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Contributors

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ALSAGER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORT FOR THE
YEAR 1939.

To the Chairman and Members of the Alsager Urban District Council.
Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I beg to present my annual Report for 1939.

A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

AREA	2241 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of the Resident population in 1939.	3020
Comparability factor Census (1931).	0.89 2852
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to the Rate Books.	944
Rateable Value.	£17,276
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£66 . 7 . 7.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS OF THE INHABITANTS.

There are no industries of any importance carried on within the area, which is chiefly agricultural.

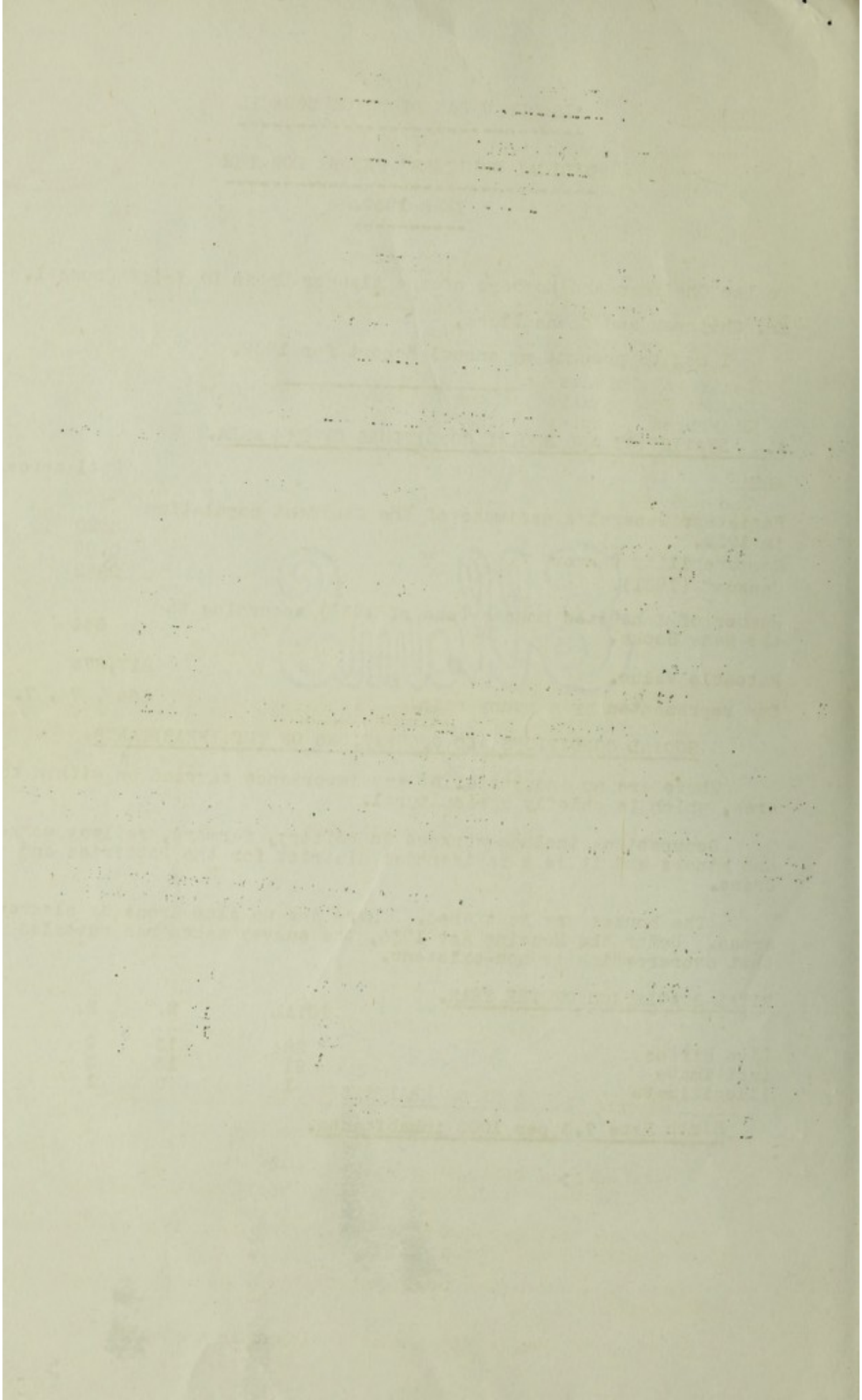
Occupations include workers in pottery, farmers, railway workers and miners and it is a residential district for the Potteries and Crewe.

The houses are scattered. There are no slum areas or clearance areas. Under the Housing Act 1936, the survey taken has revealed that overcrowding is non-existent.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	TOTAL	M.	F.
Live Births	22	13	9
Legitimate	21	13	8
Illegitimate	1	0	1

Birth Rate 7.3 per 1000 inhabitants.



<u>DEATHS.</u>	TOTAL	M.	F.
Transferable deaths from outside the area. Returns for 1st 3 quarters.	10	5	5
Within the area.	29	13	16

Total deaths 39.

Death Rate. per 1000 inhabitants 12.01.

Deaths from puerperal sepsis.	0
Other puerperal causes.	0
Deaths of infants under 1 year.	2
Deaths from measles, whooping cough or infantile Diarrhrea (under 2 years)	0

AGES AT DEATH

Under 1 year	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
30 - 40	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
40 - 50	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
50 - 60	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
60 - 70	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10
70 - 80	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	12
Over 80	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
Over 90	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
									TOTAL	<u>39</u>

CAUSES OF DEATH

Prematurity	1
Heart Disease	14
Senility	3
Lung Disease	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	5
Influenza	1
Cancer	4
Diabetes	1
Accident	1
Broncho Pneumonia	2
Cerebral Tumour	1
Enlarged Prostate	2
Kidney Disease	1
Pernicious Anaemia	1
Osteo Myelitis	1
	<u>39</u>

B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers for the Authority.

1. Medical Officer of Health.
2. Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (combined office)

These are both part-time officers and have held office for 18 years and 32 years respectively.

There is a part-time temporary District Medical Officer (Public Assistance).

There is no Public Vaccinator resident in the area.

Year	Male	Female	Total
1950	10	10	20
1951	10	10	20
1952	10	10	20
1953	10	10	20
1954	10	10	20
1955	10	10	20
1956	10	10	20
1957	10	10	20
1958	10	10	20
1959	10	10	20
1960	10	10	20

Total deaths 50
 Deaths from pneumonia, meningitis, whooping cough or influenza
 Deaths from measles (under 2 years)
 Deaths from other causes
 Deaths from unknown causes

Age at Death	Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-19 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years	35-39 years	40-44 years	45-49 years	50-54 years	55-59 years	60-64 years	65-69 years	70-74 years	75-79 years	80-84 years	85-89 years	90-94 years	95-99 years	Total
Under 1 year	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
1-4 years		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
5-9 years			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
10-14 years				1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
15-19 years					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
20-24 years						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
25-29 years							1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
30-34 years								1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
35-39 years									1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
40-44 years										1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
45-49 years											1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
50-54 years												1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
55-59 years													1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
60-64 years														1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
65-69 years															1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20
70-74 years																1	1	1	1	1	1	20
75-79 years																	1	1	1	1	1	20
80-84 years																		1	1	1	1	20
85-89 years																			1	1	1	20
90-94 years																				1	1	20
95-99 years																					1	20
Total	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	400

Cause of Death	Number
Scarlet fever	1
Measles	14
Diphtheria	3
Whooping cough	1
Cerebral meningitis	8
Influenza	1
Cancer	14
Diabetes	1
Heart disease	1
Stroke	1
Chronic bronchitis	1
Cerebral tumor	1
Alcohol poisoning	1
Unknown disease	1
Fatal unknown disease	1
Other	1
Total	50

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. Public Health Officer for the Area

2. Medical Officer of Health

3. Sanitary and Sanitary Inspector (combined office)

There are both part-time officers and have held office for 18 years and 33 years respectively.

There is a part-time temporary District Medical Officer (Public Assistance).

There is no Public Vaccinator resident in the area.

2. (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The usual arrangements are in force. The Pathological Department of the Royal Infirmary, Chester is available for all forms of bacteriological examination.

(b) Ambulance Facilities.

There is no Ambulance kept in the District but a motor Ambulance can be obtained without delay from neighbouring Authorities, such as the Urban District of Sandbach, the Urban District of Kids Grove, the Boroughs of Crewe or Newcastle or the City of Stoke-on-Trent.

The Nursing Fund have an arrangement with the Sandbach motor ambulance whereas for the sum of £2 per annum, they supply vouchers up to that amount for the conveyance of poor patients at a cheaper rate.

(c) Nursing in the home.

There has been no change in the arrangements in the area for general nursing. The salary of the part-time District Nurse is maintained by public subscriptions to the Alsager Sick Nursing Fund, which is affiliated with the County Association and is administered by a Committee of your Council.

There are no arrangements for nursing infectious diseases and none are required as the patients are removed to Congleton Isolation Hospital, unless private isolation can be provided.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.

These are as mentioned in previous reports.

The Infant Welfare Centre, held at Alsager every two weeks has been well attended and has proved a useful addition to the Health Services of the Area.

(e) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary.

Subsidized by the Sanitary Authority or by the County Council.

1. Fever. The West Heath Sanatorium, near Congleton.
Accommodation for infectious diseases is sufficient and arrangements quite satisfactory.
2. Small-pox. The Infirmary, Arclid. (not opened at present).
3. Tuberculosis. (1) The Cheshire Joint Sanatorium, near Market Drayton.
(2) The Convalescent Colony at Wrenbury Hall.
4. Orthopaedic. An orthopaedic centre is held at Crewe every Monday to deal with these cases at which an orthopaedic specialist attends at intervals. He will arrange for special treatment when necessary. This is provided by the County Council.

Hospital treatment at the North Staffs. Royal Infirmary and the Cripples Aid Society Hospital is also available.

5. Mental Disease. The County Mental Hospital at Parkside, Macclesfield.

6. There is no maternity Hospital for the District. Cases of

2. (a) Laboratory facilities.

The usual arrangements are in force. The pathological department of the Royal Infirmary, Chester is available for all forms of bacteriological examination.

(b) Antigenic substances.

Antigenic substances kept in the District but a stock list can be obtained without delay from neighbouring Authorities, such as the Urban District of Sandbach, the Urban District of Knutsford, the Borough of Crewe or Newcastle or the City of Stoke-on-Trent.

The Council have an arrangement with the Sandbach Motor Vehicle Works for the use of £2 per annum, they supply vouchers up to that amount for the conveyance of poor patients at a charge of 10p.

(c) Nurses in the home.

There has been no change in the arrangements in the area for general nursing. The salary of the part-time District Nurse is maintained by public subscriptions to the Alnester Sick Nursing Fund, which is affiliated with the County Association and is administered by a Committee of your Council.

There are no arrangements for nursing infectious diseases and cases are referred as the patients are removed to Congleton Isolation Hospital, whilst private isolation can be provided.

(d) Clinics and treatment centres.

There are no changes in previous reports.

The Infant Welfare Centre, said at a recent meeting every year has been well attended and has proved a useful addition to the Health Services of the Area.

(e) Hospitals, Public and Voluntary.

Established by the Sanitary Authority or by the County Council.

1. Asylum. The West North Sanatorium, near Congleton. Institution for infectious diseases is sufficient and arrangements quite satisfactory.

2. Asylum. The Infirmary, Aycliffe (not opened for present).

3. Tuberculosis. (1) The Chestnut Grove Sanatorium, near Market Harborough.

(2) The Government Colony at Wrenbury Hall.

4. Orthopaedic. An orthopaedic centre is held at Crewe every Monday to deal with those cases in which an orthopaedic specialist attends at intervals. He will attend for special treatment when necessary. This is provided by the County Council.

Hospital treatment at the North Staffs. Royal Infirmary and the Crisples Aid Society Hospital is also available.

5. Mental Illness. The County Mental Hospital at Leekdale, Leekdale.

6. There is no maternity hospital for the district. Cases of

puerperal fever are received by the North Staffs. Royal Infirmary and provision for specialist and hospital services is made for them under the County Council Scheme. Provision may also be made by the County Council for certain maternity cases to be received into the Linden Grange Maternity Hospital, Crewe.

7. The North Staffs. Royal Infirmary provides all other forms of Hospital treatment and is subscribed to by voluntary contribution from the District.

Midwifery Services.

A maternity nurse has been appointed by the County Council to provide domiciliary service in the District, in pursuance of the Midwives Act 1936.

She resides within the Urban District of Alsager.

MORTUARY.

Arrangements have been made, where post-mortem examinations have been ordered, for Messrs. Hilditch & Son of Sandbach to convey the bodies from Alsager to Arclid Mortuary by motor hearse at a charge of 25/- for each completed journey, any assistance required other than that of the driver to be an addition fee not exceeding 10/-.

The County Council and the Coroner have approved the arrangement and the charges.

Further arrangements have been made with the Guardians Committee for the taking of bodies to the Mortuary at Arclid in cases of fatal accidents occurring in the Alsager District.

C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER: A satisfactory supply of water has been maintained from the Audley Road Pumping Station. The No. 1 Pump is however not as efficient or productive as the No. 2 and it has had to be taken out and examined and although no fault was apparent the yield has been temporarily increased.

The filtration and softening plants are working satisfactorily. There is no reason to suspect that the quality of the water has been anything but satisfactory and an analysis early in 1940 confirms this.

The water supply to a few houses in Lawton Road, referred to in my previous report has been improved in one case; the remainder appear to have accepted the present conditions.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

This is satisfactory there were no important changes during the year.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

These are efficient and frequent analysis have shown "a stable sewage".

CLOSET ACCOMODATION.

No alteration has taken place.

THE REFUSE DUMP.

Regular supervision is exercised and covering up of the face

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of the tip is carried out as required.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action taken or necessary.

FARMS AND DAIRIES.

Regular inspections have shown no cause for complaint.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

- | | |
|--|-----|
| (a) Number of inspections made during the year | 346 |
| (b) Number of notices served during the year | 91 |
| Informal Notices (dwelling houses) | 30 |
| General Notices (general nuisances) | 61 |
- (c) The results of the service of such notices was the abatement of the nuisances.

SCHOOLS.

No change has taken place since my last report, disinfecting by spraying has taken place.

D.

H O U S I N G

Number of new houses erected during the year.

TOTAL 7.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| 1. By the Local Authority. | 0. |
| 2. By other Authorities. | 0. |
| 3. By other bodies or persons. | 7. |

HOUSING STATISTICS

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:-

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1a. Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts). | 20 |
| b. Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 64 |
| 2a. Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925. | 7 |
| b. Number of inspections made for the purpose. | 13 |
| 3. Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. | 0 |
| 4. Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. | 3 |
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers. 20

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:-

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936. | 0 |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts | 0 |
| (c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936. | 0 |
| (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act 1936. | 0 |

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4. Housing Act 1936 Part IV Overcrowding.

- (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. 0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. 0
(c) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report. NONE

E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The various Dairies, slaughterhouses, shops and other places where food is prepared and sold have been systematically inspected and any small defect or default discovered has been remedied by informal notice.

Carcasses were also inspected and in one case it was necessary to condemn the animal slaughtered.

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD

This may be carried out at the laboratory of the Royal Infirmary, Chester.

E PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Notifiable infectious Disease during the year 1939.

There were 19 cases of notifiable disease (including Tuberculosis) as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	9
Diphtheria	3
Pneumonia	4
Typhoid (suspected)	1
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	1
Tuberculosis (Non-pulmonary)	1
TOTAL	<u>19</u>

The cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and suspected Typhoid were sent into West Heath Sanatorium.

No death occurred from any infectious disease.

The prevalence of Cancer is not abnormal. There were 4 deaths from it, which is below the average rate.

Disinfection of premises, which have been exposed to infection is carried out by the Local Authority. Bedding, clothing etc. are removed to the West Heath Sanatorium for disinfection.

A motor ambulance is provided from there for the conveyance of patients to and from the West Heath Sanatorium.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Blindness) Regulations 1925, or under section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925 or section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

- (a) Number of deaths reported during the year.
- (b) Number of new cases of disease reported during the year.
- (c) Age and sex distribution of cases.

INVESTIGATION AND CONTROL OF DISEASE

The various types of diseases, epidemics, and other diseases were investigated and control measures were taken. The results of the investigation and control measures are given in the following table.

The following table shows the number of cases of disease reported during the year 1958.

NUMBER OF CASES OF DISEASE REPORTED DURING THE YEAR 1958

This table is divided into two parts, the first part showing the number of cases of disease reported during the year 1958, and the second part showing the number of cases of disease reported during the year 1957.

TABLE 1. NUMBER OF CASES OF DISEASE REPORTED DURING THE YEAR 1958

There were 10 cases of bacterial diseases (including tuberculosis) as follows:-

Scarlet fever	1
Diphtheria	1
Whooping cough	1
Typhoid (unspecified)	1
Typhoid (intestinal)	1
Typhoid (non-intestinal)	1
Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary)	1
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	1
Total	10

The cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria and whooping cough were all reported during the year 1958.

No cases of bacterial diseases were reported during the year 1957.

The following table shows the number of cases of disease reported during the year 1957.

The following table shows the number of cases of disease reported during the year 1957.

A more detailed investigation is provided for the purpose of the control of the disease.

The action was taken under the Public Health (Investigation of Diseases) Regulations 1957, or subsequent amendments of the Public Health Act 1936 or subsequent amendments of 1957.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Your Council have agreed to supply the necessary material to those who are unable to pay for it and the names of such are to be submitted to the Council.

26 children were immunised after the epidemic of 1938 and a record kept on special cards.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY P. HARPUR. M.D.

October 18th 1940.

DIVISION OF HEALTH

Your Council have agreed to supply the necessary material to those who wish to pay for it and the names of such are to be submitted to the Council.

25 children were immunized after the epidemic of 1938 and a record kept on special cards.

I am,

Very faithfully,

HENRY P. HARRIS, M.D.

October 12th 1940