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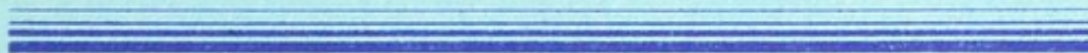
BOROUGH OF  
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

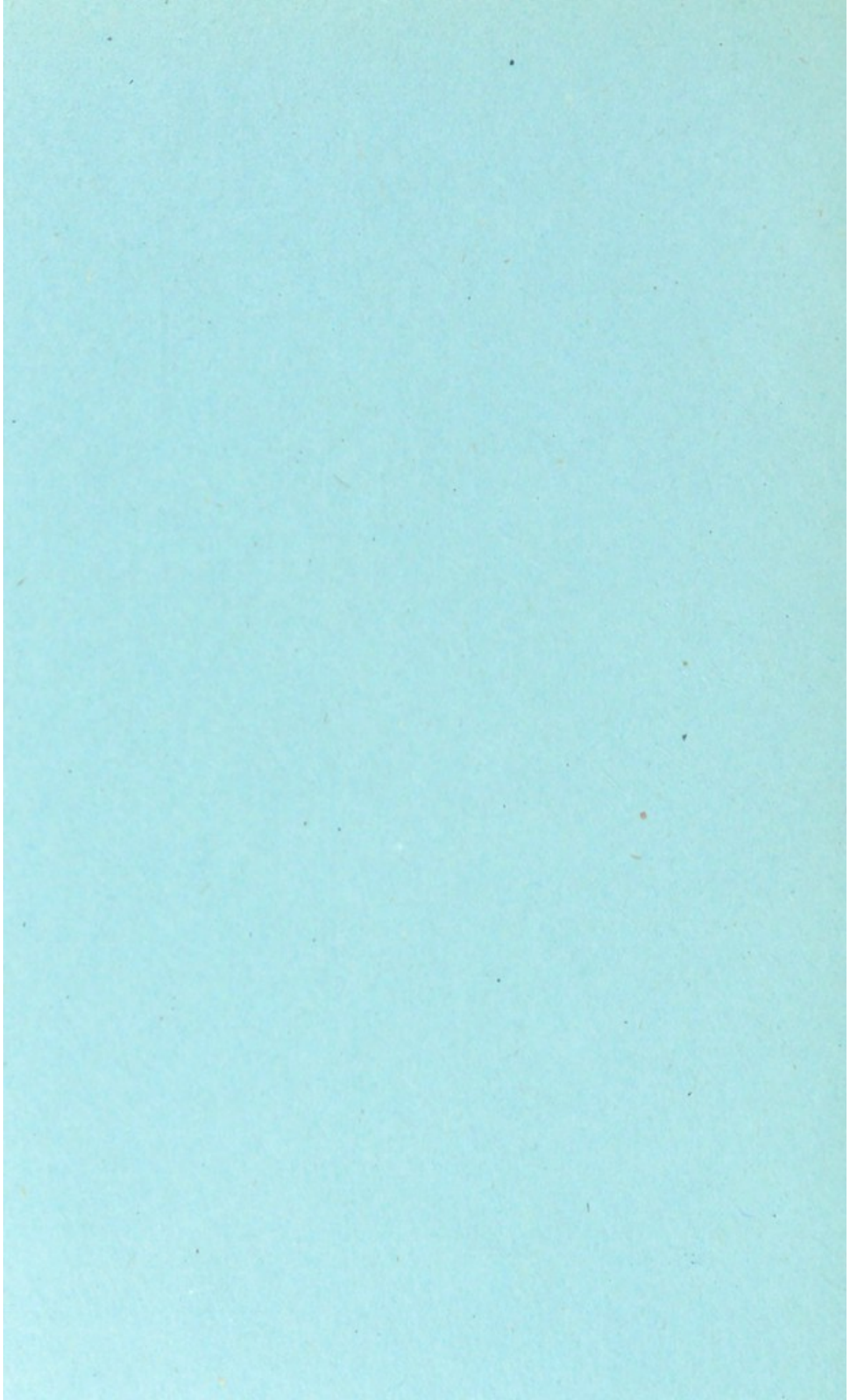


# ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical  
Officer of Health

For the Year 1944







BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

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Annual Report  
of the Medical Officer  
of Health

For the Year - - 1944



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# Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne

1944

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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 Burgess, M. Green, J. J. Green, J.P., Hannan  
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, Oldham and Townsley.

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 1944.

The Birth Rate for 1944 shows an increase of 3.8 over the previous five-year period, which is a considerable increase. The death-rate continues to decline.

The Infantile Mortality Rate again shows a considerable reduction (12) on the 1943 figure of 48, and it has reached the record low figure of 36.

No marked epidemics occurred.

Measures to deal with Scabies have continued. The general work of Immunisation, War-time Nurseries and other Clinics has continued.

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.

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

## **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 of Meat and Other Foods, etc.

**J. Kay, M.S.I., 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.

## **HEALTH VISITORS.**

**Nurse Parkinson, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.** (Senior Nurse), (Resigned 30/11/44).

„ **Chamberlain, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.** (Appointed Senior Nurse 30/11/44).

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

„ **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.**

„ **Nurse Edwards, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.** (Appointed 27/11/44).

„ **Nurse Malone, S.R.N., S.C.M.** (Appointed 18/9/44).

## **CLERKS.**

**C. Sharples, A. Hartley, E. McCabe, P. Crook** (now serving in Women's Land Army), **B. Wood,** Temporary Junior Clerk (Appointed 14/2/44).



Ashton-under-Lyne Borough:

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Population—	Per 1,000 of estimated Population			Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1,000 Live Births
	For Birth-rate	For Death-rate	Mean of 5 years, 1939-43	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births	
44,310	14.9	18.7	15.2	3.24	3.11	59
Year 1943	18.0	18.0	15.3	2.48	2.39	48
Year 1944	18.7	18.7	13.6	2.40	2.34	36
Increase or decrease in 1944 on 5 years' average, 1939-1943	+3.8	+0.7	-1.6	-0.84	-0.77	-23
Previous year	...	...	-1.7	-0.08	-0.05	-12
1944 adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor, ) =	per 1,000.					
	Per 1,000 of estimated Population			Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Deaths under 1,000 Live Births
	14.9	15.2	0.58	1.89	3.24	59
	18.0	15.3	0.47	2.15	2.48	48
	18.7	13.6	0.42	1.94	2.40	36
	+3.8	-1.6	-0.16	+0.05	-0.84	-23
	+0.7	-1.7	-0.05	-0.21	-0.08	-12
	1944 adjusted Death-rate (comparability factor, ) = per 1,000.					
	Total.		Male.		Female.	
Live Births	792	403	389			
Illegitimate	38	17	21			
Total	830	420	410			
Still Births	22	10	12			
Deaths	605	329	276			
Deaths from puerperal causes—	Deaths.					
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil.					
Other maternal causes	2					
Total	2					
Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid 1944	18.7					
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	25					
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.6					
Deaths from puerperal causes—	Deaths.					
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	Nil.					
Other maternal causes	2					
Total	2					
Death-rate of Infants under one year of age—	Deaths from					
All infants per 1,000 live births	36					
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	32					
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	105					
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	86					
Measles (all ages)	1					
Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.					
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1					

# Causes of Death during the Year 1944.

	M.	F.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ... ..	0	0	0
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0	0
Diphtheria ... ..	5	1	6
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ... ..	13	6	19
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	3	1	4
Syphilitic Disease ... ..	1	2	3
Influenza ... ..	2	4	6
Measles ... ..	1	0	1
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ... ..	0	0	0
Acute Infectious Encephalitis ... ..	0	0	0
M. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (Males only) ... ..	5	0	5
F. Cancer of Uterus ... ..	0	6	6
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	14	8	22
Cancer of Breast ... ..	0	7	7
Cancer of all other sites (with 3 Sub. groups)	27	19	46
Diabetes ... ..	0	9	9
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	32	28	60
Heart Disease (with 4 Sub. groups) ... ..	95	100	195
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System ... ..	8	5	13
Bronchitis ... ..	34	19	53
Pneumonia ... ..	12	8	20
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	6	3	9
Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	4	2	6
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..	0	1	1
Appendicitis... ..	0	0	0
Other Digestive Diseases (with 4 Sub. groups) ... ..	10	9	19
Nephritis ... ..	8	8	16
Puerperal and Post-abortive Sepsis (with 2 Sub. groups) ... ..	0	0	0
Other Maternal Causes (with 2 Sub. groups)	0	2	2
Premature Birth ... ..	4	2	6
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease (with 2 Sub. groups)	6	8	14
Suicide ... ..	5	3	8
Road Traffic Accidents ... ..	2	1	3
Other Violent Causes ... ..	9	5	14
All Other Causes (with 14 Sub. groups) ... ..	23	9	32
	329	276	605

# 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 Notified	Ashton Residents
Number of Live Births...	Notified	Male ... 1074 Female... 1015		2089	814
Number of Still Births ...	Notified	Male ... 31 Female... 31		62	25

By Institutions:—			
Lake Hospital	...	...	1512
District Infirmary	...	...	308
Nursing Homes	...	...	69
Midwives	...	...	260
Doctors	...	...	2
			2151

Notifications received by Department included above, but transferred elsewhere 1312

Total Notified Births allocated to Ashton-under-Lyne ... 839

Percentage of Total Notified Births (Live and Still) received from ... ..	(a) Institutions & Nursing Homes ... ..	87.82%
	(b) Municipal Midwives...	12.09%
	(c) Doctors ... ..	.09%

## MIDWIVES PRACTISING IN THE AREA.

There were five midwives practising in the area during 1944, and all five were Municipal Midwives appointed by the Lancashire County Council.

## **MATERNAL MORTALITY.**

### **ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Total Births i.e., Live and Still).	Puerperal Sepsis ... .. Nil. Other Puerperal Causes	2.34
		<hr/> 2.34 <hr/>

### **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 1944, and 149 expectant mothers made 830 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 70.

### **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.

# War-Time Nurseries

Two Nursery Classes were established during 1943 and one during 1944, namely:—

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; and

Parochial School Nursery Class, opened in May, 1944, 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 three Classes and the two Day Nurseries—West End and Hurst—provide accommodation for 167 children.

In addition, under the Daily Guardian Scheme, 238 children under 5 years were cared for by 233 women who registered as Daily Guardians. They receive a small financial remuneration from the Labour Exchange. The actual arrangements are made between the Daily Guardians and the mother of the child. The 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 have now been made for the care of 405 children under 5 whose mothers are working:—

West End Day Nursery	...	...	...	...	45
Hurst Day Nursery	...	...	...	...	32
Trafalgar School Nursery Class	...	...	...	...	30
Elgin Street Nursery Class	...	...	...	...	30
Parochial School Nursery Class	...	...	...	...	30
Daily guarded	...	...	...	...	238
					—
Total	...	...	...	...	405
					—

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 30 deaths were as follows:—

Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	7
Premature Birth ... ..	6
Congenital Malformations ... ..	13
Suffocation (overlying) ... ..	1
Other Causes ... ..	3
	—
	30
	—

## Child Welfare Centres

The work at the Infant Welfare Centre was well maintained during 1944, and the following figures show the number of sessions held, the number of consultations and the weighings carried out at the Centres:—

Consultations held ... ..	122
Attendances at Consultations ... ..	2324
Number of Weighings of Children ... ..	10689

Total number of attendances at all Centres during the year:

(1) By Children under 1 year of age ... ..	9290
(2) By Children between the ages of 1 and 5 ... ..	2028

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 ... ..	519
Percentage of notified live births represented by this figure ... ..	64%
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ... ..	113

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 ... ..	411
(2) Between the ages of 1 and 5 years ... ..	667

The fact that 64% 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 1944, 17,304 packets of dried milk were sold at the Centres.

758 were sold at half-price, and 3,144 were provided free, in accordance with the income scale adopted.

The net cost to the Council amounted to £248 8s. 6d.

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## Orthopædic Treatment

Number of individual pre-school children attending Clinic 126.

A classification of the conditions for which the above 126 children were treated is set out below:—

1. Rickets ... ..	2
2. Genu-Valgum (Knock-knee) ... ..	44
3. Genu-Varum (Bow-leg) ... ..	10
4. Torticollis (Wry-neck) ... ..	2
5. Spastic Diplegia ... ..	1
6. Spastic Paraplegia ... ..	1
7. Infantile Paralysis ... ..	12
8. Postural deformities ... ..	10
9. Congenital deformities ... ..	36
10. Unclassified... ..	18
	—
	126
	—

# Artificial Sunlight Clinic

One hundred and twenty-two children made 1,784 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. 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 & 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.



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.

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## 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 ... ..     | 2 |
| (b) Number of children on the register at the end of the year ... ..                           | 2 |
| (c) Number of Child Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were Health Visitors ... .. | 7 |

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## 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 one inspection during the year.

# Housing Statistics

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) ) ... ..	Nil.
(i) By the Local Authority ... ..	Nil.
(ii) By other Local Authorities ... ..	Nil.
(iii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	Nil.
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above) ... ..	Nil.
(ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii) above) ... ..	Nil.

1.—Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	395
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	780
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	136
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	431
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	320

2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers... ..	294
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3.—Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs		1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—		
(a) By Owners	... ..	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners		—
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices		—
(a) By Owners	... ..	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners		—
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	—
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	—
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—		
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	... ..	—

4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	... ..	177
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	... ..	216
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	... ..	1252

- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year... .. —
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... .. —
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases —

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## Eradication of Tuberculosis

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

Three were positive.

Eight were negative.

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## Water Supply

The Water Supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. There has been filtration of all supplies. Chlorination at the Brushes and Yeoman Hey Filterhouses and Ozonisation at Knott Hill.

During the year 2 chemical and 44 bacteriological samples were taken, and the results returned were considered very satisfactory.

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## Inspection and Supervision of Food

### MILK EXAMINATION.

<b>Biological:</b>	(a) Bacteriological ... ..	21	examinations.
	(b) Methylene Blue ... ..	1	„
	(c) Phosphatase Test ... ..	10	„

Out of the above 32 examinations, 22 were satisfactory and 10 unsatisfactory.

## 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 ... ..	60	6	60	—
Erysipelas ... ..	17	—	5	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	63	—	34	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	1	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	13	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ... ..	4	—	3	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	2	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia	29	20	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	2	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	48	19	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	15	4	—	—
Measles ... ..	419	1	4	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	69	—	1	—
Polio-Encephalitis ... ..	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	742	50	108	—

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

From 1st June, 1943, 11 beds, instead of 12, have been maintained at the Borough Hospital, Hyde.

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 60 cases of Diphtheria notified during the year. There were 6 deaths, one a child under 5 years and five children 5 to 15 years. The fatal cases had not been immunised.

Age distribution of the cases notified:—

Under 5 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
5 to 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Over 15 years	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
							—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	60

## 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
"    "    in 1944	626	615	1,241
<hr/>			
Total Children immunised at 31/12/44	2,169	4,183	6,352
<hr/>			
Total p'cent'ge immunised at 31/12/44	65.48	82.38	76.78

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Persons inoculated each year from 1934—1944

Age in years on 31st December of the corresponding year	1934—1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	
0										Total inoculated aged under five years on 31st December, 1944, 1633
1		8	5	3	87	97	178	188	234	
2		19	17	9	24	175	210	171	178	
3		11	17	4	43	58	116	163	97	
4		8	15	7	24	92	21	158	117	
5		39	12	9	22	102	15	84	94	Total inoculated aged 5—14 years on 31st December, 1944, 4146
6		21	25	3	30	224	37	52	93	
7		44	36	5	24	264	32	79	101	
8		81	27	5	19	218	23	40	86	
9		7	50	4	16	239	15	66	73	
10		1	6	5	10	234	19	41	43	Total inoculated aged 15 years and over on 31st December, 1944, 697
11		12	7	1	17	265	19	43	34	
12		5	4	1	4	340	10	55	30	
13		4	3	—	3	12	11	83	36	
14		3	2	—	2	11	4	69	25	
15 and over		2	2	—	—	24	—	4	—	
Total each year	124	265	228	56	325	2355	710	1172	1241	Grand total 1934—1944, 6476

**SCARLET FEVER.**

There were 63 cases (98 in 1943) notified. The disease was mild and there were no deaths.

**PNEUMONIA.**

There were 29 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia notified (114 in 1943) and 2 cases (12 in 1943) of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia.

Influenza is not notifiable unless complicated with Pneumonia.

**ASHTON AND DISTRICT SICK NURSING ASSOCIATION.**

1,753 visits were made to 197 cases of Pneumonia by the Nurses from the Ashton and District Sick Nursing Association.



# Report of the Tuberculosis Officer for the Year 1944

During the year 1944, 54 notifications of patients suffering from tuberculosis were received. Of these, 37 were notified as suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs, 13 from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, 3 were notified as combined cases and 1 case of miliary tuberculosis.

Of the 37 pulmonary cases, 17 were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, 4 had negative sputum, and 12 had no sputum for examination.

The 13 non-pulmonary cases were classified as follows:—

Glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Hip	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Elbow	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Abdomen	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dactylitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Spine	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Knee and Tibia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Epididymis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meninges	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Genito-urinary	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ribs	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Multiple	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ankle	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Skin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Foot	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Skin and Glands	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Wrist	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Kidney	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

—  
13  
—

Eight of the notified cases died during the year—5 pulmonary, 2 non-pulmonary and 1 combined case.

Forty-eight of the cases applied for treatment. In the remaining 6 cases no application was made for the following reasons:—

- 1 Removed from the district.
- 1 In Mental Hospital.
- 3 Died after notification.
- 1 Diagnosis not confirmed.

Of the patients who applied for treatment, 17 were sent to Sanatorium, 10 to Pulmonary Hospital, 1 to General Hospital, 5 to Orthopædic Hospital. The remaining 15 cases were under Dispensary supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of cases are sent to the Dispensary for diagnosis. During the year 281 new cases were sent for diagnosis by the Doctors, School Medical Officers, etc.

The number of re-attendances of old patients at the Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment was 881.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite tuberculosis, and 73 of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid to the open cases, i.e., cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. At the 31st December, 1944, there were 44 such cases known to be living in the district.

Fourteen of the positive cases died during the year. Six of the positive cases removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation of the positive cases was as follows:—

Separate room	...	...	...	...	30
Separate bed	...	...	...	...	2
Unable to have separate bed	...	...	...	...	12

Forty of the positive cases were in institution for treatment and isolation at some time during the year.

The number of positive cases living at the 31st December, 1944, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1944 was 40. The other 4 had either negative or no sputum.

Of the 40 cases who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1944, 28 had separate rooms, 2 had separate beds, 10 were not isolated.

No housing defects were reported during the year.

332 specimens of sputum were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, 49 were positive and 283 negative.

During the year 1944, 54 cases were discharged from institution as follows:—

Sanatoria	...	...	...	...	24
Pulmonary Hospital	...	...	...	...	13
General Hospital	...	...	...	...	2
Orthopædic Hospital	...	...	...	...	14
Non-pulmonary Sanatoria	...	...	...	...	—
Skin Hospital	...	...	...	...	1

The results on discharge were as follows:—

Quiescent or arrested	...	...	...	...	17
Improved	...	...	...	...	30
Is.q.	...	...	...	...	5
Worse	...	...	...	...	—
Died	...	...	...	...	2
Diagnosis not confirmed	...	...	...	...	—

During the year, there were 2 deaths from tuberculosis where the cases had not been notified previously.

GEORGE FLETCHER, M.D.,

Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.

# 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 1944:—

Patients under treatment at 1st January, 1944 ...	122
New cases admitted during 1944 ... ..	192
Total attendances ... ..	3226
Patients receiving treatment at the end of 1944...	126
Pathological examinations for V.D. Patients ...	1389

Of the 192 new cases admitted during the year, 72 were Ashton residents. There is an increase in the incidence of Venereal Disease in the area due to war conditions.

Penicillin is available for specified cases, and the results are being watched with interest. Service cases are not yet being treated in any number.

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## Scabies

The Scabies Clinic is now held at the Disinfection Station, 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.

Individual No. of Patients treated  
for Scabies in 1944:—

				Attendances.	
Pre-School Children	...	58	...	98	
School Children	... ..	304	...	630	
Adults	... ..	175	...	286	
		—		—	
Total	... ..	537	...	1014	
		—		—	

# Annual Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1944

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## DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1944.

Number of inspections (including housing) ... ..	9886
Number of nuisances abated ... ..	1838
Number of visits to common lodging-houses, furnished rooms and dwelling vans ... ..	31
Number of visits to slaughter-houses ... ..	199
Number of visits to Cowsheds and Dairies ... ..	49
Number of visits to Bakehouses ... ..	78
Number of visits to food stores and food preparing premises ... ..	352
Number of visits to Fish Friers ... ..	53
Number of visits to Factories and Workshops ... ..	248
Number of visits to Offensive Trade premises ... ..	4
Number of visits re rat infestations ... ..	1681
Number of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act	70

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

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

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted (4)
Factories with Mechanical Power... ..	216	9	—
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	32	6	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	248	15	—

### 2. DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1) ... ..	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)... ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7) { Insufficient ... ..	1	1	—	—
{ Unsuitable or Defective ... ..	23	23	—	—
{ Not Separate for Sexes ... ..	2	2	—	—
Other Offences ... ..	2	2	—	—
(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 ... ..	29	29	—	—

## Food and Drugs Act, 1938

During the year sixty-four Milk samples and six Ice Cream samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst.

### PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATION

No.	Article.	Adulteration or Offence.	Remarks.
363.	Milk.	Deficient in Fat 3.3%	Formal
413.	Milk.	Extraneous Water 8.2%	Letter of warning. Committee, 27/9/44.

## Meat Inspection

**TABLE No. 2**

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

Animals.	Tuberculosis.	Accident.	Inflammatory Diseases	Other Conditions
Cows ... ..	45	1	6	—
Bulls ... ..	3	—	—	—
Bullocks... ..	1	—	—	—
Heifers ... ..	2	—	—	—
Calves ... ..	4	1	2	5
Sheep ... ..	—	10	—	—
Pigs ... ..	4	—	—	—

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

Animals.	Tuberculosis.	Accident.	Inflammatory Diseases	Other Conditions
Cows ... ..	81	2	2	—
Bulls ... ..	—	—	—	—
Bullocks... ..	1	—	—	—
Heifers ... ..	6	—	—	—
Calves ... ..	—	—	—	—
Sheep ... ..	—	—	—	—
Pigs ... ..	—	—	—	—



**TABLE No. 3**

**Various Organs Condemned as Unfit for Human Consumption.**

	Heads	Tongues	Lungs	Livers	Stomachs	Hearts	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines	Udders	Kidneys	Diaphragms	Neck Ends
<b>Tuberculosis:</b>													
Bovines ...	295	295	908	248	59	82	135	81	81	27	50	208	—
Pigs ...	19	19	16	16	—	16	—	3	3	—	—	11	4
<b>Inflammatory Diseases:</b>													
Bovines ...	2	2	69	153	7	11	2	—	—	63	46	4	—
Pigs ...	—	—	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Sheep ...	—	—	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	15	—
<b>Parasitic Diseases:</b>													
Bovines ...	1	1	51	164	—	—	1	—	—	—	22	—	—
Pigs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sheep ...	—	—	20	243	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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

No. of visits to slaughter-houses during 1944 ...	199
No. of visits to food premises and markets ...	393
<b>No. of carcasses inspected:—</b>	
Cattle and Calves ... ..	3232
Sheep and Lambs ... ..	5968
Pigs ... ..	211
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>9411</b>

The total weight of meat and offals destroyed during the year as diseased, unsound and unfit for the food of man was 82,339 lbs. or 36 tons 15 cwts. 0 qr. 19 lbs.







