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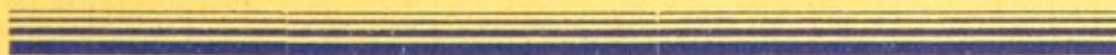


BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

For the Year . . . 1943





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BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health

For the Year

1943

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J. Andrew & Co. Ltd., Printers, Market Square, Ashton-under-Lyne

# Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne

## 1943

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### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

**Chairman:** Alderman Sheard, J.P.

**Deputy-Chairman:** Councillor Hague.

The Mayor, Aldermen Arnold, Flowers and Massey, J.P.,  
Councillors M. Green, J. J. Green, J.P., Hannan, Higginbotham  
Ibbotson and Mrs. Mamourian, J.P.

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### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

**Chairman:** Councillor Farley.

**Deputy-Chairman:** Councillor Mrs. Mamourian, J.P.

The Mayor, Aldermen Arnold and Flowers,  
Councillors M. Green, Hall, Hannan and Oldham,  
Mrs. M. E. Wild, J.P., and Mr. F. G. Ralphs.

TOWN HALL CHAMBERS,  
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

**TO THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF  
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**

MR. MAYOR, MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit an abbreviated report on the health of the Borough for the year 1943.

The increased Birth Rate, the continued low Infant Mortality and Maternal Mortality Rates are of interest.

A mild epidemic of Influenza occurred towards the middle of November. It was of short duration, declining rapidly.

The Adoption of Children (Regulations), 1939, came into force on the 1st June, 1943.

The Care of Illegitimate Children received consideration.

Steps were taken to improve the general standard of cleanliness and habits and to combat infestation by head-lice in children under 5 years of age. An additional Health Visitor was appointed.

In February the Scabies Clinic was transferred to the Cleansing Station at the Town's Yard.

The Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign was continued, and at the end of the year—

53.01% of the Pre-School Children and  
69.31% of the School Children were completely immunised.

The Education Committee established a War-time Nursery Class at Trafalgar School and another at Elgin Street School.

The work at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Sunlight and Orthopædic Clinics has again been highly satisfactory.

For the various rates I would refer you to the appropriate sections of the Report.

Commending this report to your notice,

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

MARY EVANS,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

# Staff of the Health Department

## MEDICAL.

**Alan S. Simpson, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,** Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Maternity and Child Welfare Officer, Superintendent of Infectious Diseases Hospital. (Now serving with H.M. Forces.)

**Mary Evans, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,** Acting Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, and Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare.

**John Edward Dovey, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M., & H.,** Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer. (Resigned 31/5/1943).

**Stella M. Jones (Mrs.), B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.,** Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer. (Appointed 3/8/1943).

## SANITARY INSPECTORS.

**C. Sykes Handforth, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., M.Inst.P.C.,** Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

**Herbert Hunter, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,** Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

**W. L. Barnsley, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,** Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc. (Resigned 4/1/1943).

**J. Kay, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,** Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

**C. F. Spencer, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,** Additional Sanitary Inspector Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, etc. (Appointed 1/4/1943).

## HEALTH VISITORS.

**Nurse Parkinson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Superintendent)**

„ **Chamberlain, S.R.N., S.C.M. H.V. Cert.**

„ **Weir, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Brett, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Resigned 27/11/43).**

„ **Cleary, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Schofield, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.**

„ **Wrigley, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (App. 11/10/43).**

## CLERKS.

**C. Sharples, A. Hartley, E. McCabe, P. Crook** (now serving in Women's Land Army), **M. Bills,** Temporary Junior Clerk. (Appointed 30/8/43).

# Extracts from Vital Statistics

|  | M.  | F.  | Total. |
|--|-----|-----|--------|
| Total Live Births ... ..                     | 435 | 369 | 804    |
| Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population | ... | ... | 18.0   |

|                     | M. | F. | Total. |
|---------------------|----|----|--------|
| Still Births ... .. | 15 | 15 | 30     |

|  | M.  | F.  | Total. |
|--|-----|-----|--------|
| Deaths ... ..  | 341 | 343 | 684    |
| Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population | ... | ... | 15.3.  |

|                               | Deaths | Rate per 1,000<br>total live and<br>still births |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| Puerperal Sepsis ... ..       | 1      | 1.1  |
| Other Puerperal Causes ... .. | 1      | 1.1  |
|                               | —      | —  |
|                               | 2      | 2.2  |
|                               | —      | —  |

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age ... .. 39

Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—

\* All Infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 48

# Causes of Death

## during the Year 1943.

|   | M.  | F.  | Total |
|---|-----|-----|-------|
| Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..   | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..   | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Scarlet Fever ... ..  | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Whooping Cough ... ..   | 1   | 1   | 2     |
| Diphtheria ... ..   | 5   | 1   | 6     |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..   | 15  | 6   | 21    |
| Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..  | 2   | 3   | 5     |
| Syphilitic Disease ... ..   | 2   | 0   | 2     |
| Influenza ... ..  | 5   | 13  | 18    |
| Measles ... ..  | 0   | 1   | 1     |
| Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...                                     | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..  | 1   | 0   | 1     |
| M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus<br>(Males only) ... ..                  | 6   | 0   | 6     |
| F. Cancer of Uterus ... ..  | 0   | 10  | 10    |
| Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..   | 9   | 7   | 16    |
| Cancer of Breast ... ..   | 0   | 12  | 12    |
| Cancer of all other sites (with 3 Sub. groups)                                    | 33  | 19  | 52    |
| Diabetes ... ..   | 1   | 3   | 4     |
| Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..   | 24  | 32  | 56    |
| Heart Disease (with 4 Sub. groups) ... ..   | 95  | 119 | 214   |
| Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ...                                      | 5   | 2   | 7     |
| Bronchitis ... ..   | 41  | 30  | 71    |
| Pneumonia ... ..  | 19  | 12  | 31    |
| Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..   | 3   | 0   | 3     |
| Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ...   | 4   | 1   | 5     |
| Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..   | 3   | 2   | 5     |
| Appendicitis... ..  | 0   | 0   | 0     |
| Other Digestive Diseases (with 4 Sub.<br>groups) ... ..                           | 3   | 14  | 17    |
| Nephritis ... ..  | 8   | 9   | 17    |
| Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis (with<br>2 Sub. groups) ... ..                 | 0   | 1   | 1     |
| Other Maternal Causes (with 2 Sub. groups)  | 0   | 1   | 1     |
| Premature Birth ... ..  | 5   | 2   | 7     |
| Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury,<br>Infantile Disease (with 2 Sub. groups) | 5   | 3   | 8     |
| Suicide ... ..  | 3   | 1   | 4     |
| Road Traffic Accidents ... ..   | 1   | 2   | 3     |
| Other Violent Causes ... ..   | 13  | 7   | 20    |
| All Other Causes (with 14 Sub. groups) ...  | 29  | 29  | 58    |
|   | 341 | 343 | 684   |

# Notification of Births

(Public Health Act, 1936, Section 203).

The Act requires that all births occurring in the area of Ashton-under-Lyne (after the 28th week of pregnancy, whether alive or still) shall be sent to the Medical Officer of Health within 36 hours of the birth. All births occurring within the area are, therefore, notified to me whether the parent is a resident or a non-resident of Ashton-under-Lyne.

|                               |          |                                |  | Total<br>Notified | Ashton<br>Residents |
|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| Number of<br>Live Births...   | Notified | Male ... 1005<br>Female... 895 |  | 1900              | 789                 |
| Number of<br>Still Births ... | Notified | Male ... 40<br>Female... 30    |  | 70                | 28                  |
| By Institutions:—             |          |                                |  |                   |                     |
| Lake Hospital ... ..          |          |                                |  | 1309              |                     |
| District Infirmary ... ..     |          |                                |  | 325               |                     |
| Nursing Homes ... ..          |          |                                |  | 54                |                     |
| Midwives ... ..               |          |                                |  | 278               |                     |
| Doctors ... ..                |          |                                |  | 4                 |                     |
|                               |          |                                |  | <hr/> 1970 <hr/>  |                     |

Notifications received by Department included above, but transferred elsewhere 1153.

Total Notified Births allocated to Ashton-under-Lyne ... 817

|  |   |        |
|--|---|--------|
| Percentage of Total Notified Births (Live and Still) received from ..... | (a) Institutions & Nursing Homes ... .. | 85.68% |
|  | (b) Municipal Midwives .                | 14.11% |
|  | (c) Doctors ... ..                      | .21%   |

## MIDWIVES PRACTISING IN THE AREA.

There were five midwives practising in the area during 1943, and all five were Municipal Midwives appointed by the Lancashire County Council.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

### ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

|                         |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----|
| Maternal Mortality Rate | Puerperal Sepsis ... .. | 1.1 |
| (per 1,000 Total Births | Other Puerperal Causes  | 1.1 |
| i.e., Live and Still).  |                         | —   |
|                         |                         | 2.2 |
|                         |                         | —   |

There were two Maternal Deaths in Ashton during the year. The cause of death in one case was Ante-partum Hæmorrhage, due to lateral placenta prævia, and in the other operative shock after Cæsarian Section (twin pregnancy). Both patients had received regular Ante-Natal treatment. The deaths were unavoidable.

### ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

This Clinic is held every Friday afternoon, one week at Enville House Centre and the following week at Richmond Street Centre.

Fifty-two sessions were held during 1943, and 181 expectant mothers made 997 attendances.

An increasing number of patients now enter Hospitals and Maternity Homes for their confinements. Many of these do not attend the Borough Ante-Natal Clinic, but prefer to make private arrangements with the family doctor and hospital.

### POST NATAL CLINICS.

This Clinic is held on the first Thursday afternoon in the month at Enville House Centre. There were 10 sessions in the year and the number of patients who attended was 66.

### SUPPLY OF TRANSFUSION FLUIDS FOR MATERNITY CASES.

Arrangements were made with the Blood Transfusion Officer for the Supply of Transfusion Services in certain obstetric emergencies. Any doctor practising in the area requiring transfusion fluids for a maternity case has been advised to communicate with Dr. Thomas, the Obstetric Consultant appointed

for the Borough. Dr. Thomas is also the Medical Superintendent of the Lake Hospital and has immediate access day and night to their Blood Bank.

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## War-Time Nurseries

Two Nursery Classes were established during the year, viz.:

Trafalgar School Nursery Class opened in June, with accommodation for 30 children aged 2—5 years, and

Elgin Street School Nursery Class, opened in August to accommodate 30 children.

These were opened at the request of the Board of Education and Ministry of Health to enable mothers of young children to undertake work of National Importance.

These two classes and the two Day Nurseries—West End and Hurst—provide accommodation for 137 children.

In addition, under the Daily Guardian Scheme, 136 children under 5 years were cared for by 120 women who registered as Daily Guardians. They receive a small financial remuneration from the Labour Exchange. The actual arrangements are made between the Daily Guardian and the Mother of the Child. The Register of Daily Guardians and Register of Children is kept at the W.V.S. Office. Before a woman is accepted as a Daily Guardian a report on her home is given by a Health Visitor.

Arrangements during the year were therefore made for the care of 273 children under 5 whose mothers were working:—

|                                |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| West End Day Nursery           | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45  |
| Hurst Day Nursery              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32  |
| Trafalgar School Nursery Class | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30  |
| Elgin Street Nursery Class     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30  |
| Daily guarded                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 136 |
| Total                          |     |     |     |     | 273 |

The attendance at all the Nurseries has, on the whole, been regular. The incidence of infectious disease has been low and the general health of the children has been remarkably good.

## INFANT MORTALITY

The causes of the 39 deaths were as follows:—

|                          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Whooping Cough           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Measles                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Enteritis                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| Bronchitis               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Pneumonia                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |
| Nephritis                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| Premature Birth          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7  |
| Congenital Malformations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8  |
| Suffocation (overlying)  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Other Causes             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
|                          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | —  |
|                          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 39 |
|                          |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | —  |

## Child Welfare Centres

The work at the Infant Welfare Centre was well maintained during 1943, and the following figures show the number of sessions held, the number of consultations and the weighings carried out at the Centres:—

|                                 |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Consultations held              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 114  |
| Attendances at Consultations    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2079 |
| Number of Weighings of Children | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9458 |

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year:

- (1) By Children under 1 year of age ... .. 7996
- (2) By Children between the ages of 1 and 5 ... 2021

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance were:—

- (1) Under 1 year of age ... .. 513

Percentage of notified live births represented  
by this figure ... .. 65%

- (2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ... .. 108

Total number of children who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year were:—

- (1) Under 1 year of age ... .. 461
- (2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ... .. 560

The fact that 65% of the total notified births are brought to the Welfare Centres is an indication that the work is of value and appreciated by the parents.

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## Provision of Dried Milk

During 1943, 18,860 packets of dried milk were sold at the Centres.

1,568 were sold at half-price, and 4,632 were provided free, in accordance with the income scale adopted.

The net cost to the Council amounted to £402 10s. 2d.

# Orthopædic Treatment

Number of individual pre-school children attending Clinic 86.

A classification of the conditions for which the above 86 individual children were treated is set out below:—

|                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |   |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| 1. Rickets                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| 2. Genu-Valgum (knock-knee)    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22  |   |
| 3. Genu-Varum (bow leg)        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6   |   |
| 4. Calcaneo Valgus (flat foot) | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22  |   |
| 5. Torticollis (wry-neck)      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6   |   |
| 6. Infantile Paralysis         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3   |   |
| 7. Postural deformities        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1   |   |
| 8. Congenital deformities      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |   |
| 9. Other conditions            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5   |   |
| 10. Unclassified               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12  |   |
|                                |     |     |     |     |     | —   |   |
|                                |     |     |     |     |     | 86  |   |
|                                |     |     |     |     |     | —   |   |

Four cases were referred to Biddulph Hospital for treatment on account of the following defects:—

|                                     |     |   |
|-------------------------------------|-----|---|
| Webbed fingers and thumb left hand  | ... | 1 |
| Old Anterior Poliomyelitis          | ... | 1 |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis left leg     | ... | 1 |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis Rt. Shoulder | ... | 1 |

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## Artificial Sunlight Clinic

One hundred and twenty-six children made 1,895 attendances.

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## Adoption

The Adoption of Children (Regulation) Act, 1939, came into force on 1st June, 1943. A Register is now kept of the children adopted and they are regularly visited by the Health Visitors.

## **ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.**

Suggestions from the Ministry of Health concerning the Care of Illegitimate Children were accepted.

Much of this work is very satisfactorily carried out by the Health Visitors. After conferring with the County Medical Officer of Health arrangements were adopted for referring difficult cases to the Diocesan Council for Moral Welfare. The Almoner at the Lake Hospital was appointed Liaison Officer.

## **HOME HELPS.**

Attempts were again made during the year to develop the Home Helps Scheme. There was difficulty in getting suitable women as Home Helps.

Arrangements have been made with the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service whereby, if there is a demand for a Home Help, the Exchange is to be notified by the Medical Officer of Health and an effort made to find a suitable person.

## **ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE THE GENERAL STANDARD OF CLEANLINESS AND HABITS TO COMBAT INFESTATION BY HEAD-LICE.**

In accordance with suggestions from the Ministry of Health, steps were taken to improve the general standard of cleanliness in children under 5 years.

An additional Health Visitor was appointed and the Nurses have made early morning and late evening visits to the homes. Lethane Hair Oil has been advised in the treatment of head vermin. Where necessary, action was taken under the Scabies Order, 1941.

The Health Visitors, who are also the School Nurses, now undertake the treatment of Scabies Cases.

Each Nurse, wherever possible, has carried out intensive visiting on her district campaigning for Diphtheria Immunisation.

# Child Life Protection

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

### SECTIONS 206—220.

|     |   |        |   |
|-----|---|--------|---|
| (a) | Number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year     | ... .. | 3 |
| (b) | Number of children on the register at the end of the year                           | ... .. | 3 |
| (c) | Number of Child Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were Health Visitors | ... .. | 6 |

# Nursing Homes

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

### SECTIONS 187—195.

The Lancashire County Council have delegated their powers under the above Act to the Ashton-under-Lyne Borough Council who are the supervising authority for this purpose.

There is one Nursing Home registered in the Borough at:—  
24, Villiers Street.

The Medical Officer of Health made three inspections during the year.

# Housing Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

|     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| (a) | Total (including numbers given separately under (b))      |      |
| (1) | By Local Authority  | Nil. |
| (2) | By other Local Authorities                                | Nil. |
| (3) | By other bodies or persons                                | Nil. |
| (b) | With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—            |      |
| (1) | By the Local Authority (included under (a) (1) above)     | Nil. |
| (2) | By other bodies or persons (included under (a) (3) above) | Nil. |

# Eradication of Tuberculosis

Thirteen Samples of Milk have been taken and examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli, with the following results:—

| Sample No. |     |     |     |     |     | Result.       |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| 1          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Negative      |
| 2          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 3          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 4          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 5          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 6          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 7          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | (See No. 13). |
| 8          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Negative      |
| 9          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 10         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Positive      |
| 11         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | Negative      |
| 12         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |
| 13         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | "             |

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## Water Supply

Information supplied by the Waterworks Engineer shows that the supply of the district is satisfactory in quality and quantity.

There has been filtration of all supplies. Chlorination at the Brushes and Yeoman Hey Filterhouses and Ozonisation at Knott Hill.

During the year six chemical and 31 bacteriological samples were taken, and the results returned were considered very satisfactory.

Extensions during the year were:—

600 yds. 3 ins. C.A. Mains (Rural).

100 yds. 1½ ins. C.A. Mains (Industrial).

# Inspection and Supervision of Food

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION—MILK.

The following table shows the results of samples taken under this head:—

| Sample No. | Type of Milk. | Bacteria<br>per 1.0 c.c. | B.Coli in<br>1/100 c.c. |
|------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. ...     | Pasteurised   | 79,000                   | Absent                  |
| 2. ...     | "             | 95,000                   | Present                 |
| 3. ...     | "             | 110,000                  | Absent                  |
| 4. ...     | "             | 216,000                  | Present                 |
| 5. ...     | "             | 272,000                  | Absent                  |
| 6. ...     | "             | 74,000                   | Absent                  |
| 7. ...     | "             | 5,200,000                | Absent                  |
| 8. ...     | "             | 79,000                   | Absent                  |
| 9. ...     | "             | 116,000                  | Absent                  |
| 10. ...    | "             | 89,000                   | Absent                  |
| 11. ...    | "             | 195,000                  | Absent                  |
| 12. ...    | "             | 60,000                   | Absent                  |
| 13. ...    | "             | 390,000                  | Present                 |
| 14. ...    | Ordinary      | 17,200                   | Present                 |
| 15. ...    | "             | 19,200                   | Absent                  |
| 16. ...    | Pasteurised   | 1,080,000                | Absent                  |
| 17. ...    | "             | 192,000                  | Present                 |
| 18. ...    | Ordinary      | 10,300                   | Absent                  |
| 19. ...    | "             | 17,400                   | Absent                  |
| 20. ...    | "             | 39,000                   | Absent                  |
| 21. ...    | "             | 70,000                   | Absent                  |
| 22. ...    | "             | 310,000                  | Absent                  |
| 23. ...    | "             | 550,000                  | Present                 |
| 24. ...    | "             | 10,900                   | Present                 |
| 25. ...    | "             | 42,000                   | Present                 |
| 26. ...    | "             | 12,900                   | Present                 |
| 27. ...    | "             | 76,000                   | Absent                  |
| 28. ...    | "             | 44,000                   | Present                 |
| 29. ...    | "             | 11,500                   | Absent                  |
| 30. ...    | "             | 12,400                   | Absent                  |
| 31. ...    | "             | 4,000,000                | Present                 |
| 32. ...    | Pasteurised   | 2,280,000                | Present                 |
| 33. ...    | "             | 60,000                   | Present                 |
| 34. ...    | "             | 232,000                  | Present                 |
| 35. ...    | "             | 530,000                  | Present                 |
| 36. ...    | Ordinary      | 7,700,000                | Present                 |
| 37. ...    | Pasteurised   | 87,000                   | Present                 |
| 38. ...    | "             | 570,000                  | Present                 |
| 39. ...    | "             | 100,000                  | Absent                  |
| 40. ...    | Accredited    | 1,330                    | Present                 |
| 41. ...    | "             | 870                      | Present                 |

## The Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

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

| DISEASE                                      | Total Cases at all Ages | Total Deaths | HOSPITAL                        |   |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---|
|  |                         |              | Total Cases removed to Hospital | Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district |
| Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ... ..       | 61                      | 7            | 58                              | —   |
| Erysipelas ... ..                            | 21                      | —            | 9                               | —   |
| Scarlet Fever ... ..                         | 98                      | —            | 40                              | —   |
| Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... .. | —                       | —            | —                               | —   |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..                     | 19                      | —            | —                               | —   |
| Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..             | 4                       | —            | 4                               | —   |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..                 | 10                      | —            | —                               | —   |
| Acute Primary Pneumonia                      | 114                     | 31           | —                               | —   |
| Acute Influenzal Pneumonia                   | 12                      | —            | —                               | —   |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..                | 43                      | 21           | —                               | —   |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis                  | 22                      | 5            | —                               | —   |
| Measles ... ..                               | 355                     | —            | 4                               | —   |
| Whooping Cough ... ..                        | 197                     | —            | —                               | —   |
| Polio-Encephalitis ... ..                    | 2                       | —            | 1                               | —   |
| Totals ... ..                                | 958                     | 64           | 116                             | —   |

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

From 1st June, 1943, 11 beds, instead of 12, have been maintained at the Borough Hospital, Hyde. The one bed was relinquished at the request of the Hyde Authority.

The authorities of Oldham and Monsall have agreed to admit cases if there are beds available at the time.

The Ashton and District Smallpox Hospital at Hartshead is always held in readiness and any case of Smallpox could be admitted within an hour of notification.

## DIPHTHERIA.

There were 61 cases (65 in 1942) of Diphtheria notified during the year, but 11 of these were Carriers. There were seven deaths, one a child under 5 years, three children 5 to 15 years, and 3 adults (including a man aged 79 years). The fatal cases had not been immunised:—

Age distribution of the cases notified:—

|               |     |     |     |                   |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|
| Under 5 years | ... | ... | ... | 5                 |
| 5 to 15 years | ... | ... | ... | 30 + 10 carriers. |
| Over 15 years | ... | ... | ... | 15 + 1 carrier.   |
| Total         |     |     |     | 50 + 11 carriers. |

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

|                                       | Pre-School. | School. | Total.                  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------|-------------------------|
| Children Immunised from 1937-1939...  | 123         | ...     | 426 ... 549             |
| "          "      in 1940             | ...         | ...     | 178 ... 147 ... 325     |
| "          "      in 1941             | ...         | ...     | 392 ... 1,963 ... 2,355 |
| "          "      in 1942             | ...         | ...     | 415 ... 295 ... 710     |
| "          "      in 1943             | ...         | ...     | 435 ... 737 ... 1,172   |
| <hr/>                                 |             |         |                         |
| Total Children immunised at 31/12/43  | 1,543       | ...     | 3,568 ... 5,111         |
| <hr/>                                 |             |         |                         |
| Total P'cent'ge immunised at 31/12/43 | 53.01%      | 69.31%  | 63.42%                  |

| Age in years on<br>31st December of<br>the corresponding<br>year | DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.<br>Persons inoculated each year from 1934—1943 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  | Total inoculated aged<br>under five years on<br>31st December, 1943,<br>1543 | Total inoculated aged<br>5—14 years on 31st<br>December, 1943,<br>3568 | Total inoculated aged<br>15 years and over on<br>31st December, 1943,<br>124 | Grand total 1934—1943,<br>5235 |  |
|--|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|--|--|--|--------------------------------|--|
|  | 1934  | 1935 | 1936 | 1937 | 1938 | 1939 | 1940 | 1941 | 1942 | 1943 |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 0  |   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 1  |   |      |      | 8    | 5    | 3    | 87   | 97   | 178  | 188  |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 2  |   |      |      | 19   | 17   | 9    | 24   | 175  | 210  | 171  |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 3  |   |      |      | 11   | 17   | 4    | 43   | 58   | 116  | 163  |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 4  |   |      |      | 8    | 15   | 7    | 24   | 92   | 21   | 158  |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 5  |   |      |      | 39   | 12   | 9    | 22   | 102  | 15   | 84   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 6  |   |      |      | 21   | 25   | 3    | 30   | 224  | 37   | 52   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 7  |   |      |      | 44   | 36   | 5    | 24   | 264  | 32   | 79   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 8  |   |      |      | 81   | 27   | 5    | 19   | 218  | 23   | 40   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 9  |   |      |      | 7    | 50   | 4    | 16   | 239  | 15   | 66   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 10   |   |      |      | 1    | 6    | 5    | 10   | 234  | 19   | 41   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 11   |   |      |      | 12   | 7    | 1    | 17   | 265  | 19   | 43   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 12   |   |      |      | 5    | 4    | 1    | 4    | 340  | 10   | 55   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 13   |   |      |      | 4    | 3    | —    | 3    | 12   | 11   | 83   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 14   |   |      |      | 3    | 2    | —    | 2    | 11   | 4    | 69   |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| 15 and over  |   |      |      | 2    | 2    | —    | —    | 24   | —    | 4    |  |  |  |  |                                |  |
| Total each year  |   |      | 124  | 265  | 228  | 56   | 325  | 2355 | 710  | 1172 |  |  |  |  |                                |  |

## **SCARLET FEVER.**

There were 98 cases (86 in 1942) notified. The disease was mild and there were no deaths.

## **PNEUMONIA.**

There were 114 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia notified (80 in 1942) and 12 cases (5 in 1942) of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

An epidemic of Influenza occurred towards the middle of November. Influenza is not notifiable unless complicated with Pneumonia. The number of notifications of Pneumonia and the number of deaths attributed to Influenza give an indication of the prevalence of Influenza.

The peak was reached early in December, when there were 8 deaths from Influenza and 10 notifications of Pneumonia, and from then onwards there was a decline. The local doctors were notified of the arrangement made for Service Medical Officers to assist civilian doctors during the epidemic, but the epidemic had by this time subsided in the Borough so that no assistance was called for.

Certain emergency measures were taken, such as: Insertion of a notice in the local Press advising the precautions to be taken by patients and precautions to be taken to prevent the spread of infection.

Tentative arrangements were made for the Health Visitors and School Nurses to aid in nursing patients at home and arrangements were made for the supply of meals from the School Canteen to the homes. These services were not eventually required. The Influenza was of the ordinary type—a brief febrile illness, usually ending in recovery.

## **ASHTON AND DISTRICT SICK NURSING ASSOCIATION.**

1,345 visits were made to 100 cases of Pneumonia, and 49 visits to 7 cases of Influenza by the Nurses from the Ashton and District Sick Nursing Association.

## **TUBERCULOSIS.**

43 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during 1943 (49 in 1942).

22 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified during 1943 (27 in 1942).

There were 21 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis (25 in 1942) and five deaths (five in 1942) from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

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# **Venereal Disease**

## **Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations, 1916.**

The Lancashire County Council, who administer these regulations, have a treatment centre at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary.

The following shows the work carried out at the Venereal Diseases Clinic at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary during the year 1943:—

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Patients under treatment at 1st January, 1943 ...   | 125  |
| New cases admitted during 1943 ... ..               | 179  |
| Total attendances ... ..                            | 3140 |
| Patients receiving treatment at the end of 1943 ... | 122  |
| Pathological examinations for V.D. Patients ...     | 1359 |

Of the 179 new cases admitted during the year, 69 were Ashton residents. There is an increase in the incidence of Venereal Disease in the area due to war conditions.

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# **Scabies**

In February, 1943, the Scabies Clinic was transferred from the First Aid Post at Springfield to the Disinfection Station at the Town's Yard.

This building was originally constructed for the disinfection of Smallpox contacts, and is suitable for treating cases of Scabies. There is a Waiting Room, Bath Room, Treatment and Dressing Room and a Discharge Room. Clothes for stoving are passed through a revolving cupboard in the bathroom to the disinfector next door.

Treatments by appointment are given on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday—women and children in the mornings and men in the afternoons. A following-up Clinic is held at the School Clinic every Wednesday morning, when cases are seen by the Medical Officer.

The Health Visitors-School Nurses treat the women and children and a male attendant treats the men.

The treatment given is baths, followed by an application of Benzyl-Benzoate Emulsion. Each patient is told to bring a change of clean clothes. Typewritten instructions are given regarding clothing and other necessary precautions. The local doctors have been notified of these arrangements.

Fresh sources of infection come into the town from time to time. By careful following up of contacts to known cases, and by treating whole families the infection has been kept down. In difficult cases, and particularly when re-infection occurs, action has been taken under the Scabies Order, 1941—to ensure the medical examination and treatment of contacts.

In dealing with this infection the Nurses have paid many day and evening visits to the homes.

In September the film "Diagnosis and Treatment of Scabies" was shown to a selected audience of doctors, nurses and sanitary Inspectors.

Individual No. of Patients treated  
for Scabies in 1943:—

|                     |     |     |     | Total Attendances. |      |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------|------|
| Pre-School Children | ... | 57  | ... | 195                |      |
| School Children     | ... | 473 | ... | 1502               |      |
| Adults              | ... | 83  | ... | 209                |      |
| Total               |     |     |     | 613                | 1906 |

# Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1943

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## DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1943.

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Number of inspections (including housing) ... ..   | 7571 |
| Number of nuisances abated ... ..  | 1418 |
| Number of visits to premsies re defective and choked<br>W.C.s, W.W.C.s, slop sinks, waste and soil pipes ... | 677  |
| Number of visits to common lodging-houses, furnished<br>rooms and dwelling vans ... ..                       | 61   |
| Number of visits to slaughter-houses ... ..  | 194  |
| Number of visits to cowsheds, milk shops, refreshment<br>houses, ice cream makers and bakehouses ... ..      | 439  |
| Number of visits to factories and workships ... ..   | 94   |
| Number of visits to offensive trade premises ... ..  | 21   |
| Number of visits re rat infestations ... ..  | 146  |
| Number of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act   | 84   |

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health. Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

| Premises<br>(1)  | Number of          |                           |                                |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  | Inspections<br>(2) | Written<br>Notices<br>(3) | Occupiers<br>Prosecuted<br>(4) |
| Factories with Mechanical Power... ..  | 82                 | 13                        | —                              |
| Factories without Mechanical Power ...   | 12                 | 1                         | —                              |
| Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)... .. | —                  | —                         | —                              |
| Total ... ..   | 94                 | 14                        | —                              |

### 2. DEFECTS FOUND

| Particulars<br>(1)  | Number of Defects |                 |   | Number of<br>defects in<br>respect of<br>which<br>Prosecutions<br>were<br>instituted<br>(5) |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|---|---|
|   | Found<br>(2)      | Remedied<br>(3) | Referred to<br>H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(4) |   |
| Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ...  | 1                 | 1               | —                                       | —   |
| Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..  | —                 | —               | —                                       | —   |
| Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3)   | —                 | —               | —                                       | —   |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)...  | 1                 | 1               | —                                       | —   |
| Ineffective Drainage of Floors<br>(S. 6) ... ..   | —                 | —               | —                                       | —   |
| Sanitary Conveniences { Insufficient ...  | —                 | —               | —                                       | —   |
| { Unsuitable or   |                   |                 |   |   |
| { Defective ...   | 7                 | 7               | —                                       | —   |
| (S. 7) { Not Separate   |                   |                 |   |   |
| for Sexes ...   | —                 | —               | —                                       | —   |
| Other Offences ... ..   | 21                | 21              | —                                       | —   |
| (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937) |                   |                 |   |   |
| Total ... ..  | 30                | 30              | —                                       | —   |

## Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year eighty-four samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

### PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATION

| No.  | Article. | Adulteration or Offence. |      |                  |     | Remarks.                      |
|------|----------|--------------------------|------|------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| 286. | Milk     | ...                      | 5%   | Deficient in Fat | ... | Formal                        |
| 316. | Milk     | ...                      | 17%  | "                | " " | "                             |
| 326. | Milk     | ...                      | 6.6% | "                | " " | "                             |
| 357. | Milk     | ...                      | 23%  | "                | " " | Fine £2/2/- &<br>£1/1/- cost. |

## Meat Inspection

**TABLE No. 2**

**Carcases with all organs condemned as totally unfit for human consumption.**

| Animals.    | Tuberculosis. |    | Accident. | Inflammatory Diseases | Other Conditions |
|-------------|---------------|----|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Cows        | ...           | 23 | —         | 1                     | 1                |
| Bulls       | ...           | —  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Bullocks... | ...           | 1  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Heifers     | ...           | 5  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Calves      | ...           | 1  | 2         | —                     | 6                |
| Sheep       | ...           | —  | 8         | —                     | —                |
| Pigs        | ...           | —  | —         | 1                     | —                |

**Carcases partially condemned as unfit for human consumption.**

| Animals.    | Tuberculosis. |    | Accident. | Inflammatory Diseases | Other Conditions |
|-------------|---------------|----|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Cows        | ...           | 34 | 3         | —                     | 3                |
| Bulls       | ...           | —  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Bullocks... | ...           | 2  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Heifers     | ...           | 3  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Calves      | ...           | —  | —         | —                     | —                |
| Sheep       | ...           | —  | 1         | —                     | —                |
| Pigs        | ...           | —  | —         | —                     | —                |

**TABLE No. 3**  
**Various Organs Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.**

|                               |        | Heads | Tongues | Lungs | Livers | Stomachs | Hearts | Spleens | Mesenteries | Intestines | Udders | Kidneys | Diaphragms | Omentum. | Uterus |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------|---------|-------|--------|----------|--------|---------|-------------|------------|--------|---------|------------|----------|--------|
| <b>Tuberculosis:</b>          |        |       |         |       |        |          |        |         |             |            |        |         |            |          |        |
| Bovines                       | ...    | 184   | 184     | 569   | 122    | 28       | 29     | 39      | 43          | 43         | 6      | 8       | 102        | —        | —      |
| Pigs                          | ... .. | 10    | 10      | 14    | 17     | —        | 4      | —       | —           | —          | —      | —       | 4          | —        | —      |
| <b>Inflammatory Diseases:</b> |        |       |         |       |        |          |        |         |             |            |        |         |            |          |        |
| Bovines                       | ...    | 1     | 1       | 64    | 78     | —        | 4      | 2       | —           | —          | 1      | 7       | 17         | —        | —      |
| Pigs                          | ... .. | —     | —       | 4     | —      | 3        | 3      | —       | —           | —          | —      | —       | —          | —        | —      |
| Sheep                         | ...    | —     | —       | —     | —      | —        | —      | —       | —           | —          | —      | —       | —          | —        | —      |
| <b>Parasitic Diseases:</b>    |        |       |         |       |        |          |        |         |             |            |        |         |            |          |        |
| Bovines                       | ...    | 2     | 2       | 42    | 68     | —        | 1      | —       | —           | —          | —      | 5       | 1          | —        | —      |
| Pigs                          | ... .. | —     | —       | 2     | 6      | —        | —      | —       | —           | —          | —      | —       | —          | —        | —      |
| Sheep                         | ...    | —     | —       | 16    | 161    | —        | 1      | —       | —           | —          | —      | —       | 1          | —        | —      |

The following table gives some idea of the work involved in this particular branch of my department:

|   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| No. of visits to slaughter-houses during 1943 | ... | 194 |
| No. of visits to food premises and markets    | ... | 367 |

No. of carcasses inspected:—

|                   |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Cattle and Calves | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2366 |
| Sheep and Lambs   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9603 |
| Pigs              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 233  |

|       |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12202 |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|

The total weight of meat and offals destroyed during the year as diseased, unsound and unfit for the food of man was 43,729 lbs., or 19 tons 10 cwts. 1 qr. 21 lbs.







HEALTH  
A 21 DEC 19  
B.R.