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Contributors

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BOROUGH OF
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

ANNUAL REPORT




of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

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BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1952

Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne 1952

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1952)

Chairman : Alderman W. H. Flowers, M.B.E., M.M.

Deputy Chairman : Councillor M. MacCormack.

Members :

His Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman E. B. Brooks, J.P.

Alderman C. Arnold.

Alderman J. Q. Massey, J.P.

Councillor R. G. Fish, C.C.

Councillor R. Gleave.

Councillor James Hall.

Councillor John Holland.

Councillor T. Kershaw.

Councillor S. A. Sidebottom.

Councillor T. Smith.

Councillor J. Wignall.

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 have pleasure in submitting my report on the health of the Borough of Ashton-under-Lyne for the year 1952.

The report contains comments on the vital statistics, more particularly in relation to comparisons with other areas of a similar size. It must be admitted that in respect of three of these rates, viz., the adjusted death rate, the infantile mortality rate and the tuberculosis incidence rate, the comparison is an unfavourable one to this borough.

It would be unwise to name a cause or causes for the above differences without a very careful analysis based on further facts, but it is justifiable to point to two unfavourable influences which are both capable of affecting all three of the above rates unfavourably; firstly, insanitary and substandard housing is much too prevalent in the area and in the near future there will be need for considerable eradication of property which has passed its useful life and is now harmful to the health of those occupying it.

The second deleterious factor—smoke pollution—has been with us for much too long.

For the year 1951 in the County of Cumberland, the deaths from bronchitis constituted 4.4% of the total deaths, in the same year in this borough bronchitis contributed to the extent of 7.7% of our total deaths. This is sufficient commentary on smoke pollution and is a clear indication that our adjusted death rate could be lowered if our aerial sewage was banished.

The report on infectious diseases during 1952 has been good and it is pleasing to note that there were no epidemics of food-poisoning.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support during the year and to Mr. Handforth, the Chief Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable assistance.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ALAN S. SIMPSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Alan S. Simpson, M.B., B.S. (Lond.), M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

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.

C. R. Langdon, M.R.San.I., M.Inst, P.C., C.S.I.B., Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

C. Stoddard, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

H. Houldsworth, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

J. Spencer, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods (Resigned July, 1952).

A. Handley, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Additional Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods (Commenced November, 1952).

CLERKS

C. Sharples, E. Waddington, A. Hartley, M. J. Tompson.
S. J. Kenworthy.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (acres) 2,981

Population :

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
At Census, 1931	24,242	27,331	51,573
At Census, 1951	21,782	24,708	46,490
Estimated, mid-1952	—	—	45,720

Number of inhabited houses :

At Census, 1931	13,071
Estimated at end of 1952	15,459
General rate for 1952 (in the £)	19s. 6d.
Rateable Value	£269,030
Sum represented by a 1d. rate	£1,070.0

Social Conditions of the Area

Ashton-under-Lyne is situated in the County of Lancashire, at the foot of the western slopes of the Pennines. Its highest point is 903 feet and its lowest 325 feet above sea level. The greater part of the town is situated between 330 and 340 feet above sea level.

The population is largely industrial and the chief industries are Cotton Spinning, Engineering, Tool Making, Iron and Brass Founding, Brewing and Coal Mining.

VITAL STATISTICS

Civilian population — Registrar-General's estimate, mid-1952, 45,720.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births—				Birth-rate per 1,000
Legitimate	604	306	298	estimated civilian
Illegitimate	41	18	23	population, mid-
				1952—
Total	645	324	321	Crude 14.1
				Adjusted 14.4
Stillbirth—				Rate per 1,000 total
Legitimate	18	6	12	(live and still)
Illegitimate	1	1	—	births 29
Total	19	7	12	
Deaths	643	310	333	Death-rate per
				1,000 estimated
				civilian popula-
				tion mid-1952—
				Crude 14.1
				Adjusted 13.6
Maternal Mortality—				
Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion				Nil.
Mortality Rate per 1,000 total (live and stillbirths)				Nil.
Death-rate of infants under one year of age—				
All infants per 1,000 live births				42
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births				33
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births				170
Male Infantile Mortality Rate				46
Female Infantile Mortality Rate				37
Neo Mortality—				
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age				25
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births				39

DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES

(a) From Measles (all ages)	1
(b) From Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
(c) From Diarrhoea, Gastritis and Enteritis	3
(d) From Diphtheria (all ages)	—
(e) From Cancer (all ages)	117
(f) From Tuberculosis (all forms)	17
Phthisis death-rate	0.32

COMMENTS ON THE VITAL STATISTICS

The mid-year population for 1952 was 45,720 showing little change from 1951.

There were 643 deaths during the year giving a crude death rate of 14.1 per 1,000 of the population, this crude rate has varied little during the last eight years. The comparability factor for the adjustment of the crude death rate is 0.97 which reduces the crude rate to an adjusted one of 13.6 per 1,000. It is preferable to use this latter rate when comparisons are to be made with other areas in so far as it takes into account the age and sex structure of the local population.

The standard error of Ashton's adjusted death rate is 0.55 (13.6 ± 0.55).

The 160 smaller towns (population 25,000—50,000 at 1951 Census) had a mean death rate of 11.2 ± 0.04 . The standard error of the difference in Ashton's adjusted death rate and the rate for the 160 smaller towns is 0.55 and as the actual difference between these two rates is 2.4 per 1,000, this difference is statistically significant. Thus we compare somewhat unfavourably with towns of a similar size. High urbanisation, unsatisfactory housing conditions and a rather heavy atmospheric pollution are undoubtedly some of the unfavourable circumstances which contribute to our higher death rate.

Our infantile mortality rate for 1952 was 42 per 1,000 live births: England and Wales had a rate of 27.6, the County Boroughs and Great Towns 31.2, and the Smaller Towns 25.8. We thus have considerable leeway to make up in the matter of the infant death rate. It is only fair to point out that the neo-natal mortality rate for the year was 39 per 1,000 live births as against rates of 22 and 18 for the years 1951 and 1950 respectively, and thus 95% of our 27 infant deaths occurred before the age of one month, this year, and were to that extent less preventable than would have been the case had their distribution between the neo-natal period and remainder of the first year been more equal.

645 live births gave a crude birth rate of 14.1 which a comparability factor of 1.02 raised to an adjusted birth rate of 14.4 per 1,000 population. The trend of the birthrate since the end of the second World War has been downwards.

Rates of 19.0 and 21.4 for the years 1946 and 1947 have given place to crude birth rates of 15.9 and 14.1 for the years 1951 and 1952.

Maternal mortality was again nil.

TUBERCULOSIS

The incidence rate for all forms of the disease has been 1.10, 1.39 and 1.99 for the three years 1950, 1951 and 1952 respectively—a steady increase. The death rate for all forms of Tuberculosis for these three years shows a reversal of this trend, i.e., it was downwards 0.57, 0.44 and 0.37 per 1,000 of the population. It may appear to be difficult to reconcile these two opposing trends, a rising incidence and a falling death rate. In general, however, it would be wise to attach greater weight to the mortality than to the morbidity statistic. Mortality is factual with much less room for diagnostic error than morbidity.

Factors which may temporarily augment the incidence rate are the use of mass diagnostic methods (M.M. Radiography), the more frequent recognition of the pulmonary form of the disease in children to-day.

Apart from these considerations, however, it is significant to note that the pulmonary tuberculosis incidence for 1951 was 27 male and 26 female cases, whilst in 1952 it was 45 male and 29 female cases.

An increase of 19 male cases as against 3 female cases.

Furthermore, whilst the death rate for all forms of tuberculosis was 0.22 in the 160 smaller towns it was 0.37 in Ashton-under-Lyne.

The figures indicate that we do not compare very favourably with towns of a similar size in respect to tuberculosis mortality, no doubt the factors mentioned above, viz., heavy atmospheric pollution, substandard houses, combined with a shortage of hospital beds, provide conditions favourable for the spread of this disease.

Every effort is made, by priority recommendations to the Housing Department, to see that the infant and young child have as much segregation from the open or positive case as is possible, but unfortunately cases of tubercular meningitis do occur from time to time and by their tragic results are a reflection on our failure to prevent the spread of an infectious disease.

The state of the Tuberculosis Register at the 31st December, 1952, was as follows :—

Respiratory			Non-respiratory			Total respiratory and non-respiratory		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
147	100	247	25	31	56	172	131	303

CANCER

The number of deaths occurring where cancer was entered as a cause of death was 117, giving a death rate of 2.56 per 1,000 of the population.

The number of cancer deaths for each of the last 13 years is as follows :—

1940	.....	87	1946	.....	89
1941	.....	70	1947	.....	74
1942	.....	98	1948	.....	97
1943	.....	96	1949	.....	99
1944	.....	86	1950	.....	93
1945	.....	99	1951	.....	97
		1952	.....	117	

The age at death of the cumulative totals of the 1951 and 1952 deaths is shown in the following age and sex grouped distribution :—

Cancer Deaths—1951–1952

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
10—15	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—
20—35	—	—	—
35—40	—	2	2
40—45	3	1	4
45—50	9	3	12
50—55	5	5	10
55—60	16	8	24
60—65	17	16	33
65—70	19	14	33
70—75	23	18	41
75 and over	25	26	51

Table VII shows the cumulative total of 1951 and 1952 cancer deaths grouped according to sex and site.

It will be noted that cancer of the lungs and bronchus is considerably more frequent in males than females and that there were 5 more respiratory cancer deaths amongst males in 1952 than in 1951.

A considerable degree of publicity has been given through lectures and talks to various clubs, societies and meetings, on the matter of the early diagnosis of cancer.

Propaganda has been aimed at encouraging the public to seek advice at the earliest opportunity when there is any doubt in their minds as to the cause of symptoms or signs which are sometimes the herald of malignant growth.

THE PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table VIII shows the number of each of the infectious diseases notified grouped according to age.

Table IX shows the trend of incidence from 1930 until this year.

The steady fall of diphtheria has reached the low level of one notification only during 1952.

Little change is shown in the annual incidence of scarlet fever, there being 116 notifications in the year as against 102 last year.

It would appear likely that the infection scarlet fever may have forms which do not receive recognition because of the absence of a rash, which means that the actual quantity of infection in the community is difficult to assess.

There was little variation in the incidence of measles during the year.

Whooping cough has shown a fairly consistent alternation in the quantity of notifications from year to year; years 1946, 1948, 1950 and 1952 being years of high incidence, 1947, 1949 and 1951 being years of low incidence (see Table IX).

Puerperal pyrexia notifications continue to decline.

Of the 2 cases of enteric fever, the first related to a boy of 15 who was notified by the Ashton General Hospital as a case of typhoid fever, the diagnosis being based on the Widal reaction with some clinical support. No organisms were however isolated and Vi-phage testing revealed no further information of diagnostic value. The second, a case of para-typhoid B, though notified to me from the hospital, normally resided in Dukinfield.

Pneumonia notifications at 25, were the lowest recorded in the last 12 years.

One case of poliomyelitis was reported on September 30th—a child of 7 years—she had recovered fully without physical disabilities within 10 days.

Of the 3 cases of food poisoning notified two were in one household, the condition being contracted locally, mild in type. Full investigation indicated staphylococcal food poisoning probably associated with consumption of pilchards. The other was a case of salmonella food poisoning contracted outside the district.

There were no cases of smallpox notified.

I paid a considerable number of visits to the homes of patients at the hospital doctor's or the family doctor's request in connection with the diagnosis of doubtful cases of infectious disease and I am particularly glad to do so, inasmuch as an early confirmation or otherwise of the diagnosis of smallpox, poliomyelitis or food poisoning is vitally important, not only in preventing the spread should the diagnosis be confirmed, but also in the patients' interests, so that treatment is not delayed.

The 65 cases of infectious diseases which were removed to hospital were sent to the following hospitals :—

Hyde Isolation Hospital	...	...	34
Monsall Isolation Hospital	...	...	16
Westhulme Isolation Hospital	...	...	9
Florence Nightingale Hospital (Bury)			1
Stockport Hospital	...	...	1
Astley Hospital	...	...	1
Ashton General Hospital	...	...	3
			—
			65
			—

MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases Notified</i>	
	<i>Measles</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>
1940	686	129
1941	260	128
1942	521	39
1943	355	197
1944	419	69
1945	233	34
1946	136	175
1947	696	48
1948	439	236
1949	416	54
1950	281	223
1951	855	88
1952	422	139

VENEREAL DISEASE

The following shows the work carried out at the Venereal Diseases Clinic at the Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary and the numbers since 1948.

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
Patients under treatment at Jan. 1st.	150	125	207	205	207
New cases admitted during the year	170	208	168	150	125
Total attendance	2976	3954	3378	2268	1268
Patients receiving treatment at the end of the year	125	207	205	207	159
Pathological examinations for V.D. Patients	549	1090	1365	519	435

Of the 125 new cases admitted during the year, 66 were Ashton residents. There were 87 cases found not to be V.D.

TABLE I
VITAL STATISTICS (Registrar-General)

	Live births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
									Total		Neo-natal	
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Ashton-u-Lyne Municipal Borough Population Mid- Year, 1952 45,720												
Year 1952	645	*14.1	643	*14.1	19	29	Nil	Nil	27	42	25	39
Year 1951	731	15.9	700	15.2	24	32	Nil	Nil	30	41	16	22
Year 1950	727	15.4	693	14.7	17	23	Nil	Nil	25	34	13	18
" 1949	832	17.6	738	15.6	24	28	Nil	Nil	38	46	—	—
" 1948	858	18.5	650	14.0	12	13	Nil	Nil	36	41	—	—
" 1947	1011	21.4	613	12.9	31	29	Nil	Nil	44	43	—	—
1947-1951 Average 5 years	—	17.8	—	14.5	—	25	—	Nil	—	41	—	—

* Adjusted { live birth-rate (comparability factor, 1.02) = 14.4 per 1,000.
 { death-rate (comparability factor, 0.97) = 13.6 per 1,000.

TABLE II

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE and INFANTILE MORTALITY
1930-1952

YEAR Col. 1	Popu- lation Mid- Year Esti- mate Col. 2	No. of Births Col. 3	Crude Birth- Rate Col. 4	No. of Deaths Col. 5	Crude Death Rate Col. 6	No. of Infan- tile Deaths Col. 7	Infan- tile Mor- tality Rate per 1,000 Col. 8	AVERAGE 5 YEARS		
								Birth Rate Col. 9	Death Rate Col. 10	Infantile Mor- tality Col. 11
1930	51,750	739	14.2	642	12.4	43	58	13.5	13.2	69.4
1931	51,840	765	14.7	711	13.7	53	69			
1932	51,040	690	13.5	697	13.3	58	84			
1933	50,540	634	12.5	704	13.9	41	64			
1934	51,573	645	12.8	645	12.8	46	71			
1935	50,220	620	12.3	705	14.0	41	66	12.7	14.7	65.0
1936	49,580	612	12.3	724	14.6	38	62			
1937	48,810	620	12.7	794	16.2	39	62			
1938	48,540	645	13.2	688	14.1	50	77			
1939	47,950	630	13.0	719	14.9	57	58			
1940	46,320	657	14.1	793	17.1	52	79	16.0	15.0	54.0
1941	45,950	669	14.5	696	15.1	49	72			
1942	45,040	687	14.9	632	14.0	27	39			
1943	44,490	804	18.0	684	15.3	39	48			
1944	44,310	830	18.7	605	13.6	30	36			
1945	44,270	720	16.2	670	15.1	30	41	18.5	14.3	43.0
1946	46,480	884	19.0	657	14.1	41	46			
1947	47,160	1,011	21.4	613	12.9	44	43			
1948	46,270	405	18.5	325	14.0	36	41			
1949	47,280	832	17.6	738	15.6	38	46			
1950	47,300	727	15.4	693	14.7	25	34			
1951	45,960	731	15.9	700	15.2	30	41			
1952	45,720	645	14.1	643	14.1	27	42			

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH

1952

No.	CAUSE OF DEATH	M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	10	5	15
2	Tuberculosis (Other)	1	1	2
3	Syphilitic Disease	1	1	2
4	Diphtheria	—	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8	Measles	—	1	1
9	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
10	Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	15	9	24
11	Malignant Neoplasm (Lung Brochus)	18	1	19
12	Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	—	7	7
13	Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	—	8	8
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	29	28	57
15	Leukaemia Aleukaemia	2	—	2
16	Diabetes	—	2	2
17	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	25	45	70
18	Coronary Disease, Angina	48	29	77
19	Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	7	9
20	Other Heart Disease	50	98	148
21	Other Circulatory Diseases	15	13	28
22	Influenza	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	10	5	15
24	Bronchitis	28	23	51
25	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	—	2
26	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum... ..	5	2	7
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	1	2	3
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	4	3	7
29	Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
30	Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—
31	Congenital Malformations	—	4	4
32	Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	31	25	56
33	Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	1	5
34	All Other Accidents	6	8	14
35	Suicide	2	4	6
36	Homicide and Operations of War	—	—	—
	Total	310	333	643

TABLE IV
INFANT DEATHS
CAUSE, SEX AND AGE GROUPS

Cause of Death	Age at Death										Totals		Both Sexes
	Under 1 Day		1 Day & less than 7 Days		1 Week & less than 4 Weeks		4 Weeks & less than 6 months		6 months & less than 12 months				
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System													
Tuberculosis (other forms)													
Diphtheria													
Whooping Cough													
Meningococcal Infections													
Acute Poliomyelitis													
Measles													
Influenza													
Pneumonia			1		1				1		3		3
Bronchitis													
Other Diseases of Respiratory System													
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea													
Congenital Malformations		1		2								3	3
Birth Injuries		1	3	1							3	2	5
Postnatal Asphyxia and Atelectasis		1	1								1	1	2
Infection of the newborn													
Other Diseases peculiar to Early Infancy (inc. Prems.).	3	4	2		1						6	4	10
All Other Causes	1	1					1				2	1	3
Total All Causes	4	8	7	3	2		1		1		15	11	26

TABLE V
TUBERCULOSIS — NEW CASES AND DEATHS

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0— 1 	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	1
5—10 	—	2	3	3	—	—	—	—
10—15 	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
15—20 	3	6	1	—	1	1	—	—
20—25 	3	4	—	1	1	—	1	—
25—35 	8	9	—	2	—	2	—	—
35—45 	10	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 	6	1	2	—	1	1	—	—
55—65 	6	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
65 and upwards...	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS... ...	45	29	8	9	10	5	1	1
	74		17		15		2	
	91				17			
Case Rate per 1,000	1·62	0·37		Death Rate per 1,000	0·32		0·04	
	1·99				0·37			

TABLE VI
TUBERCULOSIS

INCIDENCE AND DEATH-RATES ANNUALLY 1933-1952

YEAR	INCIDENCE			DEATHS		
	Case Rate per 1,000			Death Rate per 1,000		
	Pulm'ry	Non-Pulm'ry	Total	Pulm'ry	Non-Pulm'ry	Total
1933	1.13	0.47	1.60	0.45	0.22	0.67
1934	0.83	0.43	1.26	0.57	0.10	0.67
1935	0.14	0.31	1.45	0.50	0.05	0.55
1936	0.83	0.59	1.42	0.60	0.13	0.73
1937	0.19	0.55	1.74	0.94	0.10	1.04
1938	0.91	0.45	1.36	0.66	0.08	0.74
1939	0.81	0.38	1.19	0.71	0.06	0.77
1940	1.10	0.48	1.58	0.52	0.19	0.71
1941	1.10	0.32	1.42	0.70	0.13	0.83
1942	1.10	0.60	1.70	0.55	0.12	0.67
1943	1.16	0.59	1.75	0.52	0.04	0.56
1944	1.17	0.27	1.44	0.45	0.09	0.54
1945	1.27	0.40	1.67	0.68	0.18	0.86
1946	1.22	0.25	1.47	0.47	0.05	0.52
1947	1.02	0.42	1.44	0.53	0.19	0.72
1948	1.03	0.27	1.30	0.54	0.13	0.67
1949	1.35	0.19	1.54	0.67	0.14	0.81
1950	0.90	0.20	1.10	0.49	0.08	0.57
1951	1.15	0.24	1.39	0.35	0.09	0.44
1952	1.62	0.37	1.99	0.33	0.04	0.37
Average for 20 years	1.00	0.39	1.49	0.56	0.11	0.67
Average for first 5-year period 1933-1937	0.62	0.47	1.49	0.61	0.12	0.73
Average for last 5-year period 1948-1952	1.21	0.25	1.46	0.48	0.10	0.57

TABLE VII
CANCER DEATHS
1951-1952

ACCORDING TO SITE AND SEX

No. List	Sites	Number of Registered Cancer Deaths			
		Year 1951		Year 1952	
		M.	F.	M.	F.
10	Stomach	12	10	15	9
11	Lung and Bronchus	13	2	18	1
12	Breast	—	3	—	7
13	Uterus	—	1	—	8
14	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	31	24	29	28
15	Leukaemia, etc.	—	1	2	—
	TOTAL	56	41	64	53

TABLE VIII

INFECTIOUS DISEASES
NOTIFICATIONS AND AGE GROUP ANALYSIS

DISEASES	Total Cases at all Ages	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 20	20- 35	35- 45	45- 65	65 and Over	Total Deaths	Total Cases Removed to Hospital from the District
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	3
Scarlet Fever	116	—	3	5	7	18	61	16	4	2	—	—	—	—	47
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	25	4	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	9	6	15	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis; etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	6	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	422	13	46	66	70	75	149	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	139	22	17	20	34	18	26	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	74	2	1	—	2	—	2	3	9	24	15	14	2	15	4
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	17	—	1	—	—	—	6	2	1	3	1	2	1	2	—
Food Poisoning	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1
Totals	813	41	71	91	113	113	246	25	18	34	18	30	13	33	65

TABLE IX

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ANNUAL NOTIFICATIONS — 1930-1952

Year	Smallpox	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough	Puerperal Pyrexia	Enteric Fever	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Acute Primary Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Meningo-coccal Infection	Acute Poliomyelitis	Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Totals
1930	99	36	25	359			2	3	56	21	61	3	—	—	1	—	—	666
1931	1	13	16	201			4	—	52	38	89	3	3	—	1	—	—	421
1932	—	22	18	163			4	1	42	20	99	—	2	—	—	—	—	371
1933	—	16	22	73			5	—	57	24	136	3	—	—	1	—	—	337
1934	—	38	19	93			4	—	42	22	100	4	1	—	—	—	—	323
1935	—	63	31	69			10	—	57	16	78	9	1	—	2	—	—	336
1936	—	127	37	179			16	1	40	34	85	3	1	—	1	—	—	524
1937	—	243	25	233			22	1	60	30	97	5	1	—	2	5	—	724
1938	—	225	29	116			37	2	44	22	66	5	3	3	—	2	—	554
1939	—	84	17	59			28	—	39	18	67	5	6	1	—	—	—	324
1940	—	59	12	42	686	129	27	1	51	22	95	4	21	—	—	—	—	1149
1941	—	38	12	48	260	128	23	7	51	14	86	5	16	4	—	—	—	692
1942	—	42	20	86	521	39	28	1	49	27	85	8	8	—	—	—	—	914
1943	—	61	21	98	355	197	19	—	43	22	126	10	4	—	—	—	—	956
1944	—	60	17	63	419	69	13	1	48	15	31	2	4	—	—	—	—	742
1945	—	64	6	41	233	34	7	—	56	18	38	1	3	—	—	—	—	501
1946	—	25	12	27	136	175	8	1	57	11	58	3	3	—	—	—	—	516
1947	—	11	12	26	696	48	7	1	48	20	31	1	—	1	—	—	—	902
1948	—	19	14	131	439	236	2	2	48	12	44	—	1	4	—	—	—	952
1949	—	4	15	265	461	54	3	—	45	19	55	1	2	6	—	—	—	930
1950	—	6	5	103	281	223	1	—	43	12	38	—	1	8	—	10	3	734
1951	—	3	4	102	855	88	1	—	53	11	51	—	3	1	—	4	3	1179
1952	—	1	6	116	422	139	—	2	74	17	25	—	1	1	—	6	3	813

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

I.—SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MANCHESTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

A. General Hospital

The Ashton-under-Lyne General Hospital, Lake Section and Infirmary Section is controlled and administered by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board acting through their Ashton, Hyde and Glossop Hospital Management Committee.

The hospital admits medical and surgical cases; there is an out-patient department at the Infirmary and the Lake Section provides through its Maternity Department, maternity beds and an ante-natal clinic.

B. Infectious Diseases

The area is served by a number of Infectious Diseases Hospitals; Hyde, Monsall and Westhulme (Oldham) taking the majority of our cases in that order of frequency.

SMALLPOX. The Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, Bury, would take any cases of smallpox.

C. Tuberculosis Services

The Chest Clinic, Lees Street, is now administered by the Regional Hospital Board, though certain aspects of this work, more particularly the domiciliary visiting of cases and contacts, come within the domain of the Local Health Authority's Medical Officer (the Divisional Medical Officer for Health Division No. 17).

The times for attendance at the Clinic are as follows :—

Tuesdays	...	...	...	...	2-0 p.m.
(1st Tuesday in month)	...				6-0 p.m.
Wednesdays	...	...	...	...	10-0 a.m.
(1st Wednesday in month)	...				6-0 p.m.
Fridays	...	...	...	...	10-0 a.m.

A clinic for children only is held Friday afternoons from 2-0 to 4-0 p.m.

II.—SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

The Lancashire County Council are the Local Health Authority for the Ashton-under-Lyne area, and they have set up a Divisional Scheme of Administration covering the whole of the County of Lancashire.

Ashton-under-Lyne is one of the six constituent districts in Health Division No. 17, which is comprised as follows :—

Ashton-under-Lyne Borough.
Mossley Borough.
Audenshaw Urban District.
Denton Urban District.
Droylsden Urban District.
Limehurst (Part) Rural District
(except Parish of Woodhouses).

The services which are provided by the Lancashire County Council, with effect from July 5th, 1948, are as follows :—

1. Maternity and Child Welfare.
2. School Medical Service.
3. Midwifery.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Home Nursing.
6. Vaccination and Immunisation.
7. Ambulance Service.
8. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.
9. Domestic Help.
10. Mental Health.
11. Health Education and Propaganda.

The above services are administered by the Lancashire County Council acting through their Divisional Health Committee No. 17.

A brief resumé of the above services as available to residents in Ashton-under-Lyne follows, the items being listed in the order as shown above :—

1. Maternity and Child Welfare

Child Welfare	Clinic 5 : Scotland Street,	Tuesdays,
Centres held at—		2 p.m.
	Clinic 6 : Richmond House,	Thursdays,
	Richmond Street,	2 p.m.
	Clinic 7 : Ormonde Street,	Wednesdays,
		2 p.m.

	Clinic 8 : Hurst Nook,	Mondays, 9.30 a.m. to 12.0 noon.
Ante-Natal Clinics	Clinic 5 : Scotland Street, Clinic 6 : Richmond House, Richmond Street,	Alternate Fridays, 2 p.m.
Speech Therapy Clinics	Clinic 6 : Richmond House, Richmond Street,	Mondays, a.m. and p.m. Tuesdays, a.m. and p.m. Thursdays, a.m. only.
Ultra Violet Ray Clinics	Clinic 6 : Richmond House, Richmond Street,	Tuesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m.

2. School Medical Service

The School Clinic at Water Street is open throughout the week and provides the following Clinics :—

Minor Ailments.
Ophthalmic.
Orthopaedic.
Aural.
Dental.

3. Midwives

The following are the names and addresses of the Midwives practising in Ashton as at 31st December, 1952 :—

Mrs. B. J. EGERTON,
57, Ladbrooke Road. Tel. No ASHton 2063.
Mrs. J. GRIFFITHS,
1, Crowthorn Road. Tel. No. ASHton 2107.
Mrs. A. HARROP,
5, Ney Street, Waterloo. Tel. No. ASHton 2033.
Mrs. S. A. SIDEBOTTOM,
16, Hurst Hall Drive. Tel. No. ASHton 2615.
Mrs. I. MALLINSON,
4, Crowhill Road. Tel. No. ASHton 2741.

4. Health Visitors

Office : St. Michael's Square, Ashton-under-Lyne.

Nurse Chamberlain.
Nurse Weir.
Nurse Cleary.
Nurse Edwards.
Nurse Malone.
Nurse Wrigley.
Nurse Beaumont.
Nurse Smith.

TOWN HALL CHAMBERS,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

TO THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE BOROUGH OF ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit herewith my Annual Report for the year 1952.

The work of administering the Food Bye-laws continued to be one of the most important duties of your Sanitary Inspectors and it will be observed that 1,613 inspections were made during the year.

The preliminary housing survey was continued during the year and it is hoped that it will be completed during 1953.

At the moment it is possible to say that, excluding houses owned by the Corporation, 12,306 houses have been visited and of these, 143 were found to be legally overcrowded, using the standard laid down in the Housing Act, 1936. This figure means that 0.01% of the houses were overcrowded. These 143 houses were occupied by 213 families comprising 748 adults and 282 children.

Another interesting point was that in these 12,306 houses there were 1,906 houses with one bedroom not usually used. 50 houses had two bedrooms not usually occupied and 8 houses had three or more bedrooms vacant.

The principal object of the survey was, of course, to determine the number of houses which were, in the opinion of your officers, unfit for human habitation.

It is obvious from the reports so far received, many hundreds of houses in the town are in such a state that they cannot be repaired at reasonable expense. It may be that some owners will be prepared to recondition their property regardless of this proviso, but it must be recognised that if a house is in such a condition that the expense of its repair is unreasonable in accordance with the provisions of the Housing Acts, then there is no alternative but to demolish or to accept an undertaking not to use the dwelling for human habitation.

From the figures already available, and I must again emphasise that these are subject to further scrutiny, it is obvious that the slum clearance programme is one which will occupy the attention of the Committee and its officials for very many years, and while as far as possible the worst houses should be dealt with first, it may not always be practicable to do so.

During the year, free washing facilities at the principal conveniences in the town—Henry Square and St. Michael's Square (Gents.), and Tramways Bureau (Ladies), were operated. Automatic machines have been provided for the issue of paper towels free, and while at times these provisions appear to be subject to abuse, there is no doubt that from a hygienic point of view they are a step in the right direction.

Proposals were also considered for the erection of an improved convenience at Guide Bridge and for the abolition of the existing urinal and these suggestions were still under consideration at the end of the year.

There were again further staff changes during the year. For over seven months, the sanitary staff was one short of establishment. This is reflected in the reduced numbers of inspections made.

I should, therefore, like to place on record my appreciation of the work carried out by the staff. I am greatly indebted for the support and consideration extended to me by the Chairman and Members of the Committee during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. SYKES HANDFORTH.

Environmental Health Services

Embodying the Report of the Chief Sanitary
Inspector for the Year 1952

Housing Statistics

Number of new Houses erected during the year :—	Prefabricated Houses		Tra- ditional Per- manent Houses	Flats
	Tem- porary	Per- manent		
(i) By the Local Authority	Nil	Nil	121	4
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other Bodies or Persons	Nil	Nil	11	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) 9845

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	12414
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 to 1932	27
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	35
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	8
(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	993
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	1086
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	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	Nil.
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil.
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	49
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) By Owners	23
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil.
(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	1

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12
(d) Proceedings under Section 12, of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.
4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding—	
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	134
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	191
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	939
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil.
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	76
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	336
5. Housing Act, 1949—	
(a) (i) Number of Schemes submitted :	
(a) by private individuals	Nil.
(b) by the local authority	Nil.
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses affected	Nil.
(b) (i) Number of Schemes approved by Ministry :	Nil.
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses or other building affected	Nil.
(iii) Number of additional separate dwelling to be provided under these approved Schemes	Nil.
(c) Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year	Nil.
(d) Any other action taken under the Act (give brief particulars)	Nil.

Sanitary Improvements

During the year, 119 waste-water closets were converted into fresh-water closets voluntarily by the owners, a decrease of 10 over the previous year.

The Council will no doubt remember that a grant of £5 per conversion is made, where the work is carried out to the satisfaction of the Corporation. Since the commencement of the scheme, 484 waste-water closets have been converted, the yearly totals being as follows :—

1947 ...	...	...	32
1948 ...	...	...	43
1949 ...	...	...	63
1950 ...	...	...	98
1951 ...	...	...	129
1952 ...	...	...	119
			<hr/> 484 <hr/>

There is no doubt that the abolition of the waste-water closet is a step in the right direction. The wash-down type of closet is very much more hygienic; it can be kept clean and in a good sanitary condition. At the present rate of progress, it will be very many years before the scheme is completed. It is estimated that there are still nearly 9,000 waste-water closets in the town.

The Council's programme for increasing the number of public conveniences in the town made further progress and towards the end of the year, active steps were being taken to provide conveniences for males and females at Mossley Road. It was agreed that the proposed conveniences at Hurst Cross should be postponed for the present, but it is hoped to implement this proposal at an early date.

Provision of free washing facilities at three of the conveniences in the town has, I believe, been appreciated by the public and whilst there was at first some misuse, in my view the provisions are now being treated with some respect.

Smoke Abatement

During the year, 36 half-hourly observations were taken of smoke emission from factory chimneys within the Borough.

The table overleaf gives the estimation of atmospheric pollution—estimation of sulphur by lead peroxide method.

INVESTIGATION OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION
Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method.
January 1st—December 31st, 1952.

MONTH	Area Exposed—100 sq. cms.			
	Grasmere House	Lord Street	Jubilee Dingle	Hartshead Pike
January ...	2.70	2.99	2.78	2.34
February ...	2.98	3.09	2.17	1.32
March ...	1.91	2.00	1.66	1.61
April ...	—	—	—	—
May ...	3.72	3.56	2.62	2.62
June ...	2.59	2.40	2.09	1.94
July ...	2.10	1.88	1.50	2.19
August ...	2.21	2.34	1.61	1.29
September ...	1.79	1.93	1.98	1.91
October ...	2.21	2.37	2.84	2.37
November ...	1.89	2.08	1.79	2.00
December ...	2.37	2.11	1.80	1.69

The above results are expressed in the form :—

Weight of Sulphur Trioxide collected/milligrams/100 sq. cms./day.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

1.—MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No. of registered distributors operating from :—

(a) Dairies in the district ...	2
(b) Dairy farms in the district ...	16
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies ...	242
(d) Premises outside the district ...	9

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

No. of dealer's licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the local authority during 1951, in respect of :—

"Tuberculin Tested" Milk ...	21
"Accredited" Milk ...	—

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

No. of licences issued in respect of "Heat Treated" Milk :—

Pasteurising plants ...	1
Sterilising plants ...	—
Retail distributors—	
(a) "Pasteurised" Milk ...	84
(b) "Sterilised" Milk ...	247

Action taken by this Department in relation to samples taken in the district :—

Raw Milk

	<i>Number of samples</i>	<i>Number negative</i>	<i>Number positive</i>
(1) Tuberculosis— Biological tests ...	55	51	2 (2 examina- tions declared void)
(2) Methylene Blue Test	55	54	1 (unsatis- factory)

“ Heat Treated ” Milk

“ Pasteurised ”—

(1) Phosphatase Test	89	88	1
(2) Methylene Blue Test	89	87	2

“ Sterilised ”—

(3) Turbidity Test ...	5	5	—
(4) Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—

Result of Ministry investigations by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries within the district during the year, arising from notifications of tuberculous milk made by any local authority.

Number of veterinary inspections	2
Number of cases where animals seized under Tuber- culosis Order, 1938	1
Number of animals seized	1
Number of cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation	Nil.
Number of cases reported negative where no animals seized	Nil.
Action taken under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 (heat treatment of milk from producer until supply is free from tubercle infection).	

Ice-Cream

63 samples of ice cream were forwarded for examination and were reported upon as follows :—

Grade 1	40
Grade 2	11
Grade 3	8
Grade 4	4

Lollipops

1 sample of lollipops was forwarded for examination. Coliform organisms were not isolated in this sample.

2.—FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

During the year under review, 101 samples were taken and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. The details of these samples are as follows:—

Milk	89
Pork Sausages	5
Beef Sausages	3
Ice Cream	4

The table below gives particulars of the samples found upon analysis to have been adulterated or below standard:—

Sample No.	Sample	Adulteration or Offence	Remarks
61	Pork Sausage	Deficient in meat to the extent of ... 7.7%	Informal
76	Pork Sausage	Slightly deficient in meat content but not sufficiently so to render it other than genuine	

4.—MARKETS AND SHOPS

Foodstuffs exposed for sale in the public market and in the various shops in the town were regularly inspected during the year.

1,613 visits were paid to food stores and food preparing premises (including visits to bakehouses, milk shops, etc.), and action was taken to effect improvement at various premises, and it is pleasing to note that in this effort we had the full co-operation of the occupiers and owners of the premises.

FOOD CONDEMNED, 1952

	T.	C.	Q.	Lbs.
Tinned Foods	2	11	2	10
Beef	—	4	2	16
Pork	—	5	2	0½
Mutton	—	—	—	20
Veal	—	—	1	1½
Tripes and Offal	5	8	2	10¼
Sausages	—	2	3	25
Cereals	—	1	1	12
Bread and Confectionery	3	3	2	10¾
Shell Fish	—	—	3	0
Butter, Margarine and other Fats	—	1	1	26
Miscellaneous... ..	—	7	3	12
TOTAL ...	12	8	3	4

5.—RAT REPRESSION

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				TOTAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	43	14,641	27	3,269	17,980
2. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952, as a result :—					
(a) of notification, or	(a) 5	243	—	55	303
(b) otherwise	(b) 38	4,800	24	2,149	7,011
3. Number of properties (under No. 2) found to be infested by rats :—					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	2	264	—	58	324
4. Number of properties (under No. 2) found to be seriously infested by mice	6	183	—	35	224
5. Number of infested properties (under Nos. 3 and 4) treated by the local authority	8	447	—	87	542
6. Number of notices served under Section 4 :—					
(1) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Structural Works (i.e. proofing)	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	2
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority, following issue of notice under Section 4 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
8. Legal proceedings ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
9. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out ... ..	...	...	23		

The two full-time Rodent Operators employed in the Department continue to carry out their duties in a satisfactory manner. During the year the usual baiting of the sewers was

carried out. In addition a large number of premises where rats had been observed, was reported, and the necessary action taken.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS

During the year the district was subject to the movement restrictions imposed by the Foot & Mouth (Infected Areas) Order, 1938.

DISINFESTATION

During the year no Council houses but 23 privately owned houses and properties were fumigated. Liquid and powder spraying by both manual and mechanical appliances were employed. Zaldecide and Gammaxene insecticides gave excellent results.

SCABIES

Scabies are treated at the Disinfection Station, Town's Yard, and the following table gives details of the work done.

Individual No. of Patients Treated
for Scabies in 1952 :—

	<i>No of cases</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Adults	1	2
School Children ...	7	12

The building was originally constructed for the disinfection of Smallpox contacts, and it is suitable for treating cases of Scabies. There is a Waiting Room, Bathroom, 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.

The treatment given is a bath, 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.

Water Supply

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

During the year, the following examinations were made :—

(a) RAW WATER	<i>Number</i>			<i>Results</i>
Bacteriological examinations	...	6	...	Satisfactory
Chemical analyses	—	...	

(b) WATER GOING INTO SUPPLY
WHERE TREATMENT IS
INSTALLED

Bacteriological examinations	...	35	...	Excellent
Chemical analyses ...	...	1	...	Satisfactory

PRIVATE SUPPLIES

Bacteriological examinations	...	—	...	
Chemical analyses ...	...	—	...

No form of contamination presented itself.

No liability to Plumbo Solvent action.

Except for a few isolated cases, domestic water supplies are received from the town's mains.

Swimming Baths

The Corporation Baths have the following bathing accommodation :—

- 1 large Swimming Bath (100ft. x 40ft.—120,000 gals.).
- 35 Private Slipper Baths (22 Gents' and 13 Ladies').
- 3 Zotofoam Baths.

The swimming bath water is purified by " Bells " Filtration Plant, having a four-hour turnover.

The pumps extract 15,000 gallons of water from the top and a similar amount from the bottom hourly.

Chlorination is maintained constantly at 0.5 parts/million throughout the bath.

Tests are taken two and three times per day also for alkilinity at 7.0/7.6 Ph. to give perfect filtration.

Warm showers are provided to enable each bather to wash under fresh, clean, running water before entering the swimming bath.

The private slipper baths are fitted with unlimited supplies of hot and cold water.

Zotofoam sweating baths are provided on a modern scale with shampoo and rest rooms. Brine and Pine are also given with these baths.

Zotofoam baths provide the advantages of a Turkish bath without the use of a very hot room, the room being kept at approximately 80 deg. F.

The attendances at the Baths during 1952 were as follows :—

Swimming Baths	...	...	67,751
Private Slipper Baths	...	...	39,729
Zotofoam Sweating Bath	...	...	1,792
Total	...	...	<hr/>109,272 <hr/>

I am indebted to Mr. W. H. Vollum, M.N.A.B.S., the Baths Superintendent, for kindly supplying me with much information and for his co-operation in matters connected with the general arrangements.

Ten samples of water from the Public Baths were taken during the year by officers of the Department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for examination.

DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS MADE AND WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1952

Number of inspections (including housing)	...	...	13,331
Number of Nuisances abated	...	...	1,479
Number of visits to houses let in lodgings, furnished rooms and dwelling-vans	...	...	54
Number of visits to dairies and milkshops	...	...	67
Number of visits to bakehouses	...	...	83
Number of visits to food stores and food preparing premises			1,149
Number of visits to fish-friers	...	...	45
Number of visits to ice cream premises	...	...	269
Number of visits to factories and workshops	...	...	316
Number of visits to offensive trade premises	...	...	12
Number of visits re rat infestations	...	...	10,427
Number of samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act	...		101

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

In pursuance of the provisions of the above Act, one person was interred during 1952, the arrangements for the burial being undertaken by the officers of your Committee.

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... ..	228	12	—
Factories without Mechanical Power	45	—	—
Other Premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworkers' premises)	21	—	—
Total	294	12	—

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)	16	16	—	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences { (S. 7)	Insufficient	3	3	—
	Unsuitable or Defective	12	15	—
	Not Separate for Sexes	3	2	—
Other Offences (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections men- tioned 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	34	36	—	—

