#### [Report 1946] / Medical Officer of Health, Barrowford U.D.C.

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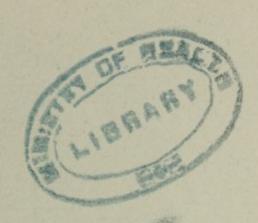
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# BARROWFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

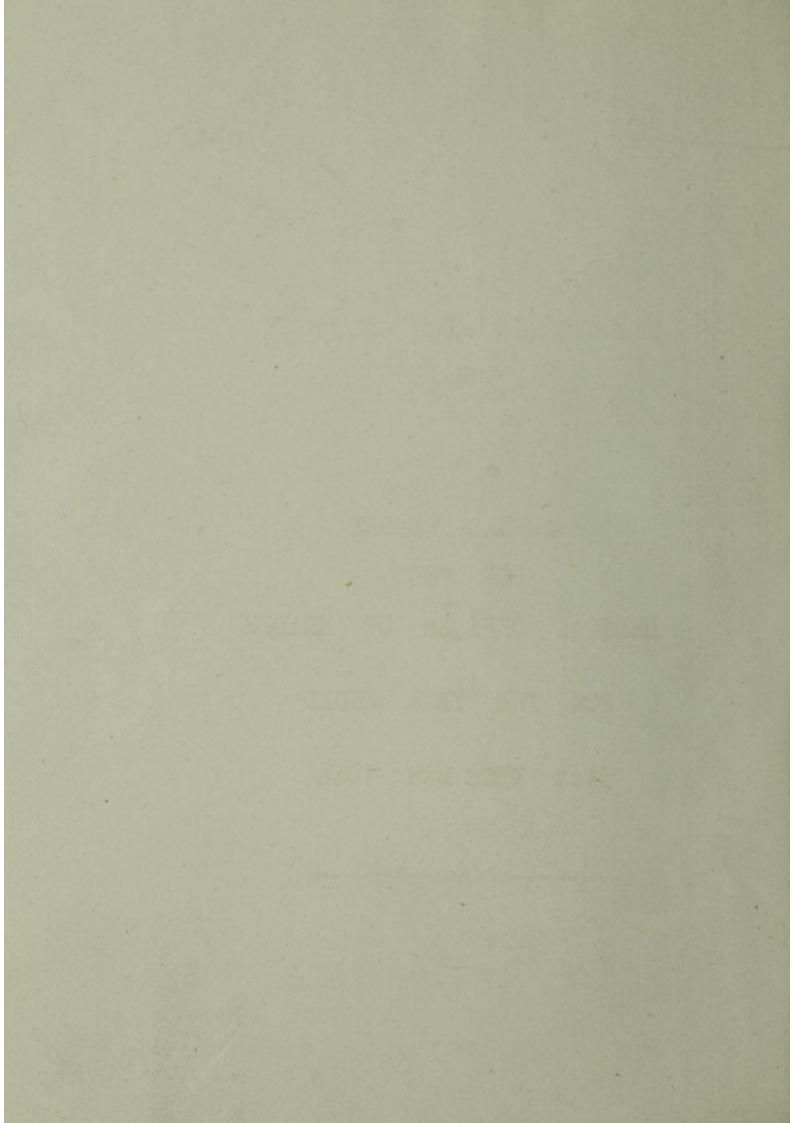
OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER 1946

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# Barrowford Urban District Council

# PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

G. J. Roberts, M.D., B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.P.H., D.P.A.

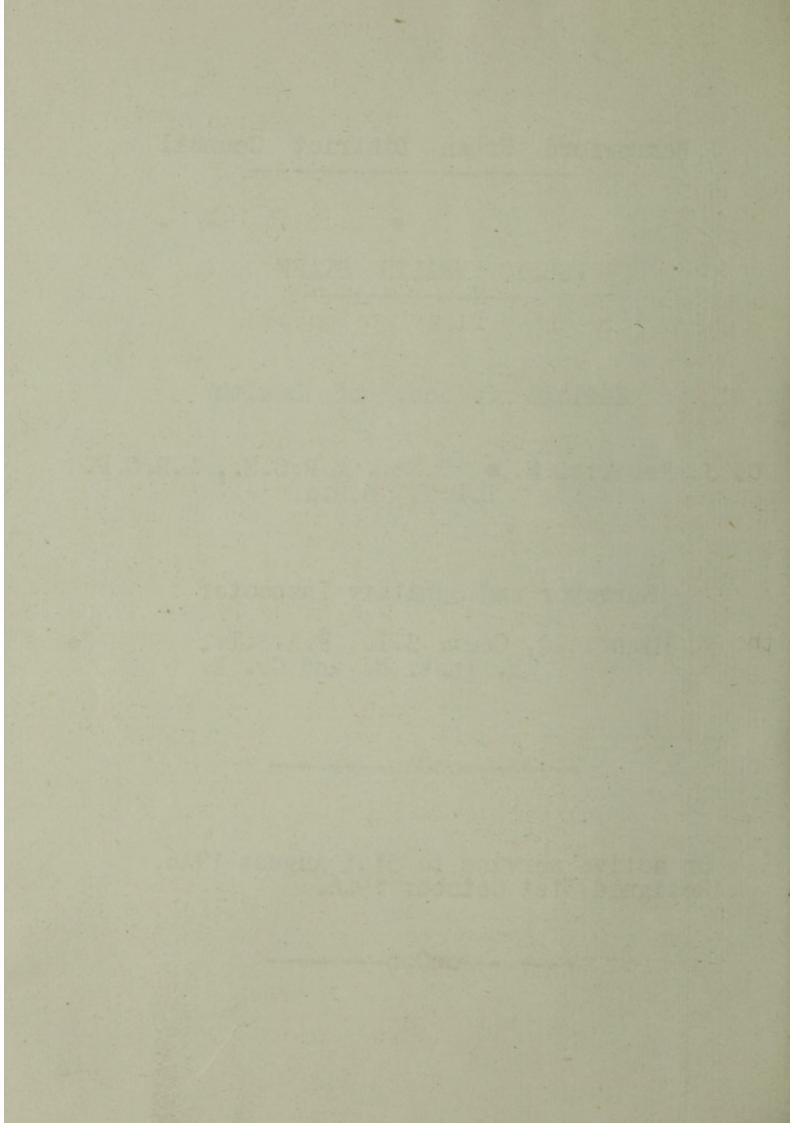
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

F. Highfield, Cert. S.I., P.A.S.I., M. Inst. M. and Cy. E.

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On active service to 31st August 1946. Resigned 31st October 1946.

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Public Health Office,

Colne.

August 1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the Barrowford Urban District Council.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen.

During the absence of your Medical Officer of Health (Dr. G. J. Roberts), on active service, and later following his resignation I have acted, for a period of 10 months throughout the year, as temporary Medical Officer of Health for your area. It has devolved on me to present the report dealing with the vital statistics, and other matters pertaining to the Public Health Services for the year ended 31st December 1946, and I have pleasure in so doing.

I wish to take this opportunity of acknowledging my gratitude to the members of the Council, the Clerk, and the Surveyor-Sanitary Inspector for the courtesy which has been extended towards me and for the willing assistance I have received throughout my term of office.

Also I have been ably assisted by the staff of the Public Health Office, Nelson, with whom you have a working arrangement and my thanks are due to them for their co-ordination.

I remain, Yours sincerely,

R. E. Robinson.

Lisoned defritald needs the worker A STATE OF THE RESIDENCE OF

Statistics and social conditions of the Area.

Area inacres Population - Census 1931	1387 5299
Registrar General's estimate of Population, mid 1946. This is an increase of 227 on the estimated population mid 1945.	4614
Number of inhabited houses: -  (a) Census 1931  (b) End of 1946 according to	1602
Rate books Rateable Value Sum represented by a penny rate	1742 £27547 £109.411

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area: - There has been no change in social conditions, as compared with previous years. The chief industry is weaving with trades allied directly therewith.

## VITAL STATISTICS

No unusual or excessive mortality has occurred during the year, nor has there been any sickness or invalidity which has been specially noteworthy. There does not appear to have been any conditions of occupation or environment which has had a prejudicial effect on health.

Comparing the vital statistics with the previous year it is found that the birth rate shows and increase of 0.3 per thousand of population, the death rate a decrease of 0.1, deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis a decrease of 0.47, and deaths from malignant disease an increase of 0.53 per thousand of population.

SINGA SIJ TO EMOCSITOR DEPOCA TO DEL THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH TERR REPLIES & ROLL OF STREET 

Comparison with means of the 5 years 1941 - 1945 shows a decrease in the birth rate of 0.3, an increase in the death rate of 0.7, a decrease in the pulmonary tuberculosis death rate of 0.05 and an increase in the deaths from malignant disease of 0.07 per thousand of population.

disease of 0.07 per thousand of population.

The infantile mortality rate shows a decrease of 4 per thousand live births compared with 1945 and an increase of 13 per thousand live births when compared with the mean of the five years 1941-1945.

During the year deaths exceeded births by 19.

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BIRTHS

	Live	Births		
		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate		25 4	25	50
	Total	29	26	55
	Still	Births		
		Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Illegitimate		2 -	1 -	3
	Total	2	1	3

The above figures give a live birth rate of 11.9, a still birth rate of 0.65, and a total

and has a contracted the contraction of the policy of the contraction The state of the latter of the state of the (live and still) birth rate of 12.57 per thousand of population. The still births represent a rate of 51 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

The number of births actually occurring in Barrowford during the year was 24 (all live births) one of which was relative to a non-resident. This indicates that 34 total births (live and still) or 58.6% of the births occurred in homes or institutions outside the Barrowford area. 5 illegitimate births were registered, this being 8.6% of the total births, representing an illegitimate birth rate of 1.07 per thousand of population, an increase of 0.17 on the rate for 1945.

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# DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
Total	32	42	74

Death rate 16.0 per thousand of population.

44 deaths occurred in Barrowford during the year, one of which was a non-resident. 31 deaths of Barrowford residents occurred elsewhere, of which

27 were either in hospital or institution.
On analysis of the causes of death it is found that heart disease gave rise to the greatest number i.e. 20 deaths with a death rate of 4.34 per thousand inhabitants. Malignant disease with 14 deaths, death rate 3.04 per thousand inhabitants was the next highest cause of death. The death rate from respiratory diseases was 1.29 per thousand of population (6 deaths) and from tuberculosis 0.21 per thousand of population (1 death).

another turney to homewords was out to be stated 

Analysis of the ages at death show 4 to have occurred under 5 years of age (5.4%) and 24 (32.4%) deaths to be of persons of 70 years of age or over.

No Maternal death occurred during the year and excluding tubercukosis there was no death from any of the notifiable infectious diseases. There was one death of an infant under 2 years of age from diarrhoea and enteritis this giving a mortality rate of 9.4 per 1,000 live births. Whilst this figure may appear relatively high in comparison to figures later submitted relating to the whole country and sub-divisions thereof, it must be borne in mind that there are only a very small number of births in Barrowford on which the calculations can be based hence one death is bound to show a high mortality rate. It is therefore worthy of note that the previous death recorded in Barrowford from this cause was in the year 1933.

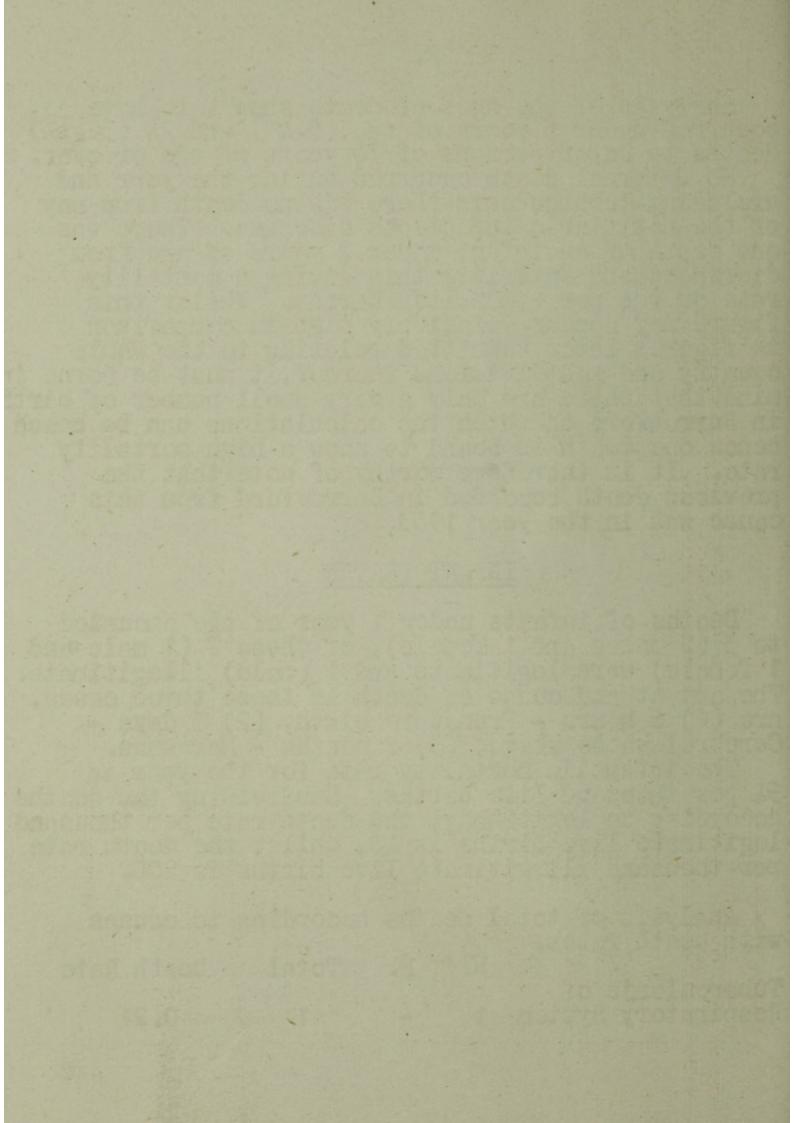
# INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age amounted to 3 (2 males and 1 female), of these 2 (1 male and 1 female) were legitimate and 1 (male) illegitimate. The age at and cause of death in these three cases, are (1) 5 hours - Premature birth, (2) 5 days - Cerebral haemorrhage, (3) 2 months - Marasmus. The infantile mortality rate for the year is

The infantile mortality rate for the year is 54 per thousand live births. Subdividing the deaths according to legitimacy, the death rate per thousand legitimate live births is 40, whilst the death rate per thousand illegitimate live births is 200.

Analysis of total deaths according to causes with death rates.

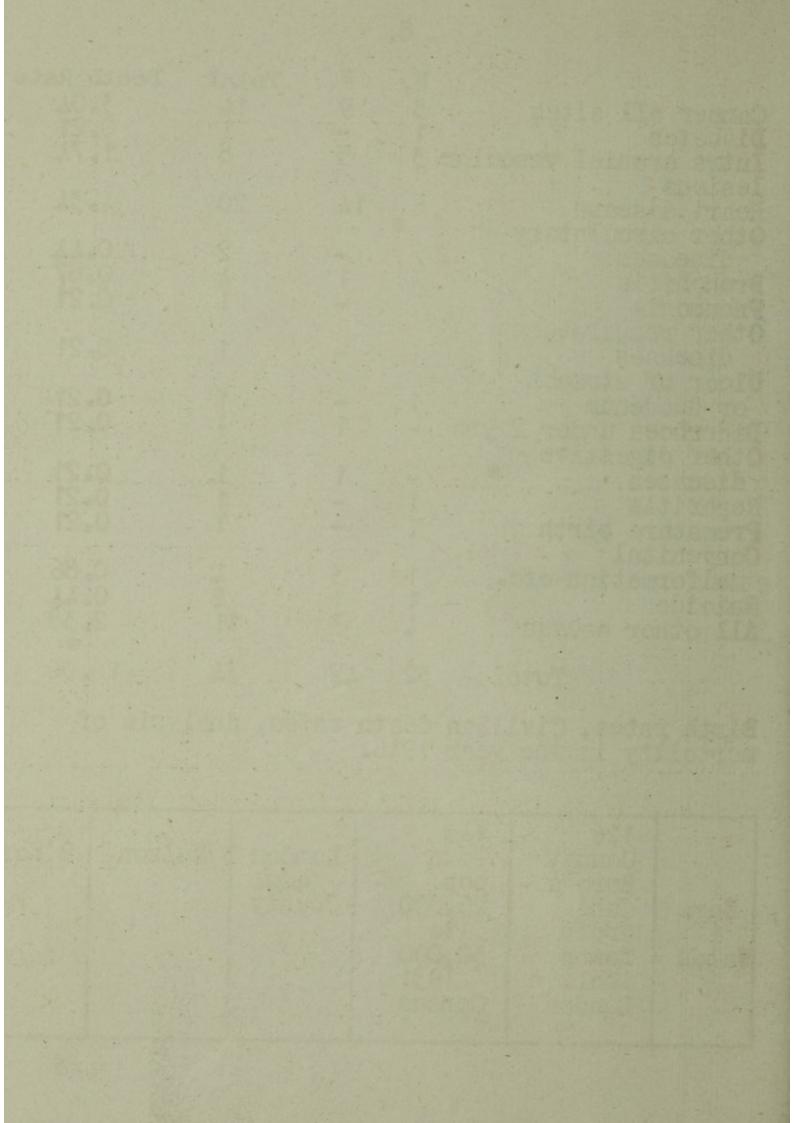
Tuberculosis of
Respiratory System 1 - 1 0.21



	M.	F.	Total.	Death Rate
Cancer all sites	5	9	14	3.04
Diabetes	1	9	1	0.21
Intra cranial vascular	, )	5	8	1.74
lesions Heart disease	6	14	20	4.34
Other circulatory		14		4.74
diseases	23	-	2	0.44
Bronchitis	3	1	4	0.44
Pneumonia	1	-	1	0.21
Other respiratory				
diseases	1	-	1	0.21
Ulcer of stomach				
or duodenum	1	-	1	0.21
Diarrhoea under 2 yrs	-	1	1	0.21
Other digestive				
diseases	-	1	1	0.21
Nephritis	1	-	1	0.21
Premature birth	1	-	1	0.21
Congenital		7		0.00
malformation etc.	]	3	11	0.86
Suicide	1	1	2	0.44
All other causes	4	1	11	2.38
Total	32	42	74	16.00

Birth rates, Civilian death rates, Analysis of mortality in the year 1946.

Eng.	126 County Boro's	148 Town pop. 25,000	London adm.	Nelson	B'ford
& Wales	Great Towns incl. London	50,000 1931 Census			



9.

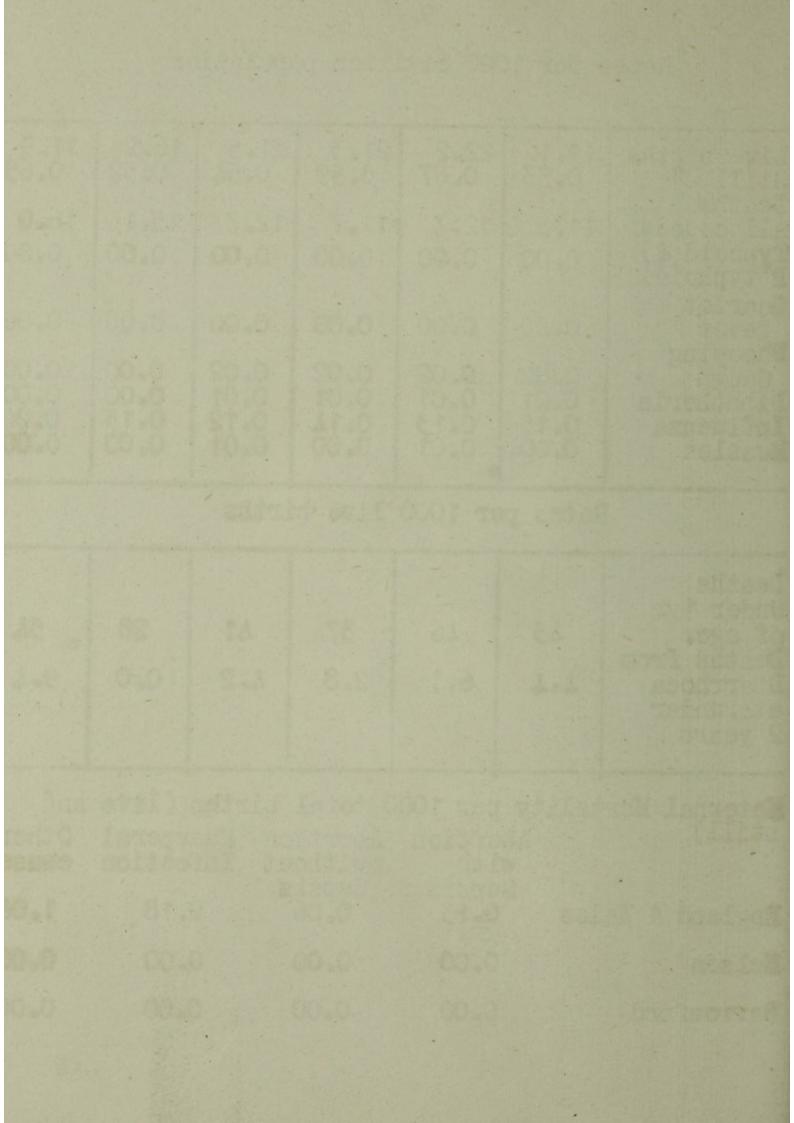
# Rates per 1000 civilian population

Live births Still "	19.1	22.2	21.3	21.5	16.2 0.52	11.9
Deaths All causes Typhoid &) P typhoid)	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.7	15.1	16.0
Scarlet	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough Diphtheria Influenza	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00
Measles	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.12	0.15	0.00

# Rates per 1000 live births

Deaths Under 1 yr of age. Deaths from Diarrhoea etc. under 2 years	43	46	37 2.8	41	28	54 9•4	
--	----	----	-----------	----	----	-----------	--

Maternal Mortali still)	ty per 100	O total bi	rths (live	and
20111)	with	without	* act ber ar	
England & Wales	Sepsis 0.13	Sepsis 0.06	0.18	1.06
Nelson	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Barrowf ord	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00



# Abortion mortality per millon women aged 15 - 45

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With sepsis

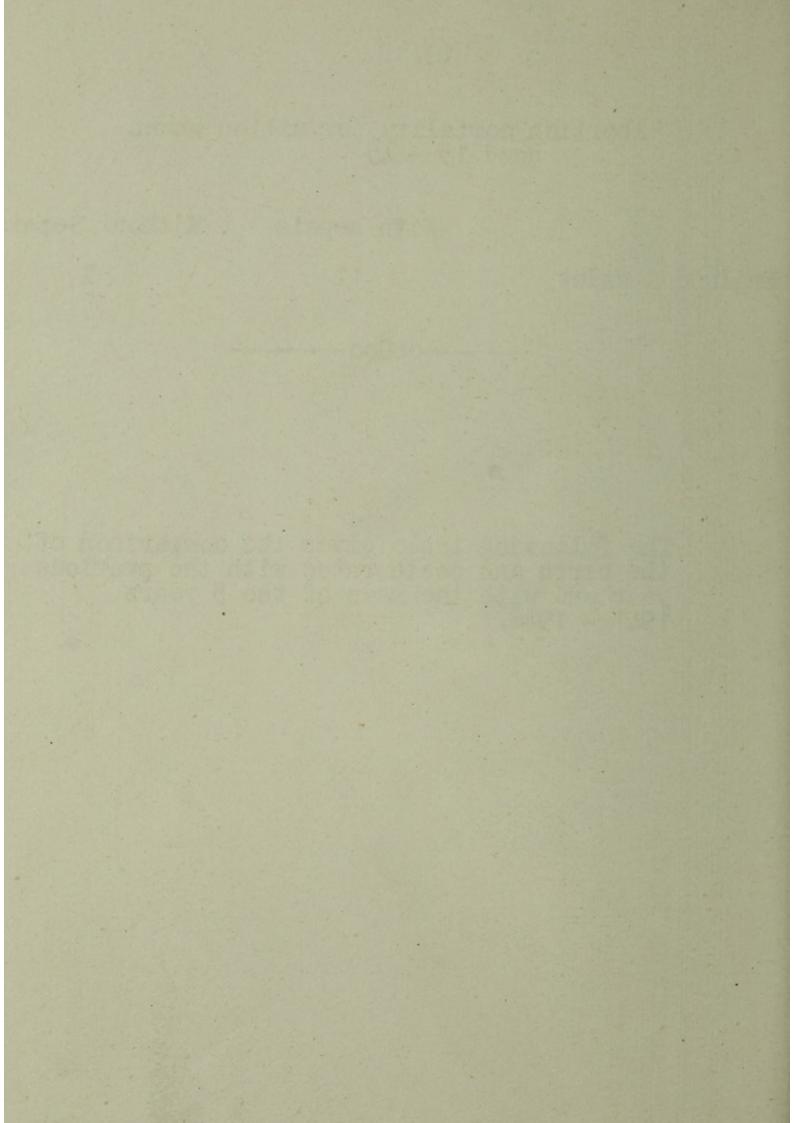
Without Sepsis

England & Wales

11

5

The following table gives the comparison of the birth and death rates with the previous year and with the mean of the 5 years 1941 - 1946.



on previous year	Increase or decrease in 1946 on 5 years average 1941-1945		Year 1945	Mean of 5 years 1941 - 1945	Estimated Population Mid 1946 - 4614.	
+0.3	-0.3	11.9	11.6	12.2	Live Birth Rate	er 10
-0.1	+0.7	16.0	16.1	15.3	Crude Death Rate	000 estm
-0.47	-0.05	0.21	0,68	0.26	Death Rate from T.B. resp. system	Per 1000 estm. population
+0.53	+0.07	3.03	2.50	2.96	Death Rate from Cancer	
nil	-2.98	nil	nil	2.98	Per 1000 live births	Maternal mortality
nil	-2.89	nil	nil	2.89	Per 1000 total live & still births	rtality
- 4	+ 13	54	58	14	under one yr. per 1000 live births.	Rate of deaths

\* -

# GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

## Laboratory facilities

There has been no change in the arrangements during the year. The facilities of the Public Health Laboratory, Nelson, are available to the local practitioners.

## Ambulance facilities

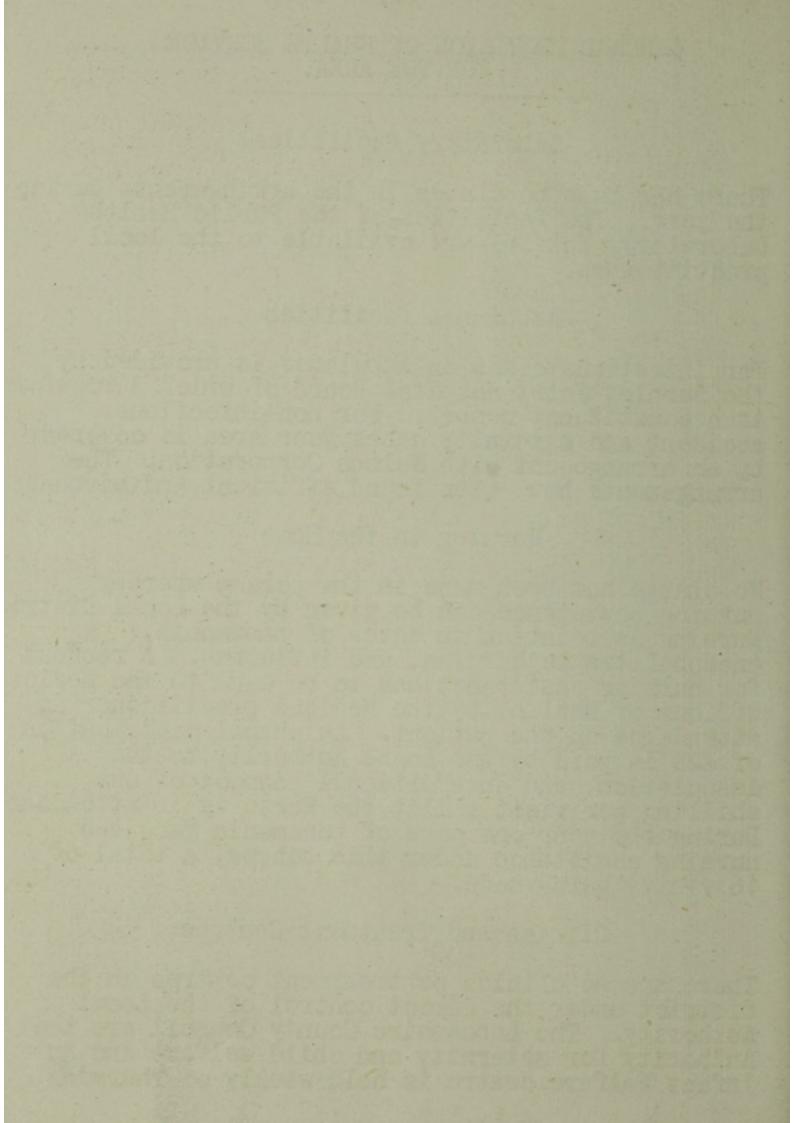
For infectious cases an Ambulance is provided by the Burnley Joint Hospital Board of which Barrowford is a constituent member. For non-infectious, accident and maternity cases your area is covered by an arrangement with Nelson Corporation. The arrangements have been found efficient and adequate.

# Nursing in the Home

No change has been made in the scheme whereby nursing assistance can be given by the Local District Nursing Association in cases of pneumonia, encephalitis lethargica, and influenza. A request for nursing assistance has to be made to the Medical Officer of Health, by the Medical practitioner in attendance on the patient. An annual contribution of £25 is paid by the Local Authority to the Association, and an additional payment of one shilling per visit whilst the Nurse is in attendance. During the year one case of pneumonia received nursing assistance under this scheme, a total of 16 visits being made.

## Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There are no clinics or treatment centres in the district under the direct control of the Local Authority. The Lancashire County Council are the Authority for maternity and child welfare and an Infant Welfare.centre is held weekly on Thursday



afternoons in the Congregational School, Church Street. Other clinics available to Barrowford residents are :-

(a) School Clinic in Manchester Road, Nelson.

(b) Orthopaedic Clinic at 11 Carr Road, Nelson. (c) Artificial light and T.B. dispensary for tubercular or pre-tubercular patients at 64 Carr Road, Nelson.

(d) Venereal disease treatment centre Victoria

Hospital, Burnley.

Hospital Provision There are no Hospitals within the Barrowford area. The following list shows the Hospitals available to Barrowford residents.

General Medical and Surgical - Reedyford Hospital,

Children Maternity Nelson and Victoria Hospital, Burnley.

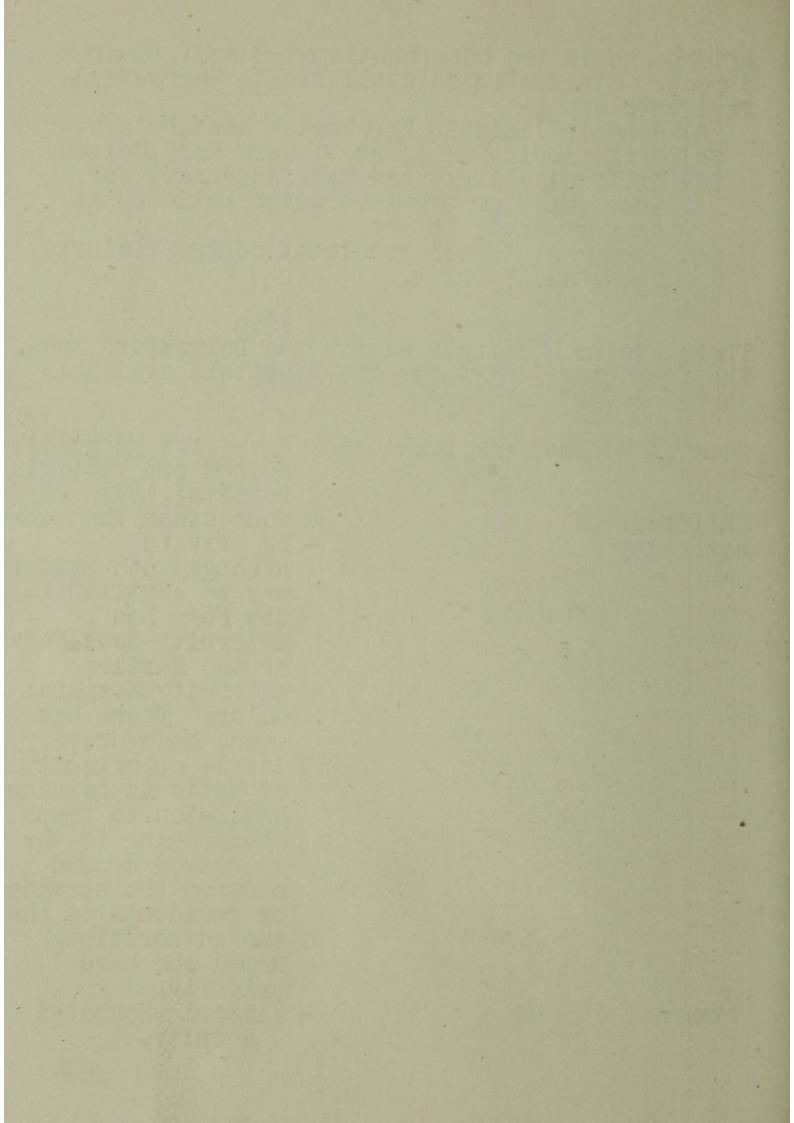
- None other than above.

- By private arrangements patients may be admitted to the Fern Lea Maternity Home, Nelson. or the Hartley Maternity Hospital Colne. There has been, however, very little opportunity of patients gaining admission to these homes owing to the increased demand made on the services by residents of the two authorities named who have priority.

- Victoria Hospital

Burnley.

Venereal disease



Tuberculosis

Orthopaedic

Puerperal Pyrexia

- Lancashire County Council Sanatoria.
- Lancashire County Council scheme for school and pre-school children.
- Marsden Road, Infectious Diseases Hospital, Burnley.

- Nelson Corporation

- Moorland gathering ground.

There are no institutions specially provided for unmarried mothers, illegitimate or homeless children The public assistance institution and the municipal infirmary for the area are situated in Burnley.

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

None

Authority from which supply is obtained. Source of supply

New source of supply

acquired during the

year. Supplies to houses

Direct to houses from Public Mains.

Number of dwellinghouses Number of population By means of standpipe 1586 4574

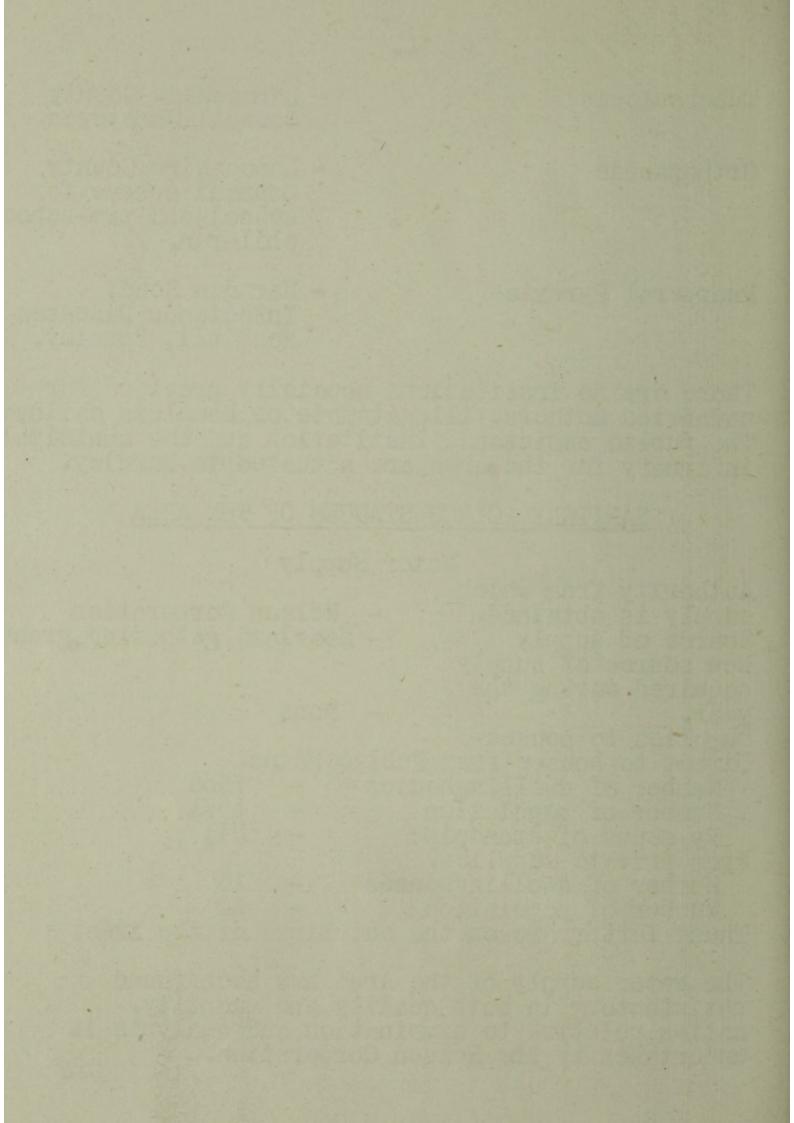
From private supplies.

Number of dwellinghouses - 16

Number of population - 40

These latter are on the outskirts of the Area.

The water supply of the Area has been found satisfactory in both quality and quantity. Action relative to examination and analysis is undertaken by the Nelson Corporation.



Drainage and Sewerage

Sewage disposal works - and method of treatment

Automatic screening plant, Primary and secondary settling tanks, Percolating filters, Humus tanks.

No new works of sewerage or extensions of sewage disposal works have been undertaken during the year.

On the outskirts of the area there are scattered farms and houses without drainage due to the distances involved from the main sewers. The sewage disposal works are situated so that there is natural fall thereto from all parts.

## Rivers and Streams

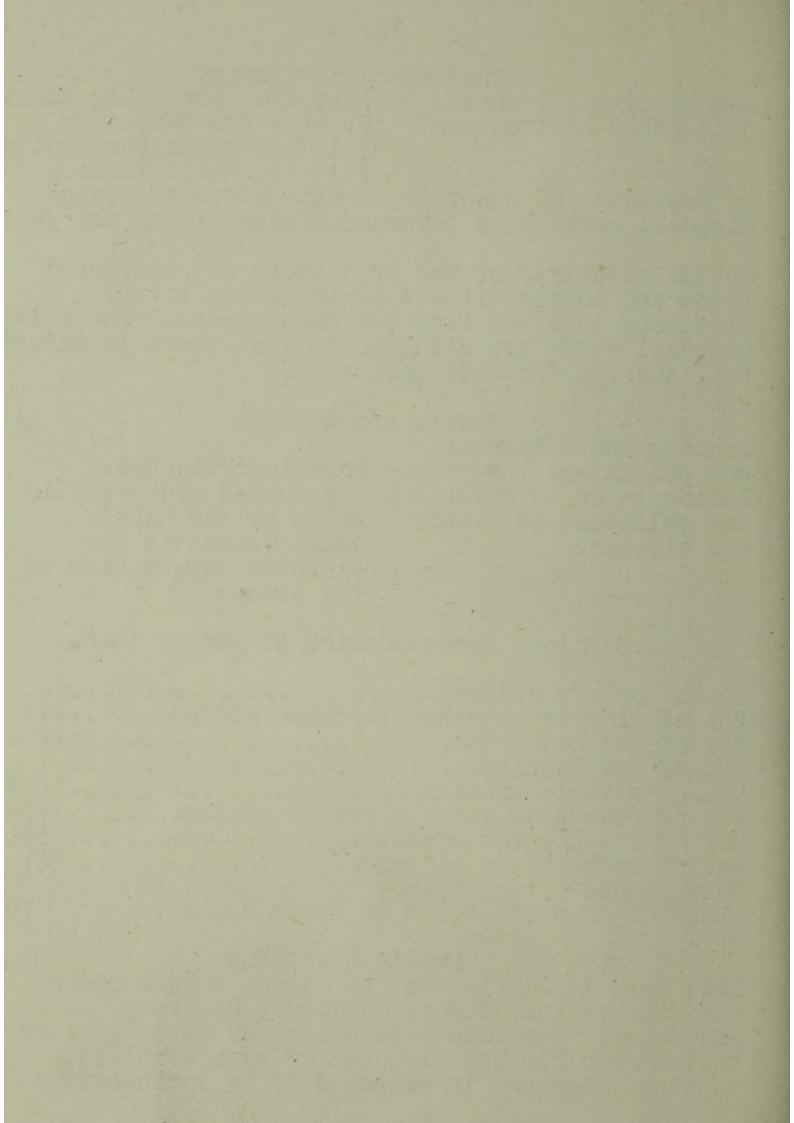
Sources and nature of any pollution. Action taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams.

None investigated.
Any action necessary is taken by the Ribble
Joint Committee who exercise supervision of the area.

# Sanitary accommodation at end of 1946.

No.	of	privvy middens	il
No.	of	closets attached to these middens N	Til
No.	of	pail closets	22
No.	of	dry ashpits	1
		movable ashbins1	
No.	of	houses on water carriage system1	776
		fresh water closets	
No.	of	waste water closets	341
Con	vers	sions during 1946. er of waste W.C's to fresh W.C's	
Nı	umbe	er of waste W.C's to fresh W.C's	10

Public Cleansing
This work is carried out by direct labour under
the supervision of your Surveyor, Sanitary
Inspector. The refuse is collected in a "Karrier
bantam" vehicle and disposed of by controlled
tipping. Garbage is disposed of by incineration



arrangements therefor being made with neighbouring authority and night soil is spread on farm lands.

	5	Sanitary inspections during 1946.	
Number	of	premises in general	
visited	lor	inspected	80
Number	of	visits to infectious cases	36
11	it	defects or nuisances discovered	50
11	11	nuisances abated	50
11	11	notices served informal	50
		statutory	1
11	11	Legal proceedings	nil
		0 1	

Shops and Offices.
No action taken during the year.

Camping Sites (other than Military) - There are none in the Area.

Smoke Abatement

Special action with regard

to smoke abatement - None

Number of factory and works
chimneys in the district - 8
Time limit for emission of 10 minutes
black smoke. - per hour.

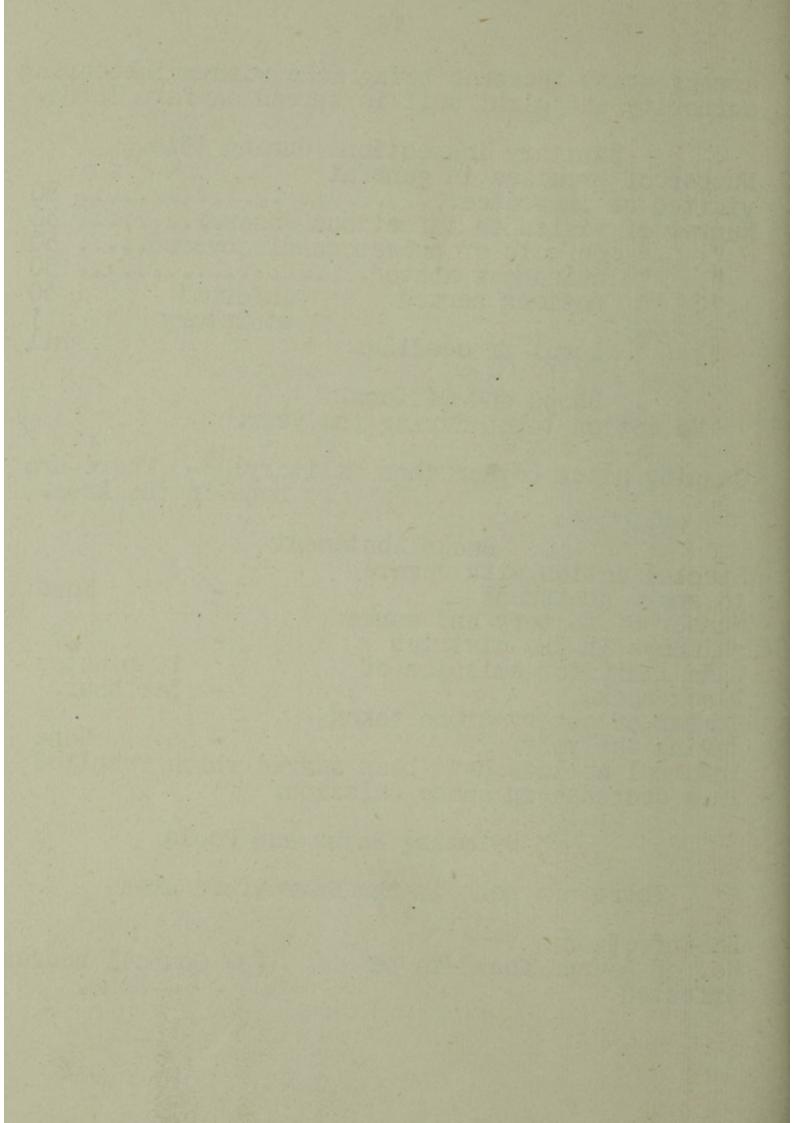
Number of observations taken
during the year. - None
Informal notices have been served which resulted
in a decrease in smoke emission.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There are none in the Barrowford Area

Disinfection.
No. of houses found to be infested

(a) Council houses



No. of houses disinfected

Methods employed for disinfestation of houses Name of fumigant or insecticide used Efficiency (a) Council houses

(b) Other houses 1.

D.D.T. spray.

Killgercide Good

No action has been necessary for disinfestation of belongings of tenants before removal ro council houses, nor measures taken by way of supervision and education of tenants to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing.

Disinfectation when necessary is carried out by the Local Authority.

Schools
The sanitary condition of the schools is good.
Each is supplied with towns water.

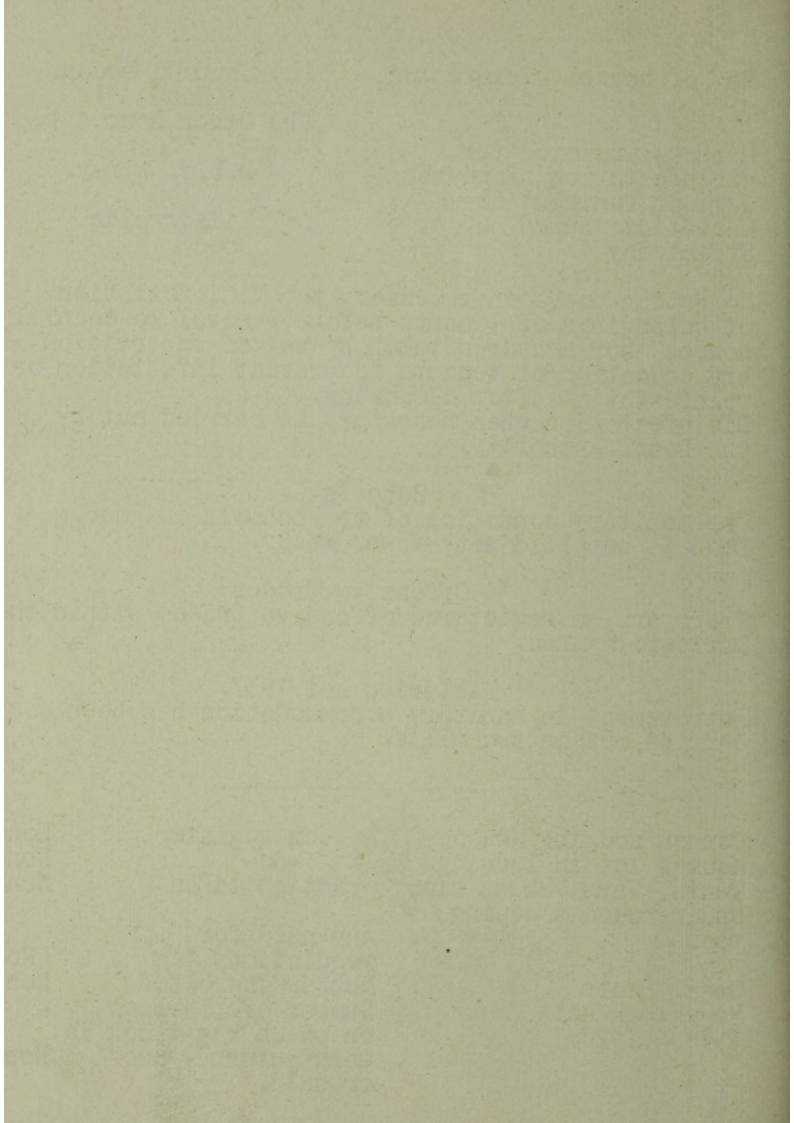
Offensive Trades
There are no registered offensive trades within the Barrowford Area.

Factories Act 1937.
Improvement in sanitary accommodation has been carried out in two mills.

Common Lodging Houses Houses let in lodgings Tents, Vans, Sheds etc. Underground sleeping rooms

Canal Boats Rag Flock Acts 1911 & 1928. No. on register None
Action taken None

Any need for regulations? No Number inspected None Number of premises on which rag flock is manufactured, used None. or sold.



Chief sanitary requirements of the district. There are several groups of houses served with ½" common water supply instead of a separate supply to each house. A large proportion of the houses are without a bath. Substitution of the Waste Water closets by fresh water closets.

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year.

(1) By the local authority

(2) By other local authorities

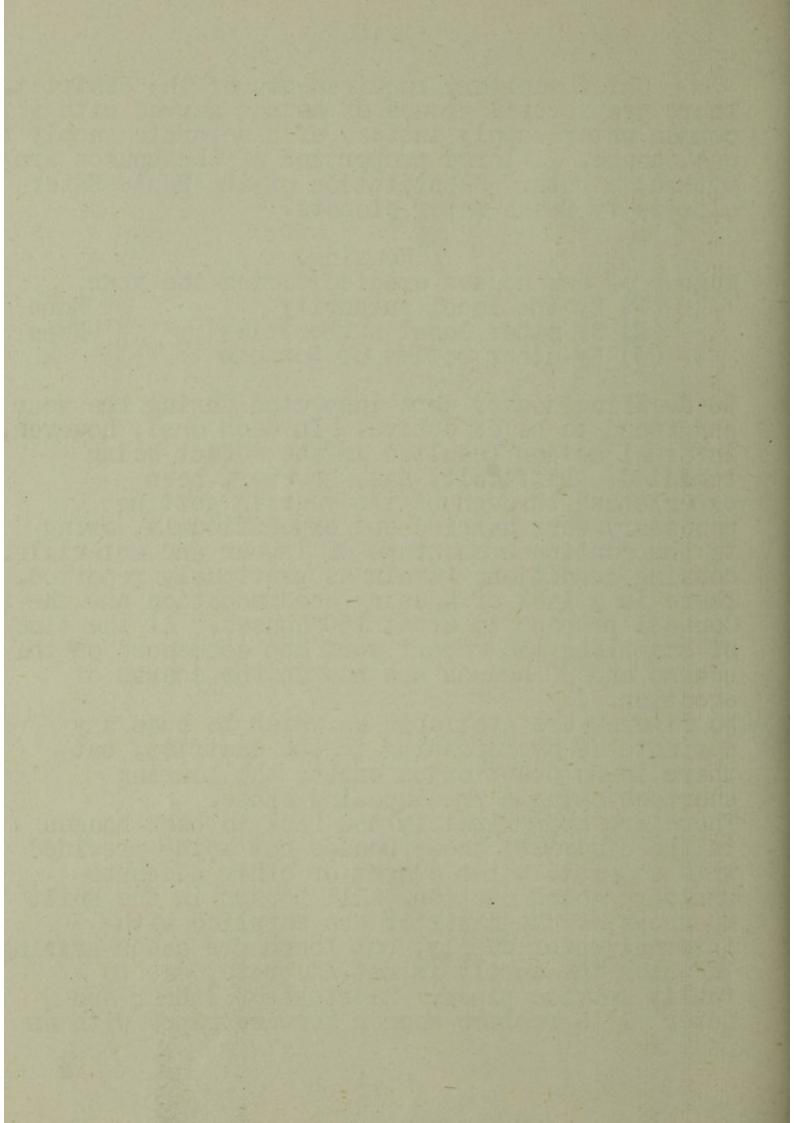
N

(3) By other bodies or persons None None

50 dwelling houses were inspected during the year and found to be defective. In each case, however, informal action resulted in the defect being remedied. Difficulty has, however, been experienced throughout the year in getting necessary work carried out expeditiously, owing to the continued shortage of labour and materials. Housing conditions remain as previously reported. There is a lack of housing accommodation and the Council propose to erect 130 houses. At the time of compiling the report work had commenced on the scheme and 30 houses are now in the course of erection,

No figures are available on which to base any estimate of overcrowding in the district, but there is no doubt cases exist, the housing shortage being a predisposing cause.

There are approximately 350 back to back houses in the district, these houses not being provided with separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation. All houses in the built up areas of the district are supplied with internal water supply, but there are cases arising in which the supply is not adequate, due to faulty service pipes. Shortage of labour and material to replace common service pipes with an



individual service pipe from the main to each house affected, is retarding efforts to be made to remedy this state of affairs.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.

A register is kept of the cowkeepers, and dairymen in the Area and this is amended from time to time as change occur. There are 24 dairy farms with an approximate number of 400 cows, and 9 retailers of milk who are not cowkeepers. The majority of the farms produce undesignated milk but accredited and milk from tuberculin tested herds is produced in the area. The licensing authority for the production and retail of designated milk is the Lancashire County Council. Inspection of all dairy herds is carried out under the direction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Action under the Food and Drugs Act is undertaken by the Lancashire County Council. Informal samples of milk obtained by your Officers are tested at the Public Health Laboratory, Nelson, and information from this source shows that 32 samples of milk produced on Barrowford farms have been tested during the year with the following results: -Analysis .....

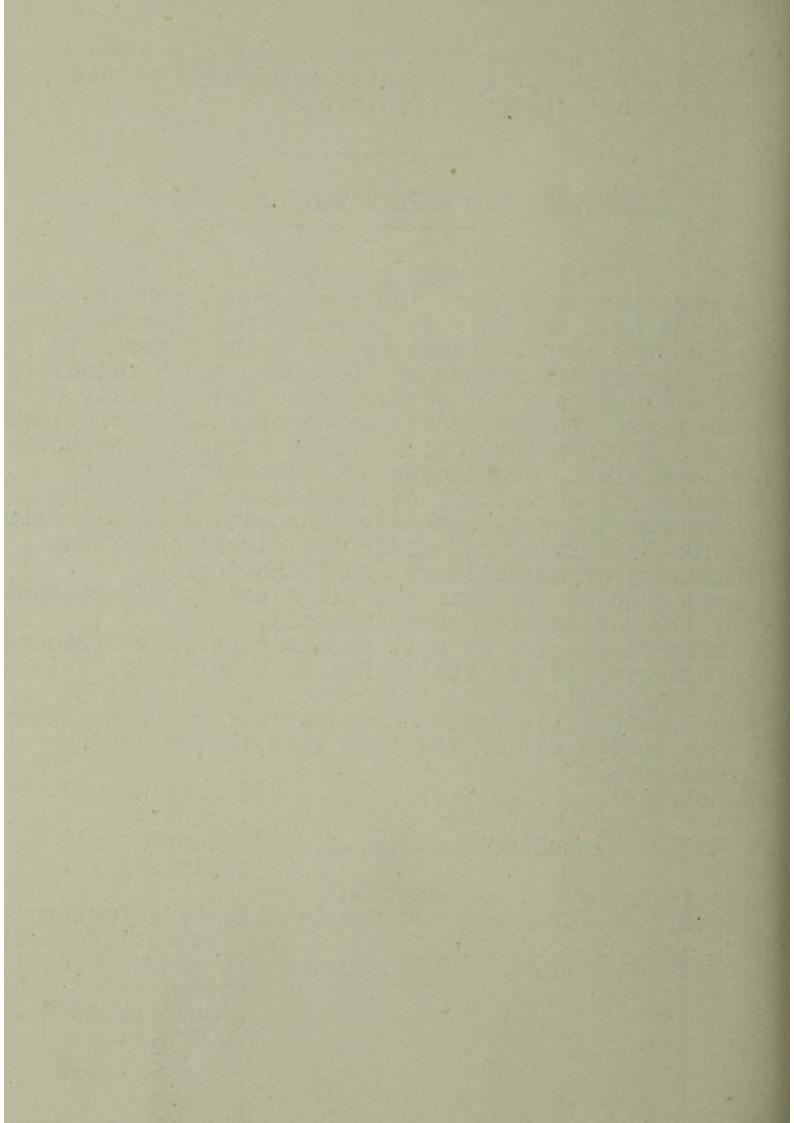
Visible cleanliness.....

Bacteriological examination.
Methylene blue test 30 samples

Coliform test 31 samples

32 samples all genuine.
30 samples all satisfactory.

29 satisfactory
1 unsatisfactory
25 showed B.Coli
absent and 6 showed
B.Coli present in
0.01 c.c.



Tubercle bacilli
Resazurin test )
(keeping quality)

6 samples 31 samples

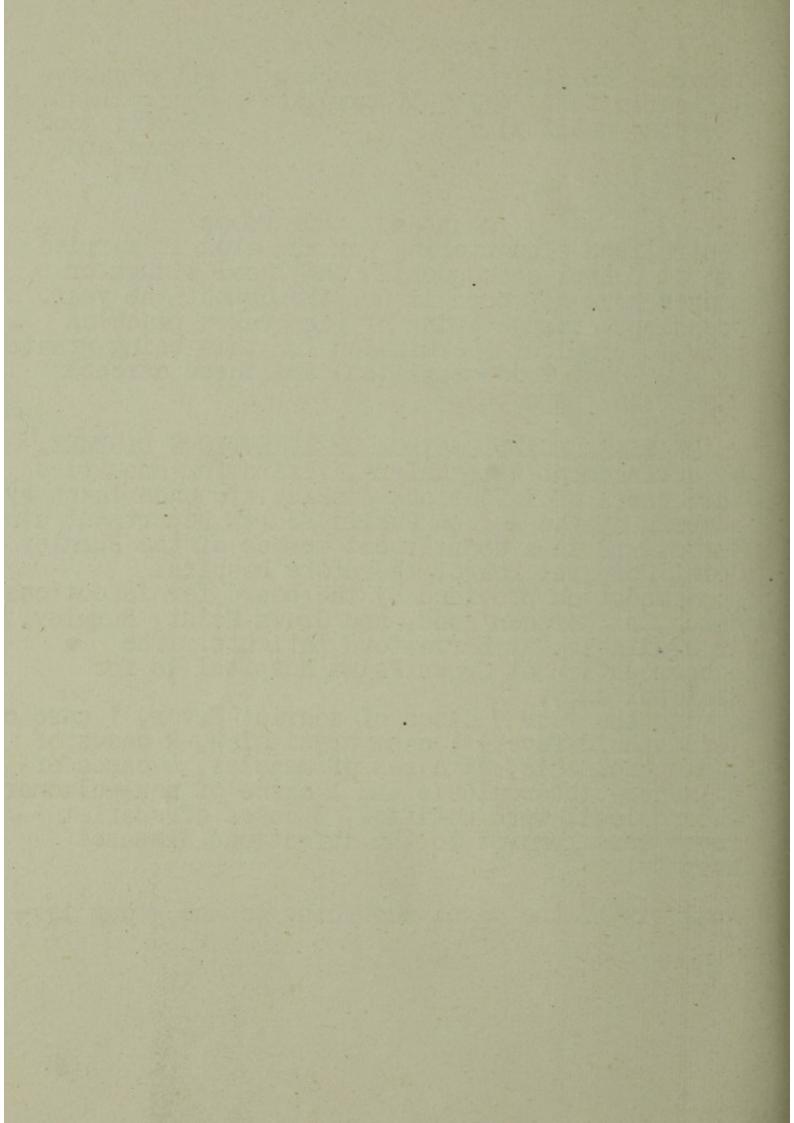
all negative 6 excellent 16 very good 7 good and 2 fair,

Centralized slaughtering for the area is carried out at Colne, consequently the local slaughter houses have not been in use throughout the year. Occasional slaughtering of pigs takes place on private premises (permission for this being granted by the local food committee) and these carcases have been inspected.

By arrangement with Nelson, visits for enquiries into cases of infectious disease are undertaken by members of the Nelson Public Health Department staff. Barrowford is a constituent member of the Burnley Joint Hospital Board, therefore hospital accommodation provided by the board for infectious cases, at Marsden Road, and Crown Point, Burnley, is available for Barrowford patients. The accommodation at Crown Point Hospital is for smallpox only.

During the year 9 cases of scarlet fever, 1 case of paratyphoid fever, 1 case erysipelas, 2 cases of acute pneumonia, 25 cases of measles, 4 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 4 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, 3 cases of scarlet fever were removed to the infectious diseases hospital.

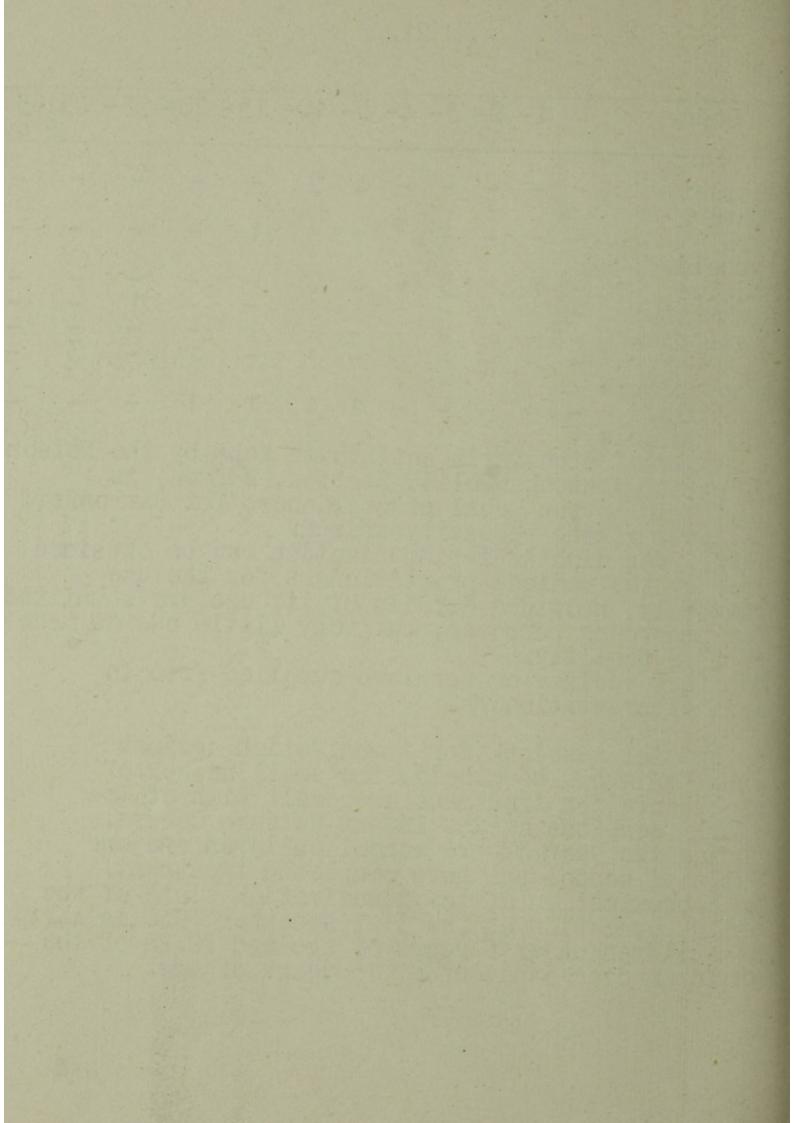
Analysis of the cases according to age group is: -



Under	1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	•	65 ove
Scarlet fever.	-	-	-	-	-	4	5	-	-	-	-	-
Para'	-	200	-	-	v =1	-	***	1	-	-	-	-
typhoid. Measles	_	2	4	3	0	8	9	_	_	_	_	_
Pneumonia								-	-	1	-	-
Erysipelas		•••			-			1	-	-	- 3	-
Pulmonary tuberculosis		**	-			-	-	-	1	-	2	-
Non-pulm.	-	-	-	-		1	1	1	1	-	-	-
A supply of	dip.	hths	ri	a ai	nti	to	xin l	kept	by :	the 1	Nels	on
Corporation available to	th	e 1.0	oca.	1 p:	rac	tit	ione:	rs f	or B	arro	wfor	d
patients if A.P.T. for d	iph	ther	cia	im	nun:	isa	tion	can	be	obta	ined	
free by the privately, p	rov	ided	5 5	eta	ils	of	its	use	are	sub	mitt	ed
for recordin	gp	urpo	se	S,	but	ve:	ry l	ittl	e us	e is	mad	е
No other vac	100	0	? S	era	are	e si	upp1	ied :	free	to		

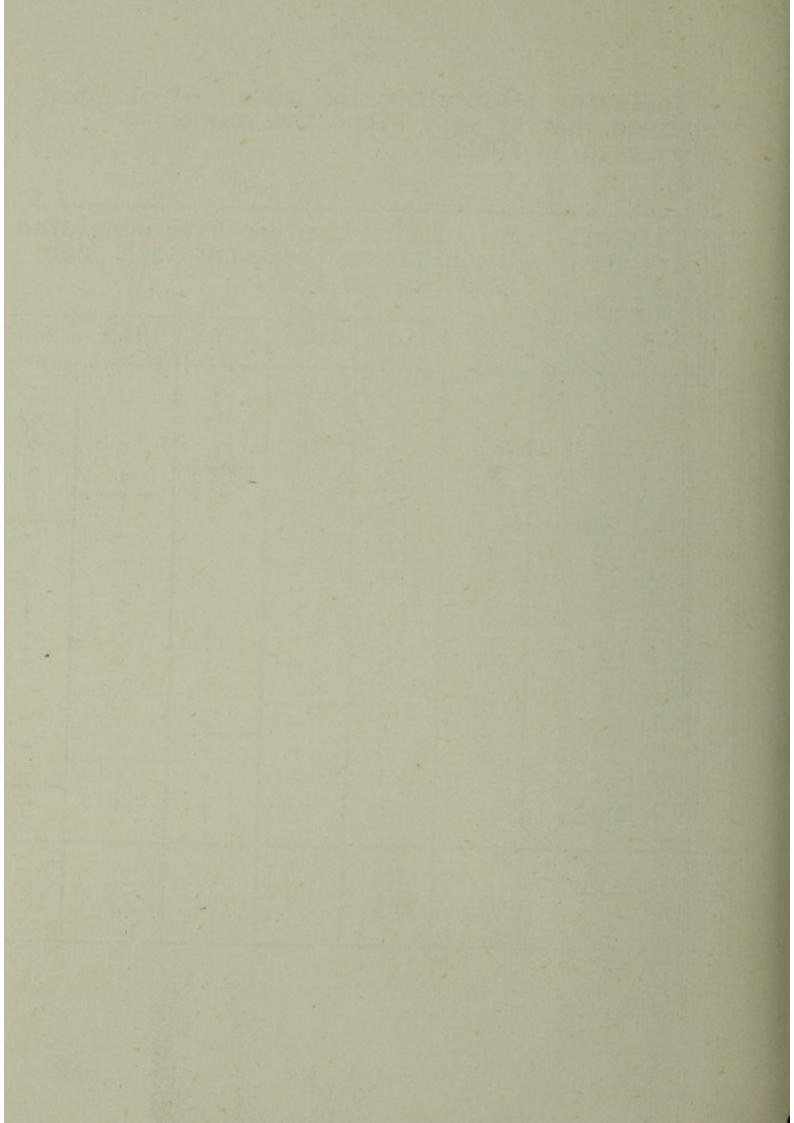
No special sessions for immunisation against diphtheria has been held, the small number of applicants for treatment are dealt with at the weekly sessions of the Infant Welfare Centre. During the year 45 pre school children and one child of school age have completed treatment. An approximation of the immunisation state of the child population at the 31st December 1946 is 44.1% of children under 5 years of age and 70.2% of the children over 5 but under 15 years of age.

medical practitioners.



The following table shows the number of children immunised year by year since the scheme was inaugurated in 1941:-

Age in years on 31st Dec. of the corresponding	No. of children who have completed immunisation treatment each year from 1941 to 1946.							
year.	1941	1942	1943	7944	1945	1946		
01.2x1,5x07.0000 11 12.54 5 over	1267246106000095	-7701133176 157831	29543	19613-11-1-12	2051111	31 12 2 - 1		
motal each year.	294	173	43	36	29	46		



Total immunised aged under 5 years at	
21st December 1946	128
Total immunised aged 5 to 14 years at 31st December 1946	
51st December 1946	344
Total immunised aged 15 and over at 31st December 1946	
Jist December 1946	149
	621
	021

Bacteriological and Pathological Examinations. 9 Throat swabs, 4 blood films, 6 pus smears, 3 urines, 8 milk deposits and 3 pathological specimens have been examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Nelson. during the year.

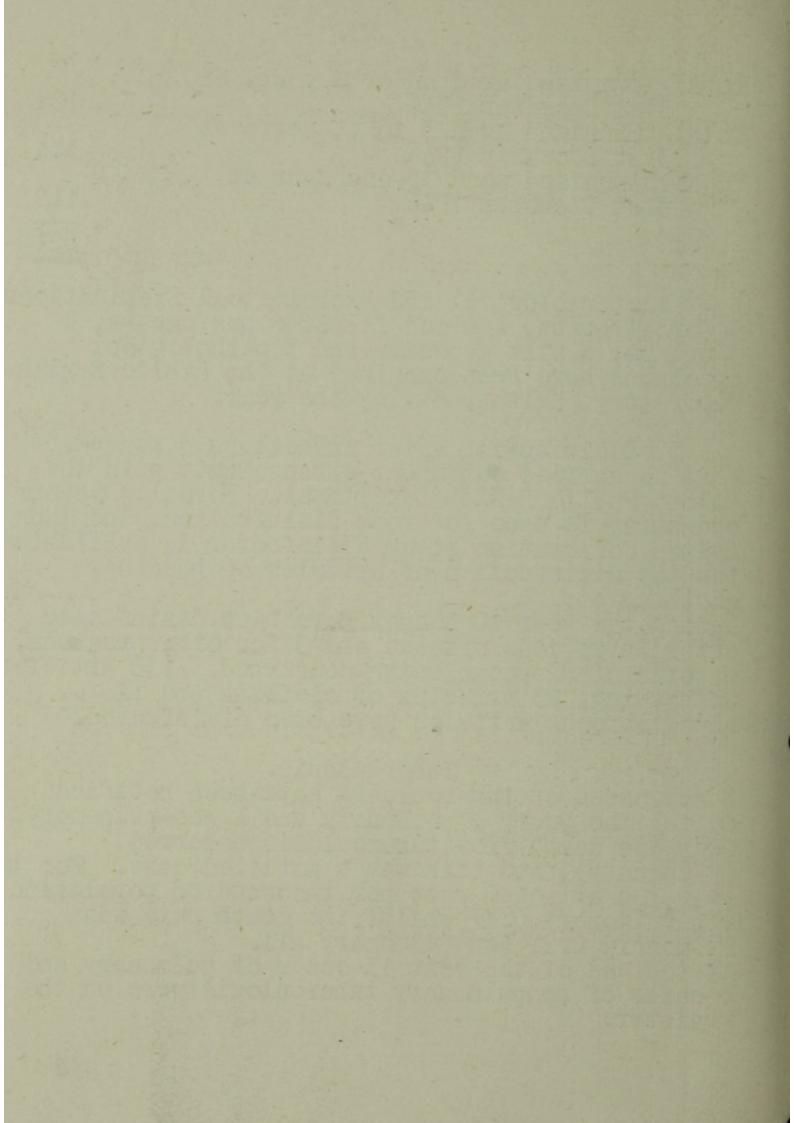
Disinfection after infectious diseases. This is carried out under arrangements with the Nelson Public Health Department. Formalin vapour and spray is used for room disinfection, and the Nelson Corporation steam disinfector is available for the disinfection of articles of bedding, clothing etc.

During the year 10 houses have been disinfected after infectious disease and 3 for other reasons, a total of 22 rooms being concerned. 136 articles of bedding, 23 articles of clothing and 14 miscellaneous articles have been disinfected.

Tuberculosis.

8 new cases of tuberculosis have been notified during the year, 4 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary. Only one death from tuberculosis occurred, (pulmonary), and this was a notified case. For the year the attached rate per thousand of population was Pulmonary 0.87 whilst the death rate was Pulmonary 0.21 Non-Pulmonary nil.

At the end of the year 13 cases of pulmonary and 8 cases of nonpulmonary tuberculosis were on the register.



No action has been necessary for wilful neglect or refusal to notify, nor is there any evidence of excessive incidence or mortality from tuberculosis in any particular occupation.

Details as to the age and sex of the new cases and deaths from tuberculosis during the year are:-

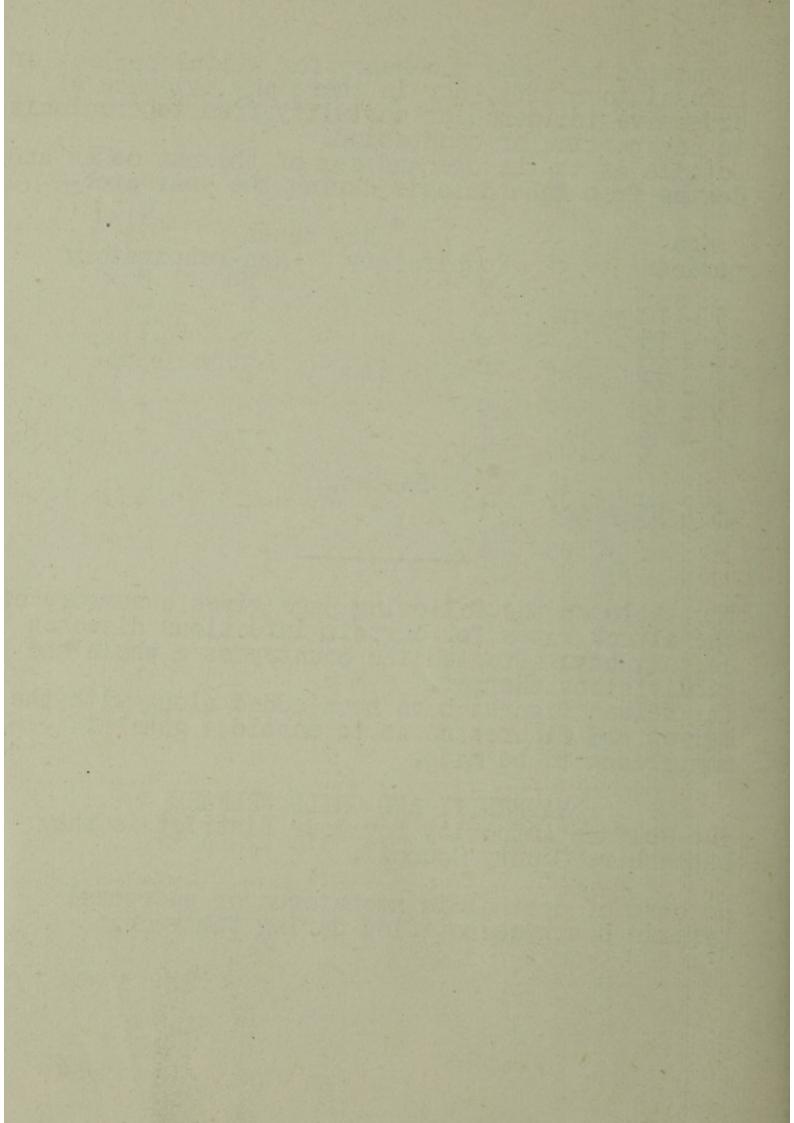
Age periods  5 - 10 years 10 - 15 " 15 - 20 " 25 - 55 " 55 - 65 "	Resp:		cases Non-re M 1	spiratory F 1
45 - 55 years	1	Deaths.	-	-

The table on the following page gives a summary of the attack rates for certain infectious diseases as they have affected the country as a whole and subdivisions thereof.

The Nelson figures have been added along with the Barrowford figures so as to enable a general comparison to be made.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE
The Welfare Authority for your district is the
Lancashire County Council.

No case of ophthalmia neonatorum or puerperal pyrexia has been notified during the year.



25.

Case rates for certain infections diseases in the year 1946.

	Eng.	126 Great Towns incl. London	148 Towns 25000 to 50000	London Adm. County	Nelson	B'for	
Notifica- tions.	Rate	s per 10	00 civi	lian pop	ulation		
Typhoid fever Para- Typhoid Cerebro S fever Scarlet fever Whooping cough Diphtheria Erysipelas Measles Pneumonia	0.01 0.02 0.05 1.38 2.28 0.28 0.22 3.92 0.89	0.01 0.02 0.05 1.51 2.48 0.32 0.25 4.73 1.02	0.01 0.01 0.04 1.33 2.05 0.31 0.22 3.70 0.74	0.01 0.01 0.06 1.42 2.22 0.24 0.27 7.35 0.75	0.00 0.00 0.06 0.52 0.98 0.03 0.21 10.44 0.64	0.00 0.21 0.00 1.94 0.00 0.21 5.41 0.44	
Rates per 1000 total births (live and still)							
Puerperal pyrexia	8.50	10.35	7.63	9.68	1.78	0.00	

