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County of the City of Worcester



SIXTY-FOURTH

# Annual Report

ON THE

## Health of the City

BY

A. J. B. GRIFFIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health*

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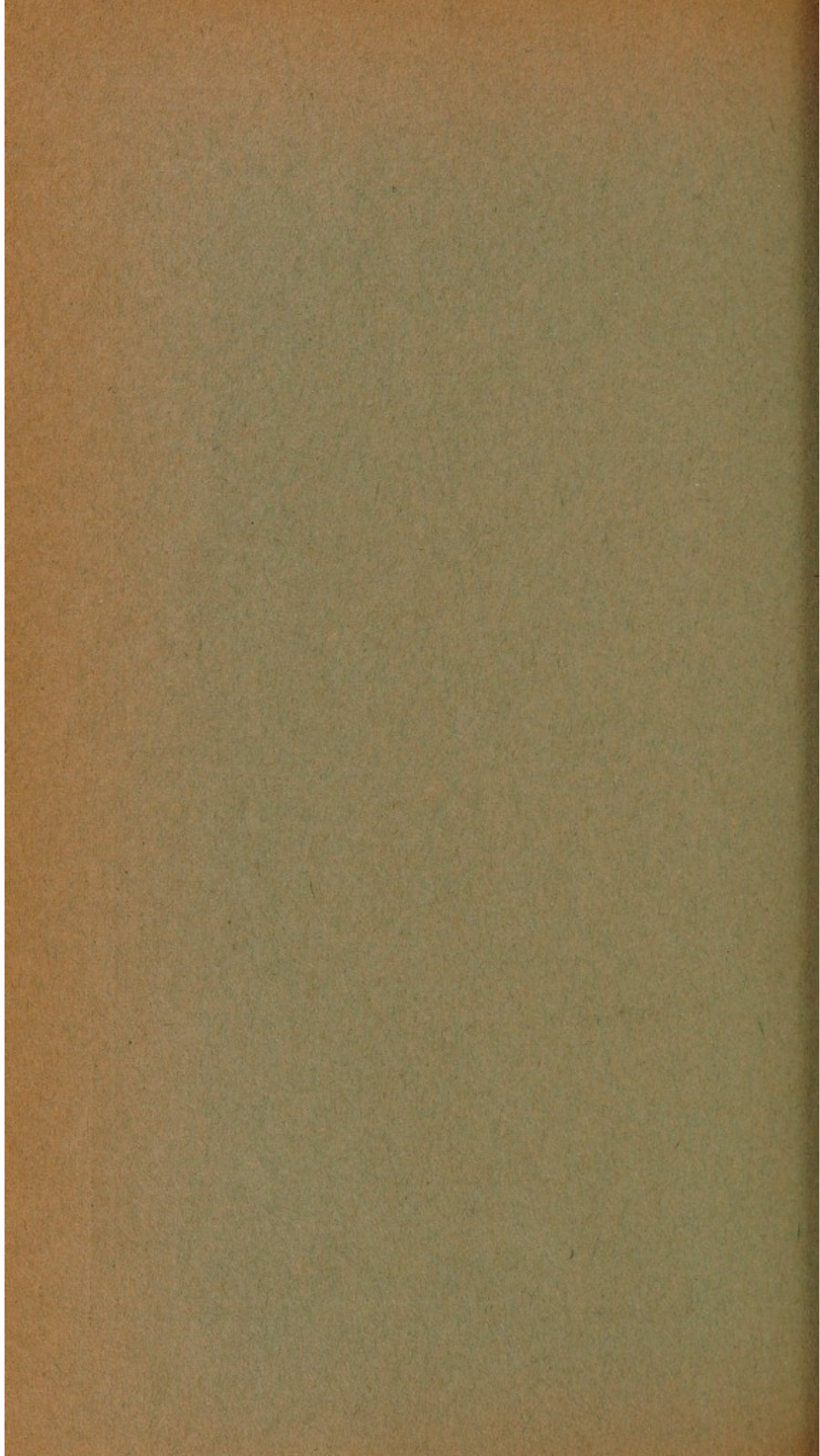
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WORCESTER

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THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR W. E. MOORE EDE, B.A., M.D.)  
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- COUNCILLOR W. MEIRION LLOYD.
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- COUNCILLOR MISS E. M. O'BRIEN.
- COUNCILLOR MRS. R. PALMER, M.B.E., J.P.
- COUNCILLOR W. H. PROBERT.
- COUNCILLOR MRS. M. URRY.
- COUNCILLOR G. E. WELLS.



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COUNCILLOR F. L. SPALDING, F.R.C.S., M.D.

COUNCILLOR A. H. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

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COUNCILLOR MISS E. A. CADBURY.

MISS E. M. JACOMB.

COUNCILLOR MISS E. M. O'BRIEN.

COUNCILLOR MRS. R. PALMER, M.B.E., J.P.

COUNCILLOR T. C. PALMER, J.P.

MISS JESSIE TREE.

COUNCILLOR MRS. M. URRY.

COUNCILLOR A. H. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER, AND TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER	A. J. B. Griffin, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH - - - -	J. S. G. Burnett, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. §§
ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH - - -	J. W. R. Paton, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
PUBLIC VACCINATOR - - -	W. G. Bennett, LL.B., M.R.C.S., Eng., L.R.C.P. (Lond.).*
DENTAL OFFICER - - -	C. R. Knight, L.D.S. (Appointed 1st Oct., 1937.) M. J. Matley Moore, L.D.S.,* (Resigned 30th Sept., 1937.)
PUBLIC ANALYST - - -	H. E. Monk, B.Sc., F.I.C.*†
VETERINARY INSPECTORS -	Mr. J. Currie, M.R.C.V.S.* Mr. H. B. Hiles, M.R.C.V.S.*
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR -	Mr. Ralph Taylor. †§
ASSISTANT SANITARY INSPECT- ORS - - - - -	Mr. P. L. Parsons †§ Mr. H. Jackson. † Mr. A. E. Innes †§



## MATRON, CITY ISOLATION

HOSPITAL - - - Miss N. Glew.

ASSISTANT MATRON - - Miss G. Thompson.

TUBERCULOSIS NURSE - - Nurse M. W. Cotterill. ¶\*\*

HEALTH VISITORS - - Miss S. E. Howard. ¶‡‡

Miss F. A. Moore. ¶

Miss A. C. Cope. ¶††

Miss B. Brown. ¶††

CHIEF CLERK - - Mr. P. M. Christian.

ASSISTANT CLERKS - - Mr. J. Everett.

Mr. H. H. Jackson.

(Appointed 15th Sept., 1937).

Mr. A. G. Parker.

(Resigned 11th Sept., 1937).

Miss E. C. Birch.

(Appointed 12th July, 1937).

Miss D. Price.

(Resigned 26th June, 1937).

MATERNITY AND CHILD WEL-

FARE CENTRE CLERKS - Miss H. Bale. ||

Miss E. C. Griffin. ||

(Appointed 4th Aug., 1937).

Miss D. Ellery. ||

(Resigned 28th Aug., 1937).

Miss E. Stevenson.\*

DISINFECTORS, ETC. - - Mr. C. A. Webb.

Mr. A. Payne.

MANAGER, PUBLIC SLAUGHTER-

HOUSES - - - Mr. G. W. Glendenning. §

PUBLIC BATHING PAVILIONS Mr. W. Brown.\*

ATTENDANTS - - - Mrs. D. Bridges.\*

VACCINATION OFFICER - - - Mr. E. H. Rea.\*

\* Part-time only.

† Services utilised by arrangement with County Council.

‡ Inspector's Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute.

§ Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspecting Meat and other Foods.

|| Joint appointment—M. and C.W. and School Medical Service.

¶ Trained Nurse and Certificate of Midwives Board.

\*\* State Registered by Examination.

†† New Health Visitors Certificate.

‡‡ Superintendent Health Visitor and Inspector of Midwives.

§§ Joint appointment Public Assistance and Health Committee.

## Summary of Vital Statistics.

The following represent the chief vital statistics for the year, viz.:—

		Compared with those of England and Wales.
Estimated Population	.. 53,050	
Birth Rate	.. .. 15·53	14·9
Death Rate:		
Crude	.. .. 14·08	—
Corrected	.. .. 12·53	12·4
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000		
Births	.. .. 48·5	58·0
Death Rate from principal Infectious Diseases	.. 0·81	0·59
Respiratory Death Rate	.. 1·0	Not yet received.
Phthisis Death Rate	.. ·848	„
Cancer Death Rate	.. .. 1·9	„



THE  
**SIXTY-FOURTH REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
BEING THAT  
**for the Year 1937**

*To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the County of the City of Worcester.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the City for the Year 1937, and my eighth report as your Medical Officer of Health.

The vital statistics are based upon the Registrar-General's mid-year estimate of the City's population at 53,050. These statistics call for no special comment apart from the unusual fact that with a rising Birth rate there has been a fall in the

Infantile Death Rate, which reached the new low level record of 48·5 deaths per 1,000 infant births—a record which compares very favourably with a rate for England and Wales of 58·0.

Although my illness at the beginning of the year has delayed the prosecution of various schemes, certain advances in the public health service have to be recorded—more particularly the appointment of a full time dentist to the public health services; the inauguration of an orthoptic clinic, the appointment of whole-time municipal midwives, and the completion of the new Venereal Diseases Out-patient Clinic. The department has been intensively engaged on Slum Clearance, and in addition to the large number of individual houses dealt with, the following Clearance Areas have been declared:—

St. Paul's (two areas).

Powick Lane.

The Moors (three areas).

Lich Street.

Dolday, No. 2 (two areas).

Some progress in the relief of overcrowding has been made and more attention will be paid to this when the Slum Clearance programme has been completed.

During the year a re-survey of the City's Public Health Services was carried out by the Ministry of Health, occupying much of the time of the department's principal officers.

Among infectious diseases diphtheria was more prevalent than usual, with a raised mortality rate. Scarlet Fever cases were fewer in number and mild in character.



The Air Raid Precautions Scheme has thrown fresh responsibility upon the Medical Officer of Health, and such preliminary work that has been done in this connexion has had to be carried out outside office hours.

The work of a health department is to-day truly protean, but the helpful co-operation of officers of other departments, the stimulating interest of an active Chairman, and the sympathetic consideration shewn towards public health matters by the Health Committee and the Council have considerably lightened the task.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. J. B. GRIFFIN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*



## SECTION "A"

## Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (in acres)	..	..	..	..	5,393
Population (Census 1931)	..	..	..	..	50,497
Registrar-General's estimate	..	..	..	..	53,050
Rateable Value	..	..	..	..	£366,832
Sum represented by a penny Rate	..	..	..	..	£1,429
Live Births:—		Total.	Male.	Female.	
Legitimate	..	785	412	373	
Illegitimate	..	39	21	18	824
Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	15·53
Still Births, 40; Rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	49·6
Deaths, 747; Death Rate	..	..	..	..	12·53
Percentage of total deaths of deaths occurring in Institutions	..	..	..	..	28·2
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—					
From Sepsis	..	..	..	..	—
From other causes	..	..	..	..	1
Death Rate for all Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	48·5
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—					
All Infants per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	48·5
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	49·7
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	26·0
Death Rate from Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	..	0·037
"    "    Whooping Cough (all ages)	..	..	..	..	0·018
"    "    Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	..	..	..	..	0·019

## Social Conditions.

**POPULATION.**—The Registrar-General's estimated mid-year population was 53,050, an increase of 320 over 1936. The increase represented by excess of City births over deaths was 77. There is evidence of some increase of population by immigration, due to an extension of the industrial life of the City, and its attractions as a place for retirement.

Unemployment was trifling—a maximum figure of 1,659 on 6th November, 1937, comparing favourably with a figure of 2,227 for 1936 and a minimum of 839 on 26th July, 1937, with 952 for 1936.

Juvenile labour is at once absorbed; female domestic labour is at a premium. I am unaware of any conditions of occupation or environment having a prejudicial effect on the health of particular sections of the community.

**Meteorology.**—The City Engineer has very kindly supplied the following data from observations made at the City Waterworks.

The highest recorded temperature was 83 degrees Fahrenheit on 6th August; and the lowest, 21 degrees Fahrenheit, or 11 degrees of frost, on 21st November.

The total rainfall was 25·96 inches. Rain fell on 164 days; a rain day being one on which not less than 0·01 inches of rain are recorded.

The following tables give particulars of the rainfall throughout the year and the annual fall for the past twenty years.



1937.		Number of Rain Days.		Rainfall for Month.
January ..	..	17	..	2·76
February ..	..	23	..	3·66
March ..	..	17	..	2·57
April ..	..	13	..	1·87
May ..	..	14	..	2·20
June ..	..	12	..	·84
July ..	..	13	..	2·42
August ..	..	5	..	1·48
September ..	..	12	..	2·67
October ..	..	11	..	2·16
November ..	..	9	..	1·30
December ..	..	18	..	2·03
		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	..	164	..	25·96
		<hr/>		<hr/>

## COMPARISON OF RAINFALL FOR THE PAST TWENTY YEARS:

1918	..	..	..	20·47 inches.
1919	..	..	..	24·84 „
1920	..	..	..	25·62 „
1921	..	..	..	16·08 „
1922	..	..	..	26·07 „
1923	..	..	..	26·74 „
1924	..	..	..	33·22 „
1925	..	..	..	23·75 „
1926	..	..	..	25·04 „
1927	..	..	..	30·52 „
1928	..	..	..	25·09 „
1929	..	..	..	26·54 „
1930	..	..	..	31·08 „
1931	..	..	..	27·08 „
1932	..	..	..	30·39 „



1933	..	..	..	17.61 inches
1934	..	..	..	19.09 „
1935	..	..	..	26.83 „
1936	..	..	..	27.47 „
1937	..	..	..	25.96 „

**BIRTHS.**—The number of births occurring in the City was 901—the highest yet recorded. 470 were males and 431 females. There were 99 births to non-residents and 22 births elsewhere to persons usually resident within the City. The corrected number of City births was 824, and the birth rate showed a slight rise at 15.53 per 1,000 population.

**STILLBIRTHS.**—The following corrected figures for stillbirths are allocated to the City:—

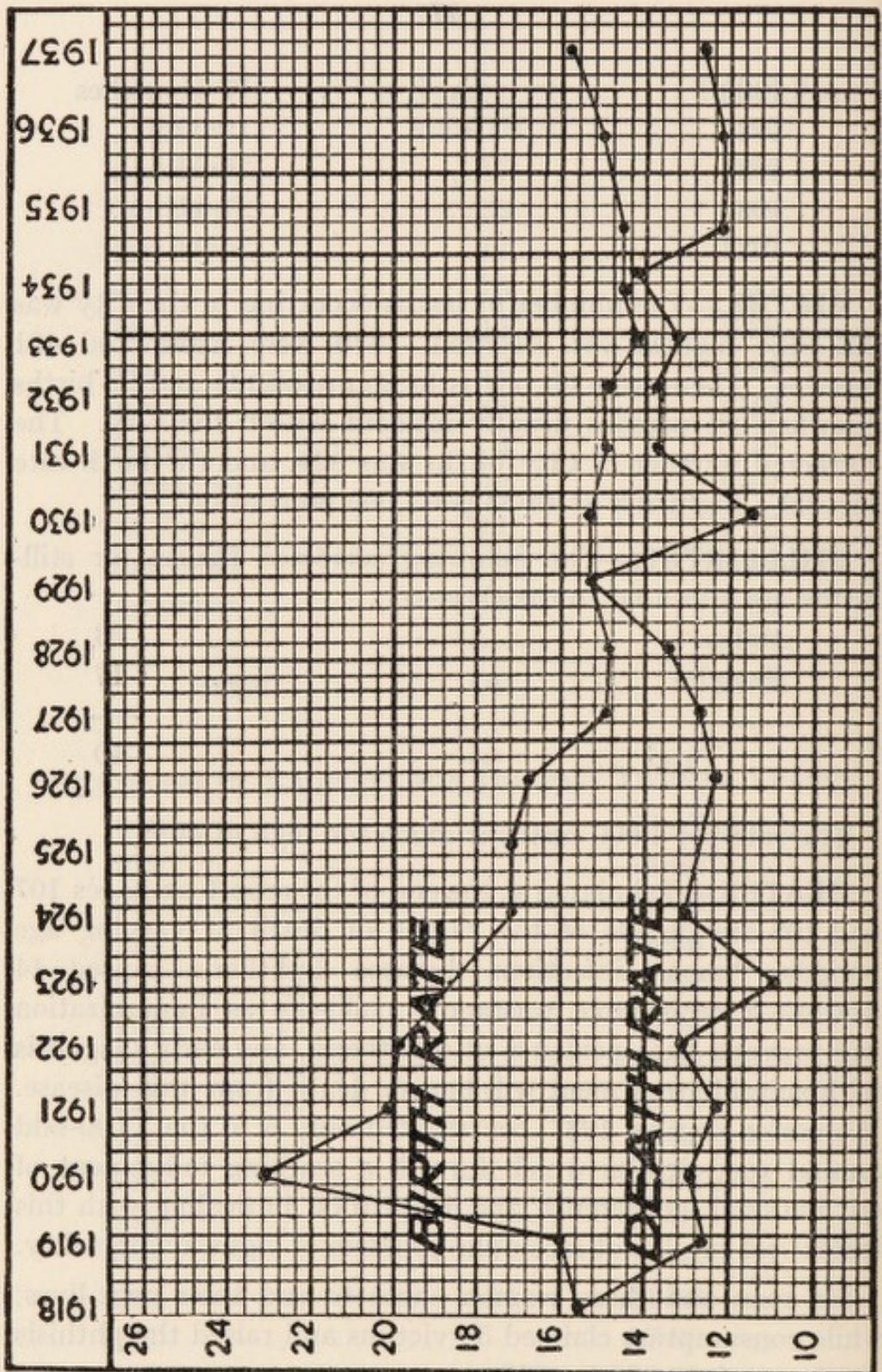
Males	..	..	..	..	23
Females	..	..	..	..	17
Total	..	..	..	..	40

The rate per 1,000 births is much too high at 49.6.

**DEATHS.**—Tabulated at the end of the report on pages 107 and 108 are details of the causes of death at varying age periods. Among infectious diseases diphtheria caused 14 deaths—a regrettable wastage of child-life as immunization will prevent the incidence of diphtheria, and early diagnosis with suitable treatment will banish death from this disease. Worcester during 1937 contributed only 6 to the 7,000-odd annual road-deaths which furnish a scathing indictment of our national indifference and ineptitude in dealing with this tragic—yet surely not insoluble—problem of highway mortality.

Six men and three women chose to end their own lives; while consumption claimed 58 victims and raised the phthisis death rate from .60 to .848.







## SECTION "B"

## General Provision of Health Services.

**DEPARTMENTAL STAFF.**—During the year Mr. C. R. Knight, L.D.S., was appointed as the first whole-time dental officer, replacing Mr. Matley Moore, L.D.S., who had been a part-time dental officer for 15 years. A junior male and 2 junior female clerks resigned and were replaced.

**SPECIALIST MEDICAL STAFF.**—Mr. N. Duggan, F.R.C.S., continues to function as Orthopædic Surgeon and surgeon in charge of surgical tuberculosis cases at the City Sanatorium.

Mr. Mark Bates, F.R.C.S., is medical officer in charge of the Venereal Diseases Clinic held at the Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Dr. Fenton attends the Mental Treatment Clinic held fortnightly at the Worcester Royal Infirmary.

**HOME NURSING.**—Home nursing, carried out mainly under a contributory scheme, continues in the hands of the City and County Nursing Association, whose work done for the Local Authority is summarized below:—

Visits to Old Age Pensioners .. ..	10,099
Visits to "Notifiable" cases .. ..	495
Visits to T.B. cases .. ..	1,098
Visits to children under school age ..	699
Visits to Post-Midwifery cases .. ..	506

For visits to cases of measles, epidemic diarrhoea, whooping cough, pneumonia, and puerperal fever, the Association receives a Corporation grant.



**POOR-LAW OUT-RELIEF.**—This is still administered by the Public Assistance Committee through three general practitioners.

**LABORATORY FACILITIES.**—Chemical and bacteriological analyses are carried out at the County Laboratory on a per capita basis of payment. Specimens in connexion with the Venereal Diseases Scheme are examined at the Worcester Royal Infirmary where the Clinic is held.

The extent of the analytical work dealt with during the year is indicated below.

Diphtheria Swabs .. .. .	3,715
Sputum examined for tubercle bacilli ..	287
Typhoid .. .. .	3
Urine .. .. .	4
Faeces .. .. .	2
Anthrax .. .. .	4
Urine and Faeces .. .. .	5
Slides .. .. .	3
Ringworm .. .. .	2
Streptococci .. .. .	7
Food and Drugs analysed .. .. .	82
Milk analysed .. .. .	87
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs analysed	11
Tap Water .. .. .	10
Well Water .. .. .	13
Swimming Bath Water .. .. .	2
Milk for bacteriological examination:—	
For presence of tubercle bacilli ..	23
For bacteria count .. .. .	275

Specimens in connexion with venereal diseases referred to the Worcester Royal Infirmary were as follows:—

	From Treatment Centre	From Hospital and other Institutions	From Private Practitioners
For detection of Gonococci ..	319	23	44
For Wassermann reaction ..	171	123	123
Kahn Test ..	142	28	20
Serum for Gonococci ..	63	9	9
Cultures ..	303	8	32
Other examinations ..	1	24	—
	999	215	228

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1929.**—The administration of the Poor Law Infirmary remains in the hands of the Public Assistance Committee. The Medical Officer of Health acts in an advisory capacity and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the clinical care of the patients, devoting more than half his time to this work.

With the provision on the "House" side of the Institution of an infirm ward for men, it has been possible to deal with a greater proportion of male patients suffering from acute conditions. In the absence of similar accommodation for infirm women less progress has been made on the female side. Even so the Ministry of Health is prepared, if the Council desire it, to agree to appropriation of the Hospital portion of the Institution for public health purposes.

The small and unsuitable wards formerly used for the observation of mental cases are no longer used for this purpose; more suitable accommodation for both male and female patients having been found in the hospital basement.



**HOSPITALS.**—The Worcester Royal Infirmary and the Worcester Eye Hospital, both Voluntary Institutions, with out-patient departments, provide 165 beds and 14 beds respectively. The Eye Hospital with assistance from the County and City Councils has during the year opened a special orthoptic clinic for the treatment of squint by fusion-training methods. The City Council under a block grant scheme provide for the treatment of certain types of case at the Worcester Royal Infirmary. Negotiations are at present in progress for varying this Block Grant Scheme.

**AMBULANCE FACILITIES.**—An ambulance service for the removal of non-infectious patients is maintained by the Worcester Red Cross Ambulance Committee, upon which the Health Committee has representation. A fleet of three ambulances is maintained and manned by personnel from the local Voluntary Aid Detachments and Red Cross branches. No grant was made by the Council during the year to the organisation.

Cases of infectious disease are removed to hospital by the Lomas Ambulance. At the time of writing this report the reserve Ford ambulance is no longer in commission and steps are being taken to replace it.

**CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.**—*Provided by the Council:—*

**Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, at 54, Lowesmoor:**

MEDICAL CLINICS	Tuesdays	} at 3 p.m.
	Wednesdays	
	Thursdays	
	(Ante-natal)	

WEIGHING CLINICS Mondays }  
 Tuesdays } at 2 p.m.  
 Wednesdays }

**Tuberculosis Dispensary, Bank Street:**

MEDICAL CLINIC Mondays }  
 Tuesdays } at 3 p.m.  
 Fridays at 7 p.m.

**School Clinic, Tudor House:**

Tuesday }  
 Saturdays } at 9.30 a.m.

Nurses attend daily for dressings at 9 a.m.

REFRACTION CLINIC (held at the Worcester Eye  
 Hospital) Fridays at 2.15 p.m.

*Provided at the Worcester Royal Infirmary by the City Council  
 in conjunction with the Worcestershire County Council:*

**Venereal Diseases Clinic:**

MALE .. .. Tuesdays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.  
 Saturdays 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.  
 FEMALE .. .. Wednesdays 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.  
 Fridays 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

**Orthopædic Clinic:**

Wednesday afternoons.

**Mental Treatment Clinic:**

First and Third Friday afternoons  
 in each month.

**Provided at the Worcester Eye Hospital:**

ORTHOPTIC CLINIC Wednesdays 2.30 p.m.



**VACCINATION ACTS.**—The area is served by one Public Vaccinator and one Vaccination Officer who are part-time Officers. Vaccinations at the Poor Law Institution are carried out by the Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Administration of the scheme is centred at the Health Department.

The work done during the year is summarised below.

	Numbers of Successful Primary Vaccinations of persons.			Number of Successful Re-vaccination i.e. successful vaccinations of persons who had been successfully vaccinated at some previous time.
	Under one year of age.	One year and upwards.	TOTAL.	
DR. W. G. BENNETT ..	345	39	384	3
DR. J. S. G. BURNETT (Municipal Homes) ..	1	—	1	—
Totals .. ..	346	39	385	3

Number of Certificates of Vaccinations received during the year .. ..	496
Number of Certificates of Exemption received .. ..	273
Number of Prosecutions for failure to have child vaccinated .. ..	Nil.

## Maternity and Child Welfare.

**WELFARE CENTRE.**—The good work carried out under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme, evidenced by the remarkably low infant mortality rate for the year, is proof

that creditable results can be secured despite inferior clinic accommodation.

We have, however, it is hoped, renewed our lease of 54, Lowesmoor for the last time, for plans are in hand to place a new combined Welfare Centre and School Clinic in proximity to the Guildhall.

At the Centre the Health Visiting Staff continue to receive the assistance of a panel of voluntary helpers.

**PROVISION OF MILK FOODS.**—During the year consideration was given to the Ministry of Health Circular 1,519. The provisions of the Circular dealing with the supply of milk to expectant and nursing mothers and to children were already in the main in force in the City, but it was decided to extend the issue of milk to children over 12 months old at the discretion of the Medical Officer of the Centre. Dried milk and milk supplements only are supplied at the Clinic and it is significant that the death rate from Infantile Diarrhoea was negligible.

**ANTE-NATAL CARE.**—A separate Ante-Natal Clinic is held on Thursday afternoons, the work done in this connexion is summarised at the end of the section.

The City and County Nursing Association also maintain an Ante-natal Clinic, attended by a doctor in connexion with their district Maternity work.

**MATERNITY BEDS.**—The 3 bed unit at the Poor Law Infirmary is still used by the Health Committee for "home conditions" patients. While everything is done to make the patients' admission as private as possible and while those who



make use of the unit are loud in its praises, the Poor Law stigma seems still to cling and insufficient use is made of the accommodation available.

Cases of difficult or complicated labour and of puerperal infection are admitted under the Block Grant Scheme to the Worcester Royal Infirmary, 51 cases of difficult labour and 24 cases of puerperal infection being dealt with during the year.

The five beds available at the maternity unit at the City and County Nursing Association catered for 66 City cases during the year.

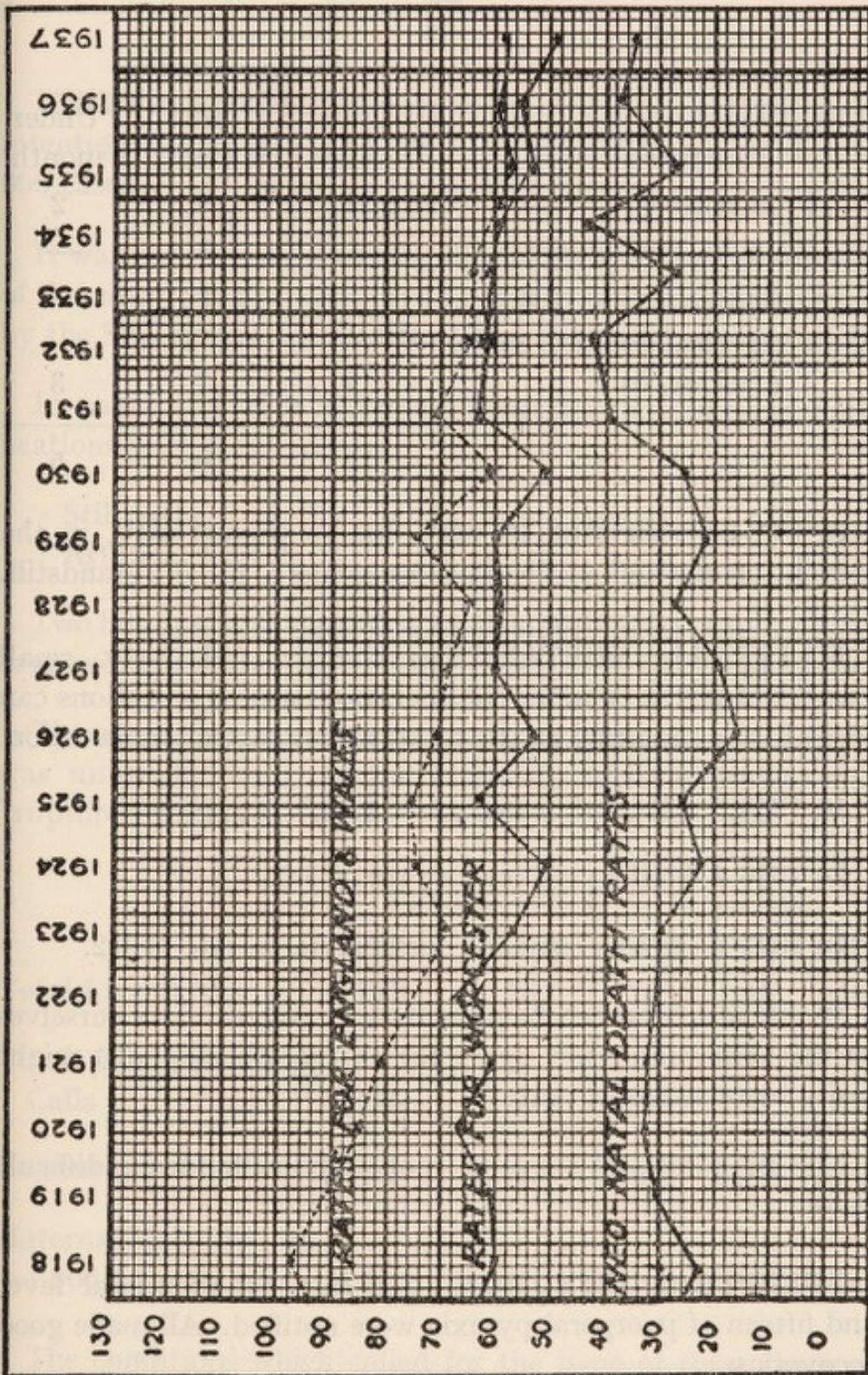
**PROVISION OF MEALS.**—Improvement in economic conditions has reduced the number of meals provided at the Welfare Centre for expectant or nursing mothers for consumption on the premises or at home; 2,730 dinners being provided at a cost of £101 17s. 9d.

**HOME HELPS.**—Home Helps were provided at a cost of £61 to 122 mothers who had regularly attended the Centre and were having a second or subsequent child.

**INFANT MORTALITY.**—Only 40 deaths occurred among infants under one year and of these 28 were neo-natal deaths, i.e., they occurred during the first month of life. That there should have been only 12 deaths among children who survived the first month is a landmark in the City's records and a fact which reflects great credit upon health visitors and all concerned with the safeguarding of infant life.

The neo-natal death rate was 33·98, of the 28 neo-natal deaths, 23 occurred within the first week. The following table gives an analysis of these neo-natal deaths.







Disease.	AGE GROUPS.		
	Under 1 day.	Under 1 week.	Under 1 month.
Prematurity .. ..	11	5	2
Broncho Pneumonia ..	—	1	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage ..	—	1	—
Congenital debility, malformations, &c. .. ..	2	3	3
	13	10	5

It will be seen that 18 were due to prematurity, in the prevention of which medical science seems so far at a standstill.

**MATERNAL MORTALITY.**—When a relatively small number of births is under consideration, wide fluctuations can occur in the maternal death rate without logical explanation.

In 1935 8 maternal deaths gave a high rate of 10·5.

In 1936 4 deaths produced a rate of 5·0.

In 1937 there was only one death giving a rate of 1·2.

We should, however, be premature to congratulate ourselves on this remarkably low figure for on the other hand it might easily be raised next year.

The one fatal case resulted from Embolus following difficult labour.

**PUERPERAL INFECTION.**—Six cases of puerperal fever and fifteen of puerperal pyrexia were notified. All made good recoveries.

**MIDWIVES ACTS.**—Twenty-seven midwives notified their intention to practise and alone or with doctors conducted 900 cases.

It was not necessary to take disciplinary action against any of the midwives, nor were any suspended; and their supervision by the Superintendent Health Visitor is carried out smoothly.

In connexion with Midwives' practises the following notifications were received:—

Stillbirths	..	..	..	..	40
Artificial feeding	..	..	..	..	6

Two hundred and sixty-five Medical Aid forms were received from midwives who had to call in doctors to their assistance.

The number of cases in which medical assistance was sought was unusually high, as the following table indicates, and "ruptured perineum" figured too often in the aid form.

	YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER.				
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Total Live Births ..	740	765	762	769	824
Total Medical Help Calls .. ..	195	245	199	170	265
Percentage of Calls ..	25·02	32·02	26·1	21·3	32·1
Maternal Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	4·0	5·2	10·5	5·0	1·2

The conditions which called for the issue of these medical aid forms are tabulated below.



## FOR THE MOTHER.

*During Pregnancy.*

Unsatisfactory diagnosis	1
Excessive vomiting ..	2
Ante-partum hæmorrhage .. .. .	8
Albuminuria .. .. .	4
Inflammation and œdema of limbs .. .. .	7
Pus in Urine .. .. .	1
Severe pain Iliac region	1
Threatened Abortion ..	1
Raised Blood pressure ..	4
Illness of mother .. .. .	4
Hydræmia .. .. .	1
Total .. .. .	34

*During Labour or the Lying-in.*

Ruptured Perineum ..	70
Abnormal presentation	9
Rise of temperature ..	27
Illness of mother .. .. .	4
Post-partum hæmorrhage	4
Difficult Labour .. .. .	8
Retained Placenta .. .. .	4
Uterine Inertia .. .. .	10
Miscarriage .. .. .	3
Laceration vaginal wall	1
Inflamed Breasts .. .. .	4
Rigid perineum .. .. .	1
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	1
Born before Arrival .. .. .	1
Delayed Labour .. .. .	22
Consultation <i>re</i> puerperal infection .. .. .	4
Total .. .. .	173

## FOR THE CHILD.

Dangerous feebleness ..	6
Suspected Pemphigus ..	1
Rash on limbs .. .. .	1
Difficulty in breathing ..	1
Prematurity .. .. .	6
Talipes both feet .. .. .	1
Cold in head and cough	1
Watery blister and sores	2
Malæna .. .. .	2
Convulsions .. .. .	1
Skin eruption .. .. .	2
Prolapse of cord .. .. .	1
Hare lip .. .. .	1
Mastitis .. .. .	1
Jaundice .. .. .	1
Abnormal infant .. .. .	1
Discharging eyes .. .. .	26
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2
Infantile debility .. .. .	2
Total .. .. .	58

**MIDWIVES ACT, 1936**—In my report for 1936 I reported at length upon the scheme drawn up under this Act to provide a domiciliary midwifery service to meet fully the needs of the area.

Four Municipal Midwives were appointed under the scheme, and took up their duties on 1st July, 1937, covering St. John's and All Saints Wards, Claines and St. Nicholas and a portion of St. Peter's. St. Martin's Ward and the rest of St. Peter's Ward are being covered by the City Nursing Association, although a complete agreement regarding the conditions of participation of the Association in the scheme has not yet been reached.

Under the Act one of the privately practising midwives was discontinued from practising on account of advancing years and was suitably compensated on giving up her certificate.

**BIRTH CONTROL.**—Following receipt of Ministry of Health Circular 1,622, the Health Committee decided to permit contraceptive advice to be given to mothers in whom pregnancy was inadvisable on medical grounds. The lady Assistant Medical Officer of Health attended an instructional course and the necessary equipment was provided to make birth control facilities available at the Centre.

**REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.**—During the year two private nursing homes were discontinued, and there are now three homes registered providing 31 beds. These are visited by the Superintendent Health Visitor. It was not necessary during the year to take any action for breaches of the Act.

**INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.**—The Public Health Act, 1936, through its sections 206–220 now controls Infant Life



Protection, the earlier appropriate legislation having been repealed.

No variations of the supervisory arrangements have been made, each health visitor being authorised to supervise the welfare of boarded-out children to whom special attention is paid.

The following table relates to work done in this connexion:—

Number of children on register 31st, December, 1936 .. .. .	37
Number of children received by foster-mothers during 1937 .. .. .	3
	— 40
Number of children removed from care of foster-mothers .. .. .	13
	—
Number on register, 31st December, 1937 ..	27
	—
Visits paid by Health Visitors .. .. .	175

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**—Facilities are provided by the Council for the treatment of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum at the Eye Hospital. These cases are especially followed up by the Health Visitors on discharge from hospital.

Only 5 cases were notified and these were treated with satisfactory results. So far as Worcester is concerned, blindness resulting from Ophthalmia Neonatorum, once quite common, is now to all intents and purposes, wiped out.

**ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT.**—Cases requiring orthopædic treatment are referred to the Worcester Royal Infirmary Orthopædic Clinic in the charge of Mr. Norman Duggan, F.R.C.S. Any operative treatment is carried out in hospital, and the cases are followed up by an Orthopædic Sister in addition to the Health Visitor.

## Maternity and Child Welfare Statistics, 1937.

TABLE I.

*Visits paid to the Homes by the Health Visitors.*

A.				Total
	First.	Return.	Total.	1936.
To Infants under 1 year ..	897	5,758	6,655	6,171
„ Children 1—5 years ..	—	—	8,701	8,993
„ Expectant Mothers ..	461	544	1,005	1,008
„ Mothers after confinement ..	—	—	157	205
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,358	6,302	16,518	16,377
B.				Total
			Visits.	1936.
To Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..			16	30
„ „ Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ..			12	11
„ „ Measles and German Measles ..			12	135
„ „ Whooping Cough .. ..			49	136
„ „ Epidemic Diarrhoea .. ..			10	17
„ „ Poliomyelitis .. ..			—	—
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			99	329
C.				Total
			Visits.	1936.
In connection with—				
Mother's Death .. ..	..	..	1	—
Infants Deaths .. ..	..	..	13	19
Stillbirths .. ..	..	..	42	26
Boarded-out Children .. ..	..	..	175	214
Dental Cases .. ..	..	..	98	87
Other Cases .. ..	..	..	1,342	1,802
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			1,671	2,148
			<hr/>	<hr/>



D.		Total Visits.	Total 1936.
	Total Visits paid on District:—		
	Group A .. ..	16,518	16,377
	„ B .. ..	99	329
	„ C .. ..	1,671	2,148
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		18,289	18,854
		<hr/>	<hr/>

TABLE II.

*Clinics held by the Medical Officer.*

	Total 1937.	Total 1936.
1. Number of Meetings .. ..	145	149
2. Attendances:—		
Infants under 1 year—		
First Visits .. ..	396	
Return Visits .. ..	1,083	
Total .. ..	<hr/> 1,479	<hr/> 1,180
Children 1—5 years—		
First Visits .. ..	40	
Return Visits .. ..	299	
Total .. ..	<hr/> 339	<hr/> 263

				Total 1937.	Total 1936.
Ante-natal Women—					
First Visits	..	..	..	216	
Return Visits	..	..	..	317	
Total	..	..	..	<u>533</u>	<u>469</u>
Post-natal Women —					
First Visits	..	..	..	8	
Return Visits	..	..	..	5	
Total	..	..	..	<u>13</u>	<u>50</u>
Special Women—					
First Visits	..	..	..	13	
Return Visits	..	..	..	5	
Total	..	..	..	<u>18</u>	<u>12</u>
3. Total Attendances:—					
Children	..	..	..	1,818	
Women	..	..	..	564	
Total	..	..	..	<u>2,382</u>	<u>2,399</u>
4. Average Attendance per Clinic:—					
Children	..	..	..	19·13	
Women	..	..	..	11·28	
Total	..	..	..	<u>16·42</u>	<u>16·10</u>



TABLE III.

*Weighing Clinics.*

	South.	North.	West.	Central.	Total.	Total 1935.
1. Number of Meetings	51	48	51	48	198	199
2. Total Visits:—						
Infants under 1 year	1,565	1,013	926	1,862	5,366	4,986
Children 1—5 years	273	238	165	400	1,076	898
Total .. ..	1,838	1,251	1,091	2,262	6,442	5,884
Expectant Mothers	81	86	10	88	265	258
Other Women ..	232	192	107	244	775	853
Total .. ..	313	278	117	332	1,040	1,111
3. Total Attendances ..	2,151	1,529	1,208	2,594	7,482	6,995
4. Average Attendance per Session:—						
Children .. ..	36·0	26·0	21·3	47·1	32·5	29·5
Women .. ..	6·1	5·7	2·2	6·9	5·2	5·5
Total .. ..	42·1	31·7	23·5	54·0	37·7	35·0
5. First Visits:—						
Infants .. ..	212	81	56	182	531	501
Children .. ..	13	7	3	11	34	30
Expectant Mothers	16	33	4	46	99	92
Total .. ..	241	121	63	239	564	623

**INFIRMARY TREATMENT.**—Seventy-eight children and three women were sent for treatment and for conditions as under:—

Naevi .. .. .	5
Phimosis .. .. .	32
Otorrhea .. .. .	8
Eyes .. .. .	5
Hernia .. .. .	6
Tonsils and Adenoids .. .. .	5
Deaf .. .. .	1
Impetigo .. .. .	1
Conditions associated with Pregnancy .. .. .	3
Orthopædic .. .. .	11
Various .. .. .	4

**DINNERS.**—At a cost of:—

Total 1937.		Total 1936.	
Dinners.	Cost.	Dinners.	Cost.
2,730	£101 17s. 9d.	3,689	£121 10s. 6d.

**HOME HELPS.**—

122	£61 0s. 0d.	129	£64 10s. 0d.
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### SECTION "C"

**WATER.**—The City's water continues to be drawn from the River Severn, being treated by gravity sand filtration and chlorination.

Bacteriological examination of the intake water has shown that towards the end of the year pollution of the river has increased, and in consequence greater strain is being put upon the filter beds. Despite this the water supplied to the public has retained a high standard of purity. Weekly bacteriological



examination of the City's supply is made, and additionally samples are from time to time taken at various dwelling-houses.

During the year a sum of £183 5s. 0d. was expended upon water analysis.

The following analysis report indicates the chemical characteristics of the supply:—

### CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS.

#### TAP WATER.

*I hereby certify that I have examined the above sample chemically with the following results:—*

	Parts per 100,000
Physical Characters .. .. .	Clear
Deposit .. .. .	None
Solids in Suspension, dried at 100°C. ..	None
Solids in Solution, dried at 100°C. ..	45
Solids in Solution, After Ignition ..	39
Chlorides calculated as Common Salt ..	17
Hardness, Permanent .. .. .	9
Hardness, Temporary .. .. .	11
Hardness, Total .. .. .	20
Free and Saline Ammonia .. .. .	0.0008
Albuminoid Ammonia .. .. .	0.006
Nitric Nitrogen (Nitrates) .. .. .	Trace
Nitrous Nitrogen (Nitrates) .. .. .	None
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C. ..	0.14
Toxic Metals .. .. .	None

*Opinion.*—Upon the above chemical analysis the water may be used for drinking.

(Sd.) H. E. MONK,  
City Analyst.

Extensions to water mains have been carried out in the following districts during the year 1937:—

Pitmaston Site.  
 Cornmeadow Estate.  
 Newtown Road.  
 Astwood Farm Estate.  
 St. Dunstan's Close.  
 Blackpole Road Housing Site.  
 Park Street.  
 Tolladine Road Housing Site No. 3.  
 Bransford Road.  
 Replacement Main in London Road.  
 Grange Avenue.  
 Lower Astwood Road to Bilford Road.  
 Grove Farm Estate.  
 Nunnery Lane.  
 Oldbury Road.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

**SCAVENGING.**—Domestic refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping. No complaints regarding the City tips were received during the year and no serious nuisance arose.

**SEWERAGE.**—The sewerage problems resulting from the boundary extensions of 1931 have now been satisfactorily dealt with, with the exception of the Lower Wick area where low levels have prevented certain houses from being connected to sewers and where nuisance from cesspools arises from time to time. The connection of these houses to a piped water supply has, from the resultant increased water consumption, added to the drainage difficulties.



An adequate sewerage scheme for this district is urgently needed.

**CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.**—The Water Carriage System is employed almost exclusively for sewerage conveyance—there being only 10 privies and 43 pail-closets remaining—attached to houses which cannot conveniently be sewerred.

An appreciable number of new houses have, however, been erected on the outskirts of the City with septic tank systems, and in some instances the effluent drains into a watercourse. Unfortunately, it would seem possible for a person to erect a house on a site removed from a sewer and instal a septic tank system. An aggregation of such houses soon creates a nuisance from septic tank effluents, and the local authority becomes faced with expensive sewerage works.

**SMOKE ABATEMENT.**—Bye-laws regarding Smoke nuisance are in force but are never required, as the City is singularly free from industrial smoke nuisance, gas and electricity being increasingly used in local industries. Domestic fires account for most of the smoke observed, and even this is being reduced by labour-saving gas and electric appliances, the use of which is fostered by the Health Department. The relatively clean exteriors of our public buildings is in welcome contrast to the begrimed and corroded buildings so often seen in the industrial North. City Industries are daily taking electrical energy representing 26,668 Horse-power.

**SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.**—The only public swimming pool is privately owned. The water is filtered, chlorinated and heated by suitable plant, and the chlorination is carefully controlled. Samples taken by the Health Department Staff have given very satisfactory bacteriological analyses.

The Council owns the Riverside Swimming Baths, which consist of pontoons suspending cages through which the Severn flows. During the past year the state of the river has raised doubts as to the suitability of the river water for public bathing, and the question of providing alternative accommodation is under consideration.

**SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**—The Chief Sanitary Inspector, who has a staff of three Assistants, contributes the following report:—

**ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.**—A tabulated summary of the sanitary operations is given below; 1,514 nuisances having been reported during the year. To abate these nuisances, 248 Request Notices were served upon the persons responsible; and in 108 cases the Health Committee gave instructions for Statutory Notices to be served.

In 3 instances I had to ask the Health Committee to institute legal proceedings, but in each case the nuisances were abated following the despatch of a warning letter.

**NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED AND SUMMARY OF  
WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1937.**

Number of Notices (Preliminary) served .. ..	248
Number of Notices (Statutory) served .. ..	108
Number of Notices (Statutory) served in connection with Housing .. .. .	178
Number of letters sent with regard to Notices ..	162
Number of complaints received and investigated ..	178
Number of Notices sent to Schools <i>re</i> infectious diseases	1,817
Rooms cleansed and limewashed .. .. .	187



Dilapidated walls, floors, windows, etc., repaired ..	230
Defective roofs and spouting repaired .. ..	130
Damp walls cured .. .. .	93
Wash-houses repaired, cleansed and limewashed ..	61
Wash-house floors and yards re-paved or repaired ..	15
Glazed stoneware sinks fitted .. .. .	15
Sink waste pipes and rainwater pipes disconnected from drains .. .. .	27
Drains opened and cleansed .. .. .	49
Defective drains repaired or reconstructed .. ..	48
Glazed stoneware gully traps fixed .. .. .	26
Water-closets repaired, cleansed and limewashed ..	74
Water-closet flushing cisterns repaired .. .. .	18
Water-closets provided with new basins and traps ..	34
Defective joints in pans, traps and flush pipes repaired	1
Houses provided with sufficient water supply ..	7
Nuisances from overcrowding abated .. .. .	40
Nuisances from improper keeping of animals ..	—
Accumulation of manure removed .. .. .	7
Sanitary dustbins provided .. .. .	257
Miscellaneous .. .. .	202
Houses, W.C.'s, etc., cleansed by occupier .. ..	—
Waste of water reported to Water Inspector ..	3
No. of references to City Surveyor with regard to dangerous buildings, paving of courts, and foul street gullies .. .. .	15
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease .. ..	115
Verminous houses fumigated—constituting 43 rooms..	19
Samples of Food and Drugs collected for City Analyst	82
Samples of Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs collected for City Analyst .. .. .	11
Samples of Milk for Bacteria Count .. .. .	275
Samples of Milk for Tubercle Bacilli .. .. .	23

**INSPECTIONS.**—The following table shows the number and nature of inspections carried out during 1937:—

Housing Inspections	..	..	..	379
Public Health Inspections	..	..	..	2175
Re-inspections	..	..	..	1959
Infectious Disease, Visits to Houses	..	..	..	193
Common Lodging-houses	..	..	..	175
Houses Let in Lodgings	..	..	..	83
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	..	..	..	311
Offensive Trades	..	..	..	80
Workshops	..	..	..	117
Bakehouses	..	..	..	86
Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	1978
Canal Boats	..	..	..	35
Dustbin Inspections	..	..	..	3763
Food Shops and Markets	..	..	..	714
Places where animals kept	..	..	..	36
Water Samples taken	..	..	..	85
Drains smoke-tested	..	..	..	101
Smoke Observations	..	..	..	37
Ice Cream Shops	..	..	..	31
Houses measured <i>re</i> Overcrowding	..	..	..	11,584

In the early part of the year additional staff was employed in completing our Survey of all working class houses in the City with a view of discovering cases of overcrowding and the rooms in some 11,584 houses were measured. This was necessary in order to obtain the permitted number of persons for each house. The duty is upon the Owners of dwelling-houses of inserting in the rent books a statement of the number of persons who may be permitted to occupy the houses. On request, the permitted numbers are supplied to Owners.



**HOUSE REFUSE.**—Towards the end of the year a special campaign was commenced with regard to the provision of dustbins for the reception of house refuse, and an assistant was specially engaged to visit houses throughout the City. The following is a summary of the work carried out during three months.

No. of inspections .. .. .	3,451
No. of re-inspections .. .. .	727
No. of Notices issued .. .. .	473
No. of Dustbins asked for .. .. .	725
No. of dustbins supplied .. .. .	580
No. of dustbins outstanding .. .. .	145

**SMOKE ABATEMENT.**—Thirty seven observations were made of factory chimneys, and 1 Notice was served in accordance with the Smoke Abatement Act, 1926, calling the attention of the owners to the nuisance arising from the emission of excessive smoke.

**RAGS FLOCK ACT, 1911—1928**—As no premises in the City come within the purview of these Acts, no action thereunder was necessary.

### Premises controlled by Bye-Laws.

**OFFENSIVE TRADES.**—The total number of Offensive Trades, as defined by the Ministry of Health Order of January, 1913, and the Public Health Act, 1875, is 47, being made up as follows:—

	Under Sec. 112 of P.H.A. 1875.	Under Ministry of Health Order.	Total.
Fish Friers .. ..	13	21	34
Tripe Boilers .. ..	—	4	4
Fellmongers .. ..	2	1	3
Rag and Bone Dealers ..	3	—	3
Hide, Skin and Fat Dealers ..	2	—	2
Gut Scrapers .. ..	1	—	1
	—	—	—
	21	26	47
	—	—	—

Three applications were received during the year to establish the trade of fish frier and were refused.

A Knacker Yard at Croft Road is licensed annually for slaughtering horses and cattle not intended for the food of man; subject to strict supervision as to the carrying out of the rules and regulations which govern the conduct of the trade.

The premises are periodically visited, and no serious complaints have been received as to any nuisance arising therefrom; the businesses being generally well conducted.

**COMMON LODGING HOUSES.**—There has been no change during the year in the conduct of the 7 Common Lodging Houses on our register, which provide accommodation for 158 lodgers. Two of the houses are permanently registered whilst the remainder are registered for a period of one year only under Section 69 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907. One house was removed from the Register during the year, as the occupier ceased using the premises as a lodging house.



Inspections are regularly made to each of the houses, and the keepers (with one exception) do their best to keep the houses clean and in as good an order as their structure will permit. Notices and strong cautionary letters have been sent to the offending keeper.

**HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.**—The number of Houses Let in Lodgings on our Register at the end of 1937 was 13, two registered houses having been demolished during the year under Slum Clearance Schemes. The premises are visited periodically to see that the Bye-laws as regards limewashing, cleansing of bedding, separation of sexes, have been adhered to.

**FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT.**—At the end of 1937 there were 143 on our Register. During the year 3 Workshops have been added and 4 struck off, having given up or been converted into Factories.

One hundred and five inspections have been made and the following improvements have been carried out:—

Workshops cleansed and limewashed	..	2
Accumulations removed	.. ..	1
W.C.s repaired and ventilated	.. ..	2

**OUTWORKERS.**—Lists containing the names and addresses of 818 outworkers were received from occupiers of Factories and Workshops during the year. In February, 12 lists with the names of 790 outworkers, and in August, 12 lists with the names of 818 outworkers, were received.

Visits were made to the home workers' premises during the course of our Public Health Inspections, but in no instance was it necessary to forbid the giving out of work because of infectious disease in the household.

**BAKEHOUSES.**—There were 38 occupied Bakehouses in the City at the end of the year. Of these, 12 are classed as “Factory Bakehouses” and there are now no occupied underground Bakehouses in the City. There were no additions during the year, and 1 Bakehouse has been closed. One Bakehouse changed ownership during the year.

All the Bakehouses have been periodically inspected and have been found to be fairly well conducted. It seems to be a real difficulty in some of the Bakehouses to prevent a certain amount of flour, sugar, etc., caking on the floors.

#### INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	In- spections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prose- cutions. (4)
FACTORIES .. .. . (including Factory Laundries)	12	2	—
WORKSHOPS .. .. . (including Workshop Laundries)	105	2	—
WORKPLACES .. .. . (Other than Outworkers' prem- ises)	—	—	—
Total .. .. .	117	4	—



DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND  
WORKPLACES.

Particulars.  (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prose- cutions.  (5)
	Found.  (2)	Reme- died.  (3)	Referred to H.M. In- spector.  (4)	
<b>NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:—*</b>				
Want of cleanliness .. ..	2	2	—	—
Want of ventilation .. ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances .. ..	1	1	—	—
Sanitary } accomo- } dation } { insufficient .. .. { unsuitable or de- { fective .. .. { not separate for { sexes .. ..	—	—	—	—
	2	2	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
<b>OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS:—</b>				
Illegal occupation of under- ground bakehouse (S. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences .. .. [Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections men- tioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Work- shops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921]	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	5	5	—	—

\*Including those specified in Sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

## OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES. (SECTION 108.)

NATURE OF WORK. (1)	Instances (2)	Notices served (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Wearing Apparel:—			
Making, etc. .. ..			
Cleaning and washing .. ..			
Household linen .. ..			
Lace, lace curtains and nets .. ..			
Curtains and furniture hangings .. ..			
Furniture and upholstery .. ..			
Electro-plate .. ..			
File making .. ..			
Brass and brass articles .. ..			
Fur pulling .. ..			
Cables and chains .. ..			
Anchors and grapnels .. ..			
Cart gear .. ..			
Locks, latches and keys .. ..			
Umbrellas, etc. .. ..			
Artificial flowers .. ..			
Nets, other than wire nets .. ..			
Tents .. ..			
Sacks .. ..			
Racquet and tennis balls .. ..			
Paper, etc., paper bags .. ..			
Brush making .. ..			
Pea picking .. ..			
Feather sorting .. ..			
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc. .. ..			
Stuffed toys .. ..			
Basket making .. ..			
Chocolates and sweetmeats .. ..			
Cosaques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings, etc. .. ..			
Textile weaving .. ..			
Total .. ..	—	—	—



**SHOPS ACT, 1934.**—The work of the sanitary sections of this Act is carried out by the Health Department; and we have an arrangement with the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, who is also the Shops Inspector, whereby he refers to the Sanitary Department any matter connected with the sanitary sections of the Act which may come to his notice during his visits of inspection.

The following works have been carried out:—

Shops provided with additional W.C.	..	3
Shops provided with washing facilities	..	2
Exemptions granted during the year	..	Nil

## SECTION "D"

### Housing.

**SLUM CLEARANCE AND RE-HOUSING.**—During 1936 slum clearance had of necessity to be slowed down because of a lag in re-housing owing to earlier difficulties in acquiring sites. During 1937 the position had very materially altered; the Health (Housing) Sub-Committee having been pursuing an energetic building policy.

In the Autumn, re-housing had over-taken slum-clearance and for a short time there were a few new houses awaiting tenants. This state of affairs was quickly remedied, and in addition to representation of 225 individual houses during the year, 185 houses were included in the following Clearance Areas:—

The Moors Clearance Areas Nos. 1, 2 and 3.

Powick Lane Clearance Area.

St. Paul's (Blockhouse) Clearance Areas Nos. 1 and 2.

Dolday (South Side) Clearance Areas Nos. 1 and 2.

Lich Street Clearance Area.

One of the major difficulties encountered in re-housing has been the bug-infestation of the condemned houses which has delayed the transfer of the tenants to their new houses. During the year cyanide fumigation carried out for the Corporation by a private firm at their own risk was introduced, and a total of 97 houses treated. Arrangements were also made whereby the tenants, if verminous, were cleansed before moving to their new homes. This necessitated the loaning of bedding by the Health Committee to tenants whose belongings were being fumigated in order to guard against any danger of cyanide gas poisoning.

A further difficulty encountered has been the re-housing of single units and childless married couples. From Grant considerations it is uneconomic to rehouse single units or childless couples in Council Houses capable of containing 5 persons. The Health Committee having been sympathetic towards the needs of these people, has not cared to evict them; and, in consequence, demolition of houses and complete clearance of areas has been delayed.

An additional re-housing difficulty has resulted from the delay associated with Compulsory Purchase Orders affecting areas, which make it very difficult to synchronise slum clearance with re-housing.



## SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

### STATISTICS.

The following table shows the extent of the work so far carried out in connection with slum clearance in the City, viz.:

#### CLEARANCE AREAS DECLARED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Area.	Number of				Area of Clearance Areas in Sq. Yds.	No. of Persons displaced or yet to be displaced.
	Dwelling-houses.	Common Lodging-houses.	Houses Let in Lodgings.	Buildings.		
The Moors No. 1 ..	14	-	-	2	1,513	60
The Moors No. 2 ..	29	-	-	-	4,592	111
The Moors No. 3 ..	28	-	-	1	5,224	82
Powick Lane ..	18	-	-	1	1,370	82
St. Paul's (Blockhouse) No. 1 ..	49	-	-	3	4,050	157
St. Paul's (Blockhouse) No. 2 ..	30	-	-	-	2,045	94
Dolday (South Side) No. 1	7	-	-	1	490	32
Dolday (South Side) No. 2	3	4	5	-	1,030	119
Lich Street ..	7	-	7	-	928	74
Total for 1937 ..	185	4	12	8	21,242	811
<i>Individual Unfit Houses, represented during 1937 ..</i>	225	-	-	-	-	772
Total for 1937 ..	410	4	12	8	21,242	1,583

The following table shows the extent of the work so far carried out in connexion with slum clearance in the City, viz.:-

CLEARANCE AREAS ALREADY DECLARED FROM 1930 to 1936.

Area.	Number of				Area of Clearance Areas in Sq. Yds.	No. of Persons displaced or yet to be displaced.
	Dwelling-houses.	Common Lodging-houses.	Houses Let in Lodgings.	Buildings.		
Dolday .. .. .	48	-	-	-	2,600	221
King Street No. 1 .. .. .	21	-	-	-	834	51
King Street No. 2 .. .. .	56	-	-	2	456	29
Copenhagen Street No. 1 .. .. .	10	-	-	2	2,665	161
Copenhagen Street No. 2 .. .. .	6	-	-	1	745	61
Bull Entry & Chapel Walk	17	-	-	1	560	26
Newport Street and Dolday No. 1 .. .. .	5	-	-	-	1,398	31
ditto No. 2 .. .. .	19	-	-	-	1,580	57
ditto No. 3 .. .. .	29	-	-	-	431	24
Hylton Road .. .. .	211	-	-	1	1,480	51
Copenhagen Street and Warmstry Slip .. .. .	450	-	-	7	2,891	108
<i>Individual Unfit Houses, represented from 1930-36</i>	661	-	-	2	15,640	820
Total to 31st Dec., 1937	1,071	4	12	17	36,882	3,569



NUMBER OF COUNCIL HOUSES BUILT UNDER 1930-1936 ACTS  
AND ACTUALLY OCCUPIED.

A.2 Type—2 Bedrooms	Summer St. Site ..	2	
	Barneshall Site ..	8	
	Alma St. Site ..	6	
		—	16
A.3 Type—3 Bedrooms	Barneshall Site ..	18	
	Brickfields Rd. No. 1	26	
	Brickfields Rd. No. 2	15	
	Tolladine Rd. No. 2	164	
	Blackpole Rd. Site	24	
	Martley Road Site	52	
	Astwood Hall Site..	38	
	Tunnel Hill Site ..	38	
		—	375
A.4 Type—4 Bedrooms	Martley Rd. Site ..	10	
		—	
	Total Houses .. ..		401
			—

COUNCIL HOUSES IN COURSE OF, OR PASSED FOR ERECTION

Severn St. Site .. .. .	16
Tunnel Hill Site .. .. .	20
Blackpole Rd. No. 2 .. .. .	40
	—
	76
Tolladine Rd. No. 3 .. .. .	226
Tolladine Rd. No. 3—additional ..	16
	—
Total Houses .. .. .	318
	—

From 1930 to 1937, 20 Clearance Areas have been declared, comprising 427 houses and buildings, and covering a total area of 7.62 acres. These properties and sites will be eventually purchased by the Council either by way of agreement or by Compulsory Purchase. It is anticipated that to complete the Slum Clearance Programme a further 5 Clearance Areas will be declared, comprising some 140 houses.

In addition, during the period 1930 to 1937, 675 individual Unfit Houses have been represented and dealt with as follows:—

Houses demolished	..	..	..	339
Houses made Fit under Section II	..		..	72
Houses Closed or put out of use	..		..	14
Awaiting final action	..	..	..	250
				—
Total	..	..	..	675
				—

It is expected that to complete the final programme under slum clearance, approximately 180 additional Individual houses will be represented as unfit.

With houses in Clearance Areas declared and yet to be declared, and Individual Unfit Houses represented and awaiting representation, an approximate total of 1,500 houses will be dealt with in the Programme of Slum Clearance under the Housing Acts, 1930–1936.

**HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV—OVERCROWDING.**—The efforts of the departmental staff have been concentrated upon slum clearance and the associated re-housing which it is



desired to complete before vigorously attacking overcrowding. Even so, steps were taken to relieve overcrowding in 30 private houses and 10 Council Houses. During the year it was also possible by transfer of families of two persons only from three-bedroomed to two-bedroomed Council Houses to make better use of the Council House accommodation and so reduce overcrowding in this way.

The "Appointed Day" for purposes of the "Overcrowding" sections of the Act was fixed at 1st April, 1937. No prosecutions for overcrowding have yet been made.

## Housing Statistics.

### 1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	1,775
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	2,874
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .. .. .	339
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	339
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	225

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .. .. .	38
 2. <i>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—</i>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. .. .	141
 3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—</i>	
(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ..	10
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices:—	
(a) By owners .. .. .	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
 (b) <i>Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:—</i>	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. .. .	182
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices:—	
(a) By owners .. .. .	52
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners..	Nil



(c) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—*

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	108
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	110

(d) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.. .. .	Nil
(3) Reconditioning schemes accepted in respect of dwelling-houses .. .. .	21

4. *Housing Act, 1936—Part I V—Overcrowding:—*

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. .	293
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein .. .. .	331
(iii) Number of Persons dwelling therein .. .. .	1,842
(b) Number of New cases of Overcrowding reported during the year .. .. .	28
(c) (i) Number of cases of Overcrowding relieved during the year .. .. .	40
(ii) Number of Persons concerned in such cases .. .. .	234
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .. .. .	Nil

## SECTION "E"

## Inspection and Supervision of Foods.

**MILK.**—The bulk of the milk supplied in the City is now bottled and the major portion of this bottled milk is pasteurised.

Under the Milk in Schools Scheme only pasteurised milk is supplied to scholars: during the year 26,000 gallons of milk were supplied under this scheme to 2,814 children.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, the following licences were issued:—

*Tuberculin Tested Milk.*

Producer's Licence to sell milk as Tuberculin Milk .. .. .	1
Dealer's Licence (supplementary) to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	3
Dealer's Licence to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	4

*Accredited Milk.*

Producer's Licence to sell milk as Accredited	1
Bottler's Licence to sell milk as Accredited ..	2
Dealer's Licence (supplementary) to sell milk as Accredited .. .. .	2

*Pasteurised Milk.*

Producer's Licence to sell milk as Pasteurised ..	4
Dealer's Licence to sell milk as Pasteurised ..	4
Dealer's Licence (supplementary) to sell milk as Pasteurised .. .. .	1



In connexion with the Accredited Roll of Producers, the Health Committee, in order to encourage clean milk production, undertook to bear the cost of Veterinary fees incurred in the necessary inspection of herds.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector submits the following details regarding the inspection and supervision of food and associated matters particularly the concern of his department.

**MILK.**—The number of samples of milk taken under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, which were submitted for analysis was 66. The average composition of the samples was:

Fat	..	..	..	..	3.50%
Non-fatty Solids	..	..	..	..	8.70%

and is well above the presumptive standard of the Ministry of Agriculture, viz.:—

Fat	..	..	..	..	3.00%
Non-fatty Solids	..	..	..	..	8.50%

The particulars of the seven samples below this standard are:—

*Sample No. 20.*

This sample contained 12.1% added water at place of delivery. Samples and an "appeal to cow" sample were taken. These proved that water was being added to the milk. The vendor, who had been previously warned under similar circumstances 2 years ago, was prosecuted and fined £4 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.

*Sample No. 44.*

This sample was found to be deficient in fat. An "appeal to cow" sample was taken, this was found to be slightly deficient

in fat. The vendor appeared before the Health Committee and was warned.

*Sample No. 48.*

The circumstances in this case were very similar to the previous.

*Samples Nos. 55, 56 and 57.*

These samples were taken in connexion with sample No. 44. All were deficient in fat, and the vendor was cautioned.

*Sample No. 60.*

This sample was found to be deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 13.3%. The vendor was cautioned.

**BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.**—Two hundred and ninety-seven samples of milk were sent to the City Analyst during the year for bacteriological examinations, viz.:—

275 samples of designated milks for prescribed tests.

23 samples for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli.

The following is a summary of the samples taken, and the results of the prescribed tests.

	Samples taken for County			Samples taken for City		
	Satis.	Unsat.	Total.	Satis.	Unsat.	Total.
Tuberculin Tested						
Milk .. ..	—	—	—	15	1	16
Accredited Milk ..	142	18	160	36	5	41
Pasteurised Milk ..	—	—	—	39	14	53
Undesignated Milk	—	—	—	—	4	4
Totals .. ..	142	18	160	90	24	114



Where samples were reported as unsatisfactory, the vendors were cautioned and further samples taken until the supply was satisfactory.

One supply of pasteurised milk to Schools was unsatisfactory and the supply stopped.

The methylene blue test is defined to measure the activity of bacteria in milk and not the relative number of bacteria. It is upon the activity of the bacteria that the souring of milk chiefly depends and the methylene blue test is in fact chiefly to measure the keeping quality of the milk.

Of the 23 samples examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, 2 taken in the last quarter of the year were found to be positive. One of these samples was of the bulk supply of a herd, and the other was from a cow of the same herd, which was regarded as suspicious by the Council's Veterinary Surgeon. The owner willingly agreed to have the cow slaughtered and she was found to be affected with tuberculosis.

**MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926**—At the end of 1937, there were on our registers:—

Cowkeepers .. .. .	7
Dairymen .. .. .	32
Retail Purveyors of Milk .. .. .	13
Retail Purveyors of Milk residing outside the City but who retail milk within the City ..	26
Shopkeepers selling bottled Milk .. .. .	20

**MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936**—The following licences were issued under this Order:

**TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK:**

Producer's Licence to sell milk as Tuberculin Milk .. .. .	1
Dealer's Licence (supplementary) to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	3
Dealer's Licence to sell milk as Tuberculin Tested .. .. .	4

**ACCREDITED MILK:**

Producer's Licence to sell milk as Accredited	1
Bottler's Licence to sell milk as Accredited	2
Dealer's Licence (supplementary) to sell milk as Accredited .. .. .	2

**PASTEURISED MILK:**

Producer's Licence to sell milk as Pasteurised	4
Dealer's Licence to sell milk as Pasteurised	2
Dealer's Licence (supplementary) to sell milk as Pasteurised .. .. .	1

The sale of bottled milk is still gaining ground, whilst the retailing of loose milk is declining. Many of the small shopkeepers are allowed to sell "bottled milk", as a shop from which milk is supplied in unopened receptacles is not a dairy within the meaning of the Milk and Dairies Order.

Samples are taken at least once a quarter for bacteriological examination from every person to whom a licence has been granted for the sale of designated milk; and at the request of the Worcestershire County Council samples are taken each quarter from accredited Producers supplying milk to the dairymen in the City.



**COWSHEDS.**—During the year 1 cowshed was given up, which now leaves a total of 7 cowsheds on our Register. These cowsheds provide accommodation for 184 cows.

The cowsheds have been periodically visited by the District Inspector; and the Council's Veterinary Inspector, accompanied by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, has examined the cows in the various herds in the City.

Eight samples of milk were taken from cows which the Veterinary Surgeon regarded as suspicious. These eight samples were examined microscopically and inoculated into guinea pigs; two proved to be positive. The cow concerned was slaughtered and was found to be affected with Tuberculosis.

**MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.**—The various butchers, fishmongers and greengrocers shops, retail stalls in the Markets, the street barrows, and other places where food is prepared or sold, were visited during the year; and a general improvement was found in the manner of conducting these trades.

All the Butchers in the City have recognised days and times for slaughtering, and except in the case of emergency slaughter there has been no alteration or amendment to the Notices sent in by the various Traders. As a precautionary measure, surprise visits are made at times other than those mentioned in the returns.

We have no stalls or barrows from which meat is sold for human consumption. All stalls are situated in the Meat Market and are permanent structures.

It is pleasing to note that the old practice of handling meat by prospective purchasers has practically ceased. This may in

part be due to the Notices exhibited by many of the Retail Butchers requesting customers not to handle meat, and also to the fact that the increasing provision of glazed shop fronts is preventing this disgusting practice being carried on.

Eleven notifications of slaughter were received during the year from pig feeders who desired to kill pigs on their own premises, and the carcasses of 15 pigs were inspected.

**PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSES.**—There are 20 registered and one licensed Private Slaughterhouses in the City. The inspection of meat in these slaughterhouses still continues to receive strict and constant attention, the number of visits to the slaughterhouses for the year being 1,978.

Seventy-three notifications were received during the year from Butchers concerning animals which on slaughter were found to be in a diseased or unsound condition, and it is satisfactory to state that for some years the butchers have accepted my decision without exception, and have voluntarily surrendered any unsound foodstuffs.

From time to time most of the Butchers in the City have sustained serious losses from the confiscation of diseased cattle and it is pleasing to report that the Worcester and District Butchers Association have inaugurated a Mutual Insurance Scheme to provide a fund to compensate butchers in the case of loss of animals bought for human food which have been insured. Official certificates are issued giving details of animals which have been condemned.

The Bye-laws for limewashing and cleansing of the Slaughterhouses and the removal of offal, etc., are fairly well complied with.



**HUMANE SLAUGHTERING.**—At the Public Slaughterhouses the Cash Captive Bolt Pistol is still used for the preliminary stunning of cattle and large pigs, and the Electro-lethaler for all other animals. This procedure has been carried out for the past five years.

There has been only one Electrolethaler installed at the private slaughterhouses, and the Cash Captive Bolt Pistol is the instrument used on all other animals. Each method has proved to be satisfactory.

All slaughtermen must now possess a licence issued by the Local Authority before they may slaughter or stun any animal and during the year 94 licences were issued by this Department.

**PUBLIC SLAUGHTERHOUSES.**—The following table gives the number of animals slaughtered during the year, as compared with the previous four years:—

	To March 31st.				
	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Beasts slaughtered	2,248	2,292	2,650	3,236	2,758
Sheep        ,,	15,748	13,083	12,415	16,317	12,079
Calves        ,,	918	935	757	717	594
Pigs         ,,	4,310	4,370	4,861	4,759	4,652
	23,224	20,680	20,683	25,029	20,083
Amount received for slaughtering	£697	£651	£694	£811	£667

The Manager, Mr. G. W. Glendenning, who is a qualified Meat Inspector, keeps the premises well under control and exercises supervision over the animals slaughtered.

Mr. Ralph Taylor, Chief Sanitary Inspector, attends the slaughterhouses each morning, and all animals and internal organs are examined before removal from the slaughterhouses in accordance with Memo. 62 Foods issued by the Ministry of Health.

**UN SOUND FOOD.**—During the year the following food has been destroyed as being diseased or unwholesome, viz.:—

*Tuberculosis:—*

Cattle	51 carcasses and organs. 78 heads and tongues. 20 all organs. 106 lungs. 24 livers.
Pigs	27 carcasses and Organs. 149 heads and tongues. 36 all organs.
Calves	4 carcasses and organs.

*Other Diseases:—*

Cattle	15 carcasses and organs. 4 heads and tongues. 11 all organs. 20 lungs. 54 livers.
Sheep	18 carcasses and organs. 65 livers. 11 lungs. 4 organs.
Pigs	10 carcasses and organs 5 all organs. 17 livers. 55 lungs.



Calves	7 carcasses and organs.
Meat, other than diseased	228 lbs.
Frozen Meat	310 lbs.
Fish	280 lbs.
Rabbits	450 lbs.
Tinned Foods, Eggs, Poultry, etc.	236 lbs.

The total weight of food condemned during the year was 21 tons 7 cwts. 3 qrs. 6 lbs. All the food was voluntarily surrendered by the respective owners.

**FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928**—The total number of samples of Food and Drugs submitted to the City Analyst during the year was 176, made up as follows:

Taken under Act in a formal manner	..	94
Test Samples	.. .. .	82

Of the 94 samples taken under the Act, 86 were certified to be genuine and 8 adulterated; 81 test samples were genuine and 1 was found to be adulterated. This was a sample of milk taken in connexion with official sample No. 20, the details appear earlier in the Report.

The following table gives comparisons with the three previous years of samples taken, adulteration, etc.:—

	1934		1935		1936		1937	
	Formal.	Inf.	Formal.	Inf.	Formal.	Inf.	Formal.	Inf.
Analysis ...	101	79	100	80	98	84	94	82
Adulterated ...	2	6	10	—	2	—	8	1
Adulterated per cent. ...	1·98%	7·59%	10·0%	—	2·04%	—	8·51%	1·22%

**CREAM.**—Five samples of Cream (2 tinned and 3 fresh) were taken during the year, and they were all certified to be free from preservatives.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.**—Included in the 176 samples sent to the City Analyst were samples of Food taken under the above Regulations, viz.:—

Sauce .. .. .	2
Pickles .. .. .	2
Jam .. .. .	2
Dried Fruit .. .. .	1

**PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS.**—Eight samples of Condensed Milk were submitted for analysis, and in each case the samples conformed to the requirements of the Regulations and were properly labelled.

**MILK.**—Of the 81 samples of milk taken during the year, 8 were reported against as adulterated. Particulars of the action taken are detailed earlier in the Report.

**1937—SUMMARY OF SAMPLES TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS.**

	Under Act.	Test.
Milk .. .. .	66	15
Dried Milk .. .. .	—	4
Condensed Milk .. .. .	—	8
Butter .. .. .	14	—
Cheese .. .. .	3	—
Cream Cheese .. .. .	—	1
Lard .. .. .	4	—
Sausage .. .. .	5	—
Jam .. .. .	1	2
Margarine .. .. .	1	—



				Under Act.	Test.
Olive Oil	..	..	..	-	2
Medicinal Paraffin	..	..	..	-	2
Yeast Tablets	..	..	..	-	2
Glauber Salts	..	..	..	-	2
Syrup of Figs	..	..	..	-	1
Linseed and Glycerine	..	..	..	-	1
Celery Pills	..	..	..	-	1
Carbonate of Magnesium	..	..	..	-	2
Rice	..	..	..	-	2
Suet	..	..	..	-	1
Marmalade	..	..	..	-	1
Vinegar	..	..	..	-	5
Tinned Cream	..	..	..	-	2
Cream (Fresh)	..	..	..	-	3
Dripping	..	..	..	-	1
Potted Meats	..	..	..	-	1
Gravy Colouring	..	..	..	-	1
Self-Raising Flour	..	..	..	-	4
Plain Flour	..	..	..	-	3
Sauce	..	..	..	-	2
Pickles	..	..	..	-	2
Fruit (Dried)	..	..	..	-	1
Confectionery	..	..	..	-	6
Brandy	..	..	..	-	1
Whisky	..	..	..	-	1
Beer	..	..	..	-	2
				-----	-----
				94	82
				-----	-----

**FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.**—  
 During the year the following samples have been taken from  
 various corn and seed merchants in the City, viz.:—

*Fertilisers:—*

Hop Manure	..	..	..	1
Dried Blood	..	..	..	1
Bone Meal	..	..	..	1
Nitrate of Soda	..	..	..	1
				—
				4 samples.
				—

*Feeding Stuffs:—*

Broad Bran	..	..	..	1
Flaked Maize	..	..	..	1
White Bran	..	..	..	1
Sow and Weaners Meal	..	..	..	1
Feeding Cobs	..	..	..	1
Cotton Cake	..	..	..	1
Linseed Oil	..	..	..	1
				—
				7 samples.
				—

In each case the samples were certified by the Analyst to be up to the standard mentioned on the statutory statement given on the article or posted in the shop or warehouse.

## Rat Campaign.

1st January, 1938.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in placing before you the Report required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the work carried out in connexion with rat destruction by the City Health Department during 1937.



Our activities have not been confined to one particular season, but have been carried on the whole year round.

15,940 rats were brought to the office during the year, Rat Week accounting for no less than 754 of this number. The figures are both records for the City.

The growing casualty list given below fully justified the policy you have adopted of paying 4d. for every rat caught in the City:—

1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
11,635	12,734	12,429	12,961	15,940

The measurable cost of some £265 which has been spent cannot be compared with the immeasurable damage that would have been done had this army of rats been allowed to go on their way unmolested, especially when we know that a pair of rats can breed a thousand in one year and in four years the total of four million.

The real danger to be feared, if the rat gets the upper hand, and this might easily happen, is that it does incalculable damage to all kinds of property, destroying and spoiling food-stuffs, burrowing into walls, basements, etc., and undermining footpaths and streets, and in addition might be active agents in spreading disease. I am convinced that if our present campaign were to cease, the rat menace would become a serious problem.

The increase shown calls for some explanation.

One usually associates rats with congested buildings, old warehouses in the centre of towns, but it must also be borne in mind that farm buildings, hayricks, pig-styes, ditches and other features of the country-side are admirable breeding grounds. At the last extension of the City Boundary, much

land of a rural nature was taken in and we have had hundreds of rats brought in from these Areas.

It might be a little difficult to say in which part of the City rats are most prevalent, but mention might be made of two Districts in particular. In one part of the City there are, in close proximity, several grain and corn warehouses, two hide and skin markets, a scrap-iron depot, all surrounded by the Canal. In another part, near the river, there is a large Railway viaduct, in which there are pig-styes, miscellaneous store places, and numbers of rats are regularly brought in from these two areas, and if we have not the satisfaction of ending the infestation, which, from the very nature and situation of the premises is almost impossible, it has been kept under control and has been prevented from spreading. No part of the City can be said to be immune and it is only by universal effort of all concerned that the Rat pest can be kept in control.

What do I consider the best killer? Well, it is hard to say. To my mind, there is no best method. What will succeed in one place will not do for another and something that achieves success at first frequently loses its value, as rats become wary.

My advice is to try various methods, suiting the means to the circumstances. In this way, rats are constantly up against something new and by suitably ringing the changes with ferrets and dogs, various kinds of traps, and different kinds of poison, I feel that the pest can be kept in hand.

My department are, at all times, willing to visit premises, test drains, loan cages, supply poisons, and give advice.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RALPH TAYLOR,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*



14th March, 1938.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

*Canal Boats Acts.*

The Ministry of Health have asked to be furnished with a report of the work carried out under the above Acts for the year 1937.

During the year, the number of Boats inspected was 22, compared with 27 in 1936. Of this number, 18 were found to be in good order and the following 4 infringements were found on the remaining boats:—

Boats requiring repair or re-painting	..	2
Boats not properly marked	.. ..	1
Female over 12 improperly occupying cabins		1

These defects were remedied after sending notices or letters to the Owners or Masters of the Boats, and in no cases was it necessary to take proceedings.

The number of persons living on the boats were found to be 33 men, 7 women and 4 children; 3 of the children were under 5 years of age and 1 between 5 and 12 years. In each case the Masters had homes other than the boats and I was informed that the children attended school when at home or at the end of the journey. It is only occasionally that boats stay at Worcester for the night as they prefer to get on with their journey to the Midlands when coming from Gloucester.

I am pleased to report that after numerous experiments a satisfactory lamp has been found for heating and providing better cooking facilities for the men on the tankers which carry petrol to the large depots in the City. In the past it has

been difficult to have heating arrangements sufficient to keep the cabins dry, because the Regulations governing boats which carry some 60,000 gallons of petrol are very stringent.

The total number of boats on our Register at the end of 1937 was 125, of this number I believe 44 to be in use or available use and 81 which cannot be traced. One new motor-boat was registered during the year.

I beg to remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RALPH TAYLOR,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

#### SECTION "F"

### Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The particulars of all notifications of infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) received during 1937 are tabulated below:—

	Cases notified.
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	59
Diphtheria .. .. .	175
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	15
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	6
Erysipelas .. .. .	14
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	5
Typhoid Fever .. .. .	1
Acute Primary Pneumonia .. .. .	32
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia .. .. .	19
Dysentery .. .. .	1



Cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria among school children are tabulated as follows:—

School.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Total.
British .. .. .	3	8	11
Cherry Orchard .. .. .	—	1	1
Comer Gardens .. .. .	—	—	—
Holy Trinity .. .. .	1	1	2
Hound's Lane .. .. .	—	6	6
Red Hill .. .. .	3	—	3
Stanley Road .. .. .	6	7	13
St. Barnabas .. .. .	3	25	28
St. Clement .. .. .	—	1	1
St. George, Claines .. .. .	2	5	7
St. George, R.C. .. .. .	—	5	5
St. John .. .. .	2	7	9
St. Martin .. .. .	2	1	3
St. Mary .. .. .	—	—	—
St. Nicholas .. .. .	4	1	5
St. Paul .. .. .	2	20	22
St. Peter .. .. .	—	6	6
St. Stephen .. .. .	1	4	5
Rose Hill Open Air .. .. .	—	1	1
Gorse Hill .. .. .	1	20	21
Christopher Whitehead .. .. .	1	—	1
Junior Commercial .. .. .	—	—	—
Samuel Southall .. .. .	3	6	9
Totals .. .. .	34	125	159

**DIPHTHERIA.**—The incidence of diphtheria continued above normal during the year.

Including County cases 192 cases were admitted to the City Isolation Hospital, and of these 16 patients died, giving a case mortality rate of 8·3 per cent. It is our practise to give immediately large doses of intravenous serum supplemented by intramuscular serum: glucose and Vitamin C. in severe cases; and the high mortality rate, despite prompt and energetic hospital treatment, is an indication of the grave nature of the illness in many cases admitted.

The following table indicates the time that elapsed between admission to hospital and death in the 16 fatal cases:—

	No. of cases		
Died on day of admission	..	..	4
Died within 1 day	..	..	2
Died within 3 days	..	..	1
Died within 4 days	..	..	2
Died within 6 days	..	..	2
Died within 7 days	..	..	1
Died within 9 days	..	..	1
Died within 11 days	..	..	3
			—
Total	..	..	16
			—

Two of the fatal cases had received previous immunisation—one with a single dose of Alum-precipitated Toxoid and one, with three doses of toxoid-antitoxin mixture. The remaining 14 fatal cases had not been immunised.

Unfortunately, the response by the parents of school children to the offer of free immunisation was meagre this year, and only a further 312 children were fully immunised.



Immunisation was started in 1935, and the following table shows the work carried out since that date:—

Total number of children completing course of three injections .. .. .	2,770
Number of children failing to complete the course .. .. .	109
Number of children immunised by private practitioners .. .. .	21
Number of immunised children developing attacks of diphtheria .. .. .	19

**SCARLET FEVER.**—Fifty-nine scarlet fever cases, mostly mild in character, were notified, as against 107 in 1936. All except three were treated in hospital and there were no deaths.

**MEASLES.**—Two children died from measles. Measles is normally not treated in the City Isolation Hospital, cases only being admitted on account of the severity of the disease, complications or unsatisfactory home conditions. Five City and two County cases were admitted in this way, and all recovered.

No scheme for the distribution of measles serum either for attenuation or prevention has yet been instituted.

**SMALLPOX.**—No case of smallpox occurred within the City, nor was any suspect case admitted to the Smallpox Hospital. Holding the view that smallpox cases should be treated as in Germany, in ordinary isolation hospitals, it seems to me a lamentable waste of money that the Smallpox Hospital should be kept idle year after year when its beds might with advantage be used for other purposes.

**INFLUENZA.**—The wave of influenza that affected the City towards the end of 1936 continued into the early months of 1937; of the 26 deaths that occurred 2 were of infants, 4 were in middle-aged persons and the remainder among the elderly.

**TYPHOID FEVER.**—Only one case of typhoid fever was notified and this was imported from Croydon by a nurse who had apparently contracted the disease there before proceeding to Worcester.

Some little time had elapsed before the diagnosis was established, and in consequence there were 15 contacts to be dealt with. A number of these, including nurses from the local association who had been in attendance upon the patient, were inoculated. These contacts and the immediate home contacts were isolated for fourteen days. Fortunately, no secondary cases occurred.

The patient was admitted to the City Isolation Hospital, where after convalescence she remained for a considerable time as a Carrier. She was ultimately transferred to Croydon.

**CLEANSING AND DISINFECTION.**—During the year the following disinfection steps were carried out; bedding being taken to the hospital with the patient in a special compartment of the ambulance and disinfected in the new Thresh disinfector.

115 rooms disinfected and 234 lots of bedding stoved after cases of infectious disease.

19 houses or 43 rooms were fumigated in connection with disinfestation.

**CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.**—No alterations in the accommodation or the ambulance facilities were made during



the year. Owing to the undue prevalence of diphtheria the year was again a busy one.

Beds for patients suffering from infectious disease are available on request for patients from the southern part of the County, and during the year discussions took place with the Martley and Tenbury Rural District Councils with a view to the reservation of 8 beds for these Authorities—the agreement is not yet signed.

Owing to the variety of illnesses dealt with and the occurrence of some cross-infection—coupled with the isolation of scarlet fever cases found swab-positive for diphtheria on routine examination on admission, the limited special isolation accommodation was particularly taxed.

Special cubicle block accommodation is urgently needed, and it is proposed to erect next year a cubicle block with operating theatre.

There is now an increasing difficulty in securing nursing staff—a strange position, as working conditions for nurses were never better—and this difficulty, coupled with absenteeism through sickness of various nurses, made the task of the staff somewhat heavier than usual.

In recording my appreciation of their services, I would particularly commend the work of the matron, whose interest and energy have not flagged after a quarter of a century in her present position.

The minimum number of patients at any time (including tuberculous cases) was 53 and the maximum 90—the average being 68.

Particulars of admissions and discharges are shown in the Table attached.

CITY ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Disease.	City Patients.					County Patients.				Total Patients In 1-1-38	
	In 1-1-37	Adm. 1937	Disch. 1937	Died 1937	In 1-1-38	In 1-1-37	Adm. 1937	Disch. 1937	Died 1937		In 1-1-38
Scarlet Fever ..	16	60	69	-	7	-	6	6	-	-	7
Diphtheria ..	5	174	161	14	4	-	18	14	2	2	6
Paratyphoid Fever ..	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1
Erysipelas ..	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles ..	-	5	1	-	4	-	2	2	-	-	4
Mumps ..	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chickenpox ..	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia ..	-	5	3	2	-	-	3	2	1	-	-
Influenza ..	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery ..	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ..	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Tuberculosis (all forms) ..</b>	36	65	59	13	29	6	14	11	-	9	38
	57	322	304	29	46	7	43	36	3	11	57



**CANCER.**—Deaths from cancer totalled 101. Facilities for treatment, including radium, are available at the Worcester Royal Infirmary. Many terminal cases find their way ultimately into the Municipal Homes Hospital.

No special facilities for the early detection and treatment of cancer have been provided by the Local Authority.

Particulars of the number of cancer deaths among City residents are set out below.

Year.	Deaths.	Percentage of total deaths.	Percentage of total population.
1927 ..	73 ..	11·1	·143
1928 ..	103 ..	12·7	·196
1929 ..	88 ..	12·9	·167
1930 ..	70 ..	11·5	·133
1931 ..	85 ..	12·1	·167
1932 ..	85 ..	11·8	·163
1933 ..	87 ..	12·5	·166
1934 ..	92 ..	12·0	·175
1935 ..	94 ..	13·0	·178
1936 ..	99 ..	13·5	·187
1937 ..	101 ..	13·5	·192

An analysis of the sites of Cancer and of the age distribution in the 101 deaths occurring during the year yields the following information.

Site.	Age Groups.			
	25-	45-	65-	85-
Colon .. .. .	-	5	10	-
Intestine .. .. .	-	1	1	1
Oesophagus .. .. .	-	1	3	-
Bladder .. .. .	-	1	3	-
Pancreas .. .. .	-	2	4	-
Rectum .. .. .	-	1	7	-
Stomach .. .. .	1	7	8	-
Larynx .. .. .	-	1	1	-
Bowel .. .. .	-	1	-	-
Breast .. .. .	1	6	4	1
Ovary .. .. .	-	-	1	-
Prostate .. .. .	-	-	3	-
Abdomen .. .. .	-	-	1	-
Lip .. .. .	-	-	1	-
Lungs .. .. .	-	2	1	-
Uterus .. .. .	2	2	2	-
Thyroid .. .. .	-	1	-	-
Gall Bladder .. .. .	-	-	2	-
Liver .. .. .	-	1	4	-
Kidney .. .. .	-	1	-	-
Parotid .. .. .	-	-	1	-
Caecum .. .. .	-	-	1	-
Sternum .. .. .	-	-	1	-
Spine .. .. .	-	1	-	-
Ventriculi .. .. .	-	1	-	-
Undefined .. .. .	-	-	1	-
	4	35	60	2



**PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.**—Towards the prevention of blindness the Council provides for free treatment of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum at the Local Eye Hospital.

Much preventive work is also carried out through the medium of the Child Welfare and School Clinics. The new Orthoptic Clinic established during the year at the Eye Hospital with the collaboration of the City and County Councils should also contribute to the preservation of sight and the prevention of blindness.

## Tuberculosis.

**NOTIFICATION.**—Seventy cases of tuberculosis in all forms were notified and a further 23 cases—particulars of which are given in the “Supplemental Return” of the Tuberculosis Statistics—came to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health without previous notification. Of these 23, however, only 1 was a posthumous notification; 11 were transfers from other areas, 9 were from local Registrar’s returns, and 2 from Registrar General’s returns.

No fewer than 19 deaths occurred within 6 months of notification—a high figure, indicating that the fullest use is not being made of the facilities available at the Tuberculosis Centre.

As tubercle is so often curable in its early stage, it is to be regretted that fear of the disease should so often deter patients from seeking advice until they have reached an incurable condition.

Fear of the disease itself is accompanied only too often by fear of the economic distress it brings in its wake. Early and adequate treatment is most willingly sought and followed by those patients whose domestic economy will not be devastated in consequence of their admission to Sanatorium.

Despite the well-intentioned activities of After-Care Associations, the saying that: "Only a rich man can afford to have Consumption" still holds good. When the poor man can "afford to have Consumption" the chances of cure or amelioration of this disease are greatly increased as the Papworth experiment has shown us.

**DEATHS.**—There were 57 deaths—an appreciable increase on last year's figures—but a not unexpected increase, in view of the influenza epidemic of the preceding winter, and early spring. Of these deaths nine had not previously been notified.

**OCCUPATIONAL MORTALITY** is indicated in the table below.

	Males.		Females.
Clerks .. ..	2	Widows .. ..	4
General Labourers	8	Gloveress .. ..	1
Commission Agent	1	Shop Assistant ..	1
Marine Store Dealer	1	Factory Worker ..	1
Boot Repairer ..	1	Spinster .. ..	1
Soldiers .. ..	1	Clerks .. ..	2
Railway Porter ..	1	Tailoress .. ..	1
Grocer's Manager ..	1	Housewives .. ..	6
Printer's Compositor	1	Barmaid .. ..	1
Gardener .. ..	1	Children .. ..	4
Insurance Agents ..	2		
Seaman .. ..	1		
Vanman .. ..	1		
Pedlar .. ..	1		
Printer's Packer ..	1		
Engineering Factory			
Hands .. ..	6		
Children .. ..	4		
	—		—
	35		22
	—		—



**EXTENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.**—The number of persons remaining on the notification register at the end of the year was 346, or 40 more than in 1936.

Many of the 346 are leading useful and happy lives, but have not been written off the register as "cured" as no consumptive is considered finally cured until five years after acute active disease has subsided.

**TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.**—The statistical tables at the end of this section summarise the work carried out at the Tuberculosis Dispensary. Sessions are held on Monday and Tuesday afternoons and on Friday evening—this last for the benefit of patients at work. Bismuth injection treatment for one patient with Lupus and a certain amount of Von Pirquet testing was done at the Clinic; any special treatment such as Artificial Pneumothorax or Gold Treatment is carried out at the Sanatorium, where better treatment facilities are available.

**VISITING.**—One whole-time nurse is engaged solely upon tuberculosis work and, in addition to visiting patients, attends the Dispensary and does after-care work for the After-Care Committee.

During the year she made 2,925 visits to patients in their homes.

In addition, cases who cannot attend the dispensary are visited by the Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, who also carries out consultations in patients' own homes. 23 visits in this connexion were made by him in 1937.

**DENTAL TREATMENT.**—Forty-seven tuberculous patients received dental treatment at 78 attendances.

**ARTIFICIAL PNEUMOTHORAX.**—This form of treatment is instituted during a patient's stay at the Sanatorium, refills being continued as required upon the patient's discharge.

The X-ray control of the treatment is carried out at the Worcester Royal Infirmary. During the year this form of treatment was given to 5 patients, who made 158 attendances.

**APPLIANCES.**—Artificial dentures were supplied to patients in 2 instances and special splints for use by out-patients in 1 case.

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.** (Section 172(1))—It was not found necessary to remove any patient compulsorily to a Sanatorium under this Section, although reference to the powers of local authorities under this section is sometimes made use of to induce an unwilling patient to accept Sanatorium treatment, in order to safeguard the family.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.**—It was not found necessary, under these Regulations, to prohibit from working any tubercular person engaged in the handling of milk.

**SANATORIUM TREATMENT.**—Sixty-two pulmonary cases and 12 non-pulmonary cases were admitted to the tuberculosis wards of the City Isolation Hospital.

Twelve cases were admitted for observation; and 19 non-pulmonary County patients were also treated.

Twenty-two patients were admitted to the 8 beds reserved for City cases at Knightwick Sanatorium.



The ratio of available beds to population is just over 1 per 1,000. At no time during the year was there any appreciable waiting list, nor was there delay in securing treatment for new cases, whose cases are more urgent than the more chronic patients who, from time to time may require further courses of Sanatorium treatment. Should additional bed provision be at any future date required, it would in my view be best made by reservation of beds at a Sanatorium Colony such as Papworth rather than by erecting new buildings at the local Sanatorium.

Particulars of Sanatorium admissions, discharges, etc., are given in tabular form at the end of this section.

**TUBERCULOSIS AFTER-CARE COMMITTEE.**—The Medical Officer of Health, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, and Tuberculosis Nurse are all members of this Committee and have intimate knowledge of the circumstances of all cases recommended to the consideration of the Committee. From the annual report of the Honorary Secretary of the After-Care Committee, who is also Chief Clerk in the Health Department, I have extracted the following particulars regarding the activities of the Committee.

**PROVISION OF NOURISHMENTS.**—During the year the following nourishments have been provided to patients either after discharge from sanatoria, or when, in the opinion of the Tuberculosis Officer, the patients themselves or their dependants have been found to be under-nourished:—

*Milk:* 3,856 pints given to 23 patients at a distribution of one pint per day.

*Butter:* 163 lbs. distributed to 7 patients at a rate of 1 lb. per week.

*Eggs:* 1,141 eggs have been distributed to 7 patients at the rate of 7 eggs per week.

*Clothing:*

Four hundred and forty-two articles of clothing have been given to patients or their dependants, and during the past five years a total of 2,360 garments have been distributed. During the past year the sum of £39 11s. 4d. has been expended upon ready-made garments or clothing material, and the material purchased has been made into wearing apparel by lady members of the Committee and by other ladies anxious to assist.

*Convalescence:*

Arrangements have again been made with the Hahnemann Convalescent Home, Bournemouth, to accept as in-patients at a reduced maintenance charge any cases specially recommended by this Committee who are debilitated but not actually suffering from tuberculosis.

*Home Life:*

The City Council's Housing Committee have at all times given special consideration to the re-housing of families specially recommended by this Committee, and during the past year many such families have been moved into new Council Houses.

The City Council's Slum Clearance Programme is also proceeding apace, and I am in a position to report that up to date no less than 500 slum houses have been demolished and the tenants re-housed in Council Houses, and it is anticipated that to complete the programme an additional 700 houses will either be demolished or completely reconditioned. In addition to this, persons living under grossly overcrowded conditions are being given



special preference when Council Houses are allotted.

*Propaganda—Christmas Seal Sale:*

Your Committee decided to again participate in the Christmas Seal Sale which is organized annually by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis. A small Sub-Committee was formed to deal with the Sale: over 700 circulars were sent to various tradesmen and others in the City, and a Sound Film advertising the Sale was shown by the courtesy of the Manager of the Silver Cinema. As a result of all the efforts put forward a sum of £19 19s. 1d. was realised, all of which was available for the use of our local Committee.

*Dancing Display:*

A Dancing Display was held at the Catholic Hall on the 29th April, 1937, by Miss Greta Goodwin and her Dance Pupils, and the whole of the profits (£5 19s. 5d.) were handed to this Committee.

*Whist Drive:*

A Whist Drive organised by the Worcester Co-operative Women's Guild realised £2 12s. 10d., and this sum also has been placed at the disposal of this Committee.

As a result of all this propaganda work our Care-Committee is becoming more widely known, and we do appeal to all those interested to give us their support either in the way of donations or by sending us gifts of clothing. This Tuberculosis After-Care work is providing a service which is not covered by any of the many other voluntary organisations in the City.

TABLE 1.

## TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.

Return showing the Work of the Dispensary (or Dispensaries) during the year 1937.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—NEW CASES examined during the year (excluding contacts):—													
(a) Definitely Tuberculous ..	16	20	1	—	2	3	2	3	18	23	3	3	47
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	5
(c) Non-Tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	10	10	1	30
B.—CONTACTS examined during the year:—													
(a) Definitely Tuberculous ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	5
(c) Non-Tuberculous ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	16	10	8	44
C.—CASES written off the Dispensary Register as:—													
(a) Recovered ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
(b) Non-Tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed & entered on the Dispensary Register as Tuberculous) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	27	20	9	77
D.—NUMBER OF CASES on Dispensary Register on December 31st:—													
(a) Definitely Tuberculous ..	104	106	4	—	18	36	15	16	122	142	19	16	299
(b) Diagnosis not completed ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	2	2	11



1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st .. .. .	279
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years .. .. .	10
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the tuberculosis scheme, and cases "lost sight of" ..	5
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)	28
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts) .. .. .	713
6. Number of Insured Persons under Domiciliary Treatment on the 31st December .. ..	14
7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners:—	
(a) Personal .. .. .	6
(b) Other .. .. .	48
8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officers to homes (including personal consultations) .. ..	23
9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes .. ..	2,925
10. Number of:—	
(a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined ..	87
(b) X-ray examinations made .. ..	86
in connexion with Dispensary work.	
11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A(a) and A(b) above .. .. .	—
12. Number of "T.B. plus" cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st .. .. .	110

Extract from Circular 939, dated 13th December, 1928 (adapted to relate to the year 1937).

### TUBERCULOSIS.

#### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease in the Area during 1937.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 ... ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
1 .. .. .	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	2
5 .. .. .	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1
10 .. .. .	2	1	-	1	-	2	-	-
15 .. .. .	1	8	1	-	1	2	-	-
20 .. .. .	2	6	1	1	3	2	-	-
25 .. .. .	8	4	1	2	5	5	1	-
35 .. .. .	3	1	2	1	5	3	2	-
45 .. .. .	4	1	2	-	4	-	-	-
55 .. .. .	4	-	-	1	5	2	-	-
65 & upwards	5	1	-	1	4	4	-	1
Total..	29	22	9	10	28	20	5	4

Non-Notified Deaths, 8. Ratio, 1 to 7.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Number of cases remaining 31st Dec., 1937 ..	Pulmonary.			Non-Pulmonary.			Total Cases.
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
	124	117	241	39	66	105	346
Number of cases removed by reason <i>inter alia</i> of:—							
1. Withdrawal of notification	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2. Recovery from disease	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Death ..	23	15	38	1	1	2	40
4. Otherwise	-	1	1	-	1	1	2



SUPPLEMENTAL RETURN.

New Cases of Tuberculosis coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year 1937 otherwise than by formal notification.

Age Periods.	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards.	Total Cases.
Pulmonary—Males ..	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	1	7
"    Females	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	-	-	1	1	11
Non-Pulmonary—Males	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
"    Females	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2

Source of Information.	Number of Cases.	
	Pulmonary.	† Non-Pulmonary.
Death Returns—From local Registrars	6	3
"    Transferable deaths from Registrar-General	1	1
Posthumous notifications	† 1	-
"    "Transfers" from other areas (other than transferable deaths)	10	1
Other sources, if any (specify)	-	-

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1930.

Summary of Notifications for the year 1937.

Age Periods.	Formal Notifications.											Total Notifications.
	Primary Notifications.											
	0 to 1	1 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 and upwards	
Pulmonary—Males ..	-	-	-	2	1	2	8	3	4	4	5	29
"    Females ..	-	-	-	1	8	6	4	1	1	-	1	24
Non-Pulmonary—Males	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	2	2	-	-	9
"    Females	-	2	1	1	-	1	2	1	-	1	1	10



(C) NUMBER OF BEDS AVAILABLE FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE 31ST DECEMBER IN INSTITUTIONS BELONGING TO THE COUNCIL.

Name of Institution.	For Pulmonary Cases.		For Non-Pulmonary Cases.		Total.
	Adults.	Children under 15.	Adults.	Children under 15.	
King Edward VII Memorial Sanatorium, Knightwick, Worcs.	8	—	—	—	8
Newtown Sanatorium, Newtown Rd., Worcester .. .. .	30	—	—	16	46

(D) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT AND OBSERVATION DURING THE YEAR IN INSTITUTIONS (OTHER THAN POOR-LAW INSTITUTIONS) APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

	In Institu- tions on Jan. 1st. (1)	Admitted during the year. (2)	Discharged during the year. (3)	Died in the Institutions. (4)	In Institu- tions on Dec 31st. (5)
Number of doubtfully Tuberculous cases ad- mitted for observa- tion	Adult males	—	—	—	—
	Adult females	—	2	2	—
	Children ..	6	5	10	1
	Total ..	6	7	12	1
Number of patients suf- fering from Pulmon- ary Tuberculosis	Adult males	12	32	24	13
	Adult females	18	28	24	14
	Children ..	4	2	5	1
	Total ..	34	62	53	28
Number of patients suf- fering from Non-Pul- monary Tuberculosis	Adult males	—	7	4	3
	Adult females	—	3	1	2
	Children ..	2	2	2	2
	Total ..	2	12	7	7
Grand Total	42	81	72	15	36



(E) RETURN SHOWING THE EXTENT OF RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROVIDED DURING THE YEAR IN POOR-LAW INSTITUTIONS FOR PERSONS CHARGEABLE TO THE COUNCIL.

	In Institu- tions on Jan. 1st. (1)	Admitted during the year. (2)	Discharged during the year. (3)	Died in the Institutions. (4)	In Institu- tions on Dec. 31st. (5)
Number of patients suf- fering from Pulmon- ary Tuberculosis	Adult males	7	4	3	-
	Adult females	3	2	1	-
	Children ..	-	-	-	-
	Total ..	10	6	4	-
Number of patients suf- fering from Non-Pul- monary Tuberculosis	Adult males	2	2	-	-
	Adult females	1	1	-	-
	Children ..	-	-	-	-
	Total ..	3	3	-	-
Grand Total	-	13	9	4	-

(F) RETURN SHOWING THE RESULTS OF OBSERVATION OF DOUBTFULLY TUBERCULOUS CASES DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR FROM INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Diagnosis on discharge from observation.	For Pulmonary Tuberculosis.						For Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.						Totals.		
	Stay under 4 weeks.			Stay over 4 weeks.			Stay under 4 weeks.			Stay over 4 weeks.					
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.
	Tuberculous .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Tuberculous .. .. .	-	1	-	-	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
Doubtful .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals .. .. .	-	1	-	-	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10

(C)



(G) RETURN SHOWING THE IMMEDIATE RESULTS OF TREATMENT OF DEFINITELY TUBERCULOUS PATIENTS DISCHARGED DURING THE YEAR FROM INSTITUTIONS APPROVED FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Classification on admission to the Institution.	Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.															Grand Totals.		
		*Under 3 months, but exceeding 28 days.			3—6 months.			6—12 months.			More than 12 months.			Totals.					
		M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Class T.B. minus	Quiescent ..	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	2	4	2	8	
		Not quiescent	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	2	1	4	
		Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Class T.B. + Group 1	Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Not quiescent	-	1	-	4	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	6	2	-	8	
		Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Class T.B. + Group 2	Quiescent ..	1	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	5	
		Not quiescent	2	1	-	2	2	-	3	4	-	2	1	-	9	8	-	17	
		Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	2	
	Class T.B. + Group 3	Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Not quiescent	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	
		Died in Institution ..	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	3	5	-	8	
	Totals (Pulmonary)		6	6	2	9	5	-	6	10	1	4	4	-	25	25	3	53	
	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Bones & Joints	Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	2
			Not quiescent	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3
			Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Abdominal		Quiescent ..	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	
		Not quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Organs		Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Not quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peripheral Glands		Quiescent ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Not quiescent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		Died in Institution ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Totals (Non-Pulm)		2	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	1	2	7		

Comparison of notifications and deaths with the past twenty years is shown below; and the death rate compared with that of England and Wales for the last fourteen years, viz.:—

Year.	Cases Notified.			Total.	Total Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population.	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Total.			Worcester.	England and Wales.
1937	51	19	70	58	0.848	—	
1936	54	13	67	31	0.58	—	
1935	45	21	66	43	0.61	—	
1934	68	20	88	48	0.75	—	
1933	58	15	73	47	0.89	0.687	
1932	89	36	125	68	1.32	0.896	
1931	74	18	92	51	1.00	0.743	
1930	78	13	91	45	0.86	0.932	
1929	74	17	91	43	0.81	0.909	
1928	55	22	77	49	0.93	0.952	
1927	64	20	84	54	1.06	0.942	
1926	75	29	104	44	0.87	1.017	
1925	75	34	109	61	1.21	1.039	
1924	80	29	109	49	0.97	1.049	
1923	68	34	102	55	1.10	1.107	
1922	92	22	114	57	1.16	1.117	
1921	93	25	118	48	0.95	—	
1920	69	29	98	53	—	—	
1919	89	30	119	65	—	—	
1918	83	43	126	91	—	—	



**VENEREAL DISEASES.**—The medical charge of the Venereal Diseases Clinic, held at the Worcester Royal Infirmary, is in the hands of Mr. Mark Bates, F.R.C.S.

The re-organisation of the Venereal Diseases Department referred to in my report for 1936 was advanced by the completion and opening during the year of the new Venereal Diseases Out-Patient Department built at the Worcester Royal Infirmary under financial arrangements entered into between the Infirmary Authorities and the City and County Councils.

In the design of the building the parties concerned received assistance from Lt.-Col. Harrison of the Ministry of Health, and the Council's Medical Staff at Dudley, where a comparable clinic had been functioning for some time. The result has been that the new Out-Patient Clinic—containing Laboratory, separate male and female sections, etc., is now completely up-to-date; and its inauguration has greatly facilitated the efficient treatment of venereal disease in the City.

The work done at the Clinic on behalf of City patients is tabulated below.

Number of City cases dealt with during the year for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

Syphilis .. .. .	24
Gonorrhoea .. .. .	44
Soft Chancre .. .. .	1
Conditions other than Venereal ..	37
	—
Total .. .. .	106
	—

Total number of attendances of all City patients .. .. .	4,752
Aggregate number of "in-patient" days of all City patients .. .. .	435

### Mental Deficiency Acts.

**ASCERTAINMENT.**—Excluding defectives whose care devolves upon the Education Committee, there were at the end of the year the following defectives known to the Mental Deficiency Act Committee.

In Institutions .. .. .	41
On licence from Institutions .. .. .	3
Under guardianship .. .. .	14
In places of safety .. .. .	4
Under statutory supervision .. .. .	36
Action not yet taken .. .. .	14
Not at present subject to be dealt with .. .. .	17
All other cases .. .. .	70
	<hr/>
	199
	<hr/>

Eight new defectives came under the care of the Committee; 4 of these being notified by the Local Education Authority. Five Defectives were committed to Institutional care; 5 placed under guardianship, and 4 under statutory supervision; there were no deaths.



The supervision of defectives in their homes and under guardianship is carried out by the Mental and Physical Welfare Association—subsidised by the Council—through Miss J. Tree, the Visiting and Petitioning Officer, assisted by Miss Bates, and I would again acknowledge the great assistance given me by them.

At the Occupation Centre conducted by Miss Webb there are 8 defectives in regular attendance and at the Woodwork Class in charge of Mr. Johnson there are 7 defectives.

Negotiations by the Midland Joint Board for the purchase of the site for the proposed new Institution for Mental Defectives are still in progress; and it is hoped the erection of the building may now not be delayed much longer.

In the meantime, less difficulties in placing defectives are being encountered as the provision of institutional accommodation by local authorities is releasing beds in voluntary institutions. The cost of institutional provision is, however, tending to rise and for this and other reasons the completion of the new institution of the Midland Joint Board will be welcomed.

**MENTAL TREATMENT ACT.**—There have been no alterations in the existing arrangements for the provision of Out-Patient treatment facilities under the Mental Treatment Act.

Dr. Fenton reports that during the year only 12 male and 12 female patients attended from the City, making 25 attendances.

In view of the trifling use made of this clinic, its discontinuance will require consideration.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER OFFICERS' SUPER-ANNUATION ACT.**—The Medical Officer of Health is Examining Officer for newly appointed Council Officers under this Act.

During the year 47 candidates were examined; 42 were passed fit at once; 3 after a period of observation and 2 rejected. In 3 cases patients were referred for an X-ray examination, or for special laboratory tests.

**PUBLIC HEALTH PROPAGANDA.**—Health propaganda posters changed monthly are displayed on public notice boards provided by the Health Committee.

Propaganda regarding immunisation against diphtheria has been continued in the Schools.

The Health Department participated in the National Health Publicity Campaign, which started in October, and 30,300 leaflets, etc., were circulated monthly in the City. During the year it was possible to revive local publication of the Periodical "Better Health", 2,000 copies being circulated each month.

**PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT.**—Licences granted by the Watch Committee became renewable on 30th April, and a total of 41 licences for 1937-38 were issued.

**EXAMINATION OF PLANS.**—All plans are passed to the Health Department for scrutiny in regard to sanitation and hygiene before submission to the Plans Sub-Committee.

During the year 195 plans were scrutinised by the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Sanitary Inspector, and appropriate reports submitted.



A moment's reflection on scrutiny of this abbreviated report—for a few bald statistics often conceal an immense amount of labour—should convince the reader of the catholic scope of a health department. From being concerned merely with matters of sanitation and infectious disease control, the Health Department has evolved into an organisation impinging upon every facet of public life. It is concerned, and rightly so, with the individual from the cradle to the grave.

Its very variety gives a spice to the work and sustains the interest of officers who by their loyalty and readiness to put in extra working time enable the work somehow to get completed.

It is hoped, however, that there may be some respite from the spate of legislation which continues to impose fresh duties upon Health Departments, as otherwise the administrative costs of social services must inevitably rise.











No.	Causes of Death.	Ages.										All ages.		
		0-	1-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	45-	65-	85-			
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Measles .. .. .	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
3	Scarlet fever .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Whooping cough .. .. .	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5	Diphtheria .. .. .	-	4	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
6	Influenza .. .. .	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	8	-	-	-	19
7	Encephalitis lethargica .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Cerebro-spinal fever .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Tuberculosis of respiratory system .. .. .	1	-	-	2	2	5	18	11	8	-	-	-	47
10	Other tuberculous diseases .. .. .	1	2	2	-	1	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	10
11	Syphilis .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
12	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
13	Cancer, malignant disease .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	35	60	2	-	-	101
14	Diabetes .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	-	-	-	10
15	Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc. .. .. .	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	15	43	3	-	-	66
16	Heart disease .. .. .	-	-	1	1	-	-	10	36	84	12	-	-	144
17	Aneurysm .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
18	Other circulatory diseases .. .. .	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	10	36	2	-	-	50
19	Bronchitis .. .. .	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	7	16	3	-	-	30
20	Pneumonia (all forms) .. .. .	4	6	-	1	-	-	3	9	12	3	-	-	38
21	Other respiratory diseases .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
22	Peptic ulcer .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	3
23	Diarrhoea, etc. .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24	Appendicitis .. .. .	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	5
25	Cirrhosis of liver .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	5
26	Other diseases of liver, etc. .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	-	-	7
27	Other digestive diseases .. .. .	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	12	1	-	-	19
28	Acute and chronic nephritis .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	7	1	-	-	15
29	Puerperal sepsis .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30	Other puerperal causes .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
31	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. .. .. .	29	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30
32	Senility .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	40	29	-	-	70
33	Suicide .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	10
34	Other violence .. .. .	-	1	-	-	1	1	5	7	2	3	-	-	20
35	Other defined causes .. .. .	1	2	1	-	-	-	3	9	6	1	-	-	23
36	Causes ill-defined, or unknown .. .. .	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	All causes .. .. .	40	20	14	8	5	7	64	180	349	60	-	-	747

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