

[Report 1944] / Medical Officer of Health, Barrow-in-Furness County Borough.

Contributors

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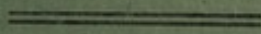
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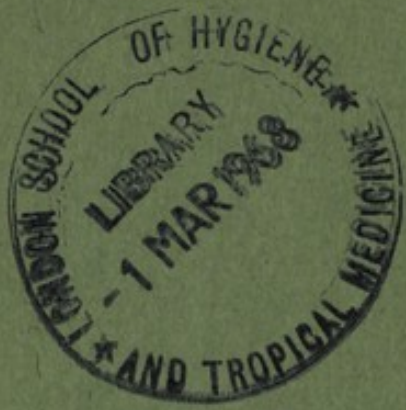


COUNTY BOROUGH
OF
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.



Medical Officer's Report,
1944.

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.
1944.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH
COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the health of the Borough for the year 1944, which, in accordance with the wishes of the Ministry of Health, is still curtailed in certain details.

There was no great epidemic sickness during the year, and the health of the community remained good. Full employment and high wages were maintained during the year, and, together with rationing, resulted in improved standards of living and of adequate and equal distribution of the basic foods essential for health.

The estimated mid year (1943) population was 64,390, which showed a slight increase from the previous year—64,060. The birth rate continued to increase as it has done during the war years. The figure was 20.5 per 1,000 population, compared with 19.2 for the previous year. The total number of deaths was 791, giving a rate of 12.3 per 1,000 population, compared with 13.8 for the previous year.

The infantile mortality rate was 60.5 per 1,000 births, compared with 53.6 for the previous year, whilst there were 8 maternal deaths, giving a rate of 6.0, compared with 4.8, which shows an increase.

The death rate from Cancer, 1.8, was the same as last year. The death rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, which was almost the lowest on record last year, showed an increase. There were 45 deaths, compared with 31 in 1943, giving a rate of 0.69 compared with 0.48 for the previous year.

The work of the Public Health Department has been maintained throughout the year, although the majority of the Medical and Clerical Staffs are temporary, yet they have valiantly carried out their duties, and I wish to acknowledge my appreciation of the medical, hospital, inspectorial, nursing and clerical staffs for their loyal help and co-operation.

I would like to acknowledge, with thanks, the help and support given to me by the Council and the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee and the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. ROBB FORREST,

Medical Officer of Health.

not applicable to all cases of tuberculosis. There were 50 males and 11 females on allowances during the past year, and the following grants were made :—

Maintenance Allowances.	Discretionary Allowances.	Special Payments.	Total.
£1813 7 10d.	£64 13 4d.	£8 10 6d.	£1886 11 8d.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

(a) RISEDALÉ MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The Municipal Maternity Hospital has again been working to full capacity, but there is still an extreme lack of accommodation for all the cases who wish for an institutional confinement. This has been partly met by the continued use of the emergency Maternity Home at Arnside. The number of bookings is still very high, and plans for increased accommodation have been submitted to the Ministry of Health, but so far the building has not been erected.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1944.

Number of beds available	28
Total admissions	596
Number of deliveries	508
Number of ante-natal patients treated as in-patients	167
Cases delivered by Midwives	446
Cases delivered by Doctors	62
(a) General Practitioners	30
(b) Obstetrician	32
Cases in which medical aid was summoned	150
(a) General Practitioners	28
(b) Obstetrician	122
Maternal Deaths	2
Infantile Deaths—	
(a) Stillbirths	21
(b) Neo-natal deaths	14
(One baby admitted from District).	

CLINICS—

Ante-Natal :

Number of individuals attended	738
Total attendances made	4581

Post-Natal, Gynaecological and Endocrine :

Number of individuals attended	441
Total attendances	714
(a) Post-natal	214
(b) Gynaecological	181
(c) Endocrine	14

Dr. M. Venters, Obstetric Consultant at the Hospital, reports as follows :—

“ During the past year the work of the Hospital has kept well up to standard. The Clinics have been well attended, though we should like to see an increase in the number of attendances at the Post-Natal Clinic. It is interesting to note that the cases of pre eclampsia and chronic nephritis treated in Hospital were almost double those of the previous year. Seven patients were given blood transfusions with excellent results. The reasons for the blood transfusions were various, shock, ante-partum haemorrhage, post-partum haemorrhage and microcytic anaemia of pregnancy. There were unfortunately two maternal deaths, neither of which could have been avoided. The infants on the whole have done well, and the incidence of breast feeding has increased. There were 21 stillbirths during the year. In eleven cases the cause was obvious, but in ten there was no apparent reason for the death of the foetus. 22 premature infants were born. Of these 5 died, 4 being very premature, the fifth as the result of a premature labour, but the remaining 17 were discharged doing well.”

Stillbirths	21
Anencephalic	4
Pre-eclampsia	1
No apparent cause	1
Macerated. No apparent maternal or foetal cause	9
Toxic antepartum haemorrhage	2
Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida	1
Breech delivery (Primipara 10 lbs. baby)	1
One of twins. Malformation of the chest due to intra-uterine pressure	1
One of twins. Forceps delivery, premature baby	1
Neo Natal Deaths	14
Prematurity associated with maternal toxæmia (all under 4 lbs.)	3
Prematurity—no apparent maternal or foetal cause (under 3 lbs.)	1
Prematurity—no apparent maternal or foetal cause—precipitate labour (5 lbs.)	1
Atelectasis	3
Abnormality of Oesophagus	1
Congenital heart lesion	2
Cerebral haemorrhage following breech delivery	1
Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida	1
Premature infant admitted from district	1

(b) MUNICIPAL MIDWIVES.

There are eight full-time Municipal Midwives who attended 407 domiciliary cases as Midwives and 140 as Maternity Nurses. The percentage of total domiciliary births attended by the Municipal Midwives was 75.5%.

During the year instruction in Minnitt's Gas/Air Analgesia apparatus was continued, and all of the Municipal Midwives have obtained this certificate. It is hoped in the near future to supply each Midwife with a Gas/Air Analgesia Apparatus. The Midwives attend special Ante-Natal Clinics which are conducted by the Maternity and Child Welfare Officer, and any case of abnormality is referred to the Obstetric Consultant.

(d) WELFARE CENTRES.

There is one central Welfare Centre, and owing to the additional number of attendances an extra weekly session was introduced making four per week, and the average attendance per clinic was 181.62 during the three session period, and 138.5 after the introduction of the extra session.

The number of children who first attended during the year, and who, on the date of their first attendance were under one year of age, was 1,201, and those over one year of age was 104, whilst the total number of children who attended, and who at the end of the year were under one year of age was 1,052, and over one year of age 4,400, which reveals that 90% of all babies born in Barrow during the year attended the Welfare Centre. The work of the Clinic is carried out by two Assistant Medical Officers for Maternity and Child Welfare, and five Health Visitors. Babies are weighed weekly until three months old when, if their condition is satisfactory, monthly weighings are sufficient. The Medical Officers see all new babies referred by the Health Visitors for advice on feeding and general management of the child. The scheme for the supply of dried milk, foods, vitamin preparations and other medicaments was continued, together with the Ministry of Food scheme for the distribution of Fruit Juice and Cod Liver Oil.

(e) WAR-TIME NURSERY.

The War-time Nursery continued in operation during the year, and provided accommodation for 45 children during the day, whilst the night accommodation was increased from 15 to 18. The care and training provided at the Nursery resulted in a steady improvement in the general physical condition and well being of the children. The attendance figures throughout the year varied owing to the prevalence of mumps, but no real hardship has ensued as a result of the loss of Civil Defence transport to and from the Nursery.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.

Steps have been taken to provide more accurate information as suggested in Circular 20/44. All Midwives, Maternity Homes and the local Hospital have been provided with forms embodying the data required, and have promised to co-operate.

As for the treatment, the domiciliary Midwives have been instructed in the special care of premature babies, and in cases where they think institutional treatment is desirable, arrangements have been made for the admission, by ambulance, of the child to the Municipal Maternity Hospital. Both at home and in hospital the recommendations of the Advisory Com-

mittee are carried out as far as possible within the limitations of war-time equipment and staff, i.e. the provision of warm and suitable clothing, gamgee jackets, etc.; hot water bottles, mucus catheters and special feeding bottles. At present there is no special accommodation for premature babies at the Municipal Maternity Hospital, but it is hoped to have this in the new post war hospital.

The Health Visitors are informed as to the premature babies, and pay special visits to the children. A Home Help scheme for maternity cases has been in operation for several years, but again, owing to war-time conditions, it has been more or less in abeyance during the last few years owing to inability to get personnel.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

There is no distinction made between legitimate children and illegitimate children. Any mother is entitled to the full services—Ante-natal, Post-natal and Infant Welfare Clinics, etc. There is a Home maintained by the Furness Association for Social and Moral Welfare, which takes in unmarried expectant mothers at any time and keeps them until their transfer to the Diocesan Maternity Home at Kendal, or until their admission to the Maternity Hospital here. During their stay these girls attend the Risedale Maternity Hospital Ante-natal Clinics. If the children stay with their parents or grandparents, which seems to be the rule here in the majority of cases, they are visited in the usual way by the Health Visitors. Should they be boarded out, they come under the Child Life Protection, and in addition to the routine visits a quarterly report is made under the Child Life Protection rules. If the mother is working, the child, when between the age of 2—5 years, is eligible for admission to the War-time Nursery.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The work of the Venereal Diseases Clinic has been carried out at the temporary clinic situated in the grounds of the Infectious Diseases Hospital at Devonshire Road. The staff consists of two part-time Clinical V.D. Officers who are in general practice in the town, one full-time Male Attendant and two Sisters from Devonshire Road Hospital are part-time at the clinics for female patients.

The statistical figures show that the incidence of cases of Gonorrhoea and Syphilis attending the clinic has fallen slightly, whilst the defaulters who failed to complete treatment increased slightly. Regulation 33B has been in operation, but most of the cases were dealt with informally owing to the fact that only one formal notification was received for the majority of the cases. Several cases could not be traced owing to insufficient information being given regarding name and address, and some refused to attend for treatment.

When a formal notification is received, the person is requested by letter to attend for interview by the Medical Officer of Health, and advised

to attend the Clinic for examination. If the person fails to attend for interview, a Health Visitor is sent to the address to try and persuade the person to come for interview or examination at the Clinic.

The weakness of the 33B Regulation is that there is no power of compulsion which can be applied unless two formal notifications are received.

Those female cases who default in completing their treatment are visited by the Health Visitor at the request of the Clinical V.D. Officers. The method of sending a letter to remind the patients that they have failed to continue treatment is fraught with danger owing to the fact that the letter may fail to reach the patient, and therefore destroy the confidential nature of the treatment. The Clinical V.D. Officers are not prepared to work this scheme.

VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

A full-time female cleanser is employed at the Welfare Centre, and she treats adult females and children, including school children, who require cleansing. Health Visitors and School Nurses are actively engaged in ascertaining verminous children and arranging for their treatment at the Central Clinic. The whole family is offered facilities for cleansing at the Public Assistance Institution or at the one remaining First Aid Post. Lethane oil and nit combs are lent to the mothers of children free of charge. Scabies cases are treated with Benzyl Benzoate. The number of cases of Scabies dealt with at the Central Clinic, First Aid Posts, and Public Assistance Institution, was as follows:—

Babies under 5 years of age	179
School children	726
Men	130
Women	203
	—
Total	1238
	—

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The scheme for immunisation against diphtheria has been energetically carried out during the year. The main propaganda efforts have been made by the Health Visitors and School Nurses to ensure that all children are immunised before reaching school age.

The following statement shows the numbers dealt with up to the end of 1944:—

	Under	5—15
	5 years.	years.
Total number immunised	694	79
Percentage of child population immunised	72%	91%

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The town Ambulance Service is being run by the Health Committee pending a decision by the Government regarding the control of the Fire Brigade after the War. During the year the full-time Civil Defence personnel was drastically cut down, but five male Civil Defence Ambulance drivers were retained for driving the town Ambulances. The Ambulance attendants had to be recruited and paid by the Health Committee, to take the place of the Civil Defence Rescue men. A very efficient service has been run with Civil Defence personnel, but it is to be a big problem to maintain this service now owing to lack of man-power and the high cost of the service to the rates.

The number of cases transported during the year was as follows :—

Accidents	537
Removals (Illness)	1516
Out of town journeys	75
	<hr/>
Total	2128
	<hr/>

GOVERNMENT'S EVACUATION SCHEME.

In the summer of 1944 the Government arranged a new evacuation of women and children from the South. Two special trains with 679 and 720 evacuees arrived in Barrow, and arrangements had to be made for their reception in four Rest Centres where they were housed, fed and medically examined prior to being billeted in the town. The first train consisted of 679 unaccompanied school children, and after being medically examined they were billeted in the adjacent Ulverston and Dalton Urban and Rural Districts. The second train of 720 persons were billeted in Barrow. The party consisted of the following :—

	Under 5 years.	Over 5 years.
Accompanied children	199	129
Unaccompanied children		223
Adults		169

Previously Barrow had been an evacuation area, but now became a reception area, and the problems that had to be faced were different. Certain cases had to be removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital, General Hospital and Maternity Hospital. Treatment of Scabies was carried out at the School Clinic, and special arrangements were made for the feeding and care of babies.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE.

The Blood Bank at the North Lonsdale Hospital has continued to function during the year, but the additional centre at one of the First Aid Posts ceased to function owing to the reduction in the Civil Defence establishments. The Volunteer Car Pool took over the work of transporting patients and blood to the High Carley E.M.S. Laboratory.

E.M.S. PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

The above Laboratory, which is situated at High Carley, near Ulverston, has carried out all the Public Health Laboratory work during the year, including the examination of samples of milk and water. The service is very efficient, and owing to its close proximity to Barrow, allows more rapid delivery of the specimens and earlier results compared with the Liverpool Laboratory. Dr. J. Carr Brundret has continued to give every assistance in Public Health Investigations.

ULTRA VIOLET CLINIC.

Owing to the growing demands for this service, alternative accommodation was secured at Harrison Street, consisting of waiting room, undressing room and treatment room. Unfortunately the qualified Physiotherapist who was employed left to join the Women's Services, and I was unable to obtain a successor. The Clinic is being conducted by a School Nurse for School children and a Health Visitor for children under five years of age. There is a separate clinic held at the Dispensary for children suffering from Tuberculous glands. Attendance figures are as follows:—

	Non-Tuberculous.		Tuberculous.	
	M. & C.W.	School Children.	Adults.	Children.
No. of patients attending	172	372	9	141
Total attendances	1131	4217	128	1949

MASSAGE AND REMEDIAL EXERCISES CLINIC.

This Clinic has had to be abandoned owing to the resignation of the Masseuse and Physiotherapist and the impossibility of finding a successor owing to war-time shortage of qualified persons.

The following is a summary, prepared by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, of the work carried out in his Department during the year:—

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES.

HOUSING.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES CAPABLE OF REPAIR AT REASONABLE EXPENSE.

HOUSING ACT, 1936, SECTION 9.

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring execution of repairs	18
Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	15
At the end of the year action was pending or work actually in progress in respect of 3 dwelling houses	
Number of Empty Corporation Houses examined prior to re-letting	13
Number of Houses examined in respect of applications from Tuberculosis Patients for re-housing	24
Number of Inspections made of Corporation Houses	88

ABATEMENT OF OVERCROWDING.

Number of Notices served requiring the abatement of overcrowding	3
Number of Notices complied with	3
No. of complaints regarding nuisances and sanitary defects received and investigated	1513
No. of inspections and re-inspections made under the provisions of the Public Health Act and Housing Act	5502
No. of visits made regarding cases of infectious disease	399
No. of premises disinfected after infectious disease	234
No. of inspections under the provisions of Section 10 of the Shops Act, 1934	120
No. of inspections under the provisions of Part I of the Factories Act, 1937	245
No. of inspections of Food Premises	770
No. of miscellaneous inspections (e.g. Piggeries, Stables, Offensive Trade Premises, etc.)	507

DRAINAGE WORK.

The provisions of Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1936, regarding the notification to be given to the Local Authority of the repair, reconstruction or alteration of the course of any underground drain, are enforced by the Department, and all such work is inspected and approved by the Sanitary Inspectors before being covered in.

RODENT CONTROL.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

INFESTATION ORDER, 1943.

The Council employ a Rodent Officer and a Rat-catcher to deal with rat and mouse infestation. The work is carried out free of charge, with the exception that occupiers of business premises are required to pay for the cost of materials and labour. The following is a summary of the work carried out in this connection during 1944 :—

No. of reports of infestation received and investigated	557
No. of premises visited	1067
No. of premises treated	403
Amount of poison bait taken	346 ounces.
Estimated number of rats poisoned	865
No. of dead rats found after poisoning	77
No. of rats trapped	197
No. of rats killed by dogs	181
No. of mice trapped	120

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MEAT INSPECTION.

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE PUBLIC ABATTOIRS.

Year.	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
1942	3536	4008	40402	1334	49280
1943	4134	3693	36983	1541	46351
1944	4253	3342	43623	948	52226
Increase	119		6640		5875
Decrease		351		593	

NUMBER OF WHOLE CARCASSES WITH OFFAL CONDEMNED.

Year.	Beef.	Veal.	Mutton.	Pork.	Total.
1942	75	79	92	23	269
1943	82	55	89	21	247
1944	148	80	157	17	402
Increase	66	25	68		155
Decrease				4	

The total weight of meat condemned at the Abattoir during the year was 80 tons, 4 cwts, 3 qtrs., 22 lbs.

UN SOUND MEAT, CARCASSES AND PART CARCASSES CONDEMNED AT THE ABATTOIR.

Disease.	Beef. lbs.	Veal. lbs.	Mutton, lbs.	Pork. lbs.	Total. lbs.
Tuberculosis	61293	806		2490	64589
Other Conditions	11220	1932	5190	834	19176
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	72513	2738	5190	3324	83765
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

UN SOUND VISCERA, CONDEMNED AT ABATTOIR.

Disease.	Beef. lbs.	Veal. lbs.	Mutton. lbs.	Pork. lbs.	Total. lbs.
Tuberculosis	51987	178		3649	55814
Other Conditions	30186	562	8990	437	40175
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	82173	740	8990	4086	95989
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

OTHER FOODSTUFFS EXAMINED AND SURRENDERED AT THE ABATTOIRS.

Imported Lamb	130 lbs.
Pork sausage	6½ lbs.

CONGENITAL TUBERCULOSIS IN CALVES.

During the year, 7 calves were found, on post-mortem examination, to be affected with Congenital Tuberculosis. Each case was reported to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and appropriate action taken under the Tuberculosis Order.

MILK SUPPLY.

No. of Registered Dairy Farms	36
No. of visits of inspection paid to dairy farms	165
No. of visits paid to Retail Dairies and Milk Shops	214

Clinical Examinations of dairy cattle were carried out by a Veterinary Officer appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the reports received from time to time show that the health of the dairy cattle in the Borough has been very good.

BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

No. of bulk milk samples submitted for animal inoculation test	137
No. of bulk milk samples showing the presence of B. Tuberculosis	4

Details regarding the 4 samples showing positive results were sent to the Divisional Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and as a result of the subsequent clinical examinations of the herds concerned, together with the examination of further samples of milk taken from groups of cows in each herd, the affected animals were discovered and immediately removed from the herd for slaughter, under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order 1938.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

No. of Accredited Milk Samples submitted to the prescribed tests	28
No. of Accredited Milk Samples satisfactory on both tests	21
No. of Accredited Milk Samples unsatisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	7
No. of Accredited Milk Samples unsatisfactory on Coliform Test	Nil.
No. of Accredited Milk Samples unsatisfactory on both tests	Nil.
No. of Licensed Accredited Milk Producers in the Borough	5
No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk submitted	35
No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk satisfactory on Bacterial Count Test	16
No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk satisfactory on Coliform Test	32
No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk satisfactory on Phosphatase Test	31
No. of Licensed Milk Pasteurisers in the Borough	1
No. of samples of ordinary milk submitted	101
No. of samples of ordinary milk satisfactory on Methylene Blue Test	65
No. of samples of ordinary milk satisfactory on Bacterial Count Test	51
No. of samples of ordinary milk satisfactory on Coliform Test	78

There is no prescribed bacteriological standard for Ordinary Milk; the standard adopted being that for Accredited Milk as regards the Methylene Blue and Coliform Tests, and a Plate Count of 200,000 Colonies per 1.C.C. as regards the Bacterial Count Test.

LEGAL ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

During the year, a local dairy farmer was prosecuted in respect of infringements of the provisions of the above-mentioned Order, and was fined a total of £6.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

RELATING TO SAMPLES OF FOOD ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR 1944.

NEW MILK.

One formal sample was reported to contain 5% of added water. Further samples taken from the same source were reported to be milks of abnormal composition.

One formal sample was reported to be deprived of 5% of its milk fat. Further samples taken proved genuine.

One formal sample was reported to be deprived of 12% of its milk fat. A further sample taken at the place of delivery proved to be deprived of 28% of its milk fat. The dairy farmer was prosecuted.

One formal sample was reported to be deprived of 5% of its milk fat. Further samples taken at the place of delivery, proved to be deprived of 6% of its milk fat. The Dairy Farmer was interviewed and cautioned.

Eight formal samples were reported to be milks of abnormal composition.

SPIRITS.

Four formal samples were reported to contain 17.5%, 14%, 12% and 14.7% excess of water respectively. The vendor in each case was prosecuted.

VINEGAR.

One formal sample was reported to be slightly deficient in Acetic Acid.

BAKING POWDER.

One informal sample, submitted by wholesalers, was reported to be deficient in available carbon dioxide.

One formal sample was reported to be slightly deficient in available carbon dioxide and showing signs of deterioration.

The stock in each of these cases was surrendered and destroyed.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

One informal sample was reported to contain an excess of Camphor (23.8%).

SOYA FLOUR.

Three informal samples were reported to be unfit for human consumption. The consignment from which the samples were taken was surrendered and destroyed.

MUSTARD.

One informal sample was reported to be deficient in Allyl-isothiocyanate. A formal sample was also reported to be deficient. The stock was surrendered and destroyed.

RICE.

Two formal samples were reported to contain 0.28% and 0.13% talc respectively.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Summary of samples in connection with which legal proceedings were taken during the year :—

Nature of Sample.	Nature of Offence.	Result of Legal Proceedings.
Whisky	Contained 17.5% excess of water	Vendor fined £15/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
Whisky	Contained 14% excess of water	Vendor fined £5/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
Whisky	Contained 12% excess of water	Vendor fined £2/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
Gin	Contained 14.7% excess of water	Vendor fined £5/0/0 and 10/6 costs.
New Milk	Deprived of 28% of its milk fat	Dairy Farmer fined £1/0/0 and £1/0/6 costs.

ANALYSIS OF MILK SAMPLES.

Number of samples analysed	120
Number of samples reported genuine	106
Number of samples reported to be adulterated or below the standard of the Board of Agriculture	14
Percentage of samples adulterated or below the standard of the Board of Agriculture	11.66
Average % of fatty and non-fatty solids in total samples analysed :—	
Fatty solids	3.58
Non-fatty solids	8.83
Total solids	12.42

SUMMARY.

Number of samples showing deficiency in milk fat	5
Number of samples showing added water	1
Number of samples of Abnormal Composition	8

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

8 informal samples of feeding stuffs were submitted for analysis under the above Act during the year. All the samples were reported satisfactory.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The following articles of food, dealt with by the Authorised Officers under the Food and Drugs Act, have been voluntarily surrendered and destroyed or salvaged during the year :—

DESTROYED.

Tinned Meat	477
„ Fish	330
„ Vegetables	324
„ Fruit.....	66
„ Milk	363
„ Soup.....	142
„ Jam	7
Tins of Household Milk	11
Jars of Preserves.....	328
Jars of Pickles	12

	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.		T.	C.	Q.	lbs.
Bacon and Ham.....	7	1	21		Tea			1	1
Sausage	4	3	2		Coffee				25
Fish	1	1	2	24	Cocoa				5
Fresh Fruit.....	2	12	0	11	Spice			1	23
Dried Fruit.....			3	1½	Confectionery			3	20
Vegetables	1	14	0	0	Liquid Egg.....			1	2
Cheese.....			2	25	Butter.....				9½
Tripe			2	26	Baking & Pudding				
Sausage Rusk	4	3	2		Powders			2	0
Soya Flour.....	4	0	15		Wheat Flakes			11	packets.
Bicarbonate of Soda	1				Fish Cakes			150	
					Meat Pies			30	
					Poultry			17	

SALVAGED.

	T	C.	Q.	lbs.
Bacon		12	3	4
Margarine			1	18
Butter.....				23
Cheese.....				11
Sugar		1	1	21
Cereals.....	1	18	3	3
Dried Fruit		7	0	0
Fresh Fruit	1	1	1	22
Vegetables	3	1	0	12
Meat		2	1	26
Cocoa		1	0	14
Cake Flour & Powders		1	0	23
Salt		1	1	19
Potato Crisps			2	0

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.
TOTAL NUMBER OF SAMPLES ANALYSED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1944.

No. of Samples taken.		Description of Sample.	No. of Samples genuine.		No. of Samples adulterated or not up to standard.	
Formal.	Informal		Formal.	Informal	Formal.	Informal
115	...	New Milk ...	101	...	14	...
5	...	Pasteurised Milk...	5	...	...	...
6	...	Butter ...	6	...	...	...
5	...	Lard ...	5	...	...	...
4	...	Margarine ...	4	...	...	...
4	...	Pepper ...	4	...	...	...
3	...	Rice ...	1	...	2	...
1	...	Semolina ...	1	...	...	...
1	...	Ground Ginger ...	1	...	...	...
1	...	Jam ...	1	...	...	...
1	...	Mincemeat ...	1	...	...	...
1	...	Raisins ...	1	...	...	...
1	...	Mixed Spice ...	1	...	...	...
2	1	Baking Powder ...	1	...	1	1
2	1	Mustard ...	1	...	1	1
1	1	Gelatine ...	1	1	...	...
10	...	Spirits ...	6	...	4	...
6	...	Vinegar ...	5	...	1	...
...	9	Pudding Mixtures ...	...	9	...	...
...	2	Egg Substitute Powder ...	...	2	...	...
...	1	Gravy Browning ...	...	1	...	...
...	4	Cake Flour ...	...	4	...	...
...	9	Self Raising Flour ...	...	9	...	...
...	3	Cocoa ...	...	3	...	...
...	5	Soya Flour ...	...	2	...	3
...	5	Castor Oil ...	...	5	...	...
...	5	Camphorated Oil...	...	4	...	1
...	8	Meat and Fish Pastes...	...	8	...	...
169	54		146	48	23	6
	223		194			29

PORT SANITARY INSPECTION DURING THE YEAR 1944.

No. of ships arriving	.....	.....	316
No. of ships arriving from foreign ports	.....	Steam	40
		Motor	0
No. of ships arriving Coastwise	.....	Steam	137
		Motor	139
Net Tonnage—From foreign ports	.....	Steam	112,311
		Motor	Nil.
Coastwise	.....	Steam	83,766
		Motor	63,058

NUISANCES.

British Vessels—			
Structure defects (wear and tear)	.....	.....	8
Dirt, vermin and other conditions	.....	.....	36
Other Nations—			
Structure defects (wear and tear)	.....	.....	1
Dirt, vermin and other conditions	.....	.....	7

DERATIZATION.

No. of certificates issued		
Deratization Exemption Certificates	.....	13
Deratization Certificates	.....	0
1 vessel examined at Heysham.		

WATER SUPPLIES.

1. The water supply of the area is affected in quality and quantity during flood and drought periods. During the year, it was found that samples were yielding B. Coli and an investigation was made at the reservoirs and collecting grounds. The heavy flood period caused a rise in the B. Coli content of the water, and samples taken at the collecting grounds were unsatisfactory from a bacteriological standard, and similarly with the samples in the reservoirs. Samples taken after chlorination, however, were satisfactory, and regular weekly samples were taken from the reservoirs before and after treatment, and also from house taps in different parts of the town. A special report was made to the Ministry of Health and Health Committee, with the result that the Ministry's inspectors visited Barrow and reported on the Water Undertaking, and advised an independent survey of the whole Undertaking by a specialist water engineer.

2. The whole of the Borough has a piped water supply, and regular chemical and bacteriological examinations were made of the untreated and treated water. The following are the number of analyses made during the year :—

BACTERIOLOGICAL :

By Gas and Water Department	Satisfactory	66
	Unsatisfactory	39
Total		105
By Public Health Department	Satisfactory	12
	Unsatisfactory	6
Total		18
Swimming Bath Water	Satisfactory	3

CHEMICAL :

By Gas and Water Department	Satisfactory	12
	Unsatisfactory	0
Total		12
By Public Health Department	Satisfactory	0
	Unsatisfactory	1
Total		1

Two of the samples (one bacteriological and one chemical), collected by the Public Health Department, were from a well supplying a Bungalow, both samples being reported unfit for human consumption. The use of this water for domestic purposes was discontinued.

3. Lead pipes for domestic supply are not permissible in the Borough, owing to the nature of the water, which would affect lead pipes.

4. The presence of B. Coli in the water was immediately countered by increased chlorination.

5. The whole of the population is supplied by water mains direct to the houses.