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Borough



of Bacup

Annual Report

on the

Public Health Services

of the

Borough of Bacup

1949

by

R. W. FARQUHAR

B.Sc. (Agric.), M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

BACUP

Howard & Hargreaves, General Printers, Yorkshire Street Mill



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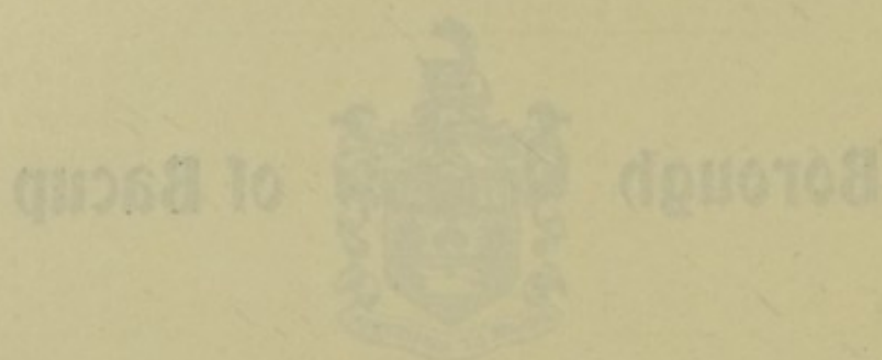
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

BACUP

Printed by the Borough Council, Bacup, Lancashire

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMAN A. RHODES, J.P.,
(*ex officio*).

COUNCILLOR J. H. HARGREAVES, Chairman.

COUNCILLOR F. HEYWORTH, Vice-Chairman.

ALDERMAN T. ASHWORTH.

„ W. MARSHALL, J.P.

„ S. C. SMITH.

COUNCILLOR T. HOYLE

„ J. W. MILLER

„ F. N. RIMMER

„ R. WATERWORTH

„ J. C. HEYWORTH

„ A. LORD

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health ;

J. WALKER, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H., D.P.D., L.D.S.
(Resigned March, 1950)

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

W. A. HEALEY, M.Inst.P.C., C.R.S.I.
(Resigned August, 1949)
R. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A.
(Commenced duties August, 1949)

Additional Sanitary Inspector

G. A. WEBB, A.R.S.I.
(Commenced duties October, 1949)

Clerk :

Miss D. Garvey.

Borough Analyst : (Part time)

T. R. HODGSON, M.A.(CANTAB), F.I.C., F.C.S.

Town Hall,

Bacup.

August 1950.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND BURGESSES
OF THE BOROUGH OF BACUP.
MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Borough of Bacup, for the year 1949. Although I did not assume office as your Medical Officer of Health until April, 1950, it has fallen to me to present this report on behalf of my predecessor, Dr. J. Walker.

The year has been notable for the low incidence of infectious diseases and the health of the population generally has been well maintained. The general death rate was 14.2 per 1,000 residents as compared with 13.0 for the previous year. The infant mortality rate of 31.0 per 1,000 live births has fallen below the corresponding rate for England and Wales for the first time since 1945.

The environmental health services under the control of the Town Council continue to play a vitally important part in maintaining the health of the community and the report shows evidence of the valuable work done by the department in the inspection and supervision of food, water and milk supplies, and in public cleansing and sanitation.

Towards the end of 1949 my predecessor presented to the Health Committee a special report on the housing conditions in the Borough, which showed that in common with other similar towns in this part of Lancashire the standard of housing in Bacup is poor. As a result of this it was decided that a preliminary housing survey should be carried out by the staff of the Health Department to ascertain the exact number of houses from which families will require to be rehoused. The poor living conditions obtaining in many parts of the Borough today, present a problem of great magnitude, but we must continually bear in mind that these conditions largely contribute to high sickness rates, chronic ill-health, serious-harmonies in family life, and to a vast amount of human misery and frustration.

Yours faithfully.

R. W. FARQUHAR

Medical Officer of Health

MEDICAL OFFICER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1949

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (Acres) ...	—	...	6,121
Population (Census 1931)		...	20,590
Estimated Population (1949)		...	18,400
No. of inhabited Houses (1931)		...	5,964
" " " (1949)		...	6,274
Rateable Value	...	...	£90,275
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate		...	£360

Vital Statistics for the Year 1949.

		Total	Male	Female
Live Births	Legitimate	303	143	160
	Illegitimate	20	10	10
	Total	323	153	170
Deaths of Infants under one year		10	8	2
Stillbirths...	...	9	—	9
Deaths	...	261	123	138
Death Rate	...	14.2	per 1,000 of population	
Birth Rate	...	17.6	per 1,000 of population	
Infantile Mortality Rate		31.00	per 1,000 Live Births	
Maternal Deaths		NIL		

Respiratory diseases.

The number of deaths from the above were : Bronchitis 18 ; Pneumonia 3 ; other respiratory deaths 4 ; a total of 25, giving a Death Rate of 1.31 per 1,000 of the population against a death rate of 1.36 for 1948.

Diarrhoea and Enteritis.

There were no deaths under two years of age. The death rate for England and Wales for 1949 was 3.0 per 1,000 Live-Births.

Cancer and Malignant disease.

The deaths from the above were Males : 17; Females : 20 ; total : 37. This gives a death rate of 2.01 for 1949 as against 1.31 for 1948.

Causes of Death					Males	F'm'l's
All Causes					123	138
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers				—	—
2	Cerebro spinal fever				—	—
3	Scarlet fever				—	—
4	Whooping Cough				—	—
5	Diphtheria				—	—
6	Tuberculosis of respiratory system...				1	3
7	Other forms of Tuberculosis...				1	—
8	Syphilitic diseases				—	—
9	Influenza				1	2
10	Measles... ..				—	—
11	Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioen- cephalitis				—	—
12	Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...				—	—
13	Cancer of buccal cavity and oesoph- agus (M.), Uterus (F) ...				2	4
14	Cancer of Stomach and duodenum...				3	—
15	Cancer of Breast				—	3
16	Cancer of all other sites				12	7
17	Diabetes				—	2
18	Intracranial vascular lesions ...				13	17
19	Heart Disease... ..				51	51
20	Other diseases of circulatory system				2	7
21	Bronchitis				13	5
22	Pneumonia				2	1
23	Other respiratory diseases				3	1
24	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum ...				—	1
25	Diarrhoea under two years				—	—
26	Appendicitis				1	—
27	Other digestive disorders				4	4
28	Nephritis				—	3
29	Puerperal and Post-abortion Sepsis				—	—
30	Other maternal causes				—	—
31	Premature Birth				3	2
32	Congenital Malformations, birth injury, Infantile Diseases ...				3	2
33	Suicide				1	—
34	Road Traffic Accidents				1	1
35	Other violent Causes... ..				4	3
36	All other causes				2	13

Infectious Diseases.

DIPHTHERIA. For the second year in succession no case of Diphtheria has been reported.

ERYSIPELAS. 2 cases in 1949. 1 case treated in hospital in 1948

SCARLET FEVER. 41 cases. No deaths. 19 cases treated in hospital

In 1948 there were 4 cases, 2 treated in hospital

PUERPERAL PYREXIA. 1 case in 1949 treated in hospital.

1 case in 1948 treated in hospital.

WHOOPING COUGH. 4 cases, no deaths. 127 cases in 1948.

MEASLES. 14 cases treated at home. 146 in 1948, 2 treated in hospital.

PNEUMONIA. 15 cases. 2 deaths. 16 cases in 1948.

SMALLPOX. There were no cases notified during the year.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM. 1 case treated at home. No cases in 1948.

ACUTE-POLIOMYELITIS. 1 case treated at home. No cases in 1948.

General.

Arrangements are now in operation for the Bacteriological examination. free of charge at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsell Hospital, Manchester, of milk, water, faeces, blood, and throat swabs.

The Chemical analyses of milk, water, food and drugs, is carried out by T. R. Hodgson, Esq., the Public Analyst, John Dalton Street, Manchester.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified, and number of cases removed to Hospital during the year 1949.

Disease	Total Cases	Cases Notified Years													Total Cases removed to Hospital
		-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 20	20- 35	35- 45	45- 65	65- +		
Smallpox ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Scarlet Fever ...	41	-	1	2	7	6	23	2	-	-	-	-	-	19	
Diphtheria ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Enteric Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Paratyphoid Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Measles ...	14	-	1	5	1	1	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough ...	4	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Pneumonia	15	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	3	2	3	3	-	
Puerperal Pyrexia...	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Polio															
Encephalitis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Acute Polio encephal-															
lethargica ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Dysentery ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ophthalmia															
Neonatorum ...	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Erysipelas ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	
Malaria :—															
England & Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Abroad ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTALS ...	79	3	4	8	10	8	29	3	-	4	3	4	3	20	

Diagnosis confirmed in all cases

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 9 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 1 of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

There were 5 deaths from Tuberculosis, 3 of which were due to Pulmonary type.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Year								
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
35-45	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
45-55	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
55-65	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals :	8	1	—	1	1	2	1	1
	9		1		3		2	

1948 Totals	...	7	4	5	3	3	4	3	1
		11		8		7		4	
1947 Totals	...	9	9	2	9	8	2	—	1
		18		11		10		1	
1946 Totals	...	12	9	2	6	5	4	—	2
		21		8		9		2	

REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,
Stubbylee Hall,
BACUP,
July, 1950.

TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND BURGESSES
OF THE BOROUGH OF BACUP.
MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting, in conjunction with the report of the Medical Officer of Health, the report on the Sanitary Inspection of the Borough, for the year 1949.

Mr. W. A. Healey, who had been Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Borough of Bacup since 1938 and who had carried out much arduous and conscientious work resigned in August, 1949, having obtained another situation as Chief Sanitary Inspector to the Loughborough Borough Council.

There was, therefore, some lack of continuity in the work in so far that the Department was not fully staffed, and this was further aggravated by the fact that the records were removed from the offices in Rochdale Road to a temporary office. A further removal took place in the later part of the year to the now permanent offices in Stubbylee Hall and it is important for the keeping of accurate records and for the smooth working of the Department that removals of this nature should be kept to an absolute minimum.

During the year the attention of the Department has been directed to the many and varied matters relative to Public Health and in particular the structural condition of the many sub-standard dwellings within the Borough. Routine inspection of food preparing premises, bakehouses, butchers' premises, etc., was continued throughout the year but much still remains to be done.

There has been little cause for complaint with regard to the supply of water from the Town's Water Undertaking but it would appear that the many private water supplies to premises within the Borough leaves much to be desired.

In concluding this report I wish to express my thanks to the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, and other Senior Officers of the Council for their co-operation during the short period in which I have had the honour to serve as Chief Sanitary Inspector, and also to the Staff of the Health Department for their loyal service and the help given under difficult circumstances.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant.

R. HAWORTH, M.S.I.A.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1949.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year :—

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) | (a) Total Number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) | 168 |
| | (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose... | 472 |
| (2) | (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 | — |
| (3) | Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | — |
| (4) | Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 168 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	98
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Total Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2176
Complaints Investigated...	...	...	...	...	...	169
Visits to Cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	51
Bakehouses Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	25
Farms Inspected (Cowsheds and Dairies )	...	...	...	...	...	78
Factory Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	11
Drainage Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	41
Drains tested with Colour Test...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Dwellinghouses Inspected—Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	157
Dwellinghouses Inspected—Housing Acts	.....	...	...	...	...	11
Inspections re Public Sanitary Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	77
Public Cleansing Service (Visits to Tips, Salvage, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	420
Meat and other Food Inspections (Pigs examined 214)	...	...	...	...	...	236
Offensive Trades Premises Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	14
Outworkers premises inspected	...	...	...	...	...	14
Inspections re Application for Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	213
Cleanliness Inspections for Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	48
Revisits to Property under Notice	...	...	...	...	...	304
Inspections and Interviews re Pail and Waste Water						
Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	26
Interviews with Owners	...	...	...	...	...	110
Petroleum Acts & Carbide of Calcium	...	...	...	...	...	62
Inspection of Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	50
Inspection of Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	48
Game Dealers' Licences	...	...	...	...	...	3
Old Metal Dealers' Licences	...	...	...	...	...	10
Horses slaughtered for human consumption	...	...	...	...	...	28
Slaughterhouse Visits	...	...	...	...	...	48
Inspection of Food Hawkers' premises	...	...	...	...	...	6
Inspections of Public Market	...	...	...	...	...	4
River Pollution inspections	...	...	...	...	...	16
Inspections to Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	43
Inspections of Public Mortuary	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ice Cream Samples (Bacteriological)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ice Cream Samples (Chemical)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Milk Samples (Bacteriological)	...	...	...	...	...	16
Milk Samples (Chemical)	...	...	...	...	...	24
Other Food Samples	...	...	...	...	...	20
Water Samples (Bacteriological)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Samples (Chemical)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous Visits (Interviews, Surveys, Rodent Control etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	774

Rodent Control—

During the month of June treatment of the Council's sewers against rodent Infestation was carried out on the scientific lines laid down by the Infestation Branch of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

408 Manholes were treated of which 39 showed a "take," and as a result poison baiting was carried out. The remaining manholes were test baited with negative results.

During December the second maintenance treatment of the Council Sewers was carried out and 198 Manholes were treated, which showed a "take." in 34 manholes. Poison baiting was again carried out.

The co-ordinated treatment of the River Irwell was carried out during the months of June, July and August and approximately 10 miles of the river bank was found to be infested.

This work entailed the baiting of 1414 different points and in addition to the pre-baiting carried out, 755 poison baits were laid.

Other Premises treated are as follows—

Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Mills	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	11
Houses	...	...	.	...	...	...	...	39
Other Business Premises	...	...		...	...	...	...	12

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Bacup Corporation Act, 1906.

Interior of Houses.

Plaster Ceilings Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	9
Plaster Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	9
New Window sashes fixed	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Window Cords fixed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Scullery replastered	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chimney flues repaired			...	...	...	2
Smoke Nuisance remedied	...	...	...	...	...	1
Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Fireplaces fixed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Door Frames repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Insufficient Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	11
New Sink fixed and Surround Tiles			...		...	1
Dirty Houses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Houses treated against Bugs and Cockroaches	...	...			...	9
Houses or Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	47

Exterior of Houses.

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	13
Rain Water Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Walls repointed	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Eavesgutters fixed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gable Walls repointed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Gable Walls cement rendered	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stopped Drain cleared	...	...	...	...	...	1
Burst Water Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	7
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Downspouts repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
Water Service Pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Dilapidations	...	...	...	...	...	8

Yards and Outbuildings.

Yards cleansed	2
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

Drainage.

Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	5
Drains repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4

Water Closets.

New W.C. Compartment constructed in lieu of dilapidated structure	1
W.C. compartment doors repaired...	3
W.C. compartment roofs repaired	2
W.C. pedestals and cisterns renewed	4
Water service pipes to W.C's. repaired	9
W.C. fittings repaired	14
W.C. structure repaired	9

Waste water closets.

Waste water closets converted to Fresh Water Closets...	9
---------------------------------------------------------	---

Pail Closets

Pail Closets converted to Fresh Water Closets	2
------------------------------------------------------	---

Bakehouses

Bakehouses limewashed	2
Painting done	1
Fixtures cleansed	1
Accummulation removed	1

Factories (Sanitary Accommodation).

Lighting provided	1
Sex indication notices fixed	3
Urinals tarred and cleansed	2
Intervening space constructed between W.C. & Workroom	1
W.C. compartment ventilated	1
Miscellaneous	4
Settling Chamber and dust arrester fixed	1

Farms (Cowsheds and Dairies)

Cowshed Walls cement rendered	1
Stalls scrubbed down	2
Milking stools cleansed	3

Food Preparing Premises

Windows repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plaster repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Sinks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Washing facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rooms decorated	...	...	..	...	...	...	10
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fixtures cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Accummulation removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
W.C's. cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dustbins removed from food shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
W.C's. separated from preparing room	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sinks and geysers provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
New sink gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Disused fireplace built up	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Other dilapidations remedied	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Offensive Trades - Tripe Boiler

Ceiling boarded	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coalstore door fitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Painting carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cover fitted to chimney flues	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Food condemned and surrendered

Entire carcass of 1 pig (affected with Decomposition.

Est. 200 lbs.)

Entire carcass of 1 pig (affected with Generalised tuberculosis

Est. 364 lbs.)

Pigs heads affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6
Pigs plucks	„	„	„	4
Pigs lungs	„	„	„	2
Pigs fats	„	„	„	3
Pigs liver affected with cysts	...	...	...	1
Pigs liver affected with cirrhosis	...	...	...	1
Horses Liver affected with multiple abscesses	...	...	...	1
2 tons Tapioca	7lbs. Tongue	5½lbs. Ham		
26lbs. Bacon	7½cwts. Figs	100lbs. Tripe		
5 cases Apples	2 4-gall. tins	Frozen Eggs		
2 st. Haddock	1268 tins, jars, bottles of	Miscellaneous		
		Foods		

Miscellaneous.

Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	2
Bales of wipers fumigated for export	...	...	...	67
Preliminary notices served	...	...	...	121
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	37
Dilapidated Dustbins renewed	...	...	...	406

Details of Water Supplies, Drainage and Sewerage for the Year Ended 31st December, 1949.

Kindly supplied by
C. E. ANDREASEN, A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E., Borough and Water Engineer

WATERWORKS :—

NEW CONNECTIONS TO TOWN'S WATER.

Industrial :—	L.L.	H.L.
Central Conveniences—		
(6 Washbasins, 11 W.C's.		
Urinals and Geyser)	1	
2 W.C's., 2 sinks & Urinal	1	
Cold Water supply to Shop	1	
Cold Water supply to Stable	1	
Metered supply to Mill	1	
Farm :—Domestic; Bath, Washbasin		
and Farm Purposes	1	
Supply to henpen	1	
Supply to piggery	1	1
Domestic:—Domestic supply to new		
houses	18	4
Garden hose connections	2	1
	28	6

NEW CONNECTIONS TO EXISTING SERVICE PIPE.

W.C's.	27	2
Baths	11	2
Sinks	2	
Washbasins	17	4
Hot Water	10	2
Taps	2	
Urinals	4	
Domestic Supply	1	
Fire Purposes	1	
Farm Drinking Bowls	1	
	76	10

TOTAL NUMBER OF CONNECTIONS AND CONSUMERS OF TOWN'S
WATER.

Domestic Connections	...	...	...	...	...	6,057
Consumers (at 2.9 persons per connection)	...	...	...	...	...	17,565

WATER ANALYSIS.

During the year 30 samples of Town's Water were sent to the Borough Analyst, the following were the reports.

	Excellent	Very Slightly Acid	Slightly Acid	Acid
Cowpe L.L.	6	0	4	0
Cragg H.L.	9	0	2	0
Sheephouse L.L.	5	0	3	1
	<hr/> 20	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 1

Bacteriological examinations were made on 14 samples (five from Cowpe and Cragg supplies and four from Sheephouse). Counts of coliform organisms in 100 c.c. were as follows : 3 organisms in a Cragg sample, 1 organism in a Cragg and Sheephouse sample and the remaining 11 samples were free from organisms.

HOUSING.

1. Housing Estates in course of erection, 31st March, 1950
 - (a) Huttock End No. 1 Estate ... 88 Houses
 - (b) Huttock End No. 2 Estate ... 40 Houses
2. Housing Development proposed in the near future.
 - (a) Lodge Meadows Estate ... 112 Houses
 - (b) Mettle Cote Estate ... 150 Houses

Factories Act, 1937.
Part I and VIII of the Act.

1. Inspection of Factories and Other Premises.

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (with Mechanical Power)	21	—	—
Factories without Mechanical power ...	20	1	—
Other Premises (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	—	—	—
Total ...	41	1	—

2. Defects Found in Factories and Other Premises.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were taken
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspt.	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness (s.1)...	—	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (s.7)				
a. Insufficient	—	—	—	—
b. Unsuitable or def.	1	11	—	—
TOTALS ..	1	12	—	—

3. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Sect. 1	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel making etc)	77		—	—	—	—

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Producer-Wholesalers ...	...	...	...	20
Number of Producer-Retailers ...	...	...	...	38
Number of Producers who are wholesale and retail purveyors	...	...	...	20
Number of Retailers (bottled sterilized milk) ...	...	...	...	50
Supplementary Licences to sell pasteurised milk...	...	...	...	2
Supplementary Licences to sell tuberculin tested milk ...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculin Tested Milk Producers ...	...	...	...	1

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

14 Samples of Undesignated Milk from local bulk supplies were submitted for examination, according to the tests prescribed for "Accredited Milk." 4 samples failed in the Methylene Blue and B. Coli Test.

2 Samples of "Pasteurised" School Milk were examined 2 failed to pass the B. Coli test.

14 samples were tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all were reported upon as satisfactory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

24 samples of milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination of which all were genuine.

The average composition of Milk produced in the Borough is given below together with the standard laid down by the Board of Agriculture :—

	Total Solids.	Milk Fat.	Solids not fat.
Board of Agriculture Standard	11.5%	3.0%	8.5%
Average of 24 samples ...	12.63%	3.81%	8.82%

The following samples were taken and submitted to the Borough Public Analyst :—

Article	No. of samples taken	Genuine	Not Genuine	Remarks
Milk	24	24	—	—
Camphorated Oil	1	1	—	—
Malt Vinegar	1	1	—	—
Olive Oil	1	1	—	—
Iodine	9	1	8	Warning letter sent. Whole of Retailers' Stocks withdrawn by Wholesaler.
Custard Powder	2	2	—	—
Pepper	1	1	—	—
Seedless Bramble Jam	1	1	—	—
Smith's Grill Sauce	1	1	—	—
Coffee	1	1	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	2	2	—	—
Piccalilli	1	1	—	—
Potted Meat (Brawn)	1	1	—	—
Fever Cure ...	1	1	—	—
Indian Brandy...	1	1	—	—
Sausages	1	1	—	—

Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board & General Powers)

Act 1938. Sections 115 and 116

4 premises are registered with the Borough Council for the Manufacture and Sale of ice cream, and all use a boiled mix.

2 Premises have been removed from the register during the year.

14 premises are registered for the storage and sale only of ice-cream.

Petroleum Acts and (Carbide of Calcium) Order

The licensing of the Petroleum Stores is a duty carried out by the Health Committee and 51 licences are at present in operation for the storage of Petroleum Spirit and Petroleum Mixtures.

4 persons are licensed to keep Carbide of Calcium in registered stores.

Hackney Carriage and Driving Licences

15 Hackney Carriage and 16 Hackney Carriage driving licences have been authorised and issued during the year.

Game Dealers Licences

Two licences to deal in Game have been renewed and issued.

Old Metal Dealers Licences

Seven licences have been renewed and issued to persons dealing in old metal.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICE.

The Health Committee are responsible for the Cleansing and Disposal of Contents of Ashpits, Privy middens, Dustbins, Cess-pools and Pail-Closets and for the cleansing and maintenance of Public Sanitary Conveniences.

Storage. The following are the types of receptacles in use at the 31st March, 1949 :—

Fixed Ashpits	...	...	...	5
Privy middens	...	...	...	4
Pail Closets	...	...	...	127
Dustbins	...	...	...	6691
Waste water closets	...	...	...	384

Refuse Collection and Disposal Service.

The system of refuse collection has been carried out by three Freighters, and a weekly collection service maintained, with the exception of periods when mechanical breakdown occurred. The system of dividing the town into three separate districts has proved well worth while and has been appreciated by the Public and by the workmen.

The Committee have also reviewed the position with regard to the old vehicles in use and it is anticipated that these will be wholly replaced by new modern vehicles in the year 1950.

Disposal of the town's refuse was carried out by Controlled Tipping on the tips at Blackwood and Sharneyford for the first nine months of the year, Sharneyford being temporarily closed for the last three months.

The collection and sale of kitchen waste to local pigkeepers is still maintained, and 406 dustbins have been sold and delivered by the Department during the year.

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIALS. (1st January to 31st December.)

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper ...	110	3	3	—	621	15	9
Black Scrap ...	5	6	2	—	13	18	0
Textiles (Rags, etc.) ...	1	11	3	—	13	7	0
Bottles and Jars ...	3	—	2	—	11	8	0
Mixed Metals ...	...	9	3	16	15	7	6
Kitchen Waste ...	31	2	1	—	81	19	4
					<hr/> £757 15 7 <hr/>		



