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Borough of  Accrington.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1919.

ARTHUR GREENHALGH,

M.B. Ch.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Washington



Department of the Army

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

MEDICAL REPORT

MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR 1911

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

To the Sanitary Authority of the Borough of Accrington.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Report on the Health and Sanitary condition of the Borough, for the year ending 31st December, 1919.

The population this year has been computed by the Registrar General to be 43,658 for the calculation of the death-rate, and 45,479 for the calculation of the birth-rate.

The most arresting figure in this year's mortality statistics as compared with the previous years, is the one expressing the natural increase in the population, that is, the excess of births over deaths. During the last five years this figure has been 10, 20, 185, 101, and 244; there have been in each of these years so many more births than deaths. In 1919 natural increase has disappeared altogether and has been replaced by a natural decrease of 33, that is, 33 more deaths than births. A table in the report shows the figures for the last twelve years. It will be noted that the number of births has been gradually increasing during the last three years but is yet very much smaller than 1916 and the years preceding that; it is, in fact, only just over two-thirds of the number registered in 1909.

The number of deaths during the year is excessive, being higher than any of the years in the table (except 1909 and 1911, in which there was a high infant death-rate). It is a disappointment for me to have to record the deaths of 73 infants out of 640 registered births, which works out at an infant mortality of 114.06, especially is this so when I find from the Registrar General's returns that for the whole of England and Wales this item works out to the very good figure of 89, and that London can show an infant mortality of 85. In seeking for an explanation of this great difference, I have gone through the certified causes of deaths of my 73 infants and I find that 35 (almost half of them) were due to Premature Birth or Congenital Debility.

My staff of nurses at the Infant Welfare Centre have worked hard, and as far as I could direct, wisely, to improve the infant mortality, but they cannot make a baby born congenitally deficient into a normal baby. I believe that just now we are feeling one of the results of the war, the men coming back from military service to civilian life find the transference more onerous and exacting upon their constitutions than was the change from civilian life to military service, and this, for the time being is reflected in the want of stamina in the infants born. In addition to this, I believe that in not a few cases the expectant mother has looked upon her condition with disfavour mainly on account of the difficulties and cost of living. This frame of mind is bad enough, but when it leads, as it often does, to the taking of drugs, injury is done to mind and body, and the woman is left with the remorse of self-conviction that she has done wrong, and later on may have before her eyes the presence of a weakly delicate child, whose want of health has been caused in part by her own misguided conduct.

The very most important physical period of a child's life is the pre-natal, and it is here we are wanting improvement. In years gone by, premature birth and congenital defects have been the certified cause of death in about one-quarter of the total deaths of infants, while for the last sixteen months this proportion has gone up to nearly one-half.

It occurred to me that perhaps some useful information would be revealed if the nurses interviewed the mothers of the premature births in order to gain their view of the cause, and I have before me their reports of eleven such which have occurred during the first four months of 1920. I give them briefly:—(1)—Difficult Parturition. (2)—Nursing a young man of 20 and heavy lifting to do. (3)—Nursing her mother who died just before the birth of her child. (4)—Shock she received with an electric tramway rope. (5)—Without coal supply; had to carry coal $\frac{1}{4}$ mile up-hill. (6)—Persistent vomiting from six months. (7)—Worked at weaving five months with bad varicose veins. (8)—Consumptive husband. (9)—Worried by home affairs and had no appetite. (10)—Nursed her husband with influenza and contracted it herself; six weeks in bed before baby was born. (11)—Not having sufficient food, and worry by her husband being out of work for 16 weeks owing to Bullough's strike.

The other figures in the report come out fairly well. The scavenging of the Borough has suffered from the want of capacity of the destructors to deal with the greatly increased quantity of refuse resulting from the bad coal supplied during the year. This is a matter which should be dealt with at once, the leaving about of rubbish is a great menace to the health of the Borough.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ARTHUR GREENHALGH,

Medical Officer of Health.

Population.—The Registrar General estimates the civil population for the calculation of the birth-rate at 45,479, for the death-rate at 43,658.

New Houses.—During the year no new houses have been certified as fit for occupation as against 1 for 1918, 4 for 1917, 8 for 1916, 42 for 1915, 136 for 1914, and 161 for 1913.

Deaths.—623 deaths (330 males and 293 females) have been registered in the Borough during the year, giving a crude death-rate equal to 13.69 per 1,000 of the estimated population per annum.

Deaths of all soldiers and sailors, whether occurring on active service or in any way have been excluded from this report by orders from the Government.

15 deaths were “uncertified” either by the Coroner or by the registered medical practitioner, 7 males and 8 females; 28 deaths, 19 males and 9 females, have been certified by the Coroner.

The report from Mr. Townsend, the Cemetery Registrar, states that he has received for interment 45 infants who have not been born alive.

Death-Rate Corrected.—Arrangements have been made by the Registrar General for a list of births and deaths which have occurred outside the districts of their “fixed or usual residence” to be sent to their rightful district Medical Officers for inclusion in their statistics.

In the case of Accrington, this list amounts to 65 deaths and 5 births to be included, and 15 deaths excluded.

The total deaths appertaining to the Borough are as follows :

Deaths occurring in the Borough (excluding 36 in the Victoria Hospital, and excluding 3 other deaths of "non-residents").....	584
Total deaths in Victoria Hospital	36
Less deaths of persons in Victoria Hospital residing outside the Borough (non-residents)	12
Deaths of Accrington residents in Victoria Hospital	24
Deaths of Accrington residents occurring outside the Borough :—	
Haslingden Union Workhouse	46
Blackburn	7
Blackpool	1
Burnley	3
Church	1
Grange	1
Lytham	1
Lancaster	1
Manchester	1
Oswaldtwistle	1
Preston	1
St. Annes-on-Sea	1
	— 65
	— 673
	==

giving a corrected death-rate of 15.41 per 1,000 per annum, as against 15.07 for the year 1918.

The following were the crude death-rates for England and Wales during 1919 :—

England and Wales	13.8	per 1,000 living.
96 Great Towns (including London)	13.8	„
148 Small Towns	12.6	„
London	13.4	„
Accrington : Crude	13.6	„
„ Corrected	15.4	„

Accrington :—

Crude annual death-rate per 1,000	13.6
Corrected „ „ (including 65 deaths outside the Borough, and excluding 12 “ non-residents ” at the Victoria Hospital, and 3 others)	15.41
Births — Males	307
Females	333
	— 640
Deaths — Males	354
Females	319
	— 673
Excess of deaths over births	33

Deaths of infants under one year of age number ... 73
giving an Infant Mortality per 1,000 births of . 114.06

The total number of births, deaths, natural increase, and decrease, and number of infant deaths for the past twelve years are as follows :—

	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908
Births	640	611	585	728	751	884	894	847	792	926	946	1012
Deaths	673	601	565	543	650	640	647	532	711	600	679	662
Natural	<hr/>											
Increase	—	10	20	185	101	244	247	315	81	326	267	350
Decrease	33											
<hr/>												
Infant	<hr/>											
deaths	73	57	56	65	78	104	104	65	143	101	117	139

Births.—640 births—307 males and 333 females—have been registered, giving a birth-rate equal to 14.07 per 1,000 per annum.

The following table shows an analysis allocated to the eight wards of the Borough, specifying legitimate and illegitimate :—

	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total
West Ward	73	2	75
Central Ward	98	7	105
North Ward	70	1	71
Peel Park Ward	94	4	98
East Ward	65	4	69
South Ward	75	6	81
Higher Antley Ward ...	57	1	58
Spring Hill Ward	75	3	78
Outward transfers	1	4	5
	608	32	640

Infant Mortality.—This term means the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births registered during the year. There have been 640 births registered, and 73 deaths, which works out to an infant mortality of 114.06.

The infantile death-rates for England and Wales during 1919, are as follows :—

England and Wales	89
96 Great Towns (including London) ...	93
148 Smaller Towns	90
London	85
Accrington	114

During the year the organised work of the nurses attending to this branch of work has been greatly interfered with owing to a serious illness of one nurse, who, later in the year, had to resign her post. A substitute who was engaged left to be married, and a third nurse was attracted to take up a post under the Tuberculosis Officer, so that it was not until August that settled plans of work could be carried out. Since then, I have planned the work so that my senior nurse could devote herself especially to

the care of those infants who were discovered to be ailing and were therefore especially in need of careful nursing. Miss Munro, my senior nurse, reports that since August to the end of the year, 35 babies were reported ill by the nurses who preside over their own districts, or by midwives, or by the parents. It is most essential that we should receive the earliest notice of any serious departure from health, and all the nurses on their first visits to the new babies are instructed to stress this point. Valuable time in calling in the doctor is sometimes lost, which the advice of the nurse would often prevent.

Of the 35 cases of illness reported, no less than 28 were restored to health. 7 deaths occurred, of which details are as follows:—2 died in Hospital, 3 were premature births, 2 were reported too late, and death occurred after the nurse's first visit.

In all, 229 special visits were given to the 35 cases, and four children have been provided with recommends for Victoria Hospital, when the home conditions have been such that removal to hospital was indicated.

Out of the 73 infant deaths, 17 died before nurse's first visit, 32 were not reported ill, 23 were reported ill, and one was found suffocated (newly born).

Maternity and Child Welfare.—This work is carried out by the Corporation through their officials. A special Committee of the Health Committee, along with five lady co-opted members with Alderman Rawson as their Chairman meets the second Thursday in the month at 2-45 p.m., to hear the reports of the Medical Officer and to transact any other business.

For all purposes, "Schools," "Health," and "Infant Welfare," the corporation employs four fully trained nurses. For the purpose of infant welfare and schools I have divided the Borough into three fairly equal portions, and one nurse takes a division under her care for school work, infant welfare work; and for any other circumstances that may arise she takes possession of her own district. The fourth nurse, my senior nurse, devotes herself almost entirely to infant welfare work, she is present every morning at the School Clinic from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., to attend to any child under school age; after this time she devotes

herself to visiting, giving advice, and helping with the nursing of all the babies who have been reported by their mother, or by one of the other nurses, as showing a departure from health.

The routine visiting of every baby born is carried out by the nurse in whose district it has occurred, and it is visited at least once a month until it is one year old. The nurse visiting impresses our desire to be notified of any departure from health so as to be able to advise as to the early calling in of their doctor, and to enable the senior nurse to visit the baby and help in its nursing and restoration to health ; so far, this plan has worked out quite well.

Notification of Births Act, 1917.—Notification has not been carried out better this year than previously, there is yet much laxness in this particular, as is shown by the accompanying table.

	Infants registered during 1919.	Infants born Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st. 1919.	Births notified.	Births not notified.
January	46	46	37	9
February	52	45	34	11
March	37	39	37	2
April	30	42	37	5
May	52	56	40	16
June	49	45	39	6
July	58	56	49	7
August	52	50	33	17
September	57	64	49	15
October	77	67	44	23
November	56	48	37	11
December	69	75	38	37
Outward transfers ...	5	...	...	...
	640	633	474	159

This table shows :—

- (1) Number of births registered.
- (2) Infants born.
- (3) Births notified during the first 36 hours.
- (4) Births not notified but found out later.

On Thursday afternoons from three until about five o'clock, the centre is open for mothers and infants, for the purpose of weighing and giving advice.

The following table gives an account of the visits paid by mothers to the Thursday afternoon meetings.

146 mothers	1 visit	146
72 "	2 "	144
42 "	3 "	126
24 "	4 "	96
17 "	5 "	85
10 "	6 "	60
11 "	7 "	77
7 "	8 "	56
8 "	9 "	72
5 "	10 "	50
1 "	11 "	11
2 "	12 "	24
3 "	13 "	39
3 "	14 "	42
1 "	17 "	17
1 "	18 "	18
2 "	19 "	38
1 "	20 "	20
1 "	21 "	21
1 "	24 "	24
1 "	26 "	26
<hr/>		<hr/>
359 mothers with		1192 visits.
<hr/>		<hr/>

Half of the visits were made by 58 different mothers, leaving 301 to account for the other half of the visits.

The streets from which the 58 women came are given below.

Burnley Road.	Water Street.
Wellington Street.	Whalley Road.
Scaitcliffe Street.	Bold Street.
Monk Street.	Avenue Parade.
Princess Street.	Manor Street.
Steiner Street.	Paxton Street.
Leyland Street.	Napier Street.
Mill Street, Baxenden.	Richmond Hill Street.
Beaconsfield Street.	Craven Street.
Nutter Road.	Cromwell Street.
Hopwood Street.	Ramsbottom Street.
Fountain Street.	Park Road.
Blackburn Road.	Lincoln Street.
Robert Nuttall Street.	Hudson Street.
Pansy Street.	Canning Street.
Willows Lane	Buxton Street.
Pendle Street.	Ranger Street.
Cedar Street.	Garbett Street.
Exchange Street.	William Street.
King's Road.	Union Street.
Royds Street.	Lime Street.
Dale Street.	Fox Street.
Lee Street.	

At this meeting the doctor is present for consultations in a little private room, the number of consultations given during the 8 months of this appointment amount to 96, advice was given on all sorts of matters affecting children.

The centre was open 45 times during the year, the average attendances being about 30. In addition to this there were 400 morning visits paid to the centre.

During the year 7,755 visits have been paid to the homes where infants were present, and 206 to expectant mothers.

Zymotic Diseases.—The seven principal Zymotic Diseases have caused 20 deaths, giving a Zymotic death-rate of .44. Measles 5, Typhoid Fever 0, Smallpox 0, Scarlet Fever 0, Diphtheria 11, and Whooping Cough 4.

We have no form of isolation except for Smallpox, but arrangements have been made with the Bury & District Joint Hospital to receive all cases which the Medical Officer of Health thinks desirable to have removed.

Scarlet Fever.—During the year 18 cases of this disease were reported, none proving fatal.

Measles.—Measles has been very prevalent during the year, 188 cases have been notified, and 5 deaths have resulted from it. The notification of this disease has been a great advantage, it has enabled me to have the cases visited by the nurse, and the seriousness of the complaint brought clearly before parents, and advice given as to the proper nursing and the prevention of complication. In this way, a great deal of suffering has been saved, and I hope many of the baneful after-results of this disease will have been prevented.

Typhoid Fever.—The Borough has been almost free from this disease, only two cases were notified, one at Russell Street, and the second at Hope Street. After the consultation with the doctor in attendance we deemed it advisable to have both cases removed to the Joint Hospital at Bury, and this was done. Both patients recovered, the rooms and beds they occupied were disinfected, and no further cases occurred. From the following table it will be noticed that 1919 has, as regards this disease, been a record both as regards prevalence and mortality.

Period.	Notified.	Deaths.	Case mortality per cent.
1891 to 1895	298	38	12.7
1896 to 1900	222	39	17.5
1901 to 1905	143	35	24.4
1906 to 1910	102	31	30.4
1911	15	8	53.3
1912	18	5	27.7
1913	22	6	27.2
1914	10	3	30.0
1915	12	6	50.0
1916	10	3	30.0
1917	6	1	16.6
1918	6	1	16.6
1919	2	...	...
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	866	176	20.3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Diphtheria.—This disease has been unusually prevalent during 1919, and has been of a very virulent nature. Of the 26 cases notified 11 have died. During the year 1920 the Council have allowed me to provide a stock of anti-diphtheretic serum free, to all doctors attending patients suspected of suffering from this disease in the Borough. This stock is kept at the Police Station, available at all times, night, day, and holidays. I feel confident that this provision will be a great advantage to the town. The efficacy of the serum towards bringing about a good result is in proportion to its earliness of application. If the doctor is not called in at the very beginning, the most valuable opportunity for administering this very reliable antidote is lost. A few hours may make a difference between success and death. 26 cases notified with 11 deaths is very dissatisfactory, the remedy from some cause has not had a fair chance.

Tuberculosis.—Tuberculous diseases of all kinds have been responsible for 38 deaths, as against 55 for 1918, and 51 for 1917. The death certificates indicate that 29 deaths were due to affections of the lungs, 2 to affections of the membrane of the brain, and the remaining 7 to affections of the other organs.

The following cases of Tuberculosis have been notified during the year.

52 cases of Tuberculosis of the Lungs, and
19 cases of other forms of Tuberculosis.

Cancer.—Cancer has caused 59 deaths, as against an average of 46 for the last 10 years.

Water Supply.—An uninterrupted supply of excellent water has been maintained throughout the Borough during the year.

Disinfecting Apparatus.—Our steam disinfecting apparatus is more than adequate for our needs, and continues to work satisfactorily.

Abattoirs.—The Public Abattoirs are regularly inspected, and are under the constant care of Mr. Walsh, who resides on the premises.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.—During the year 25 samples were purchase. in the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, of which the following are details :—

Articles Purchased.	Number Analysed.	FORMAL.		INFORMAL.		Refer. No.	Action taken.
		Genuine.	Not Genuine.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.		
Milk	21	21	...	...	...	...	...
Lard	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Mergarine	2	2	...	...	...	...	...
Total	25	25	...	...	...	...	...

PUBLIC HEALTH, MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912.

Milk and Cream sold as Preserved Cream :—

	Number of samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	Number in which a preservative was reported to be present.
Milk	21	Nil.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—The requirements of the regulations under the Dairies and Milkshops Order, have, with one exception, been completed at all the farms now occupied in the Borough. The farm buildings as regards lighting, air-space, and means of ventilation, are in a reasonably satisfactory condition.

**Proceedings taken in connection with the supervision of Factories,
Workshops, etc.**

1.—INSPECTION.

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS
OF NUISANCES.

PREMISES.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries).	2	...	...
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries).	84	...	...
WORKPLACES	101	...	...
TOTAL	187	...	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	Number of Defects			Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness.....	...	...	...	...
Want of Ventilation .....	...	...	...	...
Want of Drainage of Floors.....	...	...	...	...
Insufficient .....	...	...	...	...
Sanitary accommodation Unsuitable or Defective ...	1	1	...	...
Not separate for sexes ...	...	...	...	...
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—				
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouses (S. 10.) .....	...	...	...	...
Breach of Special Sanitary requirements for Bakehouses (SS. 97 to 100) .....	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	1	1	...	...

Table showing Birth and Death Rates in certain Towns in 1919.

NAME.	Population.	Birth Rate.	Death Rate.	Infants' Deaths per 1000 Births.	Zymotic Death Rate.	Respiratory Death Rate.	Phthisis Death Rate.	Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis.	Malignant Disease Death Rate.	Average Death Rate for the last 10 years.
Ashton-under-Lyne ...	45179	18.0	17.2	119.8	.5	4.3	.9	...	...	17.6
Blackburn	125992	14.0	15.9	94.6	.11	3.91	.92	.21	1.30	...
Burnley	102391	15.6	15.16	118.0	.61	2.92	.91	.31	1.00	16.0
Burton-on-Trent	49670	16.69	13.52	88.0	.29	1.76	.98	.21	1.34	...
Carlisle	57500	18.5	13.8	107.9	.03	1.0	.9	.3	.9	16.2
Clitheroe	12473	14.1	13.6	107.0	.16	2.92	.58	.33	1.08	14.0
Crewe	46561	16.2	10.9	54.9	.21	1.92	.53	.12	1.09	12.9
Darwen	39252	12.61	13.8	115	.19	3.05	.58	.18	1.22	15.07
Keighley.....	43250	14.90	13.95	101	.1	2.7	1.11	.3	1.44	14.4
Lancaster	38325	17.8	14.6	94	.35	2.71	1.14	.41	1.1	14.2
Padiham	12409	15.2	15.3	86	.24	...	.88	.32	1.04	15.5
Southport	70000	12.37	15.40	90	.33	2.34	.87	.20	1.44	14.35
Wigan	83944	24.44	16.79	117	.78	1.96	1.07	.18	.63	17.02
Oswaldtwistle	14369	15.96	15.65	133.89	.20	3.75	.48	.06	1.25	14.74
Clayton-le-Moors	8804	16.3	13.6	159	.23	2.1	.59	.2	1.3	14.6
Church	6744	18.8	14.8	149	...	4.0	.46	.64	.9	15.3
Accrington	45479	14.1	15.41	114.06	.44	2.95	.66	.20	1.35	14.10

TABLE (C).

COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1919.
BOROUGH OF ACCRINGTON.*Medical Officer of Health:—*

ARTHUR GREENHALGH, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. *Salary and Bonus as M.O.H., 31.12.1919* £150

Inspector of Nuisances:—

RICHARD DIGGLE, A.R.San.I. *Salary and Bonus as Inspector, 31.12.1919* £450

Is the Medical Officer of Health or Inspector of Nuisances away on Military Service?—No.

What is the character of the Hospital Accommodation?

For Small-pox.—Corrugated Iron Building.

For other Infectious Diseases.—Cases are removed to the Bury and District Joint Hospital, by agreement.

*Is it Joint or otherwise?—Small-pox Hospital belongs to Accrington. Annual fee paid for other cases removed to Bury Joint Hospital.

*If you have the joint use of Isolation Hospital belonging to some other Authority, state nature of "Agreement," or "Arrangement." Is any Retaining Fee paid?—Yes. Minimum—£150 per annum.

No. of Beds available for your District?

For Small-pox, 24. For other Infectious Diseases.—

How is Disinfection carried out?—By Corporation Officials.

No. of Houses disinfected?—75. Method? Formalin Spray and fumigation.

Are Houses disinfected after (a) Phthisis?—Yes. (b) Measles?—No.

† Apparatus used for Clothing, Bedding, &c. (steam or otherwise)? Steam

No. of Articles disinfected?—764.

Where is Apparatus situated? Hyndburn Road Depot, within the Dist.

‡ If Apparatus at Hospital is available, is it used for the disinfection of Clothing, Bedding, &c., of Patients *not* removed to the Hospital?—

If not, please state how disinfection of Clothing, &c., in these cases is carried out. Apparatus at Hyndburn Road deals with all clothing, bedding, &c., of patients *not* removed.

Are any Diseases not specifically mentioned in the Infectious Diseases Notification Act notifiable (for instance, Whooping Cough, Diarrhœa, Chicken Pox, &c.)?

If so, what are they? Pneumonia and Malaria.

Diseases specially prevalent?—Influenza and Measles.
Period?—Throughout the year.

No. of times School Closure adopted?—Nil. For what disease?—Nil.

‡ No. of Special Reports made under Art. XIX. (15 and 16) Sanitary Officers' Order, 1910?—Nil.

‡ Copies of Special Reports should be forwarded to the County Council under Art. XIX. (16).

Bacteriological Examinations. Specimens examined: Blood, Nil
Swabs, 3; Sputum, Nil; Milk, Nil; Others, Nil.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order, 1910.

Is a supply of Anti-toxin kept *within* the district?—Yes.

If so, where?—Police Office. Amount used during 1919? Considerable.

“The Housing Acts, 1890 to 1919”

Has your Authority determined the procedure to be adopted for the inspection of your District as required by Article I. of the Regulations of 2nd Sept., 1910? Yes

Has your Authority prepared, as required by Article I. (3) a list of dwelling-houses, the “early inspection of which is, in the opinion of the M.O.H., desirable”? Yes.

Has your Authority designated an officer to undertake the special inspection of houses and to keep the records stipulated by Articles (II.) and (III)? Yes.

What officer has been so designated?..... Inspector of Nuisances.

Have the necessary books, forms, &c., for keeping the required records been obtained and maintained? Yes.

Action taken in 1919 under the Housing Acts:—

Total No. of dwelling-houses inspected for purposes of the Housing Acts. (Not including inspections *re* Nuisances, &c. See note †.) Nil.

No. of Dwelling-houses specially inspected *under Sec. 17 of the Act of 1909. i.e.,* with a view to ascertaining whether any dwelling-houses are unfit for human habitation? Nil.

Have the *particulars* of these inspections, as specified in Article II. (1) to (8), and Article III. (1) to (8), of the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, been fully recorded? Nil.

No. of Dwelling-houses considered unfit for human habitation? Nil.

No. of Representations to Authority with a view to making Closing Orders? Nil.

No. of Closing Orders made? Nil.

No. of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied without making Closing Orders (under Section 15)? Nil.

No. of Dwelling-houses put into a fit state of habitation after making Closing Orders? Nil.

No. of Dwelling-houses demolished? Nil.

General character of defects found to exist? Nil.

NOTE.—The above particulars are required to be included in Medical Officers' Annual Reports by the Housing (Inspection of District Regulations), 1910.

† Visits to houses for purposes other than the Housing Acts should not be included here.

Is there a deficiency of housing accommodation? If so, where, and to what extent? Yes, slight.

Has a Housing Committee been appointed, as suggested in Memorandum of Ministry of Health, 7th August, 1919? Yes.

Are steps being taken under the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919, to meet the deficiency? What stage had been reached in this connection on 31st December, 1919?

The Housing Commissioner has granted an extension of 12 months within which a scheme has to be submitted.

Number of New Houses built during 1919?

By and at the cost of the District Council? Nil.

By private enterprise? Nil.

Source of the Water Supply—Dean Clough, Mitchell's, and Burnley Road Reservoirs, in addition to a copious supply of deep well water from Altham.

What is its condition? Good.

Possibilities of contamination? Nil.

Any insufficiency, and where? Nil.

Nature of extensions (if any) during the year? Nil.

Is Scavenging and Removal of House Refuse carried out satisfactorily for whole of district? Yes.

How performed (state whether by Sanitary Authority, Contract, or Occupiers of Houses?) Sanitary Authority.

If Privy Middens exist, are they emptied by day or night? Day.

How is the Refuse disposed of? Burnt.

Has a Destructor been provided?—Yes, Horsefall's 6-cell. If so, where? Off Argyle Street (within district).

Sewage Disposal Works. Method of Treatment? ..Bacterial Filter Beds.

What is the character of the Drainage System? Good

Any developments during year? Nil.

Areas, or Townships, without proper drainage system? ..Higher Baxenden.

Action taken—Drain Testing, Flushing, &c.? Application of smoke test.

Action taken with regard to the Pollution of Streams? Nil.

Canal Boats: Number Inspected? Nil.

Number of Infringements of Acts? Nil.

What is the condition of the Bakehouses? Good. No. ? 99.

What is the condition of the Slaughter-houses?.....Good. No. ? 3.

No. Registered? 3. No. Licensed? 3. Has a Public Abattoir been provided? Yes.

What is the condition of the Lodging-houses?.....Good. No. ? 3.
Are they Registered? Yes.

What is the Sanitary condition of the Schools?Good.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops—Are they periodically inspected? Yes.
What is their condition?Good.

Have Regulations been made under the Order of the L.G.B.? Yes.
Are they enforced?..... Yes.

Amount of air space in cubic feet required for each cow ?

(a) Where cows are habitually grazed ? 600

(b) Where cows are *not* habitually grazed?..... 800

Cowkeepers—

Total No. of Cowkeepers? 41 No. on Register? 41. No. of
Inspections during year? 123.

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers)

Total No. of Dairymen or Milk Purveyors? 14. No. on Register? 14

Any arrangements for veterinary inspection of dairy cows?

Veterinary Inspector appointed to examine all milk cows.

Action taken (if any) as to tuberculous milk? Nil.

Inspection of Food—Amount condemned or surrendered as unfit for
human consumption—

(a) Tuberculous carcasses and parts ?

(a) Carcasses, weight, 5,595-lbs., and the organs of 10 cattle.

(b) Diseased, unsound, or unwholesome meat (*other than above*) ?

(b) Carcasses, 5, includes 4 Calves, weight, 303-lbs. 1 Pig,
weight, 147-lbs. Parts of carcasses, Beef, 542-lbs.,
(including frozen), Mutton, 9,849-lbs. Veal, 5-lbs. Organs,
41 sets. Organs, parts of sets, Heads, 1, Livers, 9.

(c) Other food stuffs ?

(c) Eggs, 600; Dates, 517; Yeast, 64-lbs.? Tripe, 63-lbs. ;
Fish, 1,680-lbs.; Hams, 2,466; Milk, 7 tins; Shredded Wheat
36 packets; Fruit, &c., 81 tins; Poultry, 34 head.

Department of Inspector of Nuisances—

No. of Notices served? Informal, 108. Statutory, 39. No. of
Nuisances abated? 147.

No. of Legal Proceedings taken, and result? Nil.

Closets and Ashpits—

Privy Middens:—No. of Middens? 28. No. of Closets attached
to these Middens? 28. No. of Pail Closets? 977. No. of
Ashpits (*excluding Middens*)? 5,000 (estimated). No. of Fresh
Water Closets? 1,271. No. of Portable Receptacles for refuse?
1,697. No. of Waste Water Closets? 9,245.

No. of Privy Closets converted during 1919 ?

To Fresh W.C.'s Nil.

To Waste W.C.'s Nil.

To Pails, &c. ∴ Nil.

- No. of Pail Closets converted to
 Fresh W.C.'s Nil.
 Waste W.C.'s Nil.
- No. of Waste W.C.'s converted to Fresh W.C.'s Nil..
- Does Council contribute towards the cost of conversion? Yes
 If so, how much? Half-cost.
- What kind of closet accommodation is being provided for *new*
 property? Fresh water.
- Smoke—
- No. of Observations? Nil.
- No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result? Nil.
- What is the time limit allowed for the emission of black smoke
 per hour?
 1 Boiler, 3 minutes. 2 Boilers, 5 minutes. 3 Boilers, 7 minutes
- Has the Authority adopted—
- “The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890”? Yes.
 “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907”? No.
 “The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890”? Yes.
- Has a Health Visitor been appointed by the Local Council? Yes.
 State whether whole or part time? Whole time.
- Qualifications of Health Visitor?
 Three years general; three years fever training, and C.M.B. certificate.
- Has any, and if so what, action been taken by the Council respecting
 Child Welfare Work?
 A Committee has been appointed, and the Centre is working well
 under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health.
 The Notification of Births Act is in operation.
- Has any scheme been prepared in regard to the Supply of Food and Milk
 for Expectant and Nursing Mothers, and of Milk for Infants?
 Milk is supplied in necessitous cases.
- Is there a District Nursing Association in the District? Yes.
 How many District Nurses employed? 3
- If so, does any arrangement exist between the Council and the Associa-
 tion in respect of Child Welfare Work? No.
- If no such arrangement exists, does the Association voluntarily under-
 take Child Welfare Work? Yes.
- Notable Sanitary Improvements during 1919 Nil.
- Chief Sanitary requirements of District—Drainage of Higher Baxenden.

Signed, A. GREENHALGH,

April 30th, 1920,

Medical Officer of Health.

**DEATHS OF ACCRINGTON RESIDENTS.
CAUSES OF DEATH.**

	Males	Females
1. Enteric Fever .....	...	...
2. Small-Pox .....	...	...
3. Measles	2	3
4. Scarlet Fever .....	...	...
5. Whooping Cough	2	2
6. Diphtheria and Croup	4	7
7. Influenza	36	31
8. Erysipelas .....	...	...
9. Pulmonary Tuberculosis	17	12
10. Tuberculosis Meningitis	1	1
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	2
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease	34	25
13. Rheumatic Fever	1	3
14. Meningitis	2	2
15. Organic Heart Disease	29	43
16. Bronchitis	30	36
17. Pneumonia (all forms)	32	23
18. Other Respiratory Diseases	4	4
19. Diarrhœa, etc., (under 2 years)	1	...
20. Appendicitis and Typhlitis	2	2
21. Cirrhosis of Liver	1	...
21A. Alcoholism .....	...	...
22. Nephritis and Bright's Disease	10	8
23. Puerperal Fever .....	...	2
24. Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever .....	...	5
25. Congenital Debility, etc.	26	9
26. Violence, apart from Suicide	7	4
27. Suicide	1	1
28. Other Defined Diseases	103	91
29. Causes ill-defined or unknown	4	3
	354	319
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.	51	22
Total Births	307	333
Legitimate.....	295	313
Illegitimate	12	20

Population : For death-rate, 43,658 ; for birth-rate, 45,479.

DEATHS OF ACCINGTON RESIDENTS
CAUSED BY DEATH

Males Females

Year	Males	Females	Total
1901	1	1	2
1902	1	1	2
1903	1	1	2
1904	1	1	2
1905	1	1	2
1906	1	1	2
1907	1	1	2
1908	1	1	2
1909	1	1	2
1910	1	1	2
1911	1	1	2
1912	1	1	2
1913	1	1	2
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1915	1	1	2
1916	1	1	2
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1921	1	1	2
1922	1	1	2
1923	1	1	2
1924	1	1	2
1925	1	1	2
1926	1	1	2
1927	1	1	2
1928	1	1	2
1929	1	1	2
1930	1	1	2
1931	1	1	2
1932	1	1	2
1933	1	1	2
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1986	1	1	2
1987	1	1	2
1988	1	1	2
1989	1	1	2
1990	1	1	2
1991	1	1	2
1992	1	1	2
1993	1	1	2
1994	1	1	2
1995	1	1	2
1996	1	1	2
1997	1	1	2
1998	1	1	2
1999	1	1	2
2000	1	1	2

Deaths of all ages, 1901-1999: Males 1, Females 1, Total 2.

Sanitary Department.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1919.

RICHARD DIGGLE, Assoc. Royal San. Inst.,
Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TOWN HALL,
ACCRINGTON.

**To the Sanitary Authority
of the Borough of Accrington.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT, giving particulars of the work done by this Department during the year 1919.

Housing, Town Planning, etc. Acts, 1909-1919.

I regret that the increasing cost of building materials and labour has prevented structural improvements from being carried out under the above Housing Acts, the work done during the year being limited to the maintenance of existing conditions of property in a reasonable state of repair, and the prevention of nuisances.

Nuisances.

Under this head the most common nuisances occur in connection with waste-water closets, and these have received considerable attention.

Defective Gutter	1
„ Soil-pipe	1
„ Dis-connecting trap	1
„ Rain-water pipes	4
„ Ashpit doors	3
„ Ashtubs	1
„ Ashbins	2
„ Roof	1
„ Tippers to W. W.C.'s	78
Deficient ashpit doors	22
Blocked drains	8
Insufficient closet	1
Damp floor	1
Accumulation of manure	7
W. W.C.'s and drains unstopped by Corporation workmen	1640

Sanitary Conveniences.

The approximate number of each type is as follows :—

Fresh Water Closets.	Waste Water Closets.	Pail Closets.
1271	9245	977

Factory and Workshop Acts.

The inspection of Workshops has been carried out as in previous years. One complaint was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, and the matter referred to was remedied.

Diseases of Animals Acts.

The provisions of these Acts, so far as they relate to this Department, have been given the attention required.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order.

The whole of the Cowsheds in the Borough were visited at least twice during the year, and the premises found to be kept in a fairly satisfactory condition.

Notices were sent to every farmer in April and September, calling attention to the requirements as regards lime-washing, etc., and in every case the requirements were carried out.

Disinfection.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year :—

Measles	188
Scarlet Fever.....	18
Diphtheria	26
Typhoid Fever	2
Puerperal Fever	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	19
Erysipelas	8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	52
Other forms of Tuberculosis	19
Polimyelitis	1
Malaria	4

Each case was visited and instructions given as to the necessary precautions to be taken to prevent the spreading of the diseases. After the recovery or death of the patients, the houses were disinfected with Formaldehyde and the bedding, clothing, etc., taken away and treated in the steam disinfecter.

75 rooms, 764 articles of clothing and bedding, 170 books, and 4 schools were disinfected, and 211 articles of clothing and bedding destroyed.

School Inspection.

The Elementary Schools have been frequently inspected, especially during the Easter and July Holidays, when the periodical cleaning down is carried out. At such times the walls, etc., are swept down, and all furniture and floors are washed. It is a pleasure to report that the work has always been thoroughly carried out.

Slaughter Houses and Markets.

The Slaughter Houses and Markets have been kept under constant supervision, and the following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

15 Cattle, weight 5,595-lbs. ; the organs of 10 cattle ; other carcasses and parts, including frozen, weight, 10,846-lbs. ; other foodstuffs include Eggs, 600 ; Dates, 517-lbs. ; Yeast, 64-lbs. ; Tripe, 63-lbs. ; Fish, 1,680-lbs. ; Hams, 2,466-lbs. ; Milk, 7 tins ; Shredded Wheat, 36 packets ; Fruit, etc., 81 tins ; Poultry, 34 head.

During the year, 4,294 Beasts, 513 Calves, 14,330 Sheep and Lambs, and 644 Pigs have been slaughtered at the Corporation Abattoirs.

Offensive Trades.

The premises used for offensive trades are frequently inspected, and the businesses have been conducted during the year in a satisfactory manner.

Lodging Houses.

The four Lodging Houses have been frequently inspected, all of which are well conducted and kept in accordance with the Bye-laws, and without cause for complaint.

Removal of House and Shop Refuse.

The number of dwellings in the Borough is estimated at 11,234, and the amount of refuse collected and removed to the Destructor was 12,178 tons, 17 cwts., 2 qrs., and 2,410 tons (est.) deposited on various tips, giving an average of 25 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwts. of refuse per house.

The following table shows the cost of collection for the past five years :—

Year.	By Horse Vehicles.				By Electric Vehicle.					
	Av. Weight			Cost	Av. Weight			Cost		
	per load.	per ton.		per load.	per ton.		per ton.			
	T.	C.	Q.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	s.	d.
1919.....	1	17	3	4	9.5	2	4	3	4	5.5
1918.....	1	17	3	3	9.2	2	1	1	3	11.3
1917.....	1	13	2	3	2.5	2	4	0	3	1.2
1916.....	1	9	3	2	10.7	The Electric Vehicle was purchased in May, 1917.				
1915.....	1	9	3	2	7.0					
1914.....	1	10	2	2	5.1					

The total cost of collection and destruction of all refuse in 1914, was £2,281 13s. 7d., which works out to 4/- per ton, as compared with £4,929 4s. 4d., or 8s. 1.1d. per ton in 1919.

Costs are given in detail on the last page of my report.

The number of refuse receptacles emptied during the year is as follows :—

Ashpits.	Ashtubs.	Ashbins.
34,648	5,087	44,666

Average number of applications received daily for ash receptacles to be emptied :—

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
2.96	5.08	5.50	8.46	10.18	6.28	4.44	3.80	2.0	2.7	3.64	5.11

Lime Washing.

Lime washing is often neglected for want of materials, and to encourage householders to carry out this work where necessary, brushes are lent out on application at the Health Office. A deposit of 2/6 is left on the brush, and a charge of 2d. per day is made until the brush is returned. Brushes have been lent out 421 times during the year.

Street Scavenging.

The number of men on the regular street cleansing staff is 28. Horse machine brushes are worked during the night, for sweeping the main roads, a gang of men following the machine, and the sweepings being collected and carted to the Depot. 16 men with handcarts are engaged in different parts of the town collecting the usual street litter.

These men are also engaged one day per week collecting vegetable refuse from houses on their respective routes.

In addition to the refuse collected by handcarts, 1,549 loads of sweepings, and 1,128 loads of refuse from street gullies have been collected.

The wages for this Department during the year amounted to £3,232 10s. 10d., as against £1,664 2s. 10d. in 1914.

Salvage.

The outstanding feature of the year has been the work in connection with the collection and utilization of waste.

During the war, the National Salvage Council did much good work in stimulating the collecting of waste material and advising as to effective disposal. In my opinion, the work of salvage is always necessary; the shortage of materials makes all kinds of waste valuable, thus, salvage helps in some measure to benefit the community.

Vegetable refuse is collected separately from householders weekly. This material is utilised in the feeding of pigs, and any surplus is dried, minced and stored for future use.

All meat condemned as unfit for human food has been treated in a suitable plant; after the fat has been extracted, an excellent food is prepared which is suitable for cattle and poultry.

An arrangement is in force between the neighbouring Authorities of Oswaldtwistle, Church, Blackburn and Darwen for the fish waste collected, to be treated at Accrington.

Old tins sorted from house refuse have been treated and sold for re-manufacture.

Other material sorted from refuse, together with the residuals, etc., from the Destructors are shown in the following table :—

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	38	0	0	6	105	12	8			
String	0	3	2	5	1	4	10			
Scrap Tins	51	0	1	0	177	5	5			
Light Scrap Iron	0	6	3	0	1	0	3			
Galvanised Scrap	5	4	0	0	8	9	0			
Solder	0	0	1	8	2	14	0			
Metal Polish Tins— (2135 in number)	0	3	2	24	3	14	3			
Glass	7	11	1	27	13	10	4			
Jars and Bottles— (4,485 in number)	...	...	...	...	11	19	6			
Rags	1	11	3	15	11	9	3			
Bones	1	16	2	2	14	6	8			
Fat	2	6	1	22	207	2	8			
Crude Fish Oil	1	14	3	13	74	5	7			
Fish Meal	104	13	1	20	1742	15	1			
Fish Bone Meal	0	4	0	0	4	12	0			
Vegetable Meal	1	7	0	0	20	5	0			
Meat Meal	1	18	1	15	42	8	8			
Pig Hair	0	5	1	9	8	14	1			
Manure (Street sweepings, etc.)	588	5	1	0	173	16	8			
								2625	5	11
Mortar	1918	17	3	0	859	19	4			
Clinker	198	13	1	0	50	2	2			
Calorific Power-refuse burnt	12178	17	2	0	600	0	0			
								1510	1	6
Total amount realised					£4135	7	5			
1918.....					£1879	8	0			
1917.....					£1425	18	11			
1916.....					£1261	7	1			

**Amount of Refuse, and Cost of Collecting and Destroying
same for the Year ended 31st December, 1919.**

				Average Per weight. load.		
	T.	C.	Q.	T.	C.	Q.
By Team Labour.						
4689 loads of Domestic Refuse..	8853	12	2	1	17	3
190 „ Market Refuse ...	117	3	1	0	12	2
Fish and Trade Refuse	723	17	3			
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	9694	13	2			
By Electric Vehicle.						
1051 loads of Domestic Refuse..	2361	16	0	2	4	3
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
By Petrol Vehicle.						
117 loads of Domestic Refuse..	122	8	0	1	0	3
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Total weight of Refuse brought to Destructors	12178	17	2			
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Cost of Collection by Horses :—						Per
Domestic Refuse only (8853 tons)	£	s.	d.	s.	d.	ton.
Wages	673	10	6	1	6.2	„
Team Labour	1451	5	0	3	3.3	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
(Weight Bonus of £31 3s. 8d. included).....	2124	15	6	4	9.5	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Cost of Collection by Electric Vehicle :—						
Domestic Refuse only (2361 tons)						
Wages	378	6	5	3	2.4	„
Running Costs : 1344 hrs	148	12	3	1	3.1	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
(Weight Bonus of £7 10s. 4d. included).....	526	18	8	4	5.5	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Cost of Collection by Petrol Vehicle :—						
Domestic Refuse only (122 tons)						
Wages	19	5	6	3	1.9	„
Running Costs : 103½ hrs.	12	10	1	2	0.6	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
(Weight Bonus of 8/- included)	31	15	7	5	2.5	„
Cost of Destruction—						
All Refuse (12178 tons) ...	2245	14	7	3	8.2	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
Total Cost of Collection and Destruction	4929	4	4	8	1.1	„
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

Pig Keeping.

Under the heading of Salvage in this report, reference is made to vegetable waste being utilised for pig feeding. The following statement goes to show that the depositing of vegetable waste in ashbins is matter in the wrong place.

Pig Account for the year ended 31st Dec., 1919.

EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.
Live stock purchased (44)		238	7	3
Food		377	11	5
Bedding, etc.		31	13	0
Wages and Team Labour		286	19	5
Alterations, repairs, etc.		34	2	0
Utensils		8	17	3
		<hr/>		
		977	10	4
Value of live stock and food at 31st Dec., 1918.....		970	16	0
Balance		303	3	4
		<hr/>		
		£2251	9	8
		<hr/> <hr/>		
RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
Store Pigs sold (28).....		124	14	0
Pigs sold for slaughter		1621	1	5
Miscellaneous receipts		47	9	3
		<hr/>		
		1793	4	8
Value of live stock and food, at 31st Dec., 1919		458	5	0
		<hr/>		
		£2251	9	8
		<hr/> <hr/>		

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

RICHARD DIGGLE,

Inspector of Nuisances.

