

[Report 1958] / Medical Officer of Health, Worcestershire / County of Worcester County Council.

Contributors

Worcestershire (England). County Council.

Publication/Creation

1958

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/e8b6dzgt>

License and attribution

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

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

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



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

Unable to display this page

Unable to display this page



Worcestershire County Council

ANNUAL REPORT


of the

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

for

THE YEAR 1958



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

<https://archive.org/details/b30292888>

INDEX

	<u>Page:</u>		<u>Page:</u>
Ambulance Service	43 - 46	Neo-natal deaths	9. 11
Ante-natal Services	18 - 19	Notifiable Deaths	10
B.C.G	39	Nurseries and Child Minders	20
Birth Rates	9. 11		
Care of Mothers and Young Children	17 - 18	Occupational Therapy	48 - 49
Child Guidance	55 - 56	Orthopaedic Work	49 - 50
Civil Defence	44	Peri-Natal Mortality	15
Clinics and Centres	18, 31 - 34	Premature Babies	13 - 14
Committees	3 - 6	Problem Families	27
Convalescent Treatment	50	Staff	6 - 7 16 - 17 27
Day Nurseries	20	Statistics	8 - 10
Death, Causes of	9	Still Births	12
Death Rate	9		
Dental Treatment	20 - 21	Training	16 - 17
Diseases of Animals		Tuberculosis	46 - 48
(Waste Foods) Order	75		
Health Education	27	Vaccination and Immunisation	35 - 42
Health Visiting	26	Venereal Diseases	51
Home Help Service	30 - 31	Vital Statistics	9
Hospital Car Service	45	Water and Sewage	72 - 75
Housing	75 - 76	Welfare Foods	19
Immunisation & Vaccination	35 - 42	Welfare Services	56 - 67
Infant Mortality Rate	9		
Illegitimacy	19		
Isobel Morcom Medal and Prize	16		
Maternal Mortality	12		
Maternal and Child Welfare	11 - 20		
Medical Comforts Depots	50 - 51		
Mental Health Service	52 - 55		
Midwifery, Domiciliary Services	22 - 24		
Milk and Dairies			
Administration	68		
Mobile Infant Welfare Clinics	33		
Moral Welfare	19		

Page	Page	Page	Page
10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29
30	31	32	33
34	35	36	37
38	39	40	41
42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49
50	51	52	53
54	55	56	57
58	59	60	61
62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69
70	71	72	73
74	75	76	77
78	79	80	81
82	83	84	85
86	87	88	89
90	91	92	93
94	95	96	97
98	99	100	101
102	103	104	105
106	107	108	109
110	111	112	113
114	115	116	117
118	119	120	121
122	123	124	125
126	127	128	129
130	131	132	133
134	135	136	137
138	139	140	141
142	143	144	145
146	147	148	149
150	151	152	153
154	155	156	157
158	159	160	161
162	163	164	165
166	167	168	169
170	171	172	173
174	175	176	177
178	179	180	181
182	183	184	185
186	187	188	189
190	191	192	193
194	195	196	197
198	199	200	201
202	203	204	205
206	207	208	209
210	211	212	213
214	215	216	217
218	219	220	221
222	223	224	225
226	227	228	229
230	231	232	233
234	235	236	237
238	239	240	241
242	243	244	245
246	247	248	249
250	251	252	253
254	255	256	257
258	259	260	261
262	263	264	265
266	267	268	269
270	271	272	273
274	275	276	277
278	279	280	281
282	283	284	285
286	287	288	289
290	291	292	293
294	295	296	297
298	299	300	301
302	303	304	305
306	307	308	309
310	311	312	313
314	315	316	317
318	319	320	321
322	323	324	325
326	327	328	329
330	331	332	333
334	335	336	337
338	339	340	341
342	343	344	345
346	347	348	349
350	351	352	353
354	355	356	357
358	359	360	361
362	363	364	365
366	367	368	369
370	371	372	373
374	375	376	377
378	379	380	381
382	383	384	385
386	387	388	389
390	391	392	393
394	395	396	397
398	399	400	401
402	403	404	405
406	407	408	409
410	411	412	413
414	415	416	417
418	419	420	421
422	423	424	425
426	427	428	429
430	431	432	433
434	435	436	437
438	439	440	441
442	443	444	445
446	447	448	449
450	451	452	453
454	455	456	457
458	459	460	461
462	463	464	465
466	467	468	469
470	471	472	473
474	475	476	477
478	479	480	481
482	483	484	485
486	487	488	489
490	491	492	493
494	495	496	497
498	499	500	501
502	503	504	505
506	507	508	509
510	511	512	513
514	515	516	517
518	519	520	521
522	523	524	525
526	527	528	529
530	531	532	533
534	535	536	537
538	539	540	541
542	543	544	545
546	547	548	549
550	551	552	553
554	555	556	557
558	559	560	561
562	563	564	565
566	567	568	569
570	571	572	573
574	575	576	577
578	579	580	581
582	583	584	585
586	587	588	589
590	591	592	593
594	595	596	597
598	599	600	601
602	603	604	605
606	607	608	609
610	611	612	613
614	615	616	617
618	619	620	621
622	623	624	625
626	627	628	629
630	631	632	633
634	635	636	637
638	639	640	641
642	643	644	645
646	647	648	649
650	651	652	653
654	655	656	657
658	659	660	661
662	663	664	665
666	667	668	669
670	671	672	673
674	675	676	677
678	679	680	681
682	683	684	685
686	687	688	689
690	691	692	693
694	695	696	697
698	699	700	701
702	703	704	705
706	707	708	709
710	711	712	713
714	715	716	717
718	719	720	721
722	723	724	725
726	727	728	729
730	731	732	733
734	735	736	737
738	739	740	741
742	743	744	745
746	747	748	749
750	751	752	753
754	755	756	757
758	759	760	761
762	763	764	765
766	767	768	769
770	771	772	773
774	775	776	777
778	779	780	781
782	783	784	785
786	787	788	789
790	791	792	793
794	795	796	797
798	799	800	801
802	803	804	805
806	807	808	809
810	811	812	813
814	815	816	817
818	819	820	821
822	823	824	825
826	827	828	829
830	831	832	833
834	835	836	837
838	839	840	841
842	843	844	845
846	847	848	849
850	851	852	853
854	855	856	857
858	859	860	861
862	863	864	865
866	867	868	869
870	871	872	873
874	875	876	877
878	879	880	881
882	883	884	885
886	887	888	889
890	891	892	893
894	895	896	897
898	899	900	901
902	903	904	905
906	907	908	909
910	911	912	913
914	915	916	917
918	919	920	921
922	923	924	925
926	927	928	929
930	931	932	933
934	935	936	937
938	939	940	941
942	943	944	945
946	947	948	949
950	951	952	953
954	955	956	957
958	959	960	961
962	963	964	965
966	967	968	969
970	971	972	973
974	975	976	977
978	979	980	981
982	983	984	985
986	987	988	989
990	991	992	993
994	995	996	997
998	999	1000	1001

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Annual Report of the County Medical Officer of Health
for the Year 1958.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

STAT-
ISTICS

The statistical tables show that for 1958 the health of the County continues to be satisfactory.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population was 15.2 whilst the death rate per 1,000 was 10.5. There were two deaths from whooping cough and one from measles. Deaths from cancer in all ages were 799.

Statistical interest in childbirth now centres round what is known as the perinatal mortality rate which is the rate of stillbirths and deaths of babies during the first week of life per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. The rate in the County was 31.6, a slight improvement on last year's figure of 32.5 and it is in this group where the next step forward in saving child life is most likely to be made.

It is interesting to note that during the past year, there has been the expected fall in the number of cases of notified pulmonary tuberculosis and the number of cases notified due to bovine tuberculosis was negligible. Twenty years ago, 40% of the cows were potential excretors of infected milk but with the rapid increase in the number of T.T. herds in the County the public health ideal of a complete eradication of tuberculosis in the herds of Worcestershire will become a reality in the immediate future.

Remarkable progress has also been made in the treatment of orthopaedic defects. The older generations alive today will recall that forty and fifty years ago, deformed and crippled children could be seen in almost any of our streets, but how different is the picture today due to the progress in orthopaedic treatment and the work of the Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Services. Nevertheless, the Orthopaedic Sisters report that there is an increase amongst teenagers and school children in bad posture and "sloppiness". The present fashion of footwear for teenagers alternating between slip-on shoes and the more dressy long toed shoes with high narrow heels, is already leading to an increase in foot defects such as rigidity of the big toe joints and the production of bunions.

MENTAL
HEALTH:

As foreshadowed in my last report, the interest in mental health and mental illness has increased and the appointment of a lady Mental Health Social Worker will ensure that part of the essential visiting of female mental defectives will be carried out. The Occupation Centre for mental defective children at the St. Saviours Mission Hall, Halesowen, was transferred to more satisfactory premises at Netherend, Cradley where further improvements are being effected.

SOCIAL
WELFARE:
CARE OF
THE AGED:

The report from the County Welfare Officer shows the excellent work for the elderly has made satisfactory progress and the voluntary organisations have continued to give their valuable and devoted help. It will be seen that special types of housing, mostly bungalows, for elderly people have been built by the District Councils in many parts of the County and a warden service has been provided for each group of bungalows by the County Council. A further facility greatly appreciated by the old people has been the establishment of clubs throughout the County which has now reached the considerable total of sixty-three.

Every endeavour is made to meet all demands for nursing the elderly sick and infirm at home even with limited domestic and nursing help and it does seem that expansion of this service has by no means reached its peak.

I think there is general agreement that blind members of our community are cared for reasonably well though it is of interest to note that of the 744 people on the register, 59% are over seventy years of age.

FIRST
TEN
YEARS
OF THE
NATION-
AL
HEALTH
SERVICE:

The first ten years of the National Health Service have now been completed and although the policy of tripartite administration has not been changed or modified, it would seem that there has been a reasonably close integration between the three parts due to the endeavour of all those concerned to make a success of this comprehensive health scheme. Local Health Authorities have now accepted the loss of their hospital services and are doing their best to develop the new socio-medical services based on the concept of the responsibility of the community as a whole for the treatment and care of the sick and the needy. As always, the main endeavour must be to further all aspects of preventive medicine and with the wider dissemination of knowledge and awareness that health is one of the great assets of the nation and the individual, greater attention is being paid in all health departments to spreading the gospel of health education as widely as possible.

WATER
SUPPLIES:

I made reference in my last report to the need to re-organise the sources and distribution of water supplies and during the past year it would seem that the pattern which will evolve for the re-grouping of water undertakings will take the form of a North West Worcestershire group, a South Worcestershire group, including Worcester, and an extension of the area of the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company. Certain northern parts of the County served by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company and the Birmingham Corporation will continue to remain under their respective control.

LUNG
CANCER
AND
SMOKING:

A reasonable time has now elapsed since attempts have been made to persuade the public to smoke less because of lung cancer and it is fairly evident that the campaign is not meeting with great success so far as middle aged and elderly persons are concerned. Therefore, all our efforts must be directed to influence the teenagers and the school child not to commence to smoke cigarettes because there can be little doubt that there is a close association between heavy cigarette smoking and the occurrence of lung cancer.

The voluntary association, especially the Women's Voluntary Service, British Red Cross Society, and the St. John's Ambulance Brigade continued to help the health services in many ways and I trust that this partnership between the Health Committee and the voluntary services will continue to prosper.

It is worthy of note that each year continues to bring forth changes of policy and responsibilities in the health services of Local Health Authorities and the smooth working in the introduction of the changes is a tribute in itself to the resilience and loyalty of the clerical and administrative staff.

I am grateful to all the members of the staff, both professional, technical and clerical for their assistance and devotion to duty during the past year when heavy demands were asked of them to meet the needs of the inoculation campaign against poliomyelitis in addition to their normal work. To the Chairman and members of the Sub-Committees and to Mr. Herbert Parkes, the Chairman of the Health Committee, I should like to express my appreciation for their continued support and advice.

Health Department,
Love's Grove,
Castle Street, Worcester.

H. S. Parkes
County Medical Officer and
Principal School Medical
Officer.

HEALTH COMMITTEE
(as at 31st December, 1958)

Chairman:	Mr. H. Parkes
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. S. T. Melsom

The Chairman of the County Council:	Mr. R. R. Adam
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council:	Major M. F. S. Jewell
The Chairman of the Finance Committee:	Mr. F. L. Rose

County Aldermen:

Mr. J. W. Bright	Col. W. R. Prescott, M.C., D.L.
Mrs. H. C. M. Porter	

County Councillors:

Major D. Blore	Mrs. M. B. Matty
Dr. J. E. Blundell-Williams	Miss E. M. Newth
Mr. E. J. Broughton	Mr. J. G. Parker
Mr. D. G. Dymott	Mr. W. Parkes
Mr. H. Eccles	Mr. W. Perrins
Mr. F. Giles	Mr. A. Poole
Mrs. J. F. Goode	Brig. J. Scott
Mr. G. E. Gregg	Mr. G. A. Southall
Mrs. A. Gunn	Mrs. R. Starkie
Mr. H. Hardwick	Mr. H. J. Tooby
Mrs. D. E. Hibberd	Mr. E. A. W. Treadgold
Mr. W. F. Kimberley	Miss M. E. Vernon
Dr. C. A. Mather	Mr. C. Willetts
	Mr. J. H. Wooldridge

Co-opted Members:

Chairman of Kidderminster and District and Oldbury
Area Sub-Committees.

Dr. R. S. MacArthur	}	Local Medical Committee
Dr. W. K. Earle		
Miss F. E. Bailey		Local Dental Committee
Mrs. J. C. Wilson	}	County Nursing Association
Mrs. F. I. Lane		
Miss H. M. Pollard		Women's Voluntary Services
Miss D. S. Tomkinson		Worcestershire Federation of Women's Institutes
Mrs. E. R. Chadwick		Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee
Mr. H. T. Stephens		South Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee

PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr. H. Parkes (Chairman)

Major D. Blore	Mr. J. E. Parker
Mr. D. G. Dymott	Mr. W. Parkes
Mr. H. Eccles	Mr. W. Perrins
Mr. H. Hardwick	Mrs. H. C. M. Porter
Mr. W. F. Kimberley	Col. W. R. Prescott
Dr. C. A. Mather	Mr. H. J. Tooby
Mrs. M. B. Matty	Mr. E. A. W. Treadgold
	Miss M. E. Vernon
	Mr. J. H. Wooldridge

The Chairman of the County Council	}	ex-officio
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council		
The Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Chairman of the County Finance Committee		

Co-opted Members:

T. S. Bennett, Esq.,
Miss D. S. Tomkinson
Dr. R. J. Henderson, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester
Royal Infirmary
Miss F. E. Bailey
Mrs. E. R. Chadwick.

MILK MINOR SUB-COMMITTEE
Mr. H. Parkes (Chairman)

Mr. R. R. Adam	Mr. D. G. Dymott
Mr. T. S. Bennett	Col. W. R. Prescott
Major D. Blore	

AMBULANCE, PREVENTION AND AFTER-CARE SUB-COMMITTEE
Mr. E. J. Broughton (Chairman)

Mr. H. Eccles	Mr. A. Poole
Mr. H. Hardwick	Mrs. H. C. M. Porter
Mrs. B. E. Hibberd	Brig. J. Scott
Mr. J. G. Parker	Mr. G.A. Southall
Mr. W. Perrins	Mr. C. Willetts
	Mr. J. H. Wooldridge

The Chairman of the County Council	}	ex-officio
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council		
The Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Chairman of the County Finance Committee		

Co-opted Members:

Miss A. E. Dingley
Lt. Col. D.A. Davison, O.B.E., D.L.
Dr. R. S. MacArthur, or Dr. W.K. Earle
The Chairman of the South Worcestershire After-care Committee
Mrs. F. Pratt

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEE
Mr. H. Parkes (Chairman)

The Chairman of the County Council
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council
The Chairman of the Health Committee
The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee
The Chairman of the County Finance Committee.

The Chairmen of the following Sub-Committees:-

Public Health
Maternity and Child Welfare
Ambulance, Prevention and After-Care
Mental Health
Welfare

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE

Mrs. H.C.M. Porter (Chairman)

Mr. D.G. Dymott
Mr. F. Giles
Mrs. B. E. Hibberd
Mrs. M. B. Matty
Miss E.M. Newth

Mr. W. Perrins
Mrs. R. Starkie
Miss M. E. Vernon
Mr. J. H. Wooldridge

The Chairman of the County Council	}	ex-officio
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council		
The Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Chairman of the County Finance Committee		

Co-opted Members:

Miss T. M. Ashwin	Miss H. M. Pollard
Dr. R.S. MacArthur or Dr. W.K. Earle	Mrs. J. C. Wilson
Mrs. F.I. Lane	
Miss F.E. Bailey	

MENTAL HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Mr. J.W. Bright (Chairman)

Mr. H. Eccles	Mrs. H.C.M. Porter
Mrs. J.F. Goode	Mr. G. A. Southall
Mrs. B.E. Hibberd	Mrs. R. Starkie
Mrs. M. B. Matty	Mr. H. J. Tooby
Mr. J. G. Parker	Mr. E. A. W. Treadgold
Mr. W. Perrins	Mr. J. H. Wooldridge

The Chairman of the County Council	}	ex-officio
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council		
The Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Chairman of the County Finance Committee		

Co-opted Members:

Miss D. S. Tomkinson	Mrs. F. Pratt
Mrs. T. H. Charles	Mr. H. T. Stephens
Dr. R. S. MacArthur or Dr. W.K. Earle	Mrs. A. E. K. Kent

WELFARE SUB-COMMITTEE
Mr. J. G. Parker (Chairman)

Major D. Blore
Mr. E. J. Broughton
Mr. H. Eccles
Mr. G. E. Gregg
Mr. F. Giles
Mrs. J. F. Goode
Mr. H. Hardwick
Mrs. B. E. Hibberd

Dr. C. A. Mather
Miss E. M. Newth
Mrs. H. C. M. Porter
Mr. W. Perrins
Brig. J. Scott
Miss M. E. Vernon
Mr. C. Willetts
Mr. J. H. Wooldridge

The Chairman of the County Council	}	ex-officio
The Vice-Chairman of the County Council		
The Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee		
The Chairman of the County Finance Committee		

Co-opted Members:

Mrs. R. G. Addenbrooke
Mrs. C. Pagett
Miss H. M. Pollard
Mrs. J. A. Smallwood

Lt. Col. O.W.D. Smith
Mr. H. T. Stephens
Miss D. S. Tomkinson

The Chairman of the Visiting Committees to the Old People's Homes.

Heathlands	...	...	Mr. P. G. Feek
Blakebrook and Holmwood	...	...	Mr. J. H. Wooldridge
Laburnum House	...	...	Mrs. R. E. Hetherington
The Heriotts	...	...	Mrs. R. G. Addenbrooke
Malvernbury & The Howsells	...	...	Mrs. D. E. Baker
Swinford Hall	...	...	Mr. E. J. Broughton

STAFF (as at 31st December, 1958)

The following are the Chief Administrative Officers:-

County Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:

Dr. J. W. Pickup, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Principal and School Medical Officer.

T. McLaren Galloway, M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Senior Administrative Medical Officer, Maternal and Child Welfare

B. Mary Thompson, M.D., B.S., D.P.H.,

Divisional Area Medical Officers:

Kidderminster:

C. Starkie, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., B.Sc., D.P.H.,

Oldbury:

H. Tabbush, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

Chief Tuberculosis Officer

R. B. Mayfield, M.D., D.P.H.,

Chief Dental Officer

B.D. Britten, L.D.S.

County Welfare Officer

R.A. McDonald

Chief Public Health Inspector

R.W.T. Owen, M.R.S.H., M.Inst. S.P.

Lay Administrative Officer

H.A. Rock

County Ambulance Officer

G.L. Pitt

Mental Health Administrative Officer

W. Phillips, Ll.B.

Chief Nursing Officer

Miss S. Keeler, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S., H.V.

Superintendent Health Visitor

Miss A. Kean, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., Cert.

Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives

Mrs. E.M. Davis, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Health Education Organiser

Vacant.

Major Staff Changes:

Medical Officers

Dr. D.M. Blomfield, Deputy Divisional Medical Officer for Oldbury and Deputy Medical Officer of Health for Oldbury Borough resigned his appointment as from the 4th June 1958 and Dr. G.R. Thorpe was appointed as from the 1st September 1958 to succeed him.

Chief Nursing Officer:

Miss S. Keeler was appointed as Chief Nursing Officer as from the 11th February, 1958.

STATISTICS

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	438,221
					MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Population, Census 1931	...	...	...	...	147,816	160,971	308,787
" " 1951	...	...	...	...	195,431	205,307	400,738
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population, mid 1958						...	428,300
Rateable value 1957/58	...	...	...	...	...	£4,435,420	
Product of a penny rate, 1957-58				...	...	£18,108	
					MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Live Births - Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3,359	2,952	6,311
Illegitimate	..	...	...	...	103	102	205
Illegitimate live births per 100 of total live births							3.2
Live birth-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population							15.2
					MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Still-births	...	...	...	...	66	61	127
Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births							19.1
Total births - (live and still)	...	...	...	...	3,528	3,115	6,643
Deaths	...	...	...	...	2,356	2,156	4,512
Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population							10.5
Deaths due to or associated with Pregnancy and Childbirth							2
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...			0.31
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births						...	0.30
Infant mortality (deaths of infants under one year of age)							125
Deaths of all infants per 1,000 live births						...	19.2
" " legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births							18.5
" " illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births							39.0
Neonatal mortality rate (first four weeks) per 1,000 live births							14
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 (live and still) births							31.6
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 1 year of age)							NIL
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	799

TABLE 1

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING YEAR 1958 (b)

		POPULATION		DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR		DEATHS UNDER 4 WEEKS		TABLE I		CAUSES OF DEATH DURING YEAR 1958 (b)							
		Census 1951	Estimated for Birth and Death Rates, 1958 (b)	Total	Rate per 1,000 births	Total	Rate per 1,000 births	Stillbirths	Infants under 1 year per 1000 births registered	(a) No. of Deaths Registered	Death Rate per 1000 estimated population	Illlegitimate stillbirths	Total no. of stillbirths	Illlegitimate Births	Total no. of Live Births	Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population	Estimated for Birth and Death Rates, 1958 (b)
Area in Acres.																	
URBAN DISTRICTS																	
BRISTOL BOROUGH	3681	4914	4950	12.9	64	-	-	-	-	31	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
BIRMINGHAM BOR.	9228	27524	31700	17.5	555	16	7	-	-	11	6	2	9	5	2	3	6
BIRMINGHAM BOR.	1735	6453	7060	16.7	118	5	4	-	-	9	1	-	9	1	-	1	1
BLACKBURN BOR.	3958	12066	12380	17.4	215	3	4	-	-	33	7	-	23	5	-	-	-
BLACKBURN BOR.	5847	39884	43480	14.5	630	11	13	-	-	14	9	-	11	7	-	7	2
BLACKBURN BOR.	4694	37423	39660	15.8	625	27	18	1	12.3	26	16	-	16	10	-	10	3
BLACKBURN BOR.	7400	21681	24900	14.8	368	12	4	-	11.2	8	3	-	8	3	-	2	-
BLACKBURN BOR.	3304	53895	55100	13.6	749	32	13	1	9.3	29	22	-	19	14	-	12	4
BLACKBURN BOR.	12059	29184	33120	15.9	526	20	11	-	8.8	23	12	1	17	9	1	8	1
BLACKBURN BOR.	4214	37447	39660	14.4	572	9	12	1	10.8	12	7	-	9	5	-	4	1
BLACKBURN BOR.	3204	10140	11190	14.7	165	4	5	2	8.4	18	3	-	18	3	-	3	2
TOTAL	58724	280611	303200	15.1	4587	139	92	5	10.6	3203	19	68	3	14	64	3	57
RURAL DISTRICTS																	
BIRMINGHAM BOR.	45646	28172	33470	17.5	587	13	6	-	9.4	22	13	2	19	11	2	9	1
BIRMINGHAM BOR.	51380	15464	13690	16.1	221	8	9	3	9.9	9	2	1	9	2	1	2	1
BLACKBURN BOR.	58872	16453	16830	15.2	255	12	2	-	11.0	19	5	1	12	3	-	2	2
BLACKBURN BOR.	36769	11299	12080	15.0	181	4	4	-	8.3	27	5	-	17	3	-	3	-
BLACKBURN BOR.	52838	11441	11990	13.8	166	12	4	-	10.3	36	6	-	12	2	-	2	-
BLACKBURN BOR.	57801	16355	16860	15.5	262	10	5	-	9.1	4	1	-	4	1	-	1	-
BLACKBURN BOR.	31844	5403	5410	15.9	86	2	2	-	10.0	12	1	-	12	1	-	1	-
BLACKBURN BOR.	50947	15340	14770	11.6	171	5	3	-	16.4	23	4	1	17	3	1	2	2
TOTALS	379487	119927	125100	15.4	1929	66	35	3	10.5	1309	19	37	5	14	26	4	22
GRAND TOTALS FOR COUNTY		436221	400738	428300	15.2	6516	205	127	8	10.5	19	125	8	14	90	7	75

(a) Arrived at by excluding deaths of non-residents and including deaths of persons properly belonging to the District, but who died outside these districts.

(b) These figures are supplied by the Registrar General

ENGLAND AND WALES:

Birth Rate	16.4 per 1,000 population
Death Rate	11.7 " " "
Infant Mortality Rate	22.5 " " Live births
Still Birth Rate	21.6 " " "
Maternal Mortality (Total Rate)	0.43 exc. Abortion
Neo Natal Mortality Rate	16.2

No.	Name	Age	Sex	Religion	Marital Status	Occupation	Education	Income	Assets	Liabilities	Net Worth	Remarks
1	John Doe	35	M	Protestant	Married	Teacher	High School	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$10,000	
2	Jane Smith	28	F	Catholic	Single	Nurse	College	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$8,000	
3	Robert Johnson	45	M	Methodist	Married	Engineer	University	\$18,000	\$25,000	\$10,000	\$15,000	
4	Mary White	32	F	Baptist	Married	Homemaker	High School	\$6,000	\$8,000	\$1,000	\$7,000	
5	William Brown	50	M	Presbyterian	Married	Retired	College	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$3,000	\$9,000	
6	Elizabeth Green	40	F	Anglican	Married	Teacher	University	\$14,000	\$18,000	\$4,000	\$14,000	
7	Thomas Black	38	M	Evangelical	Married	Businessman	College	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$12,000	\$18,000	
8	Sarah Davis	25	F	Protestant	Single	Student	High School	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$1,000	\$4,000	
9	Michael Wilson	42	M	Catholic	Married	Engineer	University	\$16,000	\$20,000	\$8,000	\$12,000	
10	Patricia Moore	30	F	Methodist	Married	Homemaker	High School	\$7,000	\$9,000	\$1,500	\$7,500	
11	David Taylor	48	M	Baptist	Married	Retired	College	\$11,000	\$14,000	\$3,500	\$10,500	
12	Linda Anderson	35	F	Presbyterian	Married	Teacher	University	\$13,000	\$16,000	\$4,500	\$11,500	
13	Christopher King	33	M	Anglican	Married	Businessman	College	\$19,000	\$24,000	\$11,000	\$13,000	
14	Amanda Scott	27	F	Evangelical	Single	Student	High School	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$1,200	\$4,800	
15	James Hall	44	M	Protestant	Married	Engineer	University	\$17,000	\$21,000	\$9,000	\$12,000	
16	Karen Young	31	F	Catholic	Married	Homemaker	High School	\$8,000	\$10,000	\$1,800	\$8,200	
17	Steven Clark	46	M	Methodist	Married	Retired	College	\$12,000	\$15,000	\$4,000	\$11,000	
18	Nancy Lewis	36	F	Baptist	Married	Teacher	University	\$14,000	\$17,000	\$5,000	\$12,000	
19	Gregory Walker	39	M	Presbyterian	Married	Businessman	College	\$21,000	\$26,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	
20	Helen Adams	29	F	Anglican	Single	Student	High School	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$1,400	\$5,600	
21	Benjamin Baker	41	M	Evangelical	Married	Engineer	University	\$15,000	\$19,000	\$7,000	\$12,000	
22	Michelle Carter	34	F	Protestant	Married	Homemaker	High School	\$9,000	\$11,000	\$2,000	\$9,000	
23	Timothy Evans	43	M	Catholic	Married	Retired	College	\$13,000	\$16,000	\$4,000	\$12,000	
24	Rebecca Fisher	37	F	Methodist	Married	Teacher	University	\$15,000	\$18,000	\$5,500	\$12,500	
25	Jonathan Grant	32	M	Baptist	Married	Businessman	College	\$22,000	\$27,000	\$14,000	\$13,000	
26	Stephanie Hill	26	F	Presbyterian	Single	Student	High School	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$1,600	\$6,400	
27	Kevin Jones	47	M	Anglican	Married	Engineer	University	\$18,000	\$22,000	\$10,000	\$12,000	
28	Christina King	33	F	Evangelical	Married	Homemaker	High School	\$10,000	\$12,000	\$2,500	\$9,500	
29	Andrew Lamb	49	M	Protestant	Married	Retired	College	\$14,000	\$17,000	\$5,000	\$12,000	
30	Deborah Lee	38	F	Catholic	Married	Teacher	University	\$16,000	\$19,000	\$6,000	\$13,000	

141 These figures are subject to the following conditions:

142 (a) The figures are based on the information provided by the respondents.

143 (b) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

144 (c) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

145 (d) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

146 (e) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

147 (f) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

148 (g) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

149 (h) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

150 (i) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

151 (j) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

152 (k) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

153 (l) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

154 (m) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

155 (n) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

156 (o) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

157 (p) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

158 (q) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

159 (r) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

160 (s) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

161 (t) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

162 (u) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

163 (v) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

164 (w) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

165 (x) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

166 (y) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

167 (z) The figures are not intended to be used for any other purpose.

TABLE II
Notifications and Deaths from certain causes

DISTRICT	Urban	Measles and Infectious Diseases		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria and Membranous Croup		Paratyphoid Fever		Typhoid Fever		Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis		Optic Thrombosis		Acute Polyneuritis		Pneumonia		Acute Encephalitis		Measles		Whooping Cough		Dysentery		Food Poisoning		Erysipelas			
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths				
Bedley Borough	Urban	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		12	4	60	10	23	71	23	57	14	274	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		2	-	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
TOTALS		6	1	274	-	-	-	1	-	82	1	151	20	22	2	2	-	7	1	155	168	1	-	377	1	291	1	49	-	23	-	13	-		
Rural	Rural	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		27	16	3	17	12	6	2	4	8	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		16	3	17	12	6	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		3	17	12	6	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		17	12	6	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		12	6	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		6	2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		2	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
		87	-	-	-	-	-	1	44	7	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		TOTALS		-	-	87	-	-	-	-	-	1	144	7	6	3	-	-	-	-	-	57	64	-	-	902	-	111	1	13	-	5	-	8	-
GRAND TOTALS		6	1	361	-	-	-	1	-	82	2	195	27	28	5	2	-	7	1	212	232	1	-	2279	1	402	2	62	-	28	-	21	-		

(a) The deaths refer to all cases of pneumonia; not only those which are notifiable.
(b) The deaths are those ascribed to Pregnancy or Childbirth. These figures exclude Non-Civilians.

MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE

Table 1. Registrar-General's Statistics for County 1948-1958 and England and Wales 1958.

	LIVE BIRTHS			STILLBIRTHS			DEATHS			Peri-natal Rate	County Population	Mid year estimates		
	Legiti-mate	Illeg-itimate	L.B.R.	Legiti-mate	Illeg-itimate	Rate	I.M.R.	N.M.D.	M.M.A.			0 - 1	1 - 4	0 - 5
1948	6,897	335	17.8	152	13	23	30	-	0.99	-	387,980			34,119
1949	6,353	341	17.1	143	9	22	30	-	2.04	-	391,400			34,162
1950	5,972	295	15.6	125	6	20	29	19	1.25	-	401,810			34,180
1951	5,970	263	15.4	165	8	27	29	19	0.78	-	403,600			34,440
1952	6,106	241	15.7	141	5	23	24	16	0.30	-	404,600	6,152	26,448	32,600
1953	5,885	269	15.1	121	6	20	26	17	0.81	-	407,700	5,250	26,950	32,200
1954	5,768	231	14.7	118	11	21	27	19	0.66	-	410,200	6,080	25,420	31,500
1955	5,800	215	14.6	121	9	21.1	22	17	0.83	-	412,700	5,780	25,220	31,000
1956	6,157	218	15.3	133	8	23.2	21	14	0.31	-	417,800	6,200	24,900	31,100
1957	6,398	239	15.7	128	8	20.1	22	14	0.45	32.5	423,200	6,350	24,950	31,300
1958	6,311	205	15.2	119	8	19.1	19	14	0.31	31.6	428,300	6,480	25,120	31,600
<u>England and Wales</u>														
1958			16.4	-	-	21.6	22.5	16.2	0.43	35.1	45,109,000	721,000	2,662,000	4,036,000

The total county population is estimated to have risen by 5,100 this year. The estimated mid-year population of children under a year was 130 higher than in 1957 and those aged between 1 and 5 years increased by 170.

Live Births totalled 6,516 (121 fewer than last year). This figure is again below the national rate. High rates this year occurred in Bromsgrove Urban District, Droitwich and Evesham Boroughs, Bromsgrove and Droitwich Rural Districts. Upton-upon-Severn Rural District was again outstandingly low at 11.6. The percentage of males was exceptionally high in the legitimate group, but in the illegitimate group the sex ratio was equal. Illegitimate live births numbered 3.2% of the total compared with the national rate of 4.9%. The highest district rate in the County was 7.1% in Martley Rural District.

Infant Mortality: The County rate (19) again shows a steady reduction and continues to be lower than the national rate (22). Comparing legitimately born children with illegitimates, the rates are respectively 18 and 39 (22 and 25 in 1957).

Neonatal deaths: Of the 125 infant deaths recorded, 90 occurred in the first month (72% compared with 68% last year). The majority of these 79 (63.2% of total infant deaths) occurred in the first week and 7 out of the 90 were illegitimate.

Maternal mortality: The maternal mortality rate was 0.30 per 1,000 total births compared with a national rate of 0.43. A detailed analysis of cases is given in the midwifery section.

Stillbirths: The death of a baby in the later stages of pregnancy is one of the most distressing experiences for all concerned in what should be a straight-forward natural process with a happy outcome. In spite of advances in other fields the rate of loss of foetal life remains disturbingly stationary since the marked reduction which occurred during and after the war. The number of lives lost in the County is many times greater than those due to poliomyelitis. The public evinces less interest in these young lives prematurely terminated each year than in many other diseases, e.g. poliomyelitis.

The figures given here outline some of the points about this aspect of the health of the County, and emphasise the need for unceasing vigilance in ante-natal care - and for research into the causes of congenital defects - the crippling malformations which make survival unlikely or hazardous.

Records are available for 124 of the 127 babies known to have been stillborn to County mothers and for eight born in the County from other areas.

County Stillbirths

Table 1 Place of occurrence of recorded County stillbirths 1957 and 1958					
<u>County hospitals</u>		<u>1957</u>		<u>1958</u>	
Mary Stevens Maternity Home		7		5	
Bromsgrove General Hospital		28		28	
Croft Maternity Home		7		6	
Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital		3		8	
Avonside Hospital		6		3	
Totals -		51		50	
<u>City hospitals</u>					
Ronkswood Hospital		21		16	
Shrub Hill Maternity Unit		1		-	
Totals -		22		16	
<u>Out-County hospitals</u>		34		35	
<u>Domiciliary cases</u>		22		23	
TOTALS -		129		124	

Table 2. Age of mother			Table 3.	Position in family.	
	SB.	%		SB.	%
16 - 20 yrs.	6	5	1st baby	38	30
21 - 25	25	20	2nd "	24	20
26 - 30	30	24	3rd "	12	10
31 - 35	17	14	4th "	10	8
36 - 40	15	12	5th "	3	2
40+	2	2	6th "	1	-
Age not known	29	23	More than 6 previous children	8	6
			Not known	28	24
	124	100		124	100

Place of birth: Of the 124, 101 babies were born in hospital while last year the figures were 129 and 102.

Time of death of baby: In 56 cases (68 last year) the baby was known to be dead before labour commenced, and in 16 of these cases labour was known to be induced, while it was spontaneous in 33. In 38 cases death occurred in labour (43 in 1957) and in 9 of these cases induction was undertaken. The missing details in 33 cases affect the usefulness of comparison - since last year only 7 cases were not fully documented.

Premature babies always form about half the total - but this definition only covers those born weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs or less. This year 68 out of 124 came in this category, but in fact many of them were not born before their time - since only 44 of the 124 are recorded to have gestation periods less than 37 weeks. Many of these babies are small and undeveloped owing to maternal illhealth. There were 25 babies weighing under 2 lb. 11 ozs.

Multiple pregnancies might be expected to carry a greater hazard because of the risk of premature labour and complications during delivery - but this year the stillbirth loss of one triplet and four single twins is much more satisfactory than the 11 of 1957.

The causes of death are various but there are several well defined groups in the 112 cases with details available.

- (a) toxaemia of pregnancy can be incriminated as the direct or an associated cause of death in 29 of the 112 babies. It may be a factor in another 22 where the baby's nutrition was affected by disease of the placenta.
- (b) congenital defects - sometimes incompatible with life - were known to be present in 24 cases - and in 16 of these death occurred before the start of labour.
- (c) difficulty in labour without other complications is likely to have caused death in another 20 cases including two births occurring without assistance.
- (d) ante-partum haemorrhage not associated with toxaemia may be a dramatic killer and occurred in 10 cases.
- (e) post-maturity and prematurity are both potential dangers to the baby and in some cases seem to have been the obvious cause of death while in others they were one of the deciding factors.
- (f) Maternal ill-health, although its influence on the baby's development and nutrition is sometimes unsuspected or difficult to correct, in time should be one of the influences which can be mitigated by good ante-natal care, but in some of these instances the co-operation of the mother is more difficult than usual to obtain and improvement not easy to achieve.

Deaths in the first year (after first month): There were 32 deaths in this period mainly due to infections (12) and congenital defects (15). Of 5 babies found dead in their prams, 3 died from accidents such as asphyxia or inhaled vomit while two who showed little sign while alive, died of an acute infection only discovered by post-mortem examination. The majority of infections were pneumonias, reminding us that adult disease only too quickly reaches the lung of young babies, and that the new drugs have not yet achieved 100% success. No malignant disease occurred in this group, but congenital defects out-numbered heart and spinal defects in almost equal numbers. Fibroelastosis, a rare disease, occurred in one case.

Deaths in 2 - 4 weeks: This is the period of least risk - before those who have survived the hazards of birth succumb to the risks of life with growing independence and physical demands. Congenital defects numbered 5 and birth injury claimed two late victims, while inhaled vomit produced one accident victim and acute appendicitis produced late peritonitis in a two weeks old baby.

Together with first week deaths the neonatal group comprises half the loss of pre-school life, but the first week deaths are considered separately with stillbirths as perinatal ones. The neonatal death rate of 14 recorded this year for the county compares favourably with the national figure of 16.2

To summarise deaths in children over the age of a week show that the effective conquering of infection is not yet universal, while the problem of research into the causation of congenital defects such as mal-development of the heart, the brain and spinal column, is an urgent one if more babies are to be saved, and would be an even greater advance than has been achieved in recent years in the successful surgical treatment of so many of these conditions - previously almost universally fatal.

Perinatal mortality: The County rate this year is 31.6 (last year 32.5) from the figures provided by the Registrar General of 127 stillbirths and 79 first week deaths.

Analysis of cases in the County for which information is available (194) has again been carried out and the table below summarises the causes of loss of life - assessed to the primary cause.

PERINATAL MORTALITY - CAUSES 1958

Cause	Stillbirths	1st day death	2-7 day deaths	TOTAL
Congenital defects	22	15	6	43
Premature labour - unknown cause	4	10	3	17
Multiple pregnancy	3	8	2	13
Pre-eclamptic toxæmia/ toxic ante-partum haemorrhage	24	4	3	31
Non-toxic ante-partum haemorrhage	9	5	1	15
Difficult birth	18	2	2	22
Maternal condition	8	2	1	11
Illegitimate/unwanted	1	4	-	5
Placental insufficiency	14	-	-	14
Post-maturity	3	-	-	3
Others	18	-	2	20
TOTALS	124	50	20	194

The County participated in a National Survey on perinatal mortality under the auspices of the National Birthday Trust Fund. The object of this survey was to obtain information from which it was hoped to make a reduction in stillbirths and neo-natal deaths.

Worcestershire was also asked to take part in a perinatal mortality enquiry which was being carried out by the General Register Office and Ministry of Health. This enquiry started on July 1st 1958 and will finish on June 30th 1959.

Visitors to the County: Three Indian officials who were in this country under the Colombo plan, and who were attending Birmingham University in order to study English local government, visited the county in July.

Under the auspices of the World Health Organisation, a Japanese doctor spent two weeks in the county to see the organisation and functioning of maternal and child health services in rural and semi-rural areas.

Miss M. I. Sankey, the Queen's Institute Visitor for the western area paid a routine three yearly visit in September and saw some of the work of the district nurses.

Refugees: In May an ante-natal clinic was started at the camp outside Kidderminster for refugees from Egypt, and the local midwife attended two afternoons each month to see any expectant mothers in the camp, and to ensure that the necessary application forms for hospital beds were completed. She also co-operated with the sister in the camp in any parentcraft demonstrations or talks. This camp was closed in July.

Greenhill Hostel, Kidderminster: Owing to the difficulty of recruiting staff who were prepared to work in the present premises, this hostel was closed at the beginning of June.

Staff Changes: Miss S. Keeler was appointed as Chief Nursing Officer to co-ordinate the home nursing, midwifery and health visiting services in the county. She started work on February 10th. Previous to this appointment she was Deputy Superintendent Nursing Officer for Cumberland County Council.

Among those retiring were 5 combined district nurses who had served their districts from 18 - 35 years and 2 school nurses for 14 and 23 years. Other resignations totalled 4 district nurses, 13 district nurse/midwives, 3 district nurse/midwives/health visitors/school nurses and 4 health visitors/school nurses. Five extensions above retiring age were agreed.

The Isobel Morcom Medal and Prize was awarded to Miss A.H. Stokes of Pershore for 1958 and presented to her at the County Nursing Association Annual General Meeting in July. Miss Stokes has worked in the county for 20 years.

Long Service Badges and Bars were presented to 17 nurses.

Staff Details:

(1) Area Nurse Training Committee: Miss Kean, the Superintendent Health Visitor continued to attend the meetings of this Committee.

(2) Training Students from other Authorities: 12 Queen's nurse students from Nottingham and 10 health visitor students from Birmingham visited the county, 6 for 3 days regional and 4 for 5 days rural experience. In addition 24 final year students from the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee Training Centre, spent a day on the district in Kidderminster, Redditch or Bromsgrove, observing the work of a district nurse and health visitor.

(3) Further Training: Applications for the health visitor training course at Battersea Training College again increased. One student was also accepted for the health visitor course at Brighton. Seven nurses completed the Queen's district training and returned to work in the County. Three Queen's sisters completed the health visitor training and are now doing generalised work in rural areas.

One full-time midwife completed Part I of the midwife teachers diploma and was successful in the examination.

(4) Post-graduate courses: 25 midwives attended the statutory post-graduate course for midwives at various centres in the country, 4 district nurses attended courses arranged by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing and 5 nurses attended a course in Birmingham arranged by the Royal College of Nursing. Two nurses attended one day courses in Birmingham.

The Chief Nursing Officer attended a special course for Supervisors on the new methods of 'Posture and Lifting' for district nurses and subsequently, together with 3 Queen's nurses, gave 12 demonstrations in the county of these methods.

The non-medical supervisor of midwives attended a course at Bedford College arranged by the Royal College of Midwives.

(5) Staff Meetings: These continued to be held and were well attended.

Section 22. Care of Mothers and Young Children

Table 2. Summary of child welfare centres and weighing centres
1952 - 1958 - showing attendance as percentage of possible ones.

Y E A R	No. of C. W. C.	Mon- thly open- ings	Child- ren per centre (aver- age)	Attend- ers		Attendances					% of pos- sible	No. of weigh- ing cent- res
				1st att- end- ers 0 - 1	% of pos- sible	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 5	All ages total	Total attend- ers 0 - 5		
1952	84	200	368	3,464	56.30	47,634	30,908		78,542	11,039	33.86	NR.
1953	86	196	374	3,912	74.51	53,061	14,913	17,746	85,720	11,822	36.71	NR.
1954	89	198	354	3,975	65.37	49,887	14,364	16,256	80,507	11,367	36.08	5
1955	90	200	344	3,885	67.21	47,793	13,725	16,264	77,782	11,516	37.14	5
1956	92	199	338	4,108	66.25	51,926	14,234	15,346	81,506	11,644	37.44	7
1957	94	211	333	4,473	70.44	53,968	15,138	16,533	85,639	12,459	39.80	5
1958	97	219	325	4,445	68.59	54,828	14,985	15,084	85,697	12,654	36.87	5

Table 3. Summary of ante-natal and post-natal clinics
1955 - 1958.

Y E A R	No. of Cen- tres	Total Ann- ual Sess- ions	Total atten- dan- ces	Ante-natal & post-natal clinics					Relaxation attendances	
				Hosp- ital appli- cations	Blood Tests	A.N. care	P.N. care	Coun- ty relax- ation class	Attend- ances (new)	Attend- ances (total)
1955	18	535	3,332	*N.R.	714	1,196	33	8	483	2,032
1956	18	630	5,450	875	632	1,241	20	8	566	2,823
1957	17	588	6,822	756	647	1,510	15	9	698 +	3,497
1958	16	563	5,677	716	601	1,059	22	12	627 +	2,679

* NOT RECORDED.

Table 4. Investigations from clinics. Table 5. Relaxation class attendances

Blood Tests						C.C.		A.N.C.	Hosp.	A.N.C.	Other	
YEAR	WR/ Kahn	Rhesus	Hb.	Repeats	Chest X-ray	YEAR	New cases	Total attend- ances	New cases	Total Attend- ances	New Cases	Total Attend- ances
1956	825	846	840	42	118	1956	566	2,823	206	729	127	484
1957	845	782	864	85	181	1957	698+	3,497	143	890	117	489
1958	592	663	686	105	54	1958	627+	2,679	175	617	125	460

Table 6. Welfare Food Distribution.

Child Welfare and Ante-natal Centres 87 (83 in 1957)

Others 59 (60 in 1957)

Table 6A. Variations in distribution 1957-58 and variation in birth rate.

	Total amount delivered in 1958	Increase or decrease on 1957	Birth rate compared with 1957
National Dried Milk	107,301 tins	20% decrease	1½% decrease
Cod Liver Oil	24,551 bottles	34% decrease	
A and D tablets	17,692 packets	2% decrease	
Orange Juice	197,802 bottles	37% decrease	

Table 7. Mother and baby homes in County.

Hostel	Provision			County cases helped	Average stay	
	Beds	Cots	Total cases in year		Ante-natal	Post-natal
Greenhill (closed on 4.6.58)	14	9	11	6	2 months	2 months
St. Catherine's	24	24	23	1	-	11 months

Child Welfare Centres:

There were 97 centres provided at the end of the year (94 in 1957); 12 of these are served by the mobile van. Monthly sessions numbered 219 this year (211 in 1957). Five weighing centres were open at the end of the year, providing 9 sessions a month.

Ante-natal clinics: At the end of the year there were 16 county ante-natal clinics still open with a medical officer in attendance. Midwives continued to attend general practitioners ante-natal sessions in some areas and in others to hold their own at their houses or clinics.

Parentcraft and Relaxation Classes: During the year classes were started at Wribbenhall ante-natal clinic and these were held twice monthly. Relaxation classes were also started for Catshill mothers and were held twice monthly.

Welfare Foods:

Details of the distribution undertaken in the county are given in the tables.

Illegitimacy:

The Diocesan Moral Welfare Association continued to act as the County Council's agent in helping the majority of cases coming to notice, and on the recommendation of the workers, the County Council assisted in maintaining a total of 52 cases. Of these girls 6 went to Greenhill Hostel (which was closed at the beginning of June) and one to St. Catherine's, while the remainder were accommodated in hostels outside the county. Details of the work undertaken at the homes during this year are shown in the tables.

Diocesan Moral Welfare Worker's Report: The Diocesan Moral Welfare Association through its various Workers, has been in touch with 183 mothers of illegitimate children during 1958, in addition to a considerable number who had been referred previously and were still needing care. Many of these came through the ante-natal clinics of the County Health Department.

Of these approximately 120 were admitted to Mother and Baby Homes for periods of 6 - 20 weeks according to need, 51 of these were maintained by grants from the County Council who met the balance of fees not covered by National Insurance benefits. The majority of mothers took their babies home with them, a few were admitted to residential nurseries and some went to foster-mothers; only 55 mothers applied for adoption of their child, 39 through the Worcester Society, and for various good reasons 16 were placed through other Societies. Several mothers married the father of the child shortly before, or soon after, confinement.

Owing to the difficulty of obtaining adequate and suitable staff, it became necessary to close Greenhill Hostel for Mothers and Babies in Kidderminster and since then (early June) vacancies have had to be obtained in Homes in other Counties. As Greenhill was an old house needing constant expenditure on repairs and being difficult and uneconomic to run, the Committee decided to sell the house and land and are hoping to secure more suitable premises shortly.

St. Catherine's House at West Malvern continues to provide accommodation for young mothers wishing to keep their babies, who are cared for while the mothers go to either part, or full-time daily work. This enables the mother to be partially self-supporting and yet have a reasonable time with her child.

The age and status of the mothers of illegitimate children varies from the youngster of 14 + to the married woman of 40 + (often separated or divorced, but sometimes living with her husband), but their need is very similar in that the illegitimate child must be given adequate care immediately and a proper plan made for the future. This includes rehabilitation for the mother and may take several months and even years. It is important for mother and child that every opportunity should be seized to help towards this, but especially for the child whose future is in the balance.

Day Nurseries: Oldbury Day Nursery (last one in the county) was closed in May. Arrangements were made for one child to be sent to Smethwick Day Nursery for a month.

Nurseries and Child Minders: The 6 private nurseries and child minders registered at the end of the year were providing 84 places for children up to the age of 5.

Handicapped Children: The register of children with handicaps was maintained. Cases over 2 years of age where early ascertainment or treatment was necessary were referred to the school health service or mental health section or to the appropriate consultant.

REPORT OF CHIEF DENTAL OFFICER

DENTAL TREATMENT OF NURSING AND EXPECTANT MOTHERS AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

A slight improvement in the Staffing position during the year enabled the dental officers to set aside more sessions for the treatment of young children and expectant and nursing mothers during the year, though the increase was but small. Nevertheless, the demand for dental treatment does not show any big increase.

In a County where there were over 6,600 registered births during the year it seems extraordinary that only 332 of the mothers presented themselves for dental treatment through the County Dental Services - only about 5% of those eligible to do so. Doubtless many others go to private dentists or receive dental treatment at a hospital, but while these figures are not available, it is almost certain that a very large proportion of expectant and nursing mothers receive no dental treatment whatever during a most important time. It is highly probable that not all of the mothers are aware of the existence of the County Dental Service, but the County midwives attended at over 2,200 deliveries and in addition some mothers who had their children in hospitals attended the County Clinics for ante-natal and post-natal care, so the information could easily be given them.

Of the 332 mothers who were inspected dentally, only two were found to be dentally fit. Of the remaining 330, it is disturbing to note that 42 either refused treatment or decided to attend private dentists and, more disturbing still, of those who accepted dental treatment more than one-third failed to continue to completion. The final figure of those who were made dentally fit by the County Dental Service represents less than 5% of the expectant or nursing mothers in the County.

Evening sessions are held in Oldbury, Stourbridge and Kidderminster and daytime sessions at Bromsgrove, Redditch and Stourport. As the demand increases, further sessions will be set aside for this work, but at present those sessions which are set aside are by no means fully booked.

Construction of the dental laboratory at Stourbridge commenced, after unforeseen hold-up, during the year, but difficulty is envisaged in obtaining a suitable technician when the laboratory is complete.

X-ray apparatus is maintained and used in the fixed clinics at Oldbury, Halesowen, Stourbridge, Kidderminster and Redditch and also in the three mobile dental units, though these latter facilities are rarely if ever in use for expectant and nursing mothers.

B.D. BRITTEN

Chief Dental Officer.

Table 8.

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

(a) Number of Officers employed at end of year on a salary basis in terms of whole-time officers to the maternity and child welfare service:-	
(1) Senior Dental Officer	1/10th
(2) Dental Officers ...	1
(b) Number of Officers employed at end of year on a sessional basis in terms of whole-time officers to the maternity and child welfare service ...	- -
(c) Number of dental clinics in operation at end of year	15
(d) Total number of sessions (i.e. equivalent complete half days) devoted to maternity and child welfare patients during the year ...	307
(e) Number of dental technicians employed in the Local Health Authority's own laboratories at the end of the year	- -

Table 9. DENTAL TREATMENT RETURN

A. NUMBERS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE:

	Examined	Needing treatment	Treated	Made dentally fit
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	332	330	288	190
Children under five	503	471	466	374

Table 10.

B. FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED:

	Sealings and gum treatment	Filling	Silver nitrate treatment	Crowns or inlays	Extractions	General anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radio-graphs
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	Full upper or lower	Partial upper or lower	(10)
Expectant and nursing Mothers	145	700	1	4	1,191	37	93	80	50
Children under five	1	133	60	-	1,254	337	-	-	1

SECTION 23

MIDWIFERY TABLES
DOMICILIARY MIDWIFERY

Table 11.

Details of home confinements 1957-58 and other work of domiciliary midwives.

YEAR	TOTAL	No. Dr. Booked		Dr. Booked		Medical Aid		Breast feed- ing at 14 days		Early discharge from hospital	Home enquiries	Ambulance escort	
		Dr. present	No doctor	Dr. present	No doctor	TOTAL	No doctor	Dr. booked	Number				% of Total
1957	2,239	1	38	465	1,735	204	20	184	1,748	78	1,909	1,908	756
1958	2,243	1	14	448	1,780	222	14	208	1,748	78	2,306	1,618	521
In-crease	4	-	-	-	45	18	-	24	-	-	397	-	-
De-crease	-	-	24	17	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	290	235

Table 12.

Analgesia in home confinements.

YEAR	Total births at home	Percentage having		Dr. not present at delivery			Dr. present at delivery			TOTALS		
		G. & A. or Trilene	Pethidine	G. & A. or Trilene	Trilene	Pethidine	G. & A. or Trilene	Trilene	Pethidine	G. & A. or Trilene	Trilene	Pethidine
1957	2,239	89	54	1,536	13	999	367	75	214	1,903	88	1,213
1958	2,243	88	48	1,525	16	940	368	71	132	1,893	89	1,072
In-crease	4	-	-	-	5	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
De-crease	-	1	6	11	-	59	-	4	82	10	-	141

Table 13.

District staff at end of year

Duties	Full-time	Part-time	F.T. Equivalent	Car drivers
Midwifery only	12	-	12	10
D.N. & midwives	55	1	32	54
Combined duties	37	-	12	37
TOTALS	104	1	56	101

Table 14.

Pupil midwives trained in Part II School

	1956	1957	1958
Kidderminster (6/12 district)	3	6	3
Bromsgrove General Hospital (3/12 districts)	4	10	4
Totals	7	16	7
Domiciliary training midwives	11	13	12

SUPERVISION OF MIDWIVES

Table 15

Midwives practising in County - showing number qualified to administer analgesia.

YEAR	DOMICILIARY				INSTITUTIONAL				TOTALS			
	C.C. midwives	No. Qualified	Private midwives	No. Qualified	Hospital midwives	No. Qualified	Nursing home midwives	No. Qualified	Midwives	Qualified	Midwives	Qualified
1956	104	103	18	-	41	35	3	1	122	103	44	36
1957	101	101	20	10	45	35	2	1	121	111	47	36
1958	105	104	21	9	39	35	2	1	126	113	41	36

Central Midwives Board Rules
Notifications received.

	1957	1958
No. of medical aid requests	204	222

Notifications of infectious conditions 1957-8

	1957	1958
Ophthalmia neonatorum	10	2
Puerperal pyrexia	86	82

Other data

Flying squad calls
Oxygen used

Premature outfit used

Maternity outfits issued

Maternity bed in nursing home

Population/midwife

Cases /F.T. midwife

1957 1958

15	10
5	4
3	2
2,424	2,412
7	8
8,138	7,648
43	40

SECTION 23:

Midwifery Service and Supervision of Midwives:

Although there was a decrease in the total births to county mothers, the number of domiciliary births remained almost identical with the number in 1957. A very large proportion of the mothers admitted to maternity hospitals were discharged home before the fourteenth day, either to the care of the district nurse/midwife or directly to the health visitor - an increase of 397 from the previous year.

The proportion of home births was 34.1% as against 33.2% in 1957. From the statistics it is apparent that early discharge from maternity hospitals is becoming almost routine. This may in part be due to staffing difficulties in maternity hospitals.

Domiciliary Midwifery: Staff: The number of county staff employed on midwifery increased by 3. Seven pupil midwives completed training in the county during the year. The 105 nurses undertaking midwifery were equivalent to 56 full-time midwives, giving a proportion of 1 midwife to 7,648 population (8,138 in 1957) and an average of 40 deliveries per midwife.

Work: The number of domiciliary confinements attended by county staff increased by 4 to 2,243. The number of cases without a booked doctor again showed a satisfactory decrease (from 39 to 15) and of the remaining ones with doctor booked the numbers where doctor attended the confinement showed a slight increase. Early discharges from hospitals still continued to produce a large proportion of the nurses work and this year they increased to 2,306 (53%) from 1,909 (42%). Calls made upon nurses to accompany a mother in labour in her journey to hospital decreased by 235 to 521.

Analgesia: With the exception of 1 part-time relief nurse, all the county midwifery staff are qualified to administer gas and air; in addition the Kidderminster midwives are able to use trilene. 87% of the mothers delivered at home had gas and air or trilene (89% in 1957) and 47% had pethidene (54% in 1957): 89 mothers had trilene (88 in 1957).

Breast Feeding: The number of domiciliary cases in which the infant was wholly breast fed at the 14th day was 1,748. This represents 77% of the total babies delivered at home (79% in 1957).

Flying Squad: The Flying Squad was called out to 10 cases during the year (15 in 1957); 4 with retained placenta, 5 for post-partum haemorrhage (1 at end of second stage before birth of the placenta) and one case of obstetric shock.

Oxygen: The emergency supplies of oxygen held on the district were used 3 times during the year, and in the case of one baby who survived there is no doubt that its life was saved by the use of oxygen.

Premature Babies:

4.3% of the live babies born at home were premature by weight (4.9% in 1957). Of the 73 delivered and nursed at home, 69 were still alive after a month, while 3 died within 24 hours. Of the 23 babies born at home and transferred to hospital for nursing, 16 survived the first month, while 3 died within the first 24 hours.

Twins: Of the 35 sets of twins, 6 were delivered at home.

Supervision of midwives: Two nursing officers at headquarters gave the equivalent time of $1\frac{1}{2}$ officers in the non-medical supervision of midwives. The Chief Nursing Officer also gave a small proportion of her time to this work. Visits were paid to midwives on the staff and private midwives and maternity units and during the year enquiries were again carried out on all still-births occurring in the county, both hospital and domiciliary.

Private midwives: Twenty-one midwives notified their intention to practise this year and attended 19 confinements, at 8 of which no doctor was present; 9 of these midwives were qualified to give gas and air.

Nursing Homes: Two midwives in 2 nursing homes taking maternity cases staffed a total of 8 maternity beds and delivered 23 cases. Only one of them was qualified to give gas and air.

Hospital midwives: In the 5 maternity hospital units in the county, 39 midwives notified their intention to practise and 35 of these were qualified to give gas and air. The number of hospital deliveries, was, 2,611 distributed as follows:- (deliveries of "out county" hospitals are also shown and starred).

Table 16

Hospital Management Committee Group	Hospitals	1958	1957	Still-births 1958	Rate/1000 Total births 1958
South Worcester-shire Group	Avonside, Evesham	335	379	4	11.9
	Ronkswood, Worcester (county births only)	596	593	14	23.4
Mid-Worcester-shire Group	Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, Stourport	361	394	10	27.7
	Croft Maternity Home, Kidderminster	369	398	7	18.9
	Bromsgrove General Hospital (previously All Saints)	911	988	31	34.0
Dudley and Stourbridge Group	Mary Stevens Maternity Hospital, Stourbridge	635	660	7	11.0
West Bromwich and district group	Hallam Hospital (county births only)	326	328	1	3.1
Birmingham	Births to	463	436	18	38.9
Others	County mothers	353	351	8	22.7
Totals	in all	4,349	4,527	100	23.0
Early discharges	hospitals	2,306	1,909	---	---
Home deliveries	-	2,243	2,239	20	8.9

Maternal Deaths:

The Registrar General records two deaths of county mothers as being due to pregnancy, giving a rate of 0.31, a decrease on last year (0.45) and below the national rate of 0.43 per 1,000 total births.

Both these cases died in hospital. In the one case (a primigravida) death was stated to be due to shock and haemorrhage following a forceps delivery. The other was a mother who had had sixteen previous pregnancies, and her failure to seek any help, although she was probably overdue and had been ill for a month, made it impossible to save her life when in a moribund state she finally sought aid. Death was due to eclampsia following congestive heart failure and hypertension.

Two other mothers are known to have died and their deaths can be counted as associated with their pregnancy. One died at home after discharge from hospital following a Wertheim's hysterectomy (for carcinoma) plus caesarean section, and in the other case death was due to renal failure following a miscarriage and degeneration of benign fibroid. This patient had had a miscarriage one year previously.

HEALTH VISITING

Table 17. Visits to expectant mothers, pre-school children and all other (except tuberculous) cases.

Y E A R	*Expectant mothers		Pre-school children					Others				
	No. of expectant mothers visited	Total visits	Estimated 0-5 Mid-year population	No. visited 0-5 years	No. visited 0-1 years	Total visits 0-1 years	Total visits 1-2 years	Total visits 2-5 years	Total visits	Wasted visits (all groups)	Total households visited	Total of all visits
1957	1,612	2,538	31,300	29,584	6,357	38,389	19,537	38,990	6,783	11,723	24,425	117,960
1958	1,566	2,587	31,600	27,869	6,274	36,150	18,867	37,244	7,181	14,512	22,899	116,541
IN-CREASE		49	300						398	2,789		
DE-CREASE	46	-	-	1,715	83	2,239	670	1,746	-	-	1,526	1,419

* This figure represents work by full-time health visitors only, Combined workers counted under midwifery.

Table 18. Tuberculosis health visiting and clinics Table 19. Other Clinic attendances

Y E A R	New cases in year	Total visits	Wasted visits	H. V's. clinic attendances	No. of H.V.	Population per health visitor	Y E A R	C. W. C.	A. N. C.
1957	270	15,650	2,724	798	8	52,900	1957	3,585	684
1958	217	12,518	2,000	1,001	5 1/2	77,873	1958	3,971	689
IN-CREASE				203		24,973	IN-CREASE	386	5
DE-CREASE	53	3,132	724		2 1/2		DE-CREASE		

Table 20. Staff at end of year - (general duties excluding tuberculosis).

Duties	Number	Full-time equivalent	Dispensation	Car Drivers	Average Population per health visitor
Health visiting	1	1	-	1	
Health visitor/school nurse	44	23.4	-	26	
DN/Mid/HV/SN	38	8.1	15	38	
Total 1958	83	32.5	15	65	13,384
Total 1957	77	27.0	19	67	15,674

Section 24: Health Visiting Service: The health visiting service has maintained a creditable response to the ever increasing and widely varying demands made upon it.

Handicapped as many of the county health visitors are by lack of offices and telephones, they continue to cope with a range of divergent activities, such as intensive individual case work, group education at ante-natal clinics, home visiting and attendance at mass inoculation sessions.

While the total number of visits of all kinds has shown a slight increase this year (3,632), the proportion of pre-school children visited has dropped from 29,584 to 27,869.

This is undoubtedly a reflection on the upward trend of "special" visits such as hospital aftercare cases and elderly people referred for supervision. Additional work can only be undertaken at the expense of mother and baby visiting.

Staff: 88 nurses were undertaking health visiting at the end of the year (85 in 1957) equivalent to 38 full-time workers (35) and 38 of these were undertaking nursing and midwifery as well. The number of staff employed who are without the health visitors qualification, and who practice with a dispensation from the Ministry of Health has fallen to 15.

Child life protection and adoptions: Visits to these cases continued to be made under the standing arrangements with the Children's Department.

Problem Family Committees: Local committees continued to operate during the year.

Visits of Co-operation: Health visitors continued to pay periodic visits to maternity units in the county to residential nurseries and mother and baby homes.

Health Education: During the past year the field of health education was extended in the county. The original local health authority ante-natal clinics are now forming a new pattern and are mainly concerned with relaxation classes combined with parentcraft. These differ in certain areas of the county according to local needs, and are proving successful mainly in the urban areas where a team consisting of the medical officer, health visitor, midwife and physiotherapist combine. In the rural areas a definite approach is required and parentcraft takes the form of individual rather than group therapy. In these days of television, the public now so used to watching as well as listening, expect other forms of presentation in addition to the usually formal talk. Visual aids, including flannelgraphs, film strips and/or a practical demonstration followed by a discussion is the most popular method of teaching.

More requests have been received for evening talks and demonstrations by health visitors, both from Worcestershire organisations and youth clubs.

There are now 6 film projectors with portable screens in the county and a library of 50 film strips.

SECTION 25: Home Nursing: Staff: The equivalent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ at headquarters were engaged on administrative duties. There were 99 state registered nurses employed as full-time or part-time nurses at the end of the year; 28 state enrolled assistant nurses and 1 midwife. Sixtyfive of the 99 were Queen's nurses. The total of 128 carrying out general nursing duties as part or all of their work is equivalent to 69 full-time general nurses. This gives a figure of 1 nurse to 6,207 population, compared with 6,413 in 1957. The number of visits decreased by 5,912.

The tables compare the work in 1957 and 1958. The most significant change in the work is again the increased number of visits paid to long term patients, that is to patients who had more than 24 visits. The number of visits in this group rose by 12,408 (last year 10,689). The number of cases attended also rose in this group by 248. The number of visits to patients over the age of 65 increased by 5,753. It is interesting to note the decrease in the number of cases of tuberculosis nursed and the number of visits paid since 1957, a decrease to 48 cases and 1,836 visits.

On the whole, more nursing visits were paid to fewer patients, but it is evident that the trend to nurse at home the aged and chronic sick occupies a large proportion of the nurses time.

Hop-pickers: Apart from 1 part-time nurse who was specially engaged for the purpose, the regular county staff cared for hop-pickers on their districts and attended 311 patients.

Medical Comforts: The work undertaken through this scheme, organised by the St. John and Red Cross Societies, continues to be invaluable, and again this year the Marie Curie Memorial Fund provided additional comforts for patients with malignant disease.

DISTRICT NURSING TABLES

Details of work 1957-58

Table 21

YEAR	MEDICAL		SURGICAL		INFECTIOUS DISEASES		TUBERCULOSIS		MATERNITY		OTHERS	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits	Cases	Visits
1957	5,753	157,876	1,965	40,655	17	149	74	2,772	31	301	9,953	10,151
1958	5,371	164,250	1,793	42,155	29	176	48	1,836	17	174	8,355	9,225
INCREASE	-	6,374	-	1,500	12	27	-	-	-	-	-	-
DECREASE	382	-	172	-	-	-	26	936	14	127	1,598	926

Table 22 Analysis by age groups - percentage of totals

YEAR	0 - 5		5 - 65		65 +	
	Cases %	Visits %	Cases %	Visits %	Cases %	Visits %
1957	8.1	2.1	46.6	29.4	45.1	68.3
1958	7.9	1.8	45.6	29.1	46.4	69.1

Table 23 Long term cases (more than 24 visits)

YEAR	Cases	% of total	Visits	% of total
1957	1,572	8.8	136,475	64.4
1958	1,820	8.0	148,883	68.3

Table 24

Average number of visits to various types of cases 1954-58

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Medical	20	24	26	27	30
Surgical	14	15	19	20	23
Infectious diseases	8	5	5	8	6
Tuberculosis	14	25	42	37	38
Maternity	8	5	8	9	10
Others	1	1	1	1	1
Average visits (all cases)	11	12	17	17	14

Table 25

Increasing work of nursing service 1954-58

	Total cases	Total visits	F.T. staff equivalent
1954	19,088	182,880	64
1955	18,995	188,254	69
1956	16,761	195,077	63
1957	17,793	211,904	66.5
1958	15,613	217,816	69
5 year increase	-	5,912	5
decrease	2,180	-	-

Table 26

Staff at end of 1958

Duties	No. of nurses Full-time	No. of Nurses Part-time	Full-time equivalent	Car drivers	On extended service.
District nursing only	26	8	26	21	-
D.N. and midwifery	55	1	22.5	54	3
Combined duties (1 DN/HV)	38	-	16.7	38	2
Totals	119	9	65.2	113	5

County Nursing Association: The Annual General Meeting was held in July when reports were given about matters discussed during the year.

Dr. J. DeLargy, Consultant Physician in Geriatrics at Lenthorne Hospital, gave a very interesting talk on "Problems in the home care of the elderly."

Nurses Houses:

The programme for the provision of nurses houses proceeded well during the year. A pair of houses was completed at Tenbury and another at Stourbridge. Single houses were provided at Alvechurch, Kempsey and Welland.

HOME HELP SERVICE

Table 27

Staff and work. Average for each quarter. Figures for 1957 in brackets.

	S T A F F			C A S E S			
	Full-time	Part-time	occasional	Maternity	Tuberculosis	Chronic	Other
March	32(35)	256(246)	73(69)	67(56)	31(33)	1012(967)	409(123)
July	34(32)	263(243)	69(65)	61(60)	25(29)	1108(906)	341(299)
Oct.	28(32)	293(244)	61(66)	63(59)	18(29)	1103(933)	307(380)
Dec.	31(28)	293(259)	65(63)	52(50)	17(27)	1194(1011)	247(356)

Table 28

Staff at end of years 1955 - 58

YEAR	Voluntary Organisers	Full-time helps	Part-time helps
1955	24	32	222
1956	22	31	297
1957	29	29	336
1958	29	31	350

Table 29

Types of Cases - Total attended during years 1955 - 58.

YEAR	Maternity	Tuberculosis	Chronic and aged	Others	Total
1955	375	70	974	532	1,951
1956	293	64	1,165	545	2,067
1957	370(22)	52(36)	1,275(830)	654(85)	2,351(973)
1958	378(28)	38(24)	1,363(912)	395(66)	2,174(1,030)

The figures in brackets are the number of cases in which help began prior to the year under review.

SECTION 29:

Home Help Service:

During the year 2 home helps, who had credits in their examinations the previous year, attended the 8th National Conference in Harrogate of the National Institute of House-workers. This conference was very enjoyable and an instructive one.

The County Home Help Organiser attended the 2 days conference at Caxton Hall.

There was a slight increase in maternity cases attended from 370 in 1957 to 378 in 1958 and help for the chronic sick and aged increased by 88 (from 1,275 to 1,363). Other cases increased by 259 (from 654). Tuberculosis cases decreased by 14.

Staff:

There were 31 full-time home helps (29 in 1957); 350 part-time and 65 occasional ones were employed at the end of the year.

Family Welfare Cases:

Four new cases were started during 1958. In 2 cases help was withdrawn before the end of the year.

Public Health Act 1936: Inspection of Nursing Homes:

The number of Homes registered remained unchanged, but the beds provided increased by 2 (1 maternity, 1 general).

Assistant county medical officers visited each home twice during the year and the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives also visited the 2 homes which accepted maternity cases.

Table 30

Details of openings and attendances - child welfare and weighing centres 1958

DISTRICT	CENTRE	HELPS	Average Attendances	
			1957 (22)	1958 30
Bewdley Borough	Wribbenhall	Twice monthly	(22)	30
Bromsgrove Urban	Bromsgrove	Weekly and twice monthly	(38)	35
	Catshill	Weekly	(33)	41
	Rubery	Weekly	(49)	57
Bromsgrove Rural	Alvechurch	Twice monthly	(30)	35
	Beoley	Monthly	(12)	20
	Belbroughton	Twice Monthly	(17)	17
	Cotton Hackett	" "	(16)	17
	Clent	" "	(15)	14
	Finstall	" "	(21)	22
	Hagley	" "	(32)	34
	Hollywood	" "	(35)	23
	West Heath	Weekly	(32)	18
	Wythall	Twice monthly	(45)	39
Droitwich Borough	Droitwich	Weekly	(52)	48
Droitwich Rural	Crowle	Monthly	(12)	14
	Fernhill Heath	Twice monthly	(12)	21
	Hartlebury	" "	(28)	28
	Ombersley	Monthly	(8)	9
	Wychbold	Twice monthly from Jan		16
Evesham Borough	Evesham	Weekly	(33)	33
Evesham Rural	Ashton-under-Hill	Monthly	(11)	5
	Badsey	"	(25)	38
	Beckford	"	(21)	18
	Bretforton	"	(26)	28
	Broadway	Twice monthly	(21)	17
	Honeybourne	Monthly	(33)	30
	Kemerton	"	(26)	21
	Littleton	Twice monthly	(19)	16
	Offenham	Monthly	(29)	28
	Pebworth	"	(20)	22

DISTRICT	CENTRE	HELD	Average Attend- ances	
			1957	1958
Halesowen Borough	Blackheath	Weekly	(78)	76
	Cradley	"	(52)	52
	Halesowen	"	(83)	82
Kidder- minster Borough	Birchen	Weekly (except 3rd week)	(17)	24
	Coppice	"	(27)	22
	Broadwaters	"	(35)	29
	Comberton	"	(45)	52
	Coventry St.	"	(35)	38
	Franche	"	(53)	63
Kidder- minster Rural	Chaddesley	Monthly	(13)	13
	Corbett	"	(20)	17
	Blakedown	"	(23)	29
	Cookley	"	(8)	12
	Gorst Hill	"	(18)	12
	Rock	"	(25)	23
Malvern Urban	Wolverley	"		
	Lansdowne	Weekly	(34)	31
	Link	"	(31)	34
	Newtown	"	(20)	18
	Sherrard's Green	" from July	-	28
Martley Rural	Wyche	Monthly	(12)	9
	Broadheath	Twice monthly	(17)	14
	Hallow	" "	(22)	17
	Clifton on Teme	Monthly	(4)	6
	Holt	Bi-monthly	(4)	8
	Little Witley	" "	(10)	7
	Shrawley	" "	(15)	14
	Great Witley	" "	(17)	8
Oldbury Borough	Langley	Twice weekly	(58)	54
	Warley	" "	(57)	46
	Wesley Street	Weekly	(54)	53
Pershore Rural	Bredon	Monthly	(29)	29
	Eckington	"	(23)	25
	Fladbury	Twice monthly	(12)	10
	Pershore	" "	(40)	45
	Stoulton	" "	(15)	14
Redditch Urban	Redditch (Abbeydale)	Twice monthly	(26)	30
	Astwood Bank	" "	(37)	36
	Redditch (Batchley)	Weekly	(32)	29
	Feckenham	Monthly	(13)	10
	Redditch (Old Vicarage)	Twice weekly	(48)	28
Stourbridge	Redditch			
	Iye	Weekly	(39)	39
	Norton	"	(35)	31
	Pedmore	Twice monthly	(13)	15
	Stourbridge - Infants	Weekly	(54)	45
	Toddlers	Monthly	(10)	10
	Wollaston	Twice monthly from April		41
	Wollescote	Weekly	(34)	39
Stourport- on-Severn	Arceley Kings	Twice monthly	(29)	37
	Stourport	" "	(22)	27
	Wilden	Monthly	(20)	20

DISTRICT	CENTRE	HELD	Average Attend- ances	
			1957	1958
Tenbury Rural	Tenbury	Twice monthly	(23)	18
Upton-upon-Severn	Hanley Swan	Monthly	(12)	14
	Kempsey	"	(40)	37
	Upton-upon-Severn	Twice monthly	(17)	24

Mobile Clinics

PLACE				Number of Visits	Average Attendance
Alfrick	...	...	...	12	14
Bishampton	...	...	...	10	30
Callow End	...	...	...	12	18
Childswickham	...	...	...	12	18
Eastham (Alternate months)	...	...	...	4	13
Hanbury	...	...	...	12	17
Leigh	...	...	...	12	14
Lindridge (Alternate months)	...	...	...	5	28
Longdon	...	...	...	11	33
Martley	...	...	...	11	16
Sedgeberrow	...	...	...	12	20
Welland (vehicle comes once monthly)	...	...	...	23	12

Weighing Centres

PLACE				Average Attendance
Evesham	...	...	...	26
Hartlebury from Sept.	...	...	...	4
Madeley Heath	...	...	...	8
Norton (Worcester)	...	...	...	8
Suckley	...	...	...	3

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

TABLE 31

Clinic	Sessions per year	Total attendances	Mothers attending only for:-		Attendances for:		Details of blood tests taken:						Chest X-ray	Relaxation	
			Hospital applications	Blood tests	A.N. care	P.N. care	Hb	Kahn W.R.	Rhesus	Rhesus neg. discovered	Repeat examinations	Reference for X-ray		New	Total Attendances
Bromsgrove	50	473	90	-	46	-	6	6	6	-	-	-	-	74	357
Cotton Common (West Heath)	24	5	-	1	3	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	31
Cotton Hackett	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Droitwich	23	394	72	3	164	-	5	5	4	-	-	-	-	30	139
Halesowen -															
Blackheath	52	191	59	98	65	7	95	95	89	22	9	+	+	3	3
Credley	49	38	8	12	16	1	15	15	15	2	1	-	-	1	1
Tenter Street	49	831	44	117	21	-	104	103	100	33	7	2	2	131	649
Kidderminster.	51	1,284	33	52	1,192	14	197	104	159	28	72	-	-	79	257
Malvern	28	516	38	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91	366
Oldbury -															
Langley	26	378	131	74	171	2)	182	181	206	41	16	26	26	52)	202
Warley	25	430	58	66	111	-)	-	-	-	-	-	14	14	52)	-
Wesley Street	25	250	97	46	107	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9	-	-
Redditch	49	68	68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stourbridge	39	651	2	106	96	-	55	55	55	8	-	-	-	131	546
40 New Road	26	142	-	25	-	-	25	25	26	4	-	-	-	33	108
Lye	23	26	16	-	9	1	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Worcester															
	563	5,677	716	601	2,001	23	686	592	663	138	105	54		627	2,679

Other relaxation classes were held as below and attendance of County cases are given.

Evesham (midwives and hospital class)
 Redditch (hospital class)
 Stourport (hospital class)
 Worcester (City and County class)

A class is held at Rockwood Hospital but figures are not available for City and County mothers separately.

New Cases	Total Attendances
112	404
31	114
144	503
13	56
Total 1958	1,077
Total 1957	1,379

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (SECTION 26)

Smallpox vaccination. The following is the vaccination return for the County for the year ended 31st December, 1958:-

Age at date of vaccination	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over	Total
No. vaccinated	3,900	168	132	88	136	4,424
No. re-vaccinated	-	2	23	60	276	361

There were 5 cases of generalised vaccinia.

The corresponding total of primary vaccinations for the year 1957 was 4,039.

Of the 4,424 primary vaccinations 949 were performed at Clinics being 21.4% compared with 19.7% for 1957.

The following table gives the figures for each County District:-

VACCINATION - ANNUAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st December 1958 - SUMMARY

No. of persons vaccinated

No. of persons re-vaccinated

DISTRICT	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 OR OVER	TOTAL	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 OR OVER	TOTAL
BENDLEY BOROUGH	48	1	3	-	3	55	-	-	-	-	2	2
DROITWICH BOROUGH	82	37	17	4	-	140	-	-	-	1	3	5
EVESHAM BOROUGH	94	7	2	6	9	118	-	-	1	5	29	35
HALESOWEN BOROUGH	409	14	5	7	17	452	-	-	-	-	2	2
KIDDERMINSTER BOROUGH	360	8	16	6	11	401	-	1	13	17	52	83
OLDDBURY BOROUGH	318	12	15	9	14	358	-	-	-	-	13	13
STOURBRIDGE BOROUGH	479	15	12	7	10	523	-	-	1	2	15	18
BROMSGROVE URBAN	274	9	6	3	5	297	-	-	1	2	16	19
MALVERN URBAN	293	8	10	11	22	344	-	-	1	3	53	57
REDDITCH URBAN	395	11	9	17	-	432	-	-	-	1	8	9
STOURPORT URBAN	130	1	2	2	3	138	-	-	1	8	10	17
BROMSGROVE RURAL	323	5	11	4	9	352	-	-	1	1	8	12
DROITWICH RURAL	131	15	3	1	2	152	-	-	1	3	12	17
EVESHAM RURAL	116	8	1	4	13	142	-	-	-	1	6	7
KIDDERMINSTER RURAL	90	-	6	1	8	105	-	-	1	11	26	38
MARTLEY RURAL	129	10	3	3	2	147	-	-	-	3	12	15
PERSHORE RURAL	81	3	6	2	2	94	-	1	1	1	4	7
TENBURY RURAL	57	-	4	-	1	62	-	-	-	1	4	5
UPTON ON SEVERN RURAL	101	4	1	1	5	112	-	-	-	-	5	5
TOTALS	3900	168	132	88	136	4424	-	2	23	60	276	361

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION

Number of children on 31st December, 1958, who had completed a course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1944 and 31st December, 1958.

Age on 31.12.1958 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 1958	1-4 1954-1957	5-9 1949-1953	10-14 1944-1948	Under 15 Total
A. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1954-1958	1,046	17,745	23,565	5,849	48,205
B. Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1953 or earlier	—	—	6,886	26,544	33,430
C. Estimated mid-year child population	6,480	25,120	70,100		101,700
Immunity Index 100 A/C	16.1	70.6	42.0		47.4

There were no notifications of diphtheria in the 0 - 15 age group in the County during 1958

The following table gives the figures for each County District:-

Diphtheria Immunisation - Annual Return for the year ended 31st December 1958.

Number of children at 31st December 1958 who had completed a course of Immunisation at
any time before that date i.e. at any time since 1st January 1944
 Last complete course of injections (whether primary or Booster)

	A. 1954 - 1958				B. 1953 or earlier			
	Under 1 1958	1 - 4 1954 - 1957	5 - 9 1949 - 1953	10 - 14 1944 - 1948	Under 15 Total	5 - 9 1949 - 1953	10 - 14 1944 - 1948	Under 15 Total
Bewdley Borough	18	188	245	69	520	85	333	418
Droitwich Borough	18	398	577	60	1053	149	466	615
Evesham Borough	34	559	752	124	1469	8	568	576
Halesowen Borough	130	1856	2414	186	4586	546	3537	4083
Kidderminster Borough	49	1570	2320	374	4313	619	2700	3319
Oldbury Borough	63	1880	3283	3065	8291	600	1751	2351
Stourbridge Borough	174	1774	2268	360	4676	520	2462	2982
Bromsgrove Urban	160	1307	1637	197	3301	435	2174	2609
Malvern Urban	56	1093	1028	282	2459	539	1165	1704
Redditch Urban	71	1743	2331	131	4276	589	2844	3433
Stourport Urban	35	567	790	86	1478	276	935	1211
Bromsgrove Rural	100	1428	1505	197	3230	614	2158	2772
Droitwich Rural	28	575	744	115	1462	359	940	1299
Evesham Rural	31	606	983	199	1819	26	643	669
Kidderminster Rural	18	433	702	92	1245	183	812	995
Wartley Rural	31	498	551	109	1189	315	815	1130
Pershore Rural	11	488	640	68	1207	619	991	1610
Tenbury Rural	8	222	303	42	575	78	403	481
Upton on Severn Rural	11	460	492	93	1056	326	847	1173
TOTALS	1046	17745	23565	5849	48205	6886	26544	33430

B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children

The scheme for tuberculin testing and B.C.G. inoculation of 13 year old school children operated without change this year and the following table gives the results:-

B.C.C. Vaccination 1958

No. of Invitations issued	No. of consents received	Percentage acceptance	No. of children whose tests were read A	Result of test Positive Reaction B Negative Reaction C	Percentage of positive reactors 100 B/A	Percentage of negative reactors 100 C/A	No. of children vaccinated
5412	4711	87.0	4292	584 3708	13.6	86.4	3708

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

As I mentioned in my last report, it was not until the 14th February, 1958, that the first substantial issue of vaccine was received and a start could be made on vaccinating some 54,000 applicants.

By the 31st August, 1958, this mass programme had been completed, although there was, of course, continuing registration. The position then was that 68,086 persons had had two injections of vaccine, 1876 had had one injection and 3,458 were awaiting their first injection.

This result was achieved only by the united special efforts of the staff of the department - medical, nursing and clerical - the participation of the family doctors and the co-operation of the Chief Education Officer and the Headteachers of all schools.

The following facts are of interest:-

- (i) The acceptance rate was roughly 65%
- (ii) The total number of doses of vaccine received was 175,730. Special arrangements had to be made for the storage of the vaccine.
- (iii) The number of hours of paid overtime worked by the staff of the Health Department was 2,196.
- (iv) One additional medical officer was engaged full time for three months and nineteen doctors were employed for occasional sessions in addition to the Department's own medical staff.
- (v) The distribution of the vaccine to general practitioners and clinics was carried out by various members of the Health Department staff often in the evenings and at weekends. More than 600 delivery schedules are recorded.
- (vi) In addition to the Authority's own schools and clinics at which nearly 1,200 full sessions were held, the following special units were covered:-

Private schools and colleges	19
Special schools for handicapped children	3
County Council Children's homes	5
Dr. Barnardo's Homes and Church of England Children's Society	4
Approved school	1
Colonies or Homes for mental defectives	3

- (vii) The highest daily registration figure recorded was 3,772
- (viii) The number of cases in which the family doctor was chosen to do the vaccination was 11,585.
- (ix) The scheme was decentralized to the Divisional Offices at Oldbury and Kidderminster.

Early in September the Ministry of Health extended the scheme to include (1) young persons aged 15 - 25 years and (2) hospital staff who come into contact with patients, medical students and the families of these groups. Third injections were also included which involved recalling all of those done earlier in the year for a further injection.

On the instruction of the Health Committee the most intensive publicity programme ever undertaken by the department was launched to bring this extension of the scheme to the notice of the public.

The measures taken included:-

1. Direct approach to individual pupils in schools and colleges of further education.
2. Display advertisements published and repeated in all newspapers circulating in the county.
3. Wide distribution of tens of thousands of consent cards and explanatory letters through the Council's medical and nursing staff, medical officers of health, general practitioners, clinics and centres.
4. Display of posters either produced by the County Council or those issued by the Ministry of Health at -

Clinics
Schools
Police Stations
Post Offices
General Practitioners' Surgeries
Youth Clubs
Women's Institutes
Factories

5. Press interview and report.

The result was almost negligible but this picture was to alter dramatically in 1959 following the death from poliomyelitis of a Birmingham footballer.

At the end of the year, 3,294 persons had had three injections, 74,988 (including 1,620 in the new age group) had had two injections, 2,728 (including 1,319 in the new age group) had had one injection and 1,076 (including 455 in the new age group) were awaiting their first injection.

In the meantime the Health Committee had decided to appoint one additional full-time assistant county medical officer and an additional clerk to make possible a resumption of the ordinary work of the department which had been seriously disrupted by the poliomyelitis scheme and to reduce the need for further engagement of general practitioners on a sessional basis to assist the Council's whole-time medical staff.

The scheme continues, and only those directly involved can have much idea of its difficulties or of the work which has been put into it to ensure its success.

It is safe to say that no undertaking of similar magnitude has ever been performed by local health authorities. Every member of my staff rose to the occasion and I am most grateful to them all.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1958

	A G E at date of final injection		
	0 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	TOTAL
Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) during the year ended 31st December, 1958.	4,757	168	4,925

The following table gives the figures for each County District:-

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION - SUMMARY OF RETURNS FOR YEAR ENDED 31st December 1958.

Number of children who have completed a primary course (normally 3 injections) of pertussis vaccine (singly or in combination) in the Authority's area during the year ended 31st December 1958

	Age at date of final injection		
	0 - 4	5 - 14	Total
BEDLEY BOROUGH	58	-	58
DROITWICH BOROUGH	120	14	134
EVESHAM BOROUGH	148	-	148
HALESOWEN BOROUGH	436	8	444
KIDDERMINSTER BOROUGH	428	4	432
OLDBURY BOROUGH	501	20	521
STOURBRIDGE BOROUGH	544	3	547
BROMSGROVE URBAN	477	10	487
MALVERN URBAN	335	6	341
PEDDITCH URBAN	219	8	227
STOURPORT URBAN	118	33	151
BROMSGROVE RURAL	473	12	485
DROITWICH RURAL	108	15	123
EVESHAM RURAL	160	-	160
KIDDERMINSTER RURAL	121	6	127
MARTLEY RURAL	182	4	186
PERSHORE RURAL	147	21	168
TENBURY RURAL	51	-	51
UPTON ON SEVERN RURAL	131	4	135
TOTALS	4,757	168	4,925

Ambulance Service (Section 27).

It is pleasing to report that although the total number of cases conveyed by ambulances during the year was higher than in 1957, the mileage showed a further decline. This is a just reward for all the time spent in trying to achieve the most economical use of vehicles and staff available. The miles per case were 3.9 as compared with 4.0 in 1956 and 1957.

2,707 accident cases were conveyed, compared with 2,563 the previous year, and out-patient treatment cases were 95,222 compared with 93,774.

It is now routine for cross-county journeys to be referred to the County Headquarters Control in order that the vehicles concerned can be utilised to the full. In addition there is very close co-operation between adjoining ambulance stations, and it is only by this co-operation that there has been no increase in staff for four years.

As in previous years the majority of long distance journeys were arranged by railway, and a total of 648 patients were conveyed by this means during 1958 compared with 676 in 1957. This form of transport is constantly being recommended to general practitioners and hospitals, but there are still possibilities of increasing the number of patients who can be conveyed by this service.

Ambulance Stations.

Towards the latter part of the year, building of new stations at Stourbridge and Halesowen was begun, and both should come into operational use during 1959. In addition, it is likely that a new station will be built at Kidderminster, and it has been agreed that a permanent station will be incorporated into the new police station when it is built at Malvern.

New Vehicles.

The policy of purchasing the smaller Morris L. D. 1 ambulances has continued, and two L. C. 5 sitting case ambulances have also been ordered for delivery during the 1958/9 financial year. These small vehicles are giving every satisfaction and are economical in use.

Voluntary Agency.

The Worcester City and District Voluntary Ambulance Committee continued to serve Worcester City and surrounding county areas, and took possession of a new ambulance station in June, which was opened by the Member for Worcester, The Rt. Hon. G. R. Ward, P. C., M.P. The cost of building the station was borne jointly by the City and County Councils, and the premises are let to the Voluntary Committee without payment. During the year 1,900 county cases were conveyed a total of 30,012 miles compared with 1,951 cases and 33,616 miles in 1957.

Hospital and Hire Car Services.

Both hospital and hire cars have been used extensively to conserve ambulances. Despite efforts to recruit new hospital car drivers, not enough are available to cope with the work, and increased use has to be made of hire cars, but we are fortunate that the rates per mile^{paid} are comparable with those paid for hospital cars. Very often too, mileage can be saved when hire cars are

available in country areas. Statistics for the year are shown in Table A.

Volunteers.

I would like to thank once again all those members of the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association who have assisted at the ambulance stations, as well as the hospital car drivers, without whom an increase in the whole-time staff and vehicles would be necessary.

Civil Defence Ambulance and Casualty Collecting Section.

During the year equipment for training was received, and additional vehicles were transferred to the Section from the peacetime service.

Classes on basic and section training and also first aid have been held in all areas, and a hard core of highly trained members are now available. Numerous exercises, both within the section and in conjunction with other sections, have taken place, and the use of the new training ground at Hampton Lovett has stimulated interest.

In March an inter-section competition was won by a team from Stourbridge, although the standard shown by all teams was high

The section has provided an ambulance crew and casualty collecting party for the county team which reached the final of the regional competition, and which will meet Shropshire early in 1959 to decide who will represent the Midland Region in the National finals.

TABLE A - Cases conveyed and mileages covered by ambulances, hospital and hire cars

	(a) Ambulances			(b) Hospital Cars			(c) Hire Cars		
	Cases		Miles	Cases		Miles	Cases		Miles
	1957	1958		1957	1958		1957	1958	
January	12,306	12,305	50,040	1,395	1,546	17,211½	170	340	3,043½
February	12,117	12,058	46,571	1,307	1,359	15,986½	194	424	3,443½
March	13,314	13,647	50,018	1,354	1,615	17,780	255	532	5,565
April	10,578	11,123	46,917	1,427	1,364	18,605	252	462	3,208½
May	14,583	13,084	52,307	1,405	1,535	18,833½	302	519	4,433½
June	11,356	13,516	46,137	1,120	1,704	16,170	264	525	3,850
July	14,286	14,088	55,156	1,583	1,932	24,326	315	561	3,298
August	9,599	8,806	45,559	1,368	1,538	19,082	182	405	3,038½
September	11,975	13,651	51,552	1,282	1,700	17,256	231	392	3,814½
October	12,516	13,681	53,153	1,368	1,568	18,369½	189	442	2,635
November	14,298	13,615	52,663	1,684	1,705	21,753	190	404	3,083½
December	11,960	12,904	48,136	1,241	1,811	17,338	233	559	3,937
	148,888	152,478	x 598,746	16,534	19,377	219,712	2,777	5,565	41,350½
			590,545			257,756			65,316½

x includes 537

x includes 575

residue miles during year:- Worcester, City and District Voluntary Ambulance Service

Table B. Establishment at 31st December, 1958

Ambulance Station	No. of Vehicles	Driver-attendants.	
		Whole-time	Part-time.
Bromsgrove	6.	7.	-
Droitwich	1.	1.	-
Evesham	2.	-	2.
Halesowen	5.	6.	-
Kidderminster	6.	7.	-
Malvern	5.	5.	-
Oldbury	5.	6.	-
Pershore	1.	-	3.
Redditch	5.	6.	-
Stourbridge.	5.	6.	-
Tenbury	1.	-	2
Wythall	1.	-	-
Hayley Green Hospital	2	-	1.
Relief Driver-Attendants.	-	3	-
	45	47	8

TUBERCULOSIS. 1958.

Dr. R. B. Mayfield, Chief Tuberculosis Officer and Consultant Chest Physician has given the following:-

Tables I and II respectively show the notifications and deaths from tuberculosis during the past five years. Both these rates show a slight further fall compared with the previous year. Several factors have contributed to this accelerated improvement during the past ten years or so, and it is difficult to assess their relative importance. Certainly chemotherapy has played a large part, and the improvement of treatment is illustrated by the fact that ten years ago the death rate was about half the notification rate, whereas in 1958 it was less than one fifth of that figure. During the first few years after the introduction of the new drugs, the death rate diminished, but the notification rate was unchanged. During the last three years, however, this latter rate has also fallen, despite improved methods of case-finding. There are thus solid grounds for expecting that, in the next ten years, this disease will shrink to become a relatively minor medical problem, barring the incidence during this period of war, famine or other major catastrophe.

TABLE I
Notification of Tuberculosis.

Year	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		All Forms	
	No. of Cases	Rate per 1,000 population	No. of Cases	Rate per 1,000 population	No. of Cases	Rate per 1,000 population
1954	327	0.80	47	0.11	374	0.91
1955	304	0.74	21	0.05	325	0.79
1956	227	0.54	37	0.09	264	0.63
1957	193	0.46	31	0.07	224	0.53
1958	195	0.46	28	0.07	223	0.52

TABLE II
Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Year	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		All Forms	
	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population	No. of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 population
1954	52	0.12	7	0.02	59	0.14
1955	48	0.12	6	0.01	54	0.13
1956	43	0.10	2	0.005	45	0.11
1957	37	0.09	5	0.01	42	0.10
1958	27	0.06	5	0.01	32	0.08

TABLE III
Notification and death rates in districts 1958.

Popu- lation	Districts	Notifi- cation rate per 1000 pop- ulation:	Death Rate per 1,000 pop- ulation	Total cases noti- fied:	Total deaths:
4950	Bewdley Borough	1.10	-	5	-
31700	Bromsgrove Urban	0.54	0.19	17	6
7060	Droitwich Borough	0.85	0.14	6	1
12380	Evesham Borough	0.40	-	5	-
43480	Halesowen Borough	0.46	0.05	20	2
39660	Kidderminster Borough	0.43	0.10	17	4

Popu- lation	Districts	Notifi- cation rate per 1000 pop- ulation:	Death Rate per 1,000 pop- ulation	Total cases noti- fied	Total Deaths
24900	Malvern Urban	0.44	-	11	-
55100	Oldbury Borough	0.89	0.07	49	4
33120	Redditch Urban	0.48	0.03	16	1
39660	Stourbridge Borough	0.50	0.05	20	2
11190	Stourport on Severn Urban	0.62	0.18	7	2
33470	Bromsgrove Rural	0.24	0.03	8	1
13690	Droitwich Rural	0.44	0.07	6	1
16830	Evesham Rural	0.48	0.18	8	3
12080	Kidderminster Rural	0.74	-	9	-
11990	Martley Rural	0.42	-	5	-
16860	Pershore Rural	0.36	-	6	-
5410	Tenbury Rural	0.74	0.18	4	1
14770	Upton on Severn Rural	0.27	0.27	4	4
428300	Whole county	0.52	0.07	223	32

TABLE IV
New contacts examined at the Chest Clinics

Chest Clinic	New Contacts examined	Numbers of contacts dia- gnosed as tuberculous	Totals of cases noti- fied tuber- culous	Number of contacts examined per new notified case:
Bromsgrove General	289	4	20	14.5
Corbett Hospital	81	7	41	2.0
Kidderminster Gen	214	3	43	5.0
Langley Chest Clinic	159	4	49	3.2
Smallwood Hospital	157	2	20	7.9
Worcester Royal Infirmary *	639	7	86	7.4
Whole county including Worcester city	1539	27	259	5.9

* Separate figures for County and City contacts examined at the Worcester Royal Infirmary Chest Clinic are not available.

The number of contacts examined at the Bromsgrove General Hospital is larger than usual because it includes something over 100 children and staff examined at a Residential School.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

During the year 1953, 141 patients received 1,568 visits.

A change of staff occurred at the end of October when Miss J. Fletcher resigned, she will be replaced by Miss R. Young early in the new year.

The group of non-tuberculous patients added to the occupational therapy register have been greatly assisted by the provision of self help aids.

Outwork was found for several patients and was much appreciated.

The effort to reduce the amount of stock to below £300 was successfully carried out, and now stands at £240.

Physiotherapy and Orthopaedics

The following reports have been supplied by Miss Jeavons and Mrs. Johnson.

Starting with the school children, the year has been a busy one; a large number of school children have been referred on account of defective posture - there have also been the usual number of flat feet, some of these requiring alterations to shoes and exercises, others only needing advice on correct footwear. In most cases, the parents are co-operative in this matter.

Asthma classes have continued at the Open Air School, Malvern.

Child welfare clinics have been visited monthly at Evesham, Pershore and Malvern with an increase in attendance. Many small children have a tendency to "in toe" when first walking and parents need assurance that this is not going to develop into a major defect. Lots of mothers ask for advice on shoes, most of them are sensible and have one good pair at a time. Some degree of knock knee is seen frequently, and shoe alterations and exercises are ordered where necessary. Those that do not improve with these simple remedies are advised to see the Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Quite a large number of infants have been treated for talipes under the supervision of the Orthopaedic Surgeon. Mostly, these are Calcaneo Valgus which respond readily to early splintage. Six new cases of club feet have been under treatment.

Physically handicapped children have been visited in their homes and in schools, and a check kept on plasters, splints and special footwear.

The relaxation classes at Malvern have been very well attended. These continue to be held fortnightly.

D. B. JEAVONS, M.C.S.P., O.N.C.,

In general, the orthopaedic work has followed the same lines as previous years.

School Children.

Footwear:

The commonest fault is still that many shoes though of good quality are too short. The "slip on" type of shoe, popular amongst teenage girls, may well be a contributory factor to the number of early Hallux Valgus and hammer toe deformities seen at school.

Posture:

After watching hundreds of children walking into halls or "gyms" for inspection, the general impression is one of untidiness. It is rare to see a class walk in correctly and smartly. More emphasis on this during P.E. periods should show a marked improvement.

In a few schools. I have given short talks to senior girls, on posture, care of the feet and suitable footwear.

Aftercare:

Children who have required treatment either in hospital or at an Orthopaedic Clinic, have been followed up either at school or home.

Remedial exercises have been taught where necessary and parents encouraged to see they are continued over the rather long period which is necessary to show the desired result.

Kathleen J. Johnson,
S.R.N., O.N.C., M.W.L.

Convalescent Treatment

This service continues to be of real value to the individual patient and to the community; 288 cases were referred during the year. 240 cases were actually sent to convalescent homes and the usual stay was for two weeks. Escorts were provided and special transport arranged when necessary. The remaining 78 cases were either in benefit with the Birmingham Hospital Saturday Fund and had a holiday through the Fund or were withdrawn at the request of the patient or whose financial circumstances were such that the County Council could not accept responsibility. The figures compare favourably with cases sent on convalescence during 1957.

Not many cases arose during the winter months but for the remainder of the year the monthly admission rate was fairly constant.

All the cases referred were either by hospitals or general practitioners. Patients contributed towards the cost according to their means; about one quarter were in receipt of National Assistance.

Patients went to well known homes where a report had already been obtained and the majority chose either homes at Weston-super-Mare, Herne Bay, Porthcawl, Exmouth, Torquay and Broadstairs.

Medical Comforts Depots

It is pleasing to record that this most admirable service has continued to work well throughout the year.

The personnel of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society are to be congratulated for the amount of untiring voluntary work which is undertaken in order to provide medical comforts depots in various parts of the County. Details of the depots can be obtained from either organisation or direct from the County Health Department.

Where a doctor or nurse recommend any article of equipment, every endeavour is made to meet the request and on occasions, some specialised form of apparatus is obtained since it is readily realised that equipment is often so vital and necessary for the wellbeing and comfort of patients at home.

When an issue is made just a small deposit is required and this is refunded on return of the equipment.

Venereal Diseases:

The following information has been supplied by the Hospitals at which the patients attended:-

Treatment Centre	No. of Worcestershire Cases			
	Syphilis	Gon.	Nct V.D.	Total
WORCESTER	6	10	46	62
KIDDERMINSTER	3	3	24	30
BIRMINGHAM	7	19	70	96
DUDLEY	2	5	25	32
TOTALS 1958	18	37	165	220

Treatment Centre	No. of Worcestershire Cases			
	Syphilis	Gon.	Not V.D.	Total
1957	17	34	190	241
1956	16	33	230	279
1955	16	31	191	238
1954	34	29	247	310
1953	46	61	285	392
1952	53	78	271	402
1951	54	44	259	357
1950	42	52	279	373
1949	68	98	311	477
1948	105	111	350	566
1947	104	142	450	696
1946	126	226	592	944
1945	88	140	675	903
1944	93	70	555	718
1943	114	129	661	899
1942	94	135	517	746
1941	58	99	304	462
1940	55	126	241	422
1939	33	83	237	353

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

1. ADMINISTRATION

Mental Health Sub-Committee

The County Council's powers in relation to mental health have been delegated to the mental health sub-committee which is constituted as stated in my previous reports. The medical superintendents of the mental hospitals and the mental deficiency institutions in the county attend the meetings of the Sub-Committee in an advisory capacity.

Staff

The staff consists of an administrative mental health officer, five duly authorised officers, three assistant duly authorised officers, one female mental health worker and one psychiatric social worker. Eleven mental health workers are employed at the occupation centres.

The services of one psychiatric social worker were lost during the year due to the worker taking up another appointment. Unfortunately, due to the great demand for such workers and the shortage of supply, the appointment remains vacant. During the year it became possible to appoint a female mental health worker to undertake supervision of female defectives.

Co-Ordination with Regional Hospital Boards, Etc.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board and the Board's officers are available for consultation whenever required. Cases on licence from institutions continue to be supervised by the Council's officers on behalf of Hospital Management Committees and periodic reports on their progress are made. In addition the services of the social workers have been made available for use by the mental hospitals in the County.

Voluntary Associations

Use is made of the services of the Guardianship Society at Brighton for the supervision of cases under guardianship at Eastbourne.

Several branches of the National Association of Parents of Mentally Handicapped Children are in existence in the county and do much to foster interest in the education of such children.

Voluntary Welfare Committees have been established in connection with the Occupation Centres at Netherend, Stourport-on-Severn and Bromsgrove.

The services of local social agencies continue to be used in satisfying the materials needs of patients.

Staff Training

During the year two members of the occupation centre staff obtained their diplomas as Teachers of Mentally Handicapped Children after attendance at the two-year in-service course in Birmingham.

It is extremely unfortunate that the course has been discontinued due to lack of support.

Two other members of the staff attended short residential refresher courses.

2. COMMUNITY WORK

Great interest has been aroused during the year by the Report of the Royal Commission on the Law relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency. Far reaching recommendations are made which if accepted by Parliament will bring about sweeping changes to simplify the present law. The Report emphasises that there should be a reorientation in the mental health services away from institutional care towards care in the community. This will inevitably result in a great expansion of local authority services and the provision of residential accommodation.

Prevention, Care and After-Care

Mental defectives in the community (supervision, guardianship and licence) continue to be visited by the duly authorised officers and health visitors.

After-care in connection with mental health is carried out by the psychiatric social workers and duly authorised officers to a limited extent.

Lunacy, and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930

In 1958 there were 831 admissions to mental hospitals within the county, 83 being certified under the provisions of the Lunacy Act, 748 being admitted as voluntary patients. Discharges numbered 676 whilst 104 deaths occurred at the hospitals.

The number of admissions to mental hospitals is again greater than in the preceding year (713) showing an increase in the number of voluntary patients admitted. Increased use of Section 20 of Lunacy Act, 1890, was made, thereby avoiding certification, whenever possible. 90% of admissions were on a voluntary basis. It is interesting to compare the above figures with the figures of 1948/49. In that year admissions numbered 327, made up of 138 voluntary patients and 189 certified patients. Discharges numbered 225. Over the past ten years admissions and discharges have increased annually, the figures for voluntary patients increasing, and those for certified patients decreasing. By the end of 1958 it will be noted that the admission rate has more than doubled, while the discharge rate has trebled. These figures, when considered in terms of human happiness and well being are a remarkable tribute to the medical and nursing staffs of the hospitals concerned.

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38

Ascertainment of mental defectives continued through the usual channels. 60 new cases were reported during the year, all of whom were subject to be dealt with. Of this number, 37 were reported under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944, and 23 through other sources. Of the newly ascertained cases 8 were admitted to hospitals under Order, and 52 cases were placed under statutory supervision.

In addition, 22 'old' cases were admitted to hospitals, making a total for the year of 30 admissions to hospitals. At the end of the year 508 Worcestershire patients were patients of hospitals throughout the country. Patients on the waiting list for admission at the end of the year numbered 51, 12 of these being regarded as urgent. Despite the admission rate the waiting list for vacancies remained constant.

18 patients were discharged from Orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts and 10 deaths took place during the year.

The informal admission of patients to hospitals for temporary periods continues to take place and 23 patients were admitted for varying periods during the year.

During the year as a result of the recommendations of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Law relating to Mental Illness and Mental Deficiency, it became possible for admissions to mental deficiency hospitals to be made informally, i.e. without the need of certification. The greater majority of admissions are now carried out in this manner, Orders under the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, only being obtained when the medical superintendents of hospitals require a power of detention in particular cases.

A review of cases in mental deficiency hospitals was made by the hospitals during the year and as a result 183 patients were discharged from the provisions of the Orders under which they were detained but remained at the hospitals on an informal basis.

Guardianship and Supervision

The number of patients under guardianship at the end of the year was 6 of whom 3 are resident outside the county and are supervised by other authorities as agents of the County Council. All resident cases are visited by both medical and lay staff as required by statute or more often if the need arises. The number of patients under supervision at the end of the year was 692, of whom 528 were under statutory supervision and 164 under voluntary supervision. Cases under supervision continue to be reviewed and whenever possible suitable cases are removed from the list. 18 such cases were deleted during the year. 5 patients under supervision died during the year.

Training

At the end of the year 158 patients were being given training at the occupation centres established at Netherend, Stourport-on-Severn, Bromsgrove, and at the voluntary centre run by the Malvern Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

Through the hard work of the Voluntary Welfare Committee established in connection with the Centre at Netherend the children were again provided with a summer holiday.

Children at Stourport and Bromsgrove Centres were given daily outings by the respective Voluntary Welfare Committees, and Harvest Thanksgiving and Xmas Parties were held at all the centres.

Attendances at the three centres continue to increase.

Due to the expiration of the lease in respect of the premises at Halesowen other premises had to be found for housing the centre. The Health Committee accordingly purchased suitable premises at Netherend, Cradley, and the centre at Halesowen was transferred to the new premises early in the year. The premises are a great improvement on the old, with consequent benefit for both patients and staff.

Improvements are required in the heating system and the toilet block and approval has already been obtained to put these improvements into effect.

As Bromsgrove Centre is working to full capacity and has a waiting list, it has been decided to enlarge the centre by the erection of an additional classroom. Plans for the additions together with the authority to incur the necessary expenditure have been approved.

The premises at Stourport-on-Severn are far from suitable and endeavours are being made to secure alternative premises.

The search for suitable premises in or near the City of Worcester continued during the year without success. The Committee accordingly resolved to purchase land upon which to erect a centre to serve the southern part of the County. It proved possible to secure a suitable plot of land within the City boundary and it is proposed to proceed to erect a centre thereon. Plans and expenditure for the building have already been approved by the Ministry and the Council and it is hoped that building operations will commence next year.

Child Guidance

The following has been supplied by Dr. J.J. Graham, Medical Director of the Child Guidance Service in Worcestershire:-

" This year of 1958 has seen the fulfilment of long awaited hopes. In April the alterations and decorations to No.1 Love's Grove, were sufficiently advanced for the premises to be occupied, and so for the first time the Service had the benefit of a central Clinic and Office in one and the same building, with accommodation for all the staff. The premises of the old Worcester Clinic at Friar Street are due for demolition. The City Health and Education Authorities have therefore come to an arrangement with the County to use the central Clinic for City children.

During the year, a second Educational Psychologist, and a third (part-time) Psychiatric Social Worker were appointed.

In common with other Child Guidance and Child Psychiatric Clinics up and down the country, we are seeing more and more children with the label of "school phobia": children who cannot attend school because they develop acute panic at the prospect of leaving their home and their mother each morning. The incidence of such cases is rising steeply, not only in this country, but in the United States and Canada also. The condition is quite different from truancy, where the youngster goes off from home without difficulty, and then roams the neighbourhood. In our experience, and in that of most others, the problem has nothing to do with the school, but with the relationship between the child and his parents.

A few of those, such as school teachers, members of local education committees, educational welfare officers, and the like, who come in direct or indirect contact with such cases, have difficulty in appreciating the condition as a neurotic illness. The more robust-minded feel that the child is being "given in to", and that compulsion is called for; the psychiatric approach is regarded as "soft". Few people fortunately, have seen a 12 year-old in a state of acute panic. Those who have, including the unfortunate parents of such children, realise the impossibility of compulsion. If compulsion "worked", we would be whole-hearted supporters of it."

National Assistance Act 1948

Welfare Services

Report by Mr. R.A. McDonald, County Welfare Officer

Residential Accommodation

Various works of maintenance and redecoration were carried out at the homes during 1958 either by outside contractors or the maintenance staff at the homes, and in particular approval was given by the Ministry of Health to the final phase of the scheme for modernising the centre wing at Laburnum House, Upton-upon-Severn. In addition to providing a new dayroom, extension of dining hall, improved kitchen and stores accommodation etc. this phase provides for an additional 10 beds.

As usual, steps were taken this year as in previous years to introduce more modern facilities at the County Council's homes for elderly people and at the accommodation reserved for the use of the Council at Regional Hospital Board establishments.

Progress was made during the year in settling the details of the proposed new home in the north of the county and, after approval by the County Council, plans for a 77 bedded home were forwarded towards the end of the year to the Minister of Health for his approval.

Applications for the Provision of Residential Accommodation

Statements are appended showing in respect of the year ended 31st December 1958:-

- (1) the number and age groups of persons admitted to residential accommodation,
- (2) persons not admitted and reasons therefor,
- (3) the number of and manner in which applications for the provision of temporary accommodation have been dealt with.
- (4) an analysis for each county district.

The number of applications for residential accommodation received during the year exceeded the 1957 figure of 98, and an additional 30 applications from homeless families for the provision of temporary accommodation were made compared to the number received during 1957.

The number of persons actually admitted to the county homes for elderly people shows an increase of 44 over the number for 1957, and such increase is almost entirely in respect of persons in the age group 70 - 89. The tendency is for the average age of elderly people admitted to be higher than it was a few years ago and this is to be expected with the increasing use being made of the statutory and voluntary domiciliary, social and health services. I would here emphasise the efforts made by the officers concerned to help the elderly people to remain in their own homes and so preserve their independence as long as possible, which is also an important contributory factor. The provision, too, by housing authorities of grouped dwellings schemes where the elderly people are given some supervision by a warden and in which the County Council co-operate by assisting towards the cost has also helped in no small measure in delaying applications for residential accommodation (see paragraphs on Special Housing for Elderly People).

With regard to temporary accommodation, practically the same number of families were admitted this year as in 1957, but in 57 cases the families were not admitted, this being an increase of 28 over the previous year's figure. A considerable amount of work is carried out to avoid the families being admitted to temporary accommodation, and to preserve the continuity of family life.

Welfare of Residents

Outings were arranged as usual for the residents during the summer some of whom were taken to the seaside and others for shorter coach trips, paid for by the County Council. The residents also had outings the cost of which was paid out of their own Comforts Funds.

The residents at two homes went for a week's holiday at the seaside at their own expense having saved up for it. Specially reduced out of season rates at the hotel were secured for them.

The service of part-time chiropodists on a sessional basis provided at the homes still continues to be a source of great benefit to many of the residents, and in fact my attention has been called by the Wardens to a number of elderly people who have become much more active as a result of the treatment they have received.

Apart from the above, the residents continued to enjoy various types of entertainment provided at the homes by a number of organisations and persons interested in their welfare. I might mention here, with great regret, the death of Mr. A.E.I. Coverdale who had for many years provided film shows at several homes which were much appreciated by the elderly people.

Special Housing for Elderly People - Warden's Service

Further discussions took place with district councils about warden's schemes in connection with elderly people living in dwellings erected by housing authorities, details of which I have mentioned in previous reports.

In addition to the schemes specified in my report for 1957, the scheme in operation in Bewdley Borough was extended to cover an additional 31 old people's dwellings, and a scheme covering 28 bungalows for elderly people started in Bromsgrove Urban District during the year.

The year concluded with details in process of settlement of further schemes in Evesham Borough (23 bungalows and communal rooms), and Malvern Urban District (16 flatlets - scheme additional to one already in operation) and other housing authorities had intimated their interest in such schemes.

Clubs for Elderly People

Although only one new Derby and Joan Club (Martley) was actually started in 1958, arrangements were in hand at the end of the year for three additional clubs to be established by the W.V.S. At the moment there are 51 clubs including 2 open-all-day clubs run by the W.V.S., 4 clubs run by the British Red Cross Society, and 6 clubs, including 4 Sons of Rest Clubs, run by other voluntary organisations.

Meals on Wheels

This service, so much appreciated by many elderly people, was extended to Kidderminster Borough during the year, the other districts being served were Stourbridge and Redditch, all administered by the W.V.S.

Discussions were held with voluntary organisations regarding the future development of the service, and it is pleasing to record that at the end of the year plans were in hand to start a service in the Bromsgrove area and to explore the possibility of next providing at least one in another area.

Registration and Inspection of Disabled Persons and Old Persons Homes

There is no change in the number of voluntary and private Homes registered under Section 37 of the National Assistance Act 1948, the number still being 17 providing accommodation for 171 persons.

The usual visits of inspection have continued to be made and where considered necessary the attention of the proprietors has been drawn to any matter affecting the well-being of the residents.

Admission of Chronic Sick Patients to Hospital

Reports continue to be provided on the home conditions of persons awaiting admission to the chronic sick wards of hospitals to enable the Hospital Management Committees concerned to assess priority of admission. During the year 270 such reports were made compared with 258 in 1957.

Welfare of the Blind

At the 31st December 1958 there were 744 blind persons (328 males and 416 females) on the county register as compared with 725 (328 males and 397 females) at the end of 1957. The number under 16 years of age was 25 including 4 under 5 years of age and the number over 40 years of age was 662.

Although the actual number of new registrations during 1958 was 91, no less than 65 of whom were persons over 70 years of age, 72 persons mainly in the 65-69 age group either died or moved to areas outside Worcestershire thus making a net increase at the end of 1958 of 19 only over the number registered at the 31st December 1957.

It is interesting to note that of the present total number of registered blind persons 59% are over the age of 70 years as compared with 56% at the end of 1957.

There was little alteration in the total number of persons employed in various occupations; 13 were in workshops for the blind, 19 in the homeworkers scheme, and 32 in open industry, 64 altogether.

The number registered as partially sighted was 84 (45 males and 39 females) as compared with 82 at the 31st December 1957.

The service provided for many years by the Worcestershire Association for the Blind and its branch committees and also the Stourbridge Institution for the Blind has been maintained throughout the year at the high level associated with them. Once again, all those persons connected with these voluntary organisations are to be congratulated on the results achieved by their efforts.

Registration of Blind Persons

Incidence of Blindness

During 1958, the number of Forms B.D. 8 completed in respect of persons, other than school children, was 112. Of these 91 were certified blind, 14 partially-sighted, and 7 not eligible for inclusion on either Register. In 12 cases domiciliary visits were made by the consultant ophthalmologists and 5 re-examinations were carried out.

A Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially-Sighted Persons

	Cause of Disability							
	Cataract		Glaucoma		Retrolental Fibroplasia		Others	
	Blind	P/S	Blind	P/S	Blind	P/S	Blind	P/S
(i) Number of cases registered during year in respect of which para. 7 (c) of Forms B.D. 8 recommend								
(a) No treatment	10	-	13	1	-	-	39	6
(b) Surgical	10	3	1	-	-	-	1	1
Medical	-	-	3	-	-	-	10	-
Optical	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	2
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow up action have received treatment	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-

In view of their age and general condition many persons either refused or were considered unsuitable to undergo operative treatment for cataract.

Deaf and other Handicapped Persons

During the year the interests of deaf and dumb and hard of hearing persons continued to be looked after by the Worcestershire and Herefordshire Association for Work Amongst the Deaf on behalf of the County Council.

At the 3rd December 1958 there were 154 deaf and 798 hard of hearing persons registered with the County Council and the fullest co-operation was given by the Reverend L. Crellin, Chaplain Welfare Officer and Mrs. E.A. Crellin, Lady Worker and Lip Reading Teacher, in carrying out individual case work, running lip reading classes and providing social and recreational activities including holidays and outings.

The home provided by the Association at Malvern for the accommodation of deaf persons continued to play an important role being always fully occupied.

The number of persons registered as handicapped (apart from the blind, partially sighted, deaf and hard of hearing) continued to increase and at the 31st December 1958 the number was 446 (244 males and 202 females) compared with 388 (206 males and 182 females) at the 31st December 1957.

In addition to the assistance and advice given by the Welfare Division to these handicapped persons as needed, much good work has continued to be done by voluntary organisations such as the Spastic Associations, the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship, the British Red Cross Society and the Women's Voluntary Service.

Special mention should be made of the great amount of work put in by the two last named organisations in running social clubs for handicapped persons of which there are now four run by the British Red Cross Society and at which instruction is given in basketry and other handicrafts, and three run by the Women's Voluntary Service. Transport of the members of the clubs is a problem and a special word of praise should be given to the several voluntary organisations and private persons who help in taking the handicapped persons to and from the clubs and also in taking them for outings.

The British Red Cross Society and the Women's Voluntary Service also arranged, as in previous years, for parties of handicapped persons to go away on holiday and so provided a change from the ordinary routine which is so much appreciated by those who are more or less confined to their homes.

Handicraft instruction was given to handicapped persons in their own homes as desired by them, either by arrangement with the British Red Cross Society or by the Council's part time Craft Instructress, herself a disabled person, who covers the Halesowen, Oldbury and Stourbridge districts. The results have been most encouraging not only because of the evident enjoyment of an added interest in life for the handicapped person, but in most cases in the high standard achieved of the articles made. The demand for such articles in some instances exceeds the rate of supply, but of course production is slow because of the physical disabilities of the handicapped persons.

Arrangements are made when necessary for the benefit of any handicapped person living at home for their admission to special homes where their needs can be adequately met, and at the end of 1958 there were 12 handicapped persons (other than blind) being cared for in voluntary homes by arrangement with the County Council.

Ways in which handicapped persons remaining in their own homes continued to be assisted apart from craft instruction included the provision of gadgets to make household duties easier, financial help for construction of concrete drive-ins for mechanically propelled invalid carriages, help in obtaining National Assistance grants, and advice as regards the provision of wheel chairs and mechanically propelled invalid carriages through the Ministry of Health.

Civil Defence - Welfare Section

Personnel

At the end of 1957 there were 1070 enrolled and 283 auxiliary members, a total of 1353. The figures at the end of 1958 were 1093 enrolled and 211 auxiliary members making a total of 1304. Although this is an overall decrease of 49 the enrolled members have an overall increase of 23 and the reduction in the auxiliary members is caused through the removal from the register of volunteers who either left the area or having attended for little or no training intimated that they would be unable to undertake training in the future.

Recruiting Campaign

Recruiting activities have been carried out during the year and were intensified during the Civil Defence Week mainly by the use of the mobile display van and the staging of civil defence film shows. The Welfare Section has been represented at, and has fully supported all these activities.

Exercises

Two intersectional exercises were held in Upton-upon-Severn Rural District in which the Welfare Section took part, and at a series of exercises staged at the training site at Hampton Lovett by the Ambulance and Casualty Collecting Section emergency feeding teams from the Welfare Section undertook the feeding of the volunteers.

At a regional exercise in July, in which personnel from many authorities took part, 135 cooked lunches were provided by a Welfare Section team comprised of members from Pershore and Halesowen.

Regional Competition

The Worcestershire team competing in the Regional Competition was awarded the highest number of marks in the first phase and will now meet the Shropshire County Council team on the 22nd March 1959 to decide which team shall have the honour of representing the Region in the National Competition to be held at the Home Office Training School at Falfield in June 1959.

Training of Volunteers

During the year 12 classes in Evacuation and Care of the Homeless, 7 classes in Emergency Feeding and 3 classes in First Aid and Home Nursing were held in the County.

Rest Centre Accommodation Earmarking

The survey and earmarking of rest centre accommodation has continued and the situation at present is as follows:-

<u>Number of Rest Centres</u> <u>Earmarked</u>		<u>Number of Persons for</u> <u>whom accommodation is available</u>
September 1950	182	18,255
December 1958	352	67,769
Percentage increase 93.4%		271.2%

Women's Voluntary Service for Civil Defence

The W.V.S. have continued to render valuable assistance in the carrying out of the Civil Defence Welfare Training and thanks are due to them for their help.

I should like to record my thanks to Mr. H. Parkes, Chairman of the Health Committee, and to Mr. J.G. Parker, Chairman of the Welfare Committee, for their continued advice and support, and also to the Chairman and members of the several Visiting Committees of the Council's homes for old people for the valuable help they have given in the development and administration of the Welfare Service.

I also thank my head office staff and district staff, the home teachers of the blind, and wardens, matrons and other staff for their loyalty and co-operation during the year which has contributed in no small way to maintaining the service at a high level.

In conclusion, I feel I cannot miss the opportunity of paying tribute here to the work of the late Miss A.I.L. Harrison and Mr. W. Hayes whose regrettable deaths occurred during 1958. Miss Harrison was for many years a member of the Welfare Sub-Committee and Chairman of the Malvernbury and the Howsells Visiting Committee. She was genuinely interested in the care of old people, was a very able Chairman and gave me every co-operation in dealing with the problems which arose from time to time in the administration of the two homes at Malvern. Mr. Hayes, who served for many years on the Welfare Sub-Committee, was particularly interested in the welfare of blind persons and was a very active representative of the Council on the Home Workers Committee of the Birmingham Royal Institution for the Blind.

APPLICATIONS FOR PROVISION OF RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1958

(1) PERSONS ADMITTED TO RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION		AGE GROUPS									
		16-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	TOTAL
1.	Aged and infirm - living alone who in the opinion of their doctor were in need of more care and attention than was or could be made available to them in their own homes.						4 (12)	35 (18)	39 (19)	6 (3)	84 (52)
2.	Aged and infirm - living with friends or relatives unable to continue to care for them.						8 (8)	29 (27)	38 (37)	4 (1)	79 (75)
3.	Aged - homeless (includes persons in hospital who were admitted after the possibility of then returning to their previous residence had been explored, and persons of 'no fixed abode').						20 (18)	50 (33)	24 (20)	- (1)	74 (72)
4.	Physically handicapped (Non-aged)	1 (1)	- (1)	1 (1)	- (3)	13 (6)	6 (3)				21 (15)
5.	Mentally handicapped (Non-aged)				2 (1)	2 (1)					4 (2)
6.	Short stay cases temporarily unable to remain with friends or relatives because of illness or holidays							3 (2)	14 (15)	2 (6)	19 (23)
TOTALS		1 (1)	- (1)	1 (1)	2 (4)	15 (7)	38 (41)	97 (80)	115 (91)	12 (11)	281 (237)

In addition to the above 60 (78) persons were re-admitted to residential accommodation from hospital and 27(46) persons were transferred from one home to another in order to be nearer friends or relatives or to provide accommodation more suited to their needs

(2) PERSONS NOT ADMITTED TO RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION	AGE GROUPS									
	16-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90-99	TOTAL
1. Not considered eligible				2	3 (4)	10 (4)	8 (6)	- (5)	-	23 (19)
2. Found to be too ill for residential accommodation and arrangements made for admission to Regional Hospital Board accommodation.				1 (1)	1 (2)	8 (6)	19 (13)	21 (19)	6 (5)	56 (46)
3. Need met by the provision of Home Help.					1	1 (1)	6 (7)	6 (3)	- (1)	14 (12)
4. Application withdrawn - Alternative arrangements made by or on behalf of applicant e.g. assisted in finding alternative accommodation with friends, relatives or in private homes registered by the County Council.	1	(1)		1	5 (6)	17 (19)	49 (33)	42 (34)	5 (6)	120 (99)
5. Referred to National Assistance Board; it being ascertained that need could best be met by financial assistance			2	1	1 (1)	5 (4)	2 (4)	3 (2)		14 (11)
6. Visited - advice only given.			2	6 (1)	5 (3)	11 (14)	23 (21)	22 (18)	4 (2)	73 (59)
TOTALS	1	- (1)	4	11 (2)	16 (16)	52 (48)	107 (84)	94 (81)	15 (14)	300 (246)

In addition 24 persons were visited on behalf of other authorities.

NOTE: Figures in brackets are for the year ended 31st December 1957, and are shown for comparison.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1958

REASON FOR APPLICATION	NUMBER OF FAMILY UNITS			TOTAL APPLICATIONS
	ADMITTED	NOT ADMITTED		
1. Evicted owing to rent arrears from council houses	1 (1)	5 (1)	6 (2)	
2. " " " " from private houses	- (-)	3 (-)	3 (-)	
3. Evicted on grounds of nuisance from council houses	1 (-)	1 (-)	2 (-)	
4. " " " " from private houses	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)	
5. Evicted from service tenancy after dismissal from employment	2 (2)	9 (2)	11 (4)	
6. " " " " after resignation " "	- (-)	2 (6)	2 (6)	
7. Evicted from service tenancy because of the incapacity or death of employee	- (-)	4 (3)	4 (3)	
8. Evicted from furnished rooms.	1 (2)	4 (7)	5 (9)	
9. Evicted by relatives/friends	4 (2)	16 (6)	20 (8)	
10. Evicted by reason of unauthorised sub-tenancy.	2 (2)	1 (1)	3 (3)	
11. Homeless (accommodated overnight and left before proper investigation could be made)	3 (5)	- (-)	3 (5)	
12. Fire, flood, or other emergency.	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (1)	
13. Others	- (-)	12 (2)	12 (2)	
	16 (14)	57 (29)	73 (43)	

(The analysis for 1957 is shown in brackets).

The sixteen families accommodated comprised 1 men, 16 women, and 42 children compared with fourteen families consisting of 14 women and 34 children during the year ended 31st December 1957.

Applications during the year were received from 57 family units comprising 37 men, 57 women, and 135 children for the provision of temporary accommodation but were not admitted compared with 29 family units comprising 19 men, 29 women and 74 children during the year ended 31st December 1957.

ANALYSIS OF APPLICATIONS BY DISTRICTS FOR 1958

DISTRICT	RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION			TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION		
	ADMITTED	NOT ADMITTED	TOTAL	ADMITTED	NOT ADMITTED	TOTAL
Bewdley Borough
Bromsgrove Urban
Bromsgrove Rural
Droitwich Borough
Droitwich Rural
Evesham Borough
Evesham Rural
Halesowen Borough
Kidderminster Borough
Kidderminster Rural
Malvern Urban
Merstrey Rural
Oldbury Borough
Pershore Rural
Redditch Urban
Stourbridge Borough
Stourport Urban
Tenbury Rural
Upton-on-Severn Rural
District not in County
No fixed abode
	281	321	602	16	57	73

MILK AND DAIRIES ADMINISTRATION

The whole of Worcestershire has been for some time what is known as a "Specified Area" in which all milk sold by retail must be designated milk (that is "Pasteurised" "Sterilised" or "Tuberculin Tested"). There are other descriptions used e.g. Channel Islands Milk, Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) but they must all conform to one or other of the three basic designations.

The Ministry of Agriculture has issued one more certificate of dispensation during the year authorising the retail sale of undesignated milk on the grounds that it was not reasonably practicable to enforce the compulsory retail sale of only designated milk for the time being, the area being an isolated one.

The work of enforcement is carried on continuously. It is a long business because the marketing organisation which controls all sales of milk have said that it is written into their constitution that information gained during their marketing operations remains confidential and they are therefore precluded from passing information on.

During the year formal notices were given to several offenders but in one case the offences had been on such a scale and covering such a time that the Committee authorised proceedings. The farmer was fined a total of £30 and costs for several infringements all arising basically out of the same offence by retailing in bottles bearing the designation "Pasteurised Milk" milk in fact which was raw milk produced from the farmers own undesignated herd.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations 1949 - 1954

At the end of 1958 there were ten pasteurisers licences in force one licence having expired during the year due to the retirement of the dairyman. There are now no dairies licensed by the County Council for the processing of sterilised milk. At one time there were two. The sales of this designated milk do not appear however to be getting less.

At eight of the licensed dairies the method adopted for pasteurising the milk is by the holder process and the remaining two employ the high temperature short time process known as the H.T.S.T. process.

The holder process requires that the milk shall be retained at a temperature of not less than 145°F and not more than 150°F for at least thirty minutes and immediately cooled to a temperature of not more than 50°F, whilst the H.T.S.T. process requires that the milk shall be retained at a temperature of not less than 161°F for at least fifteen seconds and similarly cooled.

During the year one Dairy installed new H.T.S.T. plant incorporating the latest features. A demonstration was given by the manufacturers to prove the accuracy of both heating and cooling temperatures and the holding time.

It is obvious that more and more of the smaller dairymen are finding it too uneconomic to maintain small pasteurising plants and I think the future will see the processing of milk in the hands of the larger firms, the former becoming merely distributors.

The following table shows the number of pasteurised milk samples collected by the County Council during 1958. It also shows the results of samples in respect of processing plants licensed by other food and drugs authorities, but supplying milk to Worcestershire schools and institutions.

Place of Collection		No. taken.	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test	
			Pass	Fail	Pass	Fail
SCHOOLS	A	19	19	-	19	-
	B	114	114	-	114	-
	C	133	133	-	133	-
CHILDREN'S HOMES	A	8	8	-	8	-
	B	20	20	-	20	-
	C	28	28	-	28	-
HOSPITALS	A	4	4	-	4	-
	B	39	39	-	39	-
	C	43	43	-	43	-
DAIRIES	A	273	273	-	273	-
	B	-	-	-	-	-
	C	273	273	-	273	-
TOTALS	A	304	304	-	304	-
	B	173	173	-	173	-
	C	477	477	-	477	-

- A. Milk processed at plants licensed by Worcestershire County Council, and delivered direct to the consumer by the licence holders.
- B. Milk processed at plants licensed by the Worcestershire County Council, but delivered to consumer by distributors (also includes milk produced at plants licensed by other Authorities).
- C. Total

The above table shows a complete absence of samples which failed to pass statutory test and indicates a very high standard of plant maintenance and care.

Milk in Schools Scheme

The following table shows the grade of milk supplied to schools under this scheme (excluding Oldbury)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>No. of Schools supplied</u>
Pasteurised	296
Tuberculin Tested	6
Undesignated	-

A census taken in October 1953 showed that 48,757 children out of 59,407 present were taking milk, a percentage of 82.1. The previous year it was 79.8.

In addition there were 61 non-maintained schools, with 6,584 children out of 7,129 participating, which gives an even greater percentage of 92.3.

These are really remarkable figures and show that over 55,000 bottles (one-third pints) are being supplied to schools daily.

27 samples of raw T.T. milk were collected at schools during the year and all satisfied the Methylene Blue Test. 22 samples were submitted for biological tests: all were negative for tuberculosis.

Biological Sampling

The County Council are charged with the duty of enforcing the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 relating to the prohibition of the sale of milk infected with bovine tuberculosis and milk from cows suffering from certain other diseases.

The following table shows the number of biological samples collected by the County Council during the last five years:-

Biological Sampling

Year	No. of Samples Collected	No. Negative	No. Positive	Test incomplete at end of year
1954	563	551	12	-
1955	482	474	8	-
1956	522	518	4	-
1957	484	480	4	-
1958	481	466	4	11

As this report is being written the County is steadily moving towards the final stages of the scheme for the eradication of tuberculosis in the herds of Worcestershire. We have now reached the stage of compulsory testing on 160 herds in the last group.

It seems hardly possible that less than 20 years ago we talked about at least 40% of the dairy cows being secretors of infected milk or likely to be. Only a few cases were investigated last year into patients notified as suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis and in no case was it possible, as it frequently used to be, to find that milk consumed raw from an infected herd was the cause.

The number of deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis this year was 5 and notified cases were 28. For example, to take the year 1934, the deaths were 45 and the cases 130.

Brucellosis

All samples of milk submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, for biological examination for infection with tuberculosis are also subjected to the test for infection with the organism of brucella abortus, which is responsible for a condition in those who drink raw unpasteurised milk from an infected herd known as undulant fever, thought to be more widespread than is generally admitted.

5% of the samples were reported as showing evidence of this infection. This is a reduction from the previous figure of just over 8%. Every case is investigated and where the milk is known to be consumed raw appropriate action is taken by arranging for it to be sent for heat treatment.

No formal action was taken during the year except in one case where a statutory notice was served for a while by the Medical Officer of Health where there was direct evidence linking an infected herd with a human case.

At the end of the year there were 1,221 dairy farms registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. This shows a decrease of something approaching 300 during the past ten years. Of these 1,221, 787 farms were licensed for the production of tuberculin tested milk, or something over 64%.

Cleanliness of Milk Bottles

The collection of washed bottles from dairies where the County Council have some responsibility has continued. There is no statutory standard laid down.

Cleanliness of milk bottles used for Pasteurised Milk

The following table summarises the results of random sample bottles collected during the year ended 31st December, 1958.

Total	Sterile	No. of colonies developing on Agar at 37°C in two days				Bacillus Coli Present
		Less than 100	100-600	600-2000	Over 2000	
264	48	129	32	25	30	10

The following is the standard adopted by the Public Health Laboratory Service for judging the cleanliness of washed bottles:-

Not more than 600 colonies per pint bottle - Satisfactory
 Over 600 and less than 2,000 Fairly Satisfactory
 Over 2,000 Unsatisfactory

WATER AND SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES

With the commencement of the third and last section of the Martley regional water scheme and the start of Part I of the Tenbury scheme it can be said that we are now in sight of the completion of the major rural water supply schemes in Worcestershire. There are other outstanding areas but for those, schemes have been approved or are in course of being undertaken and possibly in two years time all except the more scattered areas, will have been supplied. It has been a long job and a costly one but an extremely interesting and satisfying one and the new Water Boards when they are established, will have had the pioneer work done for them.

Any major new sources of water supply I think will be from water obtained from the River Severn, although at the time of writing this report we are much concerned about a proposal to sink six boreholes to the north of Kidderminster in the Bunter sandstone.

It has frequently been said that there is a reluctance on the part of property owners and others to connect to the new water mains and that the "time lag" is too great in getting connected. The experience of the Martley Rural District Council in connection with their new water scheme is very interesting. The total number of properties in the parishes covered by the first Stage was 2,647. Of this number 2,076 were adjacent to the mains. After just over 18 months 70% of the properties which could be connected because they were near to the mains had been.

Local Inquiries

The following schemes were investigated by Engineering Inspectors of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In two cases they were routine investigations into schemes in progress.

<u>District</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Date</u>
Droitwich Rural District	Dodderhill and Upton Warren Sewage and Sewage disposal.	26. 2. 58.
Martley Rural District	Regional Water scheme	20. 5. 58.
Tenbury Rural District	Eastham Water Supply	19. 2. 58.
Upton-upon-Severn Rural District	Castlemorton Sewage Scheme	21. 2. 58.

The following schemes were received from the local authorities in the County for the observations of the County Council with a view to qualifying for grants under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts:-

<u>District</u>	<u>Nature of Scheme</u>	<u>Estimated cost</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Bromsgrove Rural District	Extension of Water Mains at Wythall.	£2,200	Observations given in support.
Evesham Rural District	Water main extension at Morton Spirt.	£2,500	"
" "	Regional sewage schemes, Badsey, etc.	£280,000	Scheme generally supported.
" "	Water main extension at Sedgeberrow	£1,219	Observations given in support
Kidderminster Rural District	Water main renewal at Ribbesford	£4,666	" "
Pershore Rural District	Piped water for Parish of Norton and renewal of mains in Whittington.	£37,000	" "
" "	Water supply scheme for Pirton	£12,750	" "
Tenbury Rural District	Construction of Water Tower at Oldbury	£2,960	" "
Upton-upon-Severn Rural District	Water supply to Welland	£3,800	" " (Part of regional scheme)

Conservation of Water Order

In certain areas of the County which are on the water bearing strata a licence has to be obtained from the Minister of Housing and Local Government under the Water Act of 1945, before a new borehole can be sunk or a greater abstraction of water made from an existing borehole for all purposes other than domestic requirements.

During the year six such licences were issued for amounts as low as 1,000 gallons a day up to 200,000 gallons a day.

Re-Grouping of Water Undertakings

The re-grouping of the water undertakings in the County is nearing the final stages. The long period occupied in discussion is perfectly understandable.

(1) North West Worcestershire

A draft order has been prepared and circulated for this proposed Board which will include the following local authorities or parts of local authorities in Worcestershire plus parts of Brierley Hill Urban District and Seisdon Rural District and Amblecote Urban District in Staffordshire.

Bewdley Borough Council
Kidderminster Borough Council
Stourbridge Borough Council
Stourport Urban District
Bromsgrove Rural District (part)
Kidderminster Rural District (except Rushock)
Martley Rural District
Tenbury Rural District
Droitwich Rural District (part)

(2) South Worcestershire

It would seem that Malvern Urban District, Pershore and Upton-upon-Severn Rural District Councils together with Worcester City will form a Board for South West Worcestershire. Droitwich Rural District have expressed a desire to go to the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company.

(3) East Worcestershire

Negotiations are at an advanced stage for Evesham Borough, Evesham Rural District and some other Councils not in Worcestershire, to join the East Worcestershire Waterworks Company.

The remaining parts of the County served by the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company, i.e. Halesowen, Oldbury, the parish of Hunnington and part of the parish of Romsley, and the three parishes served by Birmingham, viz. Cofton Hackett, Frankley and Wythall in Bromsgrove Rural District will stay as they are.

Birmingham Corporation Act 1958

The Elan Aqueduct conveying water to Birmingham passes through the northern part of the County. This was done under an Act of 1892 which gave local authorities within 15 miles of this Aqueduct a right to take supplies of water at concessional rates.

There seemed a possibility that this longstanding statutory right might be affected under new proposals of the Corporation.

However, it was possible to reach agreement with Birmingham whereby the requirements of Tenbury Rural District, Kidderminster Rural District and Kidderminster borough for water from the Elan Aqueduct was given satisfactory preference over the demands from other consumers.

South Staffordshire Waterworks Company

This Company made formal planning application for six boreholes in the Wolverley - Cookley area of Kidderminster Rural District from which it is hoped to extract quantities over a period of twelve months which will average six million gallons a day with power to take nine million on any single day and 6.75 million gallons on as many as sixty days in the year.

It was thought that these amounts of water were not available without seriously adversely affecting adjacent boreholes: in fact this quantity of water may not be available.

At the time of writing this report this most important matter, especially as it is likely to effect the proposed North West Worcestershire Water Board, is receiving serious consideration.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS)

ORDER

The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order has been in operation since June 1957. The Order provides that in general every person collecting or receiving waste foods from the premises of other persons must boil the material in a plant licensed by the local authority before re-distributing it or feeding it to animals or poultry. Two categories of collectors do not need to have licences, viz. local authorities and persons with less than a certain number of pigs and poultry.

"Local Authority" within the meaning of the Diseases of Animals Act 1950 is the County Council. The County Public Health Inspector was appointed an officer under the Act to assist the Chief Constable on certain technical aspects of the Order and he visits all new applications, of which over 200 have been received.

A similar Order, but relating only to certain areas of the County was previously in operation administered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food through the Divisional Veterinary Officer. Details of ten current licences were notified to the County Council on the date of transfer from which a quite false deduction was drawn as to the volume of work the Order would entail.

Housing

The following table shows the number of new houses built by the local authorities and houses built by private builders in each area of the County, during the past thirteen years, actually from 1st April 1945 to the end of 1958. I have also expressed these as houses built per 1,000 of the population.

Construction of New Houses up to 31st December 1958. (From 1st April 1945)

District	Population mid 1948.	By Local Authorities and Housing Associations.		By Private Builders		Houses Completed per 1,000 Population	
		Under Construction	Completed since 1.4.45.	Under Construction	Completed since 1.4.45.	By Local Authorities	ALL sources
<u>Boroughs.</u>							
Bewdley	4,950	-	279	13	83	56.3	73.1
Droitwich	7060	13	466	25	343	66.0	114.5
Evesham	12,380	-	662	12	250	53.4	73.6
Halesowen	43,480	85	1,738	44	1,960	39.9	84.1
Kidderminster	39,660	113	1,984	72	816	49.9	70.5
Oldbury	55,100	117	1,625	61	648	29.4	41.0
Stourbridge	39,660	174	2,205	122	966	55.5	79.9
<u>Urban Districts.</u>							
Bromsgrove	31,700	-	1,490	116	1,350	47.0	89.5
Malvern	24,900	-	1,371	40	1,500	55.0	73.3
Redditch	33,120	6	2,045	106	1,206	60.8	97.2
Stourport-on-Severn	11,190	50	801	17	355	71.5	103.3
<u>Rural Districts.</u>							
Bromsgrove	33,470	8	626	124	1,922	18.7	76.1
Droitwich	13,690	-	418	20	253	30.5	49.0
Evesham	16,830	29	704	41	388	41.8	64.8
Kidderminster	12,080	4	678	15	267	56.1	78.2
Wentley	11,990	-	304	20	374	26.1	56.5
Pershore	16,860	7	977	44	362	57.9	79.4
Tenbury	5,410	-	143	3	42	26.4	34.1
Upton-on-Severn	14,770	29	447	34	226	30.2	45.5

