917, and eight deaths were registered, seven of these being in children under five years of age. Doctors notified 734 cases, and parents 433 cases, the large proportion of the latter being "secondary" cases. The death-rate per 1000 cases notified was 6.8, and considering the long and severe winter through which the epidemic lasted this cannot be considered a heavy toll.

The Nurses in the employ of the Council visited and reported on nearly all the cases, and advised the parents to seek medical advice and help, in many cases giving letters to enable them to have a doctor from the Staff of the Provident Dispensary.

The Nurses from the Tything Nursing Institution visited the homes of the children who had severe attacks and assiduously nursed them under the agreement made by the City Council with the Committee of that Institution.

The cases were distributed as follows:—

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Adults.....	17	12	—	2	31
Children at School.....	305	134	8	1	448
Children not at School	170	105	8	3	286
Secondary cases.....	275	122	5	—	402
	767	373	21	6	1167

Rubella.—Fifty cases were notified, with no deaths. Forty-four were notified by doctors and six by parents. The cases were distributed as follows:—

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Adults.....	3	9	1	—	13
Children at School.....	5	11	1	—	17
Children not at School	1	2	2	1	6
Secondary cases... ..	11	3	—	—	14
	20	25	4	1	50

Measles is essentially a child's disease, and as regards School life chiefly affects the Infants departments. It was found necessary to close eight of these for varying periods to endeavour to check the spread of the disease.

Tuberculosis.

The War conditions are very unfavourable to the efforts made to check the ravages of this disease. Many of the patients have struggled on with their work until forced to give up, and ought to have come under treatment many months before they did so. The Medical men are fewer in number and harder worked, and have less time to give to an ailing patient than in normal times. The anxiety and food restrictions have depressed the vitality of many persons who have developed the disease, which under normal conditions they might have successfully resisted. Then, too, preventive measures, such as the improvement

in housing conditions, have necessarily been much curtailed and there has been in the City a tendency towards over-crowding, partly for reasons of economy, and partly from persons coming to work in the City temporarily and becoming lodgers in a house already fully occupied.

There were 130 notifications received during the year. Two of these, both Pulmonary, were withdrawn.

			Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Notifications, 1917	...	...	102	26
"	1916	...	86	27
"	1915	...	85	37
"	1914	...	116	46
"	1913	...	133	27
"	1912	...	157	—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Of the 102 cases, 55 were males and 47 females. Of the 55 males, *13 were discharged soldiers, and two discharged sailors*; most of these were advanced cases. These 15 cases, subtracted from 102, give a number just equal to the figures for 1916 and 1917 (see table above).

That a great many of the patients were in an advanced stage of the disease when notified is shewn in the following table:—

	Number	Died before Dec. 31st, 1917
Under 10 years of age ...	13	2
From 10 to 25 years of age ...	28	11
From 25 to 45 years of age ...	55	7
Over 45 years of age ...	6	6
	—	—
	102	26

Of these 26 persons, four died within a week, 17 within a month, and four within six months from the date of notification of the disease.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—There were 26 cases reported during the year—12 males and 14 females. Of the 12 males, nine were under 16 years of age, four of whom died all from Tubercular Meningitis, and three over 16 years, one of whom died. Of the 14 females, seven were under 16 years, of whom one died, and seven were over 16 years, and one of them died.

Institutional Treatment.—Of the 128 persons notified, 10 were not seen by your Tuberculosis Officer. Of these, four were in the Workhouse Infirmary, three left the City, one even died within a month of the notification being received, one went to a private sanatorium, the remainder were very ill and were under fairly good conditions at home.

The homes of all the patients were visited, and reports made of their home surroundings.

Knightwick Sanatorium.—The City Council had eight beds at this Sanatorium during the year. There were 28 patients treated there during the year—16 were men, 14 insured persons (three being ex-soldiers) and two not insured; also nine women, seven insured and two not insured, and three girls.

Newtown Hospital.—At this Hospital 83 persons have been treated. Of these, 46 were men, 32 were insured

persons, and 10 of these were ex-sailors or soldiers. There were two men not insured, and 12 boys under 16 years. Two of the men and seven of the boys were non-pulmonary, nearly all of the latter being cases of joint disease admitted after having undergone surgical treatment at the General Infirmary. Four of the men were kept until their death, having been there for periods varying from two weeks to five months.

There were 37 females treated, 16 being insured women and two not insured, also 19 girls. Two of the insured women and four of the girls were non-pulmonary cases. One of the women and one of the girls died, both from acute lung disease.

The condition at the end of the year of the 128 persons notified was as follows:—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Over 16 years	Under 16 years	Over 16 years	Under 16 years
Died before Dec. 31, 1917...	21	6	1	5
Ill on Dec. 31, 1917	10	1	1	—
In fair health and able to work	27	9	7	5
In Institutions on Dec. 31 ...	20	2	2	4
Left the City.....	6	—	—	1

Tuberculosis Dispensary.—This part of the work grows year by year. There were 433 persons seen during the year at the Dispensary in Bank Street, and 16 attendances are recorded. Of the 433 persons, 215 were under 16 years of age and 218 over that age, 150 were insured persons and 283 not insured. Of the total attendances (1603), 841 were made by persons under 16 years and 762 were by persons over that age.

Of the 1603 attendances, 984 were made by persons notified as being Tuberculous; 154 were by persons sent for examination by the Medical men of the City; 494 were made by "contacts," and 37 were sent from the Schools by Dr. Marion Andrews, being children whose condition of health was unsatisfactory and were suspected of being Tuberculous. A considerable number of these children were admitted to Newtown Hospital for observation and treatment, but who should have been at an Open-air school had such an Institution been available, in which their education could have been continued at the same time that their health was being improved.

Nurse Cooke is most assiduous in her efforts to amend the home conditions so far as lies in her power, and in persuading the patients to continue their attendances at the Dispensary. This is no light task, and is carried on with a human interest in the patients' welfare which is most praiseworthy.

The Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations.

The Local Government Board issued these Regulations in July, 1916. The reasons given for so doing were stated by the Board as follows :—" Venereal diseases are endemic and infectious diseases, and in view of the present War a case of emergency has arisen which requires the immediate execution and enforcement of Regulations with a view to

' the treatment of persons affected with these diseases, and
"for preventing the spread of these diseases."

By this Order of the Board every Council must prepare a scheme for the free treatment at a hospital of persons suffering from these diseases, and for the free supply of drugs for treatment and prevention of the diseases; also for a scientific report, at the cost of the Council, on any material which a medical practitioner may submit from a patient suspected to be suffering from Venereal disease.

Such a scheme was prepared and received the approval of the Local Government Board.

The City Council entered into an Agreement with the Committee of the General Infirmary that Clinics should be held at that Institution, and that in-patients' beds should be available for such persons as, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of the Clinic, needed in-patient treatment. The Committee of the General Infirmary made all the arrangements necessary, and had to alter some of their Rules to do so. They appointed a member of their Honorary Staff as Medical Officer of the Clinic and the scheme was in working order on July 1st, 1917.

It was my duty to arrange for the distribution of medical practitioners of the necessary apparatus for collecting material for laboratory examinations, to inform them of the facilities offered for diagnosis and treatment, to inform the mid-wives, police, poor law authorities, prison doctors and chaplains, probation officers, clergymen, rescue workers, and all voluntary agencies concerned with the diminution of Venereal diseases, of the arrangements

the Clinics, with a view to securing co-operation in encouraging the attendance of patients.

The patient in all cases is treated without any charge being made, and irrespective of his place of residence. In the records which have to be kept by the Medical Officer of the Clinic each person is known only by a number, the name and address being kept in a locked register in case it is found necessary to arrange for subsequent appointments.

A large number of leaflets bearing on the subject were distributed through the agency of the persons mentioned above, and the arrangements at the Clinics were advertised in the Press.

The working of the scheme has met with good success, and the following statistics of the six months' work have been furnished by the Medical Officer of the Clinic:—

Number of persons seen at out-patient clinic for the first time suffering from			Total attendance made		In-patient days of treatment	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Gonorrhœa	23	21	129	111	306	171
St Chanere	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gonorrhœa	3	2	34	3	—	3
Not suffering from venereal diseases	4	11	10	8	—	—

Number of persons treated with Galyl M. 26 ; F. 20

Number of doses of Galyl given 164

Specimens sent to Pathologist for examination for detection of—

Spirochetes	8
Gonococci	11
Wasserman re-action	36

Child Welfare.

Under this comprehensive heading may be included the working of the Midwives Act, 1902, which gave Local Authorities the duty of supervising the work of the midwives who were registered under the Act, and of taking care that unqualified and ignorant women should not be allowed to carry on the work.

The midwives must, at the beginning of each year, give notice of their intention to practise their calling. During 1917, 16 such notices were received, six of these being from the staff of the Nursing Institute in the Tything. One midwife resigned her certificate to practise at the end of the year owing to increasing infirmities and inability to carry out the Rules of the Central Midwives Board. In accordance with the Rules of this Board 114 records of sending for medical help were received. This duty has been well carried out by the midwives, and the medical men of the City have ably responded to the call for help and in many cases neither midwife nor doctor have received any fee for these onerous duties. This cannot happen now, as your Council has resolved that both doctors and midwives shall be paid for the help given to the mother in her time of need, and this is given not as a dole but for the sake of the woman and her child, that both shall have a good chance of healthy living and avoidance of the risks that might result from the want of care and skill at these critical times.

Next comes the Notification of Births Act (1907), by which all births must be notified by someone present at the birth within 36 hours of its occurrence. The provisions of

this Act are well carried out. The Registrar of Births periodically compares the notifications with his list of registered births, and very few notifications are omitted during the year. There were 751 notifications received of living births, and 24 notices of stillbirths during the year. Of the living births, 598 were sent by the midwives, 97 by medical men, 47 by parents, seven from the Maternity Ward of the Workhouse, and two from the General Infirmary.

This early notification of the birth enables the Infant Health Nurses to visit the home on the 11th day after birth, or as soon as the midwife has ceased to visit.

The Infant Nurses added the names of 589 infants to their Register during the year, and paid 7,157 visits to the homes of these children and of those previously on the Register. The Nurses' returns show that breast feeding is more common than it was years ago, a most important factor in the child's health and growth. Everything is done to encourage this, and the recent power given to the Council to grant food to nursing mothers who need it will greatly stimulate this return to nature's methods.

A great advance in the Child Welfare work was made by the decision of the Council to appoint a lady doctor to give one half of her time to this work and one half to the medical inspection of school children. At the February Meeting of the Council Dr. Marion B. Andrews was elected to the post, and the services of an experienced and skilful lady doctor were obtained. Dr. Andrews began her duties on March 19th.

From February 9th a Clinic for children under five years

of age was held on Friday afternoons at the rooms of the Provident Dispensary in Bank Street. During the second quarter of the year this work greatly developed, and on four afternoons Clinics were opened—on Wednesday and Fridays at Bank Street, on Tuesday at St. Clement's Parish Room, on Thursday at St. Paul's Parish Room.

The work is essentially *to prevent disease*. The babies are seen and weighed; general hygienic advice is given concerning their clothing, feeding, and management; the mothers are also advised about their own health previous to and following their confinements. This last-mentioned part of the work has been most successful, and has gained the thankfulness of many women. That they can consult one of their own sex concerning the many ailments attendant on their condition is a great comfort and help to them, and the work has grown almost beyond Dr. Andrews' power to deal with in the limited time at his disposal.

The table given below is a record of the work done at the Centres during the 12 months ending on 31st March 1918, and has been compiled from the registers and given me by Dr. Andrews.

It will be seen what a large number of infants have attended during that period: 535 under one year of age and 338 between the ages of one and five years.

In addition to these the names of 123 mothers have been placed on the Register. It is a very satisfactory feature that out of the 873 children only 103 have attended once only, and that the average attendance per child during the 12 months has been six.

maternity and child welfare.

Attendance at Centres 1st April, 1917—31st March, 1918.

Children on Register :—	St. Clement's, Bank Street, St. Paul's, Bank Street, Total, Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Four Centres				
	Under one year	56	191	118	170	535
Between 1 and 5 years	43	115	57	123	338
Total.....	99	306	175	293	873
Mothers on Register	22	40	18	43	123
Total Attendances :—					
Children	485	1286	847	1329	3947
Mothers	87	145	46	137	415
Number of days Centres open	48	50	39	48	185
Average attendance per day :—					
Children	10	26	22	27	21
Mothers	2	3	1	3	2
Highest attendance on any one day	20	59	42	55	—
Number making only one attend- ance ----					
Children under 1 year	8	21	11	12	52
Children between 1 and 5 years	10	31	17	29	87
Total.....	18	52	28	41	139

The Average attendance per child arrived at after deducting the 139 children who made only one attendance, and a further 103 children who joined in March, 1918, and who could have made only one attendance in this year, equals **six days**.

A card record is made which can be sent on to the school when the child is entered on the school register. This record will have notes of the child's illnesses, and will be of great service to the School Medical Officer at his examination of the entrant.

The Infant Health Society, that has done so much for child life in the City, organised at the beginning of July a "Baby Week." This was highly successful, and a most picturesque and interesting feature was a "Pram Parade" on Pitchcroft, when 600 prams assembled and passed in procession before the Mayor and Lady Mayoress who took a very kindly and sympathetic interest in the week's work. The mothers were very pleased with the reception and with the great interest taken in the future citizens of the City.

Public Health (Milk and Cream) Regulations, 1912.

Sixty-six samples of milk and one of cream were examined for preservatives and none were found. Three samples of "preserved cream" were analysed and were found to conform with the Regulations.

The City Water.

Fifty-three Reports of the bacteriological examination

of the water of the pure water tank were received during the year. In 39 of the samples of water no bacilli coli were found. The weather during January and February was exceptionally cold, and especial difficulties were met in adequately filtering the water, but the figures given above show that during most of the year successful results were obtained.

The Housing Acts.

During the year 321 houses have been inspected and the conditions found recorded on the Schedules.

In the Claines newly added area 51 houses were inspected. Of these, 21 houses had pail closets and no City water supply. A new sewer has been recently laid and notices have been served on the owners to substitute w.c.s and lay on the City water.

In the Astwood area 82 houses were inspected. Of this number, 36 had cess pits and four had no City water. No sewer has yet been laid in this district.

In the St. John's area 113 houses were inspected, 12 of these were so situated that they could not be sewered, and are provided with pail closets or cesspits. Two of the houses had no City water.

The City Hospital.

There were 80 patients admitted during the year. Of these, 32 suffered from Scarlet Fever, and 48 from Diphtheria.

One child suffering from Scarlet Fever died in Hospital twelve days after admission.

The following is a Table shewing the number of admissions and deaths under various age-groups :—

	Under 5 years.		5 to 10 years.		10 to 15 years.		15 to 20 years.		Over 20 years.	
	Admissions	Deaths	Admissions	Deaths	Admissions	Deaths	Admissions	Deaths	Admissions	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	10	...	10	1	6	...	5	...	1	...
Diphtheria	5	...	18	...	15	...	5	...	5	...
TOTAL.....	15	...	28	1	21	...	10	...	6	...

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria
In Hospital, January 1st, 1917	6	9
Admitted during the year	32	48
	38	57
Discharged during the year.....	34 } 35	48
Died		
Remaining in Hospital, Dec. 31, 1917	3	9

The working of the Hospital has been carried on wit

some difficulty during the year, owing to the shortage of the nursing and domestic staff. The Matron has cheerfully responded to the extra demands made on her services, and by her tact and kindness has maintained the efficiency of the Institution.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1917 AND FIVE PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.				
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.	Number	Rate.	of Non-Residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.		
								Number *	Rate per 1000 nett births		Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1912	48,152	1009	1010	20.97	634	13.16	57	23	76	75	600	12.46
1913	48,287	930	930	19.25	711	14.72	54	29	83	89	686	14.2
1914	48,424	994	1000	20.6	732	15.11	28	24	88	88	728	15.03
1915	48,071	995	1000	20.16	699	14.09	30	31	83	83	700	14.11
1916	48,459	878	882	18.2	654	13.5	44	33	69	78.2	643	13.3
1917	50,000	771	773	15.46	692	13.84	69	54	50	64	677	13.54

NOTES.—This Table is arranged to show the gross births and deaths registered in the district during the calendar year, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. The rates should be calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population as stated in Column 2, without the use of the standardising factor for the district given in the Annual Report of the Registrar-General.

* In Column 6 are to be included the whole of the deaths registered during the calendar year as having actually occurred within the district, but excluding the deaths of soldiers and sailors that have occurred in hospitals and institutions in the district.

In Column 12 is to be entered the number in Column 6, corrected by subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by addition of the number in Column 9, to be similarly corrected by subtraction of the deaths under 1, included

DEATHS REGISTERED FROM ALL CAUSES DURING THE YEAR 1917.

No.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	AGES.												All Ages.				
		0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-		85-			
1	Small-pox .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
2	Measles	2	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
3	Scarlet Fever .....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	Typhus Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	Epidemic Influenza .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	4
6	Whooping-cough .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
7	Diphtheria, Membranous Croup .....	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
8	Croup .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	Enteric Fever .....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
10	Diarrhoea, Dysentery	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
11	Epidemic or Zymotic Enteritis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12	Enteritis	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
13	Rheumatic Fever .....	..	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
14	<i>Other continued fevers</i> .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16	Erysipelas .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
17	Puerperal Fever .....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
18	Syphilis	3	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
19	Pyæmia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
20	<i>Other septic diseases</i> .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	Intermittent Fever & Malarial Cachexia .....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	Tuberculosis of Meninges	1	3	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
23	Tuberculosis of Lungs .....	..	1	..	2	9	4	13	18	12	7	9	1	..	..	..	..	77

INFANT MORTALITY 1917. NETT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
ALL CAUSES										
{ Certified
{ Uncertified...
{ All-pox
{ Chicken-pox
{ Measles	2	...	2
{ Scarlet Fever
{ Whooping Cough
{ Diphtheria and Croup
{ Scabies
{ Tuberculous Meningitis	1	...	...	1
{ Cerebral Tuberculosis
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...	1
{ Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	2	...	2
{ Convulsions	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
{ Laryngitis
{ Bronchitis	1	1	...	...	...	...	1
{ Pneumonia (all forms)	2	2	5	2	11
{ Diarrhoea	1	...	1
{ Enteritis	2	...	1	3
{ Colitis	1	...	...	...	1
{ Typhoid
{ Tetanus
{ Suffocation, overlying	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	2
{ Injury at Birth	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
{ Asphyxia	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
{ Congenital Malformations
{ Premature Birth ...	11	1	...	1	13	1	...	...	...	14
{ Stagnation, Dehydration, and
{ Marasmus ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
{ Other Causes ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
	16	1	3	2	22	7	6	8	7	50

Nett Births { legitimate 726.
in the year { illegitimate 47.

Nett Deaths { legitimate infants 41.
in the year of { illegitimate infants 9.

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report for 1917.

*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen, and
Councillors of the City of Worcester.*

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I beg to present a brief Report of the work carried out in the Health Department during the year 1917, being the Thirteenth Annual Report I have had the honour of submitting.

NOTICES.

For the abatement of nuisances under the Public Health Acts, and the remedying of infringements of the Byelaws which come under the duties of an Inspector, 901 Notices have been served. Of this number, 76 were Statutory Notices, and were served by order of the Health Committee, the others being Request Notices respecting defects and other matters which it was not found necessary to bring before the Health Committee. In 12 instances I had to ask for authority to institute legal proceedings.

UN SOUND FOOD.

During the year the following food has been destroyed being diseased, unsound, or unwholesome :—

Tuberculosis.

Article	Cause of Condemnation
6 carcasses and organs of 6 bovines	Generalised tuberculosis
28 parts of carcasses and organs of 28 bovines	Localised do.
13 carcasses and organs of 13 pigs	Generalised do.
11 parts of carcasses and organs of 11 pigs	Localised do.
2 carcasses and organs of 2 calves	Generalised do.

Other Diseases, &c.

Article	Cause of Condemnation
2 carcasses and organs of 2 cows...	Peritonitis. Pyrexia
" " " 2 cows ..	Emaciation due to Jhonne's Disease
" " " 2 calves	Black Quarter
" " " 4 sheep	Peritonitis following on Parturition
" " " 13 sheep	Hydremic Cachexia
" " " 1 pig ...	Asphyxia
" " " 4 pigs ...	Rachitis. Emaciation
11 heads and tongues of 11 bovines ...	Actinomycosis
livers, livers or other internal organs of 148 animals	Locally diseased
3 quarters and organs of 3 lambs	Pleurisy

Article	Cause of Condemnation
713 lbs. of beef	Unwholesomeness due injury during life
96 lbs. of mutton.....	Do. do.
44 lbs. of pork	Do. do.
212 lbs. of beef	Decomposition
90 lbs. of mutton	Do.
270 lbs. of bacon.....	Do.
293 lbs. of herrings.....	Do.
184 lbs. of salmon	Do.
28 rabbits.....	Unsound
Quantity of tinned foods	Do.
90 lbs. cheese ...	Do.
226 lbs. of fruit	Do.

The total weight of food condemned was 1076 st. 11. With two exceptions the whole of this food was voluntarily surrendered by the respective owners.

Two summonses were instituted against one Grocer having on his premises for preparation for sale 37 lb. bacon which was unfit for food, and for exposing for sale 63 lbs. of bacon which was unfit for food. He was fined £1 in the first case and £5 in the second.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.

There are at present 205 workshops (not including bakehouses) on the Register.

Four new workshops have been added during 1917 at

have been struck off, the businesses having been given

Occasional visits have been paid to the workshops, and on several occasions it has been necessary to draw the attention of the occupier to the need of cleansing and rewashing.

At the end of 1917 there were 51 bakehouses occupied, and 170 inspections of the premises have been made, and generally speaking they have been kept in a satisfactory state.

PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of animals slaughtered at the Public Slaughterhouse during the year. This is due to two cattle dealers slaughtering a number of animals for butchers in the surrounding districts, and in the latter part of the year the Worcester Butchers' Association have slaughtered practically all the sheep supplied to the butchers in the Public Slaughterhouse.

Full details of the animals slaughtered at the Public Slaughterhouses are sent to the Ministry of Food weekly, and to the Board of Agriculture monthly.

The number of animals slaughtered at the Public Slaughterhouses during the past three years is as follows:—

	Charges for Slaughtering	To March 31st		
		1916	1917	
Number of Beasts.....	1s. ...	792	843	...
„ Sheep	3d. ...	3204	2984	...
„ Calves.....	6d. ...	112	57	...
„ Pork Pigs .	6d. ...	1550	1158	...
„ Bacon Pigs	1s. ...	26	36	...
		5684	5078	...

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The total number of samples submitted to the Analyst in 1917 was 141. Of these, 90 were taken under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts, and 51 were test samples.

Of the 90 samples taken under the Acts, 75 were certified to be genuine, and 15 as adulterated; of the test samples, 48 were certified to be genuine, and three adulterated.

The following table shows the amount of adulteration during the past three years :—

	1915		1916		1917
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Analyses	84	50	91	65	90
Adulterated	14	5	9	3	15
Adulterated per cent. .	16'6	10'0	9'9	4'6	16'7
Amount of Fines and Costs.....	£46 4s. od.		£1 0s. od.		£11 10s.