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BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

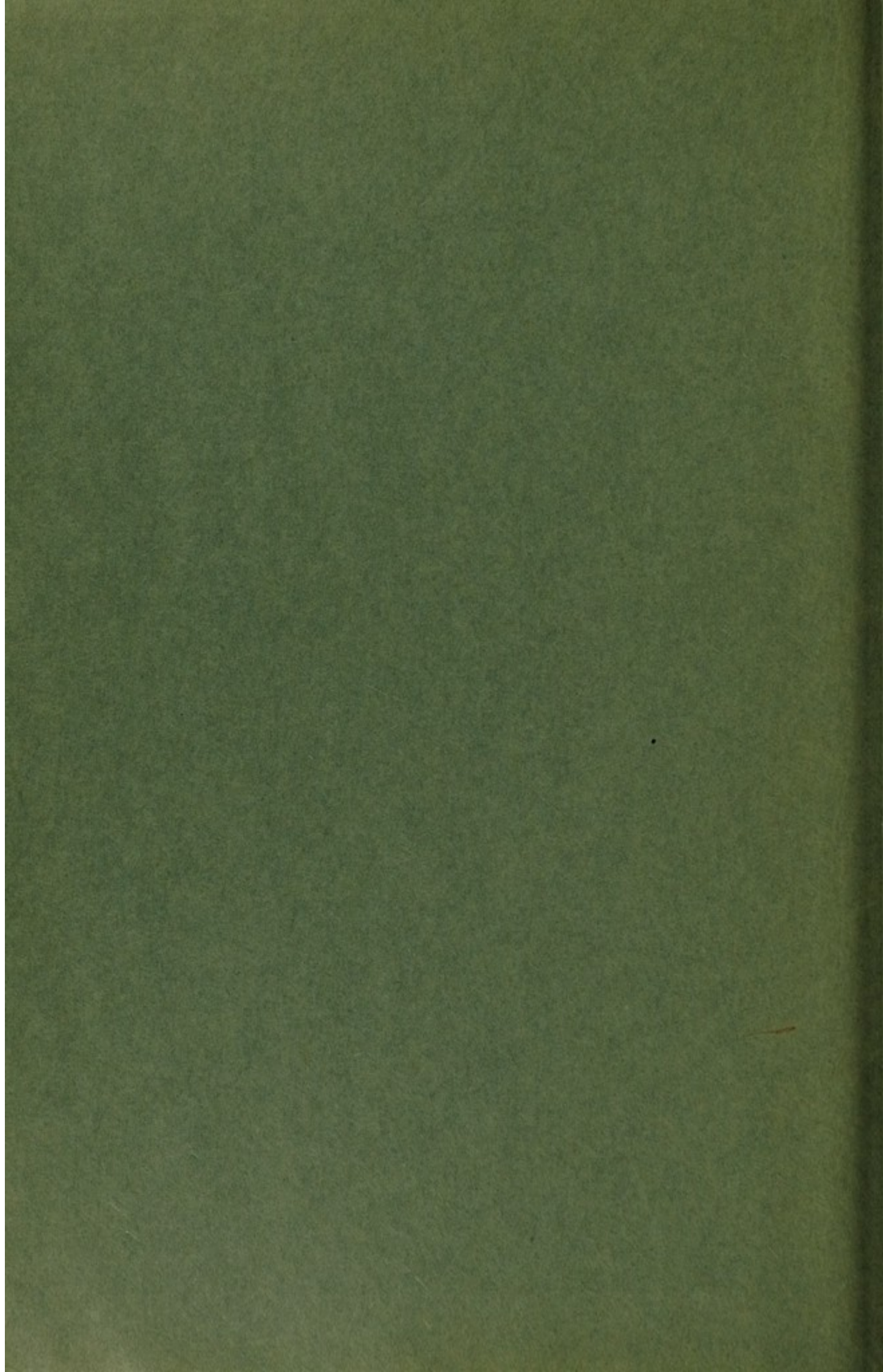
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

DIVISIONAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1959



BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER

AND

DIVISIONAL SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEAR

1959

Town Hall,
BEBINGTON,
CHESHIRE.
(Tel. ROCK FERRY 1440)

BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

HEALTH COMMITTEE*Chairman:* Alderman R. WILLIAMS*Vice-Chairman:* Councillor W. WEDGEWOOD

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF*Medical Officer of Health*

F. S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

T. TOWNSON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

D. R. McCULLOCH, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

E. CLOSS-PARRY

L. C. MOORE (from 1.3.59)

A. R. MOORE

R. B. VAUGHAN

Pupil Public Health Inspectors

J. C. KNEALE

J. L. ELLIS (From 2.11.59)

Chief Clerk

W. R. TURNER

Clerical Staff

Mrs. E. BIENIEK

Miss M. HOSKER

Mrs. A. JACKSON

Mrs. P. JONES

THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF BEBINGTON

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report for the year 1959.

Whilst 1959 was not such a spectacular year as 1958 with its "alarums and excursions", such as smallpox, the more important routine work of the department continued. Bebington is fortunate in its comparative youth as a large borough in that it does not have the legacy of housing from the 19th century and slum clearance is not the problem that it is elsewhere. However, one quite large area, one that was a small legacy from the 19th century, was represented in the early part of the year and it is rather unfortunate that at the time of writing the final decision has not been promulgated. This hits the tenants of this type of property very badly as naturally owners will scarcely do the very barest of essential repairs after they know the property is likely to be demolished.

Progress on clean air was rather slower than was hoped in that the first part to be designated as a Smoke Control Area, namely, Abbots Grange prefabricated bungalow estate, whilst approved during the year, only comes into operation in August, 1960. However, proposals have been agreed by the Council to a five year programme covering much of Lower and Higher Bebington and it is hoped that ultimately, within a period of twenty years, the whole borough will be a Smoke Control Area. There is still much education to be done in this field but there is a rapidly increasing number of householders and their wives who appreciate the benefits of using smokeless fuels and the public as a whole are becoming much more aware and expressive of the nuisance caused by smoke and other air pollutants and are slowly realising that much of the nuisance comes from the house chimney.

The department has continued to improve the knowledge of the public and the food trade on matters of food hygiene and whilst there is still too large a gap between the best and the worst the general standard is rising all the time. Like housing, much of this problem is due to overcrowding of the premises.

Comments are made in the report about the statistics. Each year our own figures differ slightly from the Registrar General's, usually not enough to make a significant difference. The reason for this discrepancy is hard to determine, much checking and cross checking is done in the office. However, the point that must be made is that when doing calculations for tables such as numbers II, III, and IV the local figures have to be used. Only then do we have all the necessary facts and so some of the totals in the Vital Statistics of the area do not agree exactly with those in the tables.

The department has been fortunate in that staff has been stable over the year with a resultant smoothness in the execution of the work. The

main factor in the attainment of this smoothness is due to the harmony in the department and I am very grateful to all members of the staff, professional, clerical and manual for their co-operation and in particular to Mr. Townson, the Chief Public Health Inspector, who is responsible for much of the work recorded in this report.

Not least I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their continued interest, help and guidance during the year.

F. S. MELVILLE,
Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	12,244
Registrar General's estimated population (mid 1959)	51,050
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1959	16,026
Rateable Value at 31st December, 1959	£892,337
Yield of a Penny Rate (Estimate for 1959/60)	£3,600

Live Births:—			Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	....	....	802	439	363
Illegitimate	....	....	14	6	8
			<hr/>		
			816		

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	16.0
Birth rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.04	16.6
Birth rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales	16.5
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	1.7%

Still Births:—		Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	....	11	6	5
Illegitimate	....	1	1	—
		<hr/>		
		12		

Total live and still births	828
Still Birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births	14.5
for England and Wales	20.7

Infant Deaths:—

Deaths of Infants under ONE year—Legitimate	17	}	
Illegitimate	1		18
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births			22.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			21.2
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			71.4
Deaths under FOUR WEEKS—Legitimate	14	}	
Illegitimate	1		15
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)			18.4
for England and Wales			15.8
Early Neonatal Deaths (under 1 week)			14
Early Neonatal mortality rate (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)			17.2
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)			32.4

Maternal Mortality (including Abortion):—

Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil
for England and Wales	0.38

Deaths:—

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
	554	278	276	
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	.....			10.9
Death rate adjusted by comparability factor of 1.11	.....			12.1
Death rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales				11.6

Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis)				
	under 2 years of age	.....		Nil
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	Nil
Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages)	.....	.....	.....	Nil

TABLE I

**Comparative Annual Numbers and Rates of Births and Deaths
for Borough of Bebington since 1939**

Year	Popula- tion	Live Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Mortality			Deaths all ages	
		Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Popu'n (ad- justed)	Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Puer. Fever	Other	Rate Per 1,000 Live Births	Total No.	Rate Per 1,000 Popu'n (ad- justed)
1939	42,000	781	18.61	34	43.53	—	2	2.56	396	9.38
1940	43,180	682	13.48	46	67.2	2	1	4.68	470	10.88
1941	41,910	688	16.42	36	52.6	—	1	1.46	482	11.5
1942	41,880	748	17.8	21	28.07	—	—	—	403	9.6
1943	41,300	748	18.11	47	62.83	—	—	—	455	11.01
1944	41,970	857	20.41	36	42.00	—	—	—	434	10.34
1945	42,390	788	18.3	39	49.00	1	2	3.8	419	10.02
1946	45,620	875	19.4	45	51.0	—	1	1.14	489	10.8
1947	46,640	914	19.6	47	51.3	—	1	1.09	470	10.1
1948	46,780	809	17.2	37	45.5	—	1	1.2	432	9.2
1949	47,030	706	14.9	24	33.9	—	2	2.8	471	9.9
1950	47,150	687	14.5	18	26.2	—	1	1.4	460	9.7
1951	47,300	648	13.7	17	26.3	1	—	1.52	562	11.6
1952	47,790	651	13.7	17	26.2	—	—	—	529	11.0
1953	48,220	643	12.9	21	32.6	—	—	—	499	11.0
1954	48,740	635	13.7	15	23.6	—	—	—	478	10.2
1955	49,100	663	14.2	19	28.7	—	—	—	513	10.8
1956	49,950	753	15.8	16	21.2	—	—	—	509	11.4
1957	50,150	766	15.9	10	13.1	—	—	—	524	11.6
1958	50,540	772	15.9	21	27.2	—	—	—	552	12.1
1959	51,050	816	16.6	18	22.1	—	—	—	554	12.1

Population

The estimated population of the area of the borough at the 30th June, 1959 was 51,050. This is an increase of 510 and continues the upward trend which has been uninterrupted since the end of the war.

The accuracy of this figure cannot be vouched for as it is now eight years since there was an official census.

All statistical data for the year throughout this report is based on the mid-year estimate of 51,050.

TABLE II

Causes of Death

1959

Arranged according to Registrar General's

Short Classification, Age and Sex

	0-		5-		15-		25-		45-		65-		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	..	..	2	..	3	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	3	5	8	10	11
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	..	8	1	8	1	17	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	4	..	3	-	7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	..	1	..	-	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	1	11	6	11	13	25	20
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	..	..	..	1	-
16. Diabetes	1	..	-	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	1	6	5	32	53	40	59
18. Coronary disease, angina	30	15	41	39	71	54
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	1	5	2	6
20. Other heart disease	1	..	2	3	18	25	20	29
21. Other circulatory disease	2	..	3	2	3	3	8	5
22. Influenza	2	..	..	..	..	..	-	2
23. Pneumonia	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	15	21	18	21
24. Bronchitis	1	..	2	1	15	7	18	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	..	1	..	2	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	..	1	..	2	3	4	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	..	..	1	1	..	2	..	4	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	..	1	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	9	1	..	..	1	1	1	2	2	5	19	14	32
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	6	1
34. All other accidents	1	1	1	..	2	..	2	1	2	1	7	3
35. Suicide	1	..	2	..	2	1	..	3	5	4
	6	11	5	1	5	1	18	8	79	46	164	207	277	274
	17*		6		6		26		125		371		551*	

* The totals do not agree with those returned by the Registrar General. (*vide supra*). It is probable that the error arises in the transfer of some deaths occurring in hospital.

Births

816 live births were referable to the borough which gave a rate of 16.6 per thousand of the population compared to 772 and 15.9 the previous year. This is quite a rise in the rate and the highest rate recorded since 1948, the tail end of the immediate post-war bulge.

14 illegitimate births were registered during the year.

Deaths

According to the Registrar General 554 deaths were referable to Bebington during 1959 giving a crude death rate of 10.9 and an adjusted death rate of 12.1. The locally determined figure of 551 does not alter these rates as the difference of three is insignificant in numbers of this order.

Deaths from various causes

Table III is again given to show the more important diseases which are responsible for the deaths of people, many of whom are still well within the normal retiring age of sixty-five.

There are no particularly significant changes in this table from last year but then it is not expected that there would be and only by showing these figures over many years will trends be spotted.

Infant Mortality

18 infants under one year of age died giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 22.1 per thousand compared with 21 deaths and a rate of 27.2 in 1958. 15 of these deaths were under one month. This is the same number as last year. Two over one month died of congenital abnormalities. The cause of death of the third child who died over 1 month is unknown to the department as this is one of the missing registrations commented upon in the introduction.

The mortality rate of infants under one month and still births, which had risen slightly the year before, fell to 33 per 1,000 live and still born children. The Perinatal Mortality Rate which is now recognised as the rate for infant deaths under one week and stillbirths was 32.

Maternal Mortality

No maternal death has occurred in the borough since 1951. Statistically, on the basis of the national figures, one maternal death should occur in the borough once in every four years.

TABLE III.

Number of deaths from certain causes, death rate per 10,000 population, mean ages at death, years of "working life" lost and years of "total life" lost per 10,000 population.

		1959*					1958*					1957*					1956*				
No.	Cause of Death	Total Deaths		Mean age at death	Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death	Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death	Years of Life lost per 10,000 population		Total Deaths		Mean age at death	Years of Life lost per 10,000 population	
		No.	Rate/10,000 population		Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate/10,000 population		Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate/10,000 population		Ages 15-64	Total to age 85	No.	Rate/10,000 population		Ages 15-64	Total to age 85
BERKINGTON	All Causes	M. 277	114	64.2	758	2,330	300	125	64.5	780	2,499	268	122	66.2	533	2,006	264	111	64.7	625	2,171
	I Tuberculosis of respiratory system	F. 274	103	70.3	424	1,557	250	94	70.7	345	1,354	252	96	68.5	461	1,557	245	93	68.2	468	1,547
	10-15 Cancer (all sites)	F. 3	0.4	60.0	8	16	1	0.4	46	3	10	2	0.8	66	0	8	6	3	59.2	12	52
	11 Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	F. 53	22	63.8	121	444	50	21	66.7	79	350	55	23	64.6	103	419	47	20	65.3	139	429
	12 Cancer of breast	F. 42	16	68.5	50	242	40	15	67	63	243	45	17	64.9	85	297	43	16	65.1	87	292
	17 Vascular lesions of C.N.S.	M. 7	3	63.7	11	49	7	3	57.6	17	64	5	2	69.2	6	30	15	6	61.2	37	133
	18 Coronary disease	M. 40	16	71.7	40	224	36	15	73.5	21	194	27	11	73.3	19	147	21	9	70	22	132
	19, 20 Other cardiac diseases	F. 59	29	66.9	92	487	84	35	73.8	28	199	48	18	75.5	20	191	45	17	74.1	20	183
	23, 24 Bronchitis and Pneumonia	F. 54	20	71.8	42	263	50	19	73.6	20	194	73	31	66	112	510	78	33	65.1	144	604
	26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M. 22	9	74.2	9	104	31	13	76.5	15	160	16	7	73.3	10	82	39	16	73.4	40	240
	33, 34 Accidents	F. 35	13	74.8	19	141	48	18	78.4	8	159	27	11	71.4	26	122	44	17	78.4	12	158
		F. 29	11	81.2	3	89	23	9	67.4	62	168	32	12	72.7	39	163	28	11	70.5	45	220
		M. 4	2	63.0	14	38	3	1	74	—	12	4	2	66.5	6	30	2	0.8	66.5	—	8
		F. 13	5	39.9	151	255	10	4	40.7	87	173	10	1	42.4	6	21	—	—	—	—	—
		F. 4	1	56.8	24	47	3	1	73.7	—	9	3	1	41.3	27	184	5	2	59.4	18	50
																52	4	2	53.8	27	48
ENGLAND & WALES	All Causes	M. 270,639	124	65.7	742	2,398	266,407	123	65.3	756	2,422	267,904	125	65.7	747	2,407	125	65.7	747	2,407	
	I Tuberculosis of respiratory system	F. 256,204	110	70.7	458	1,565	248,463	107	70.0	482	1,600	253,427	109	70.4	472	1,601	109	70.4	472	1,601	
	10-15 Cancer (all sites)	F. 2,949	1	59.2	11	32	3,150	1	59.1	12	35	3,534	2	57.8	14	41	2	57.8	14	41	
	11 Cancer of Lung, Bronchus	F. 1,050	0	53.6	6	13	1,099	0	50.6	7	15	1,319	1	50.9	9	18	1	50.9	9	18	
	12 Cancer of breast	F. 50,735	23	65.1	114	435	50,056	23	65.1	113	434	48,935	23	64.9	114	429	23	64.9	114	429	
	17 Vascular lesions of C.N.S.	F. 45,069	19	65.8	95	330	43,961	19	65.9	94	327	43,775	19	65.6	97	331	19	65.6	97	331	
	18 Coronary disease	F. 17,040	8	63.0	39	157	16,430	8	62.7	39	156	15,615	7	62.4	39	150	7	62.4	39	150	
	19, 20 Other cardiac diseases	F. 8,949	4	63.4	22	74	8,613	4	63.5	21	72	8,508	4	63.3	22	72	4	63.3	22	72	
	23, 24 Bronchitis and Pneumonia	F. 44,879	19	75.1	27	185	43,132	19	74.6	28	188	43,034	14	72.5	30	187	14	72.5	30	187	
	26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	F. 52,085	24	67.4	85	396	47,809	22	67.3	79	368	46,921	22	67.4	78	360	22	67.4	78	360	
	33, 34 Accidents	F. 31,956	14	73.5	20	137	28,515	12	73.2	18	126	27,869	12	73.1	18	124	12	73.1	18	124	
		F. 36,737	17	74.8	29	203	37,405	17	74.2	33	216	40,043	19	74.6	35	228	19	74.6	35	228	
		M. 52,941	23	77.3	28	204	51,970	22	76.8	32	213	55,038	24	77	32	222	24	77	32	222	
		F. 32,637	15	66.6	80	275	31,007	14	66.1	79	269	31,498	15	66.5	80	272	15	66.5	80	272	
		M. 21,334	9	70.4	45	136	19,446	8	69.4	45	133	21,349	9	71	42	133	9	71	42	133	
		F. 3,425	2	67.6	6	26	3,568	2	67.1	7	28	3,778	2	66.7	7	30	2	66.7	7	30	
		M. 1,473	1	71.9	2	74	9,470	4	46.7	87	164	9,604	4	47.1	87	166	4	47.1	87	166	
		F. 9,989	5	46.4	92	74	6,428	3	65.4	24	56	6,701	3	65.5	25	59	3	65.5	25	59	
	F. 6,888	3	65.9	24	58	6,262	3	65.4	24	56	6,701	3	65.5	25	59	3	65.5	25	59		

* These figures calculated on weights given in Registrar General's 2nd Quarterly Return for the previous year being the most recent standard set of weights available.

Number of deaths from certain causes, death rate per 10,000
years of "total life" is

TABLE IV

Stillbirths, Neonatal (Infants under 1 month) Deaths and Rates
per 1,000 Live and Still Births

Year	Total No. of Live and still Births	No. of Still Births	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	No. of Deaths Infants under one month	Neonatal Death Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	No. of Still Births plus No. of Neonatal Deaths	Neo-Natal Death and Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births
1939	807	26	32	26	32	52	64
1940	722	38	53	22	30	60	83
1941	708	24	34	18	25	42	59
1942	771	23	30	8	10	31	40
1943	788	40	51	29	25	60	76
1944	884	27	31	23	26	50	57
1945	881	23	28	23	29	46	57
1946	900	25	28	32	35	57	63
1947	936	22	24	35	37	57	61
1948	832	23	28	26	31	49	59
1949	730	19	26	19	26	38	52
1950	711	24	34	15	21	39	55
1951	655	7	11	11	16	18	27
1952	670	19	28	15	23	34	51
1953	661	18	27	15	23	33	50
1954	654	19	29	13	20	32	49
1955	681	18	26	13	20	31	46
1956	771	18	23	13	16	31	39
1957	786	20	25	6	8	26	33
1958	785	13	17	15	19	28	36
1959	828	12	15	15	18	27	33

TABLE V

Number of notified infectious diseases occurring in Bebington according to year and disease.

DISEASE	YEAR										
	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Scarlet Fever	54	55	72	46	77	55	34	15	37	38	74
Diphtheria	15	4	3	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	99	155	200	129	200	140	97	150	134	27	80
Measles	263	798	293	793	273	623	497	255	496	170	906
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	5	4	-	2	4	1	1	6	8	6
Acute Encephalitis	1	-	-	2	-	3	-	-	1	1	-
Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal)	43	16	57	30	27	36	22	16	30	16	28
Meningococcal Infection	-	3	3	3	1	3	3	2	2	1	3
Typhoid	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	-
Dysentery	-	36	49	7	27	17	36	19	22	18	69
Food Poisoning	-	69	60	19	17	23	47	9	4	54	20
Erysipelas	9	9	6	9	14	7	9	14	6	2	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	5	4	2	1	3	1	1	-	3
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

TABLE VI

Notified infectious diseases during year 1959 occurring in the different wards

	Hr. Bebington	Woodhey	Lr. Bebington	Poulton	Sunlight	Park	New Ferry	N. Bromborough	S. Bromborough	Eastham	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	4	1	14	2	8	1	12	9	12	11	74
Whooping Cough	11	10	16	2	5	3	12	8	5	8	80
Measles	60	48	86	58	40	42	79	108	83	302	906
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	6
Pneumonia, Primary and Influenzal	4	3	5	1	5	4	2	2	2	-	28
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3
Dysentery	4	2	-	1	5	-	7	3	5	42	69
Food Poisoning	2	-	2	11	1	-	1	-	-	3	20
Erysipelas	2	1	1	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	9
Malaria	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	3
Totals	91	65	125	75	66	51	121	130	109	366	1199

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever

74 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1959. This disease continues in a very mild form and no case was admitted to hospital during the year.

Diphtheria

It is now six years since a case of diphtheria was notified. This disease is now almost as exotic as smallpox but I would warn parents it is also almost as dangerous when introduced to the non-immunised person. During the year the disease occurred in one or two areas of the country and although the numbers involved were not large the mortality rate in those contracting it was high.

Whooping Cough

80 cases of whooping cough were notified during the year. Eight of these children had been immunised. Seven cases were under one year, which is the age at which this disease is most severe. None of these had been immunised.

The protection afforded by the whooping cough inoculation does not seem to be as good as that afforded by diphtheria immunisation but the figures of incidence and age show clearly the advantages of immunisation and booster doses in modifying the disease and raising the age at which it is contracted and ipso facto lessening the severity of the disease.

Measles

906 cases of measles were notified during the year. Practically all of these occurred during the first four months of the year.

Smallpox

Two cases were admitted to the New Ferry Isolation Hospital during the Spring, both from Liverpool. Neither was severe and both recovered. No secondary cases arose in Bebington and it is interesting to see in the records over the years that it was only when there were severe cases in the hospital that cases arose in the neighbourhood. Efforts are still being made by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board to find an alternative site and it is hoped that they succeed soon as there is no doubt the present site of this hospital is unsuitable.

Anterior Poliomyelitis

Four cases of Poliomyelitis were notified during the year but in the final analysis only two were confirmed. One of those was fairly severely affected by paralysis in the lower limbs. This case had not been vaccinated against the disease. The other case, again unvaccinated, was non-paralytic but there was virological evidence that he was a victim of Type 1 polio virus. He made a complete recovery.

Food Poisoning

20 cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Ten of these were single cases whose origin or cause were not subsequently discovered.

In two other individual cases the organism was isolated, in one *Salmonella* Enteritidis and in the other *Salmonella* Taksony. In neither

case was the origin or agent of infection found. The remaining eight cases occurred as an outbreak. This was quite an interesting outbreak where the incriminating agent was almost certainly sausage brought back from Holland by returning holiday makers. No sample of the sausage was left to prove this but it was the only common foodstuff. What was more interesting, however, was that two food poisoning pathogens were isolated from the victims—from four, *Salmonella Bovis* Morbificans; from two, *Salmonella Typhimurium*; and from two, both organisms.

Dysentery

Sixty-nine cases of dysentery were notified during 1959. This disease is much more prevalent than these figures suggest but the disease is usually mild and the very old and very young are the only ones at all likely to be seriously ill.

Tuberculosis

The primary notifications of respiratory tuberculosis has decreased again from 21 in 1958 to 12 in 1959 giving a rate of 0.24 per thousand of the population. This reduction is of added significance as many Bebington residents were X-rayed in the Mass Campaign in Liverpool. In spite of this widening of the net fewer victims were discovered. It is to be hoped that this very satisfactory progress will be maintained.

Deaths attributed to respiratory tuberculosis during 1959 numbered four. In two of these cases the patient had not previously been notified as suffering from the disease and had been unknown to the department.

TABLE VII
Primary notifications and the number of deaths from tuberculosis
during 1959.

Age Periods	Primary Notifications				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Years	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
45—55	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Total	10	2	1	2	3	1	—	—
	12		3		4		—	
	15				4			

TABLE VIII

The following table shows the number of primary notifications, the number of deaths, and the death rate from Tuberculosis during the last thirteen years:—

Year	Primary Notifications				Number of Deaths				Death-rate from Resp. T.B. England & Wales per 1000 popul'n
	Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	Non-Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	Non-Respiratory Total No.	Rate/1000 popul'n	
1947	36	0.753	8	0.17	21	0.45	3	0.06	0.55
1948	37	0.79	5	0.11	18	0.38	2	0.04	0.51
1949	50	1.06	6	0.13	23	0.49	2	0.04	0.49
1950	41	0.87	8	0.17	11	0.23	—	—	0.36
1951	47	0.99	9	0.19	11	0.23	4	0.08	0.32
1952	42	0.88	11	0.23	11	0.23	4	0.08	0.24
1953	35	0.73	5	0.10	4	0.08	1	0.02	0.20
1954	42	0.86	12	0.25	2	0.04	2	0.04	0.18
1955	29	0.59	2	0.04	5	0.10	—	—	0.13
1956	44	0.88	3	0.06	9	0.18	—	—	0.11
1957	36	0.72	2	0.04	2	0.04	—	—	0.095
1958	21	0.42	6	0.12	4	0.08	1	0.02	0.10
1959	12	0.24	3	0.06	4	0.08	—	—	0.077

Total Live Register at 31st December, 1959

Respiratory Cases	....	334	(Dec. 1958	....	350)
Non-Respiratory Cases	....	42	(Dec. 1958	....	40)
		<u>376</u>			<u>390</u>

Medical Examinations

During the year the Medical Officer has carried out 108 medical examinations for new employees, superannuation and sick pay purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

TABLE IX

This Table shows the number and types of Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors during 1959.

Number and Nature of Inspections Made	Totals for 1959	Informal Notices	Statutory Notices	Notices compiled with
Dwellinghouses inspected	822	216	—	287
Dwellinghouses reinspected	1911	—	75	—
Overcrowding	37	—	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	59	—	—	—
Courts and Passages	133	—	—	—
House Drainage	612	78	21	118
Public Schools	5	—	—	—
Places of Employment e.g.				
*Shops	270	35	—	21
Factories, with Mechanical Power	41	3	—	—
Factories, without Mechanical Power	15	—	—	—
Workplaces	26	—	—	—
Places of Entertainment	37	—	—	—
Hairdressers	25	—	—	—
Verminous Premises	364	9	—	—
Public Conveniences	87	—	—	—
Ditches and Watercourses	79	2	1	—
Septic Tanks	33	3	—	—
Dustbins	1089	558	—	558
Food Premises	898	90	—	60
Food Hawkers	1	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	83	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	404	—	—	—
Piggeries	23	—	—	—
Cowsheds	1	—	—	—
Pet Shops	24	—	—	—
Sampling:	—	—	—	—
Visits	16	—	—	—
Bacteriological	178	—	—	—
Nature and Substance	148	—	—	—
Swimming Bath Water	42	—	—	—
Infectious Disease	298	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	133	—	—	—
Rodent Control	955	—	—	—
Smoke Observations	22	—	—	—
Air Pollution, Observations	414	—	—	—
Offensive Accumulations	32	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	452	—	—	—
Appointments outside Office	166	—	—	—
TOTALS	17947	994	97	1044

*Visits re Closing and Employment etc., not included. See Report under Shops Act.

HOUSING

Inspections

A determined effort was made during the year to continue house to house inspections in the New Ferry area. Where necessary, notices were served, but despite the full co-operation from both owner and agents, difficulty was experienced with regard to the remedying of the works specified within a reasonable time. This delay was due to local contractors being inundated with work, and in some cases refusing further work. This problem was more pronounced during the latter half of the year.

Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses

The detailed inspection of the Woodhead Street Area was completed and 79 houses and 1 shop were represented. This is an increase of 44 houses compared with the original plan outlined in the five year programme. It has been decided that the Local Authority shall acquire the area, including a further six houses in South View not considered unfit, by compulsory purchase. The total number of persons involved will be 279 adults and 94 children.

Alma Street, New Ferry, has been inspected in detail and 17 houses will be represented early in 1960, and the number of persons involved will be 57.

During the year the following properties were demolished:—

Clearance Area No. 4—The Rake, Bromborough

27 to 33 The Rake, Bromborough

Individual Unfit Houses

Rock Cottage, Storeton

51, 53 Bromborough Road, Lr. Bebington

81 Old Chester Road, Woodhey

"Mark Rake" Cottage, Bromborough

18 & 18A The Esplanade, New Ferry

"Edgewood Cottage" Plymyard Avenue, Eastham

53 & 55 Stanley Lane, Eastham

24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 Mill Brow, Hr. Bebington

The number of families rehoused was 10 involving 30 persons.

House Repairs

As in previous years, the nuisance sections of the Public Health Act 1936 were relied upon to secure the abatement of disrepair.

The total number of complaints received during the year was 768, resulting in 1,911 visits being made to dwellinghouses, and the serving of 216 Informal Notices and 25 Statutory Notices.

Rent Act 1957

Applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received from occupiers of six houses, and Certificates were granted in respect of five. Compared with last year this showed a decrease of 21 applications.

During routine housing visits it has been noticeable that tenants are not conversant with the above Act, especially regarding rent adjustment. In a number of cases although houses had not been put in satisfactory order by the end of the 6 months, as undertaken by the landlord, the increased rent was still being paid.

The following figures indicate the work involved under this Act:—

- 6 Applications by tenants for Certificates of Disrepair (Form I)
- 5 Notices to Landlords of Proposal to issue Certificate of Disrepair (Form J)
- 1 Application by tenant for Certificate of Disrepair not granted
- 5 Undertakings by Landlord to remedy defects as proposed to be included on Certificate of Disrepair (Form K)
- 1 Certificate of Disrepair issued (Form L)
- 5 Applications by Landlord for Cancellation of Certificate of Disrepair (Form M)
- 5 Applications by Local Authority to tenant of Proposal to Cancel Certificate of Disrepair (Form N)
- 5 Certificates of Disrepair cancelled
- 6 Applications by Landlord for Certificate as to Remedying of Defects (Form O)
- 2 Applications by tenant (Form O)
- 5 Certificates to Landlord recommending all defects remedied as per undertaking (Form P)

Overcrowding

It is difficult to make a correct assessment on overcrowding without a constant survey being made. This has not been practicable during the past few years due to other commitments but any case of overcrowding found is reported to the Housing Manager whose co-operation is invaluable.

Movable Dwellings

2 Licences were granted during the year allowing the stationing on single caravans on land for short periods.

Caravans and food stalls used by showmen at the fair in Marquis Street were found on inspection to be of a high standard and well maintained, and the personnel employed all well versed with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

This was the first year in which the Cheshire Agricultural Show took place in the Borough. Regular inspections were made by this Department both before and during the show, and persons engaged at cafe, canteens and food stalls were advised on the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations. Active co-operation existed between all concerned.

Disinfestation of Houses

During the course of the year 15 houses were found to be infested with bed bugs and disinfestation was carried out with D.D.T.

insecticide. In two cases heavy infestation was found in furniture which had been bought second-hand.

Constant supervision is maintained in the older property of the Borough in an effort to locate and treat cockroach infestation where necessary.

The following figures show the number of premises found to be verminous and consequently treated:—

15	houses	for	bed	bugs
4	„	„	fleas	
146	„	„	other	vermin
33	„	„	woodworm	infestation

Hydrogen Cyanide Regulations

Notification was received from private operators under the above regulations for treatment of two dwellings heavily infested with woodworm.

CLEAN AIR

Following a request by the Minister of Housing & Local Government, in Circular 5/59, a draft programme for the establishment of smoke control areas in the Borough was submitted to the Health Committee in June, and was subsequently approved by the Council.

In arranging this programme regard was taken of the direction of the prevailing wind, and in consequence the westerly built up areas will be dealt with first. Broadly speaking the areas included in the five year programme include parts of Hr. Bebington, Lr. Bebington and Woodhey, to the west of the railway line. These areas cover approximately 735 acres and comprise 2716 dwellings of which 328 are Council Houses.

It is intended that the subsequent programme will take in the remaining parts of the northerly areas west of the railway line, then Bromborough, Eastham, Port Sunlight and Bromborough Pool, finishing at New Ferry. It is hoped that the Borough will be completely "Smoke Controlled" within 20 years.

The details of the programme approved by the Health Committee for the next five years are as follows:—

1st Area: Abbots Grange comprising 111 dwellings and covering 15 acres

2nd Area: by I.I.60. bounded by Heath Road, Cross Lane, Quarry Avenue, Fairacres Road, Church Road to Heath Road, comprising **280 dwellings** and covering approximately **70 acres**.

3rd Area: by I.I.61. bounded by Heath Road, Bracken Lane, Mount Road, Brimstage Road, Cross Lane, comprising:—

337 private dwellings

328 Corporation dwellings

and covering **290 acres**

4th Area: by I.I.62. will be Teehey Lane, whole of Hr. Bebington Road, Acres Road to the Village, and then Heath Road comprising **860 dwellings** and covering **140 acres**

5th Area: by I.I.63. will be Teehey Lane, Kings Road, Kings Lane, the boundary of the gardens at the East side of Queenswood Avenue, straight through to include all of Sherwood Drive to Town Lane, and then down Town Lane to Townfield Lane to the Village, comprising **800 dwellings** and covering **220 acres**

and that both new, Corporation and Private Estates built or completed since the 1st May 1957 should be made immediately on completion Smoke Control Areas.

Objections were received against the Borough's proposed first Smoke Control Order, known as the Borough of Bebington (Abbots Grange Estate) Smoke Control Area No.1. The area comprises 15 acres on which there are 109 pre-fabricated bungalows, a large house and flat over adjoining stables. The main objection raised was that "the grates already installed are entirely inadequate for the efficient burning of smokeless fuel".

The public enquiry was held in April and conducted by a Ministry of Housing and Local Government Inspector. The Order, with modification, was confirmed by the Minister, the modification being the postponement of the operation of the Order until the 1st August 1960, to allow sufficient time, apart from the winter months, for householders to become familiar with the use of smokeless fuel, also for the Corporation to check the proper working of all heating arrangements. All the tenants in the area were notified of the findings of the Minister and requested to contact this Department for advice and demonstration, if required.

During the year preparatory work was undertaken in respect of Area No. 2, to be known as the Borough of Bebington (Heath Road) Smoke Control Order No. 2. This area comprises approximately 58 acres in which there are 289 houses and 10 business premises.

The preliminary survey revealed that the vast majority of the houses in the area were built ~~during~~ ^{BETWEEN} the two wars, and will not require structural alteration to the fireplaces. The majority have gas, or at least gas mains, but in one street with 12 houses there is no gas main. If sticks and paper, which make smoke, are not to be allowed for lighting fires, then the cost involved to provide gas ignition and pokers to these 12 houses would be approximately £100. In other words the cost of installing gas points into houses where the streets have no gas mains, will be in the region of six times more than the cost of conversion with the "Sofono" type fireplace.

Queen Elizabeth II Oil Dock

It is pleasing to report that no complaints were received during the year from residents in that area. During the course of routine

observations close co-operation existed between the Inspectors of your Authority and the Manchester Port Health Authority.

GENERAL SANITATION

Water Supply

The water is supplied by the West Cheshire Water Board from three sources i.e., Prenton, Mouldsworth and Sutton Hall, the Hooton source having been closed and will now only be used in any emergency.

The Prenton and Mouldsworth supplies are obtained from deep boreholes and adits, using steam and electrically driven pumping plant; water from each source being sterilised by chloramination.

The Sutton Hall supply is obtained by pumping water from the River Dee at Chester to treatment works providing for sedimentation, filtration and sterilisation with chlorine. Activated carbon is also added when necessary, for the elimination of tastes and lime for increasing the pH. Water, after treatment, is pumped into supply with electrically operated plant.

The River Dee supply is generally a softer water than that obtained from Prenton and Mouldsworth and although it was not possible to resume softening of borehole supplies during the year, preliminary work is now in hand to do this.

House Drainage

The following is a summary of work carried out by this Department during the year:—

- 612 Inspections made
- 125 Drains plunged
- 69 Drains rodded
- 20 Smoke tests applied to existing buildings, following sanitary notice, repairs and reconstruction.

Dustbins

At the end of the year:—

- 5211 Dustbins had been supplied under the Council scheme
- 815 " " " " during the year
- 938 " " " " by owners following notices
- 296 " " " " by tenants following notices
- 165 Dustbins were renewed.

The above figures do not include Corporation property.

During the year :—

- 558 Informal Notices were served
- 217 14 day notices were served

Public Conveniences

During the course of routine inspection it was found necessary to advise the Borough Engineer and Surveyors' Department of various defects found in four conveniences.

Sanitary Conveniences

The 58 pail closets at present in use in outer areas are emptied weekly at regular times.

It was not found necessary to serve any notices under the above heading.

Cesspools and Septic Tanks

Following 33 visits made by inspectors, 3 notices were served requiring cleansing of tanks and renewing of filter media.

Work is progressing favourably on the new Dibbin Sewer which it is hoped will be completed at the latter end of next year when work can then commence on draining houses directly into the new sewer.

Private and Public Schools

Regular inspections were continued during the year with emphasis on school canteens, and determined efforts were made by the inspectors to advise and help staff regarding Food Hygiene.

Tips

The Mayfields Tip, New Ferry, was regularly visited during the year both by the public health inspectors and rodent operators. No complaints were received during the year regarding rats, this being due to the regular treatment carried out in a conscientious manner by the rodent operator on that area.

The Tip was sprayed regularly against flies and crickets which resulted in only 3 complaints being received from nearby residents during the month of July. Crickets became a nuisance during the latter part of September on the Tip surface near the office of the Cleansing Foreman. The surface affected, and the surrounding areas were liberally treated with powder with satisfactory results.

Mortuary

During the year 19 bodies were received into the Mortuary. It was found necessary to contact the Borough Engineer & Surveyor's Department regarding the repair of windows.

Infectious Disease

A total number of 298 enquiries were made by public health inspectors during the year.

Information concerning disinfection of premises and articles which was carried out during the year is as follows:—

- 43 Rooms were disinfected
- 9 Beds " "
- 70 Miscellaneous articles disinfected

Pet Shops

There are 4 premises licensed under the Pet Animals Act. These were regularly visited. A high standard of cleanliness was observed on all visits. Special attention was given to the handling and treatment of animals, and it is pleasing to report that no cause for complaint was noticed.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1959

The number of Factories on the register at the end of the year totalled 136, an increase of 5 compared with last year. Due to other commitments in connection with Smoke Control and Housing it was not found possible during routine work to inspect all the factories in the area.

The following tables show the results of inspections in the form required by the Minister of Labour:—

TABLE X 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	Number of inspections	Number of written notices	Number of occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	24	15	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	94	41	3	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	18	18	—	—
Total	136	74	3	—

TABLE XI 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	—

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	75	1	1	692	1	770
Number inspected	75	1	1	692	1	770
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	5	1	—	—	—	6
Percentage of the number affected	6.6%	100%	—	—	—	0.77%
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	47	—	—	157	1	205
Percentage affec- ted	62.6%	—	—	22.6%	100%	26.6%

HR. BEBINGTON

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	348	321	1338	18041	2084	22132
Number inspected	348	321	1338	18041	2084	22132
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	10	—	—	—	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	4	80	3	—	18	105
Percentage of the number affected	1.14%	28.05%	0.224%	—	0.86%	0.519%
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	4	2	54	6	66
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	241	269	12	4621	344	5487
Percentage of the number affected	69.7%	85.06%	1.04%	25.92%	16.80%	25.09%

Other Condemned Food

TABLE XIII

The following table indicates the amount of food to be unsound other than meat already referred to:—

597 tins Meat	11 jars Honey
1 tin Ox Tongue	4 jars "Splendo"
56 tins Stewed Steak	1 bottle Sauce
4 tins Ham	12 bottles Orange Squash
112 tins Vegetables	2,193 pkts. Potato Crisps
245 tins Rice	3 pkts. Cheese Slices
1 tin Syrup	41 pkts. Suet
1 tin Tomato Juice	2 pkts. Chocolate Dessert
41 tins Fruit	3½ tons Mixed Cake Flour
11 tins Tomatoes	15 lbs. Mutton
6 tins Milk	10 lbs. Steak
23 tins Fish	38 lbs. Minced Steak
35 tins Soup	20 lbs. Forequarter of Lamb
7 tins Salmon	40 lbs. Shin Beef (Imported)
2 tins Mustard	40 lbs. Shoulder Steak (Imported)
2 jars "Jiffi Jellies"	½ lb. Butter
1 jar Marmite	½ lb. Cheese
2 jars Pickles	½ lb. Biscuits
6 jars Jam	½ lb. Bacon
10 jars Chicken	

Disposal of Unsound Food

Meat and offal from the slaughterhouse is stained by the Inspector or under his supervision with a vegetable dye before being sent to dealers who are required to sign a note indicating that the unsound meat and offal is not used for human consumption. Details of all such meat and offal are sent to the Public Health or Meat Inspector of the district to which it is consigned.

Small quantities of meat or food from retail shops are dealt with by incineration.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

The number of licences issued under the above Regulations during 1959 is as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk:	25 Dealers 17 Supplementary Dealers
Pasteurised Milk:	42 Dealers 17 Supplementary Dealers
Sterilised Milk:	43 Dealers 8 Supplementary Dealers

SAMPLING OF MILK FOR BIOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS

TABLE XIV

Tests for Tuberculosis Milk

The following table gives information concerning the sampling of milk for Biological Tests for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli

Source	Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Shops	Tuberculin Tested	4	4	—
Roundsmen	Tuberculin Tested	9	9	—
Roundsmen	Pasteurised	1	1	—

TABLE XV

Tests for Keeping Quality

Information concerning the testing of milk for good keeping quality by means of the Methylene Blue Test.

Source	Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Shops	Tuberculin Tested	4	3	1
Shops	Pasteurised	4	4	—
Roundsmen	Tuberculin Tested	6	6	—
Roundsmen	Pasteurised	15	15	—

A report was sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with regard to the sample of Tuberculin Tested Milk which failed the Methylene Blue test, with the result that a Ministry Inspector carried out an inspection at the farm where the milk was produced.

Tests for adequate Pasteurisation or Sterilisation

TABLE XVI

The following table gives details of Phosphatase tests for Pasteurised Milk and Turbidity tests for Sterilised Milk to ensure that they have been adequately heat treated.

Source	Designation	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Not satisfactory
Shops	Pasteurised	4	4	—
Shops	Sterilised	3	3	—
Roundsmen	Pasteurised	20	20	—
Roundsmen	Sterilised	6	5	1

The producer of the unsatisfactory sample of Sterilised Milk was notified and subsequent samples from the same producer proved to be satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM

During the year a total of 35 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for bacteriological examination by means of the Methylene blue test.

Grade 1	....	....	....	30 samples (satisfactory)
Grade 2	....	....	....	3 „ (satisfactory)
Grade 3	....	....	....	1 „ (unsatisfactory)
Grade 4	....	....	....	1 „ (unsatisfactory)

One of the unsatisfactory samples was of locally manufactured ice cream and investigation showed that the serving instruments were not being sterilised. Efficient sterilisation was recommended and further samples proved to be satisfactory. The other sample which was unsatisfactory came from outside the Borough and in this case letters were sent to the manufacturer and the Local Authority in whose area the ice cream was manufactured, and subsequent samples were found to be satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS IN GENERAL

56 samples of miscellaneous foodstuffs were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination in 1959 and of these 28% were manufactured locally.

Sample	Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Cornish Pasty	1	1	—
Meat Pie	10	10	—
Minced Beef	2	2	—
Corned Beef	1	1	—
Brawn	2	2	—
Savoury Ducks	1	1	—
Sausage	6	6	—
Sausage Roll	2	2	—
Black Pudding	2	2	—
Cream Cake	6	6	—
Pineapple Tart	1	1	—
Chocolate Cake	1	1	—
Chocolate Eclair	1	1	—
Custard Tart	1	1	—
Chocolate Biscuits	1	1	—
Cream Biscuits	1	1	—
Cream Trifle	5	3	2
Fish Cakes	2	2	—
Mussels	1	1	—
Tongue & Turkey Paste	1	1	—
Salmon & Shrimp Paste	1	1	—
Prawns	1	1	—
Crab Paste	1	1	—
Peanuts	1	1	—
Broken Eggs	1	1	—
Pudding Mix	1	1	—
Currants	1	1	—
Dates	1	1	—
	<u>56</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>2</u>

The 2 unsatisfactory samples of cream trifle were manufactured outside the Borough. The manufacturers were informed, so also were the Local Authorities from whose area the products came. Follow up samples were taken and these were satisfactory.

The following table refers to specimens and samples taken in connection with food poisoning cases.

TABLE XVII

	No. Taken	Results
Faeces	712	609 Negative
		4 Salmonella Enteriditus
		2 Salmonella Taksony
		10 Salmonella Typhimurium
		5 Salmonella Bovis Morbificans
Bacon	3	82 Shigella Sonne
		2 Negative
		1 Staphylococcus (Coagulase Neg.)
Roast Pork	1	Heavy growth of Coliform organisms
Shrimps	1	Negative

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS

There are two public swimming baths in the Borough, one at Shorefields, New Ferry adjoining the River and owned by the Corporation, and the other a private swimming bath where the public are admitted and situated in Port Sunlight, owned by Lever Brothers.

The New Ferry bath is of open air type, 110 yards x 30 yards with a million gallon capacity. The source of water is by mains supply from the West Cheshire Water Board. Treatment is by continuous circulation, filtration through rapid gravity sand filters, and chlorination with a 12 hourly water change-over.

The swimming bath at Port Sunlight is also open air type, circular in shape, 30 yards across with a capacity for 165,000 gallons. The water is supplied from wells in Lever Brothers Factory. Here it is steam heated and pumped direct to the bath. There is continuous circulation and chlorination and sediment filtration, and the water has a change-over every twelve hours. The bath is emptied regularly once a week and scrubbed down.

TABLE XVIII
SWIMMING BATH WATER

Bacteriological sampling

During the months of April to September a total of 48 samples for bacteriological examination were taken from New Ferry baths and Port Sunlight baths. The following table shows the results of these samples.

	<i>Number Taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
New Ferry Baths	24	21	3
Port Sunlight Baths	24	18	6

The 3 unsatisfactory samples from New Ferry Baths were taken on a hot Sunday afternoon in August when the baths were exceptionally busy, and may have been caused by excessive contamination carried in by bathers' feet off the grass area surrounding the pool. Further samples were taken and these were satisfactory.

The cause of the 6 unsatisfactory samples from Port Sunlight baths was probably due to insufficient chlorine, this was adjusted and further samples proved to be satisfactory.

Chemical Analysis

In addition to the bacteriological examination of Swimming Bath water 2 samples, one from each bath, were sent for chemical analysis and found to be satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF TAP WATER

Bacteriological Sampling

During 1959 a total of 19 samples of tap water were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination. There was some doubt

whether 5 of these were quite up to standard but repeat testing showed completely satisfactory results.

Chemical Analysis

2 samples of tap water were sent for chemical analysis and the results were satisfactory

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

Nature, Substance and Quality

TABLE XIX

The following shows the number and type of foods purchased by the Inspectors and analysed by the Public Analyst.

Article	No. of samples of each article examined			No. of Samples of each article regarded as adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Almonds	—	1	1	—	—	—
Almonds Ground	—	1	1	—	—	—
Arrowroot	—	1	1	—	—	—
Beef (Corned)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Bees (Bumble, Seasoned)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Breadcrumbs (Golden)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Breadsauce "Chick"	—	1	1	—	—	—
Butter	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cake Mixture	—	2	2	—	—	—
Caterpillars (Roasted)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cheese Spread	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cherries (Glace)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Condiment (Non-brewed)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Crab Meat	—	2	2	—	—	—
Cream (Dairy)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Currants	—	2	2	—	—	—
Curry (Liquid)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Dates	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fish Paste (Salmon)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Flavoured Straws	—	1	1	—	—	—
Frizets	—	1	1	—	—	—
Fruitarian Sandwich	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gelatine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gelatine (powered)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Gin	4	—	4	—	—	—
Glucose Syrup (Golden)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Grasshoppers (Fried)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Herring Fillets	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ice Cream	—	3	3	—	—	—
Jam	—	1	1	—	—	—
Jelly	—	1	1	—	—	—
Margarine	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meat Loaf (Luncheon)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meister Senf	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk	—	70	70	—	18	18
Milk (Condensed Evaporated)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Milk Shakes	—	2	2	—	—	—

Article	No. of Samples of each article examined			No. of Samples of each article regarded as adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Mincemeat	—	1	1	—	—	—
Olives (Stuffed)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Orange Juice	—	2	2	—	—	—
Oysters (Tinned)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Parsley (Rubbed)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pate de Foie Truffe	—	1	1	—	—	—
Peanut Butter	—	1	1	—	—	—
Peanuts (Roasted & Salted)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pickles (Mixed)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pie Filling (Orange)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pilchards (Tinned)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pork (Cooked Tinned)	—	1	1	—	1	1
Raisins... ..	—	1	1	—	—	—
Rum	1	—	1	—	—	—
Salmon (Potted with Butter)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sauce	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausage (Cumberland Beef)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sausage (Pork)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sherry (British)	1	—	1	—	—	—
Soft Drink	—	1	1	—	—	—
Soup (Chicken Noodle)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sponge Mixture (Sweetened)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Suet (Beef with flour)	—	1	1	—	—	—
Sultanas	—	1	1	—	—	—
Walnuts	—	1	1	—	—	—
Whiskey (Scotch)	3	—	3	—	—	—
Wine (British, Tawny Port Flavour)	1	—	1	—	—	—
Yeast, (Dried, Baking)	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	10	137	147	—	19	19

	Milk Fat	Non Fatty Solids	Water
Milk Average for the year ...	3.62%	8.71%	87.67%
Channel Island Milk Average for year	5.35%	9.31%	85.34%
Legal minimum standards ...	3.00%	8.50%	88.50%

Details of Samples Adulterated or Below Standard:

Sample No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action Taken
1	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 3.5%	Deficiency not due to added water
2	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 2.3%	Deficiency not due to added water
3	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 3.5%	Deficiency not due to added water
4	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 3.5%	Deficiency not due to added water

Sample No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action Taken
5	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Deficiency not due to added water
6	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6% and deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 3.5%	Cows showing deficiency removed from herd Further samples genuine
7	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 13.3% and deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	
8	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 9.4%	
9	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 5.0%	
10	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 53.3% and deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 5.9%	
11	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 10%	
12	Cooked Pork	Informal	Contained a substantial proportion of extraneous water	Letter sent to wholesalers who notified importers. Further sample to be taken
13	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 3.5%	Deficiency not due to added water
14	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 33% and deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Deficiency in solids not fat not due to added water
15	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Deficiency not due to added water
16	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Deficiency not due to added water
17	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1%	Deficiency not due to added water
18	Milk	Informal	Deficient in fat to the extent of 16.6% and deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 7.0%	Entire herd being disposed of

Sample No.	Article	Formal or Informal	Nature of Adulteration	Action Taken
19	Milk	Informal	Genuine but substandard milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 5.9%	Deficiency not due to added water

Other Actions under Food and Drugs Act

- | | | |
|---|------|-----------------|
| 1. Foreign Matter in Bread | .... | Baker fined £2. |
| 2. Foreign Matter in bottle of Milk | .... | Dairyman warned |
| 3. Foreign Matter in bottle of Milk | .... | Dairyman warned |
| 4. Foreign Matter in bottle of Orange Juice | .... | Dairyman warned |

HEATING APPARATUS (FIREGUARDS) ACT, 1952

No offences under this Act have been observed and no complaints received.

RODENT CONTROL

Surface Infestation

During the year 180 complaints of surface infestation were received compared with 148 during 1958. Investigation of these complaints very often entails a survey of the area in order to find the source of the infestation, and on occasions one complaint of rats may require hours of painstaking and patient investigation. Warfarin is the poison which is generally used against both rats and mice. This poison has two main advantages over the old type poisons, being relatively safe to use where there is any possibility of interference by domestic animals and also the rodents do not become "bait shy" when it has been used. Zinc phosphide and arsenic are still used on occasions where conditions are too wet for Warfarin or where it is necessary to have a quick kill. The Autumn of 1959 will be remembered for the more than average number of infestations dealt with, and this may have been due to the excellent summer we had. Mice were particularly numerous at this time and the Rodent Operators were hard pressed for several weeks to keep pace with the number of treatments required.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment

Bebington is fortunate in that the sewers have been relatively free from rats for some years. In 1959 a 10% test baiting of manholes was carried out. Only one manhole showed a "take" of bait, this was adjoining a new building site and the infestation had probably extended from the surface. The manholes in the immediate area were treated with zinc phosphide.

The following statistics indicate the work carried out during 1959:—

Major Primary	....	Infestation of 20 or over
Minor Secondary	....	Infestation of up to 20

RODENT CONTROL

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses including Council Houses	All other including Business Premises	Total of Columns 1, 2 & 3	Agricultural
Properties inspected as a result of					
(a) Notification	1	146	29	176	4
(b) Survey under the Act	16	272	62	350	36
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	4	—	4	—
Total inspections carried out incl. Reinspections	798	2008	1785	4591	260
No. of Properties inspected which were found to be infested by:					
Rats Major	—	4	11	15	4
Minor	—	82	23	105	12
Mice Major	—	4	7	11	—
Minor	—	22	10	32	2
No. of infested properties treated by L.A.	1	83	25	109	13
Total treatments carried out inc. re-treatments	1	87	30	118	15

Types of visits made:—

Dwellinghouses	.....	2008
L. A. Property	(1) Tips and non agricultural work	380
	(2) Sewage Works	267
	(3) Other buildings	151
Business Premises	(1) Factories and Workplaces	679
	(2) Shops	241
	(3) Places of Entertainment	35
	(4) Licensed Premises	43
	(5) Cafes and Canteens	1
	(6) Non-agricultural land	198
Agricultural Properties	(1) Market Gardens and Farms	109
	(2) Piggeries	93
	(3) Agricultural Land	58
Other Authority Properties	(1) Schools	384
	(2) Hospitals	204
		<u>4851</u>

No. of Estimates provided	....	....	....	....	113
No. of Contracts signed	....	....	....	....	129
Value of Contracts signed	....	....	....	....	£261/14/-

Sewer Treatment

Sewer treatments have been carried out in accordance with Ministry of Agriculture requirements.

	Manholes test baited	Manholes pre- baited
No. of Manholes	226	5
No. of Manholes showing complete take	Nil	1
No. of Manholes showing partial take	1	1
Cost per Manhole baited	6/-½d.	—
Cost per infested Manhole	—	11/5½d.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

YOUNG PERSONS EMPLOYMENT ACT, 1938

The Chief Public Health Inspector who is Chief Inspector under the above mentioned Acts, reports as follows:—

Administration

This concerns (a) hours of employment of young persons, (b) facilities for meals, (c) provision of seats for female assistants, (d) hours of closing, Sunday Trading, and (e) provision and maintenance of sanitary accommodation, washing facilities, light, ventilation and temperature.

A total number of 270 visits were made during normal working hours apart from those made during the evenings and on Sundays. Shopkeepers were very co-operative but on a few occasions special observations had to be made to ensure no offences were committed.

Offences Committed

Mixed Trades Notice (Half Day Closing) not exhibited	....	15
Sunday Trading Notice not exhibited	....	35

Shops Open Illegally

(a) After hours—evening	....	2
(b) After hours—half day	....	4
(c) Sunday Trading	....	5

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(F. S. MELVILLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

FOR THE YEAR

1959

Divisional Health Office,
Town Hall,
BEBINGTON.
Cheshire.

CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Representing Bebington Borough Council

Chairman: Alderman R. WILLIAMS

Deputy Chairman: Councillor Mrs. B. E. GILL, J.P.

Aldermen:

H. P. LONG
H. SMITH

Councillors:

R. EVANS
H. GARNER
Mrs. H. G. HEBRON
MRS. M. LEECE
Dr. J. N. MACDONALD
Mrs. S. PRICE
W. WEDGEWOOD
Mrs. E. WILLIAMS

Representing Cheshire County Council

County Alderman Miss B. E. WILSON, J.P.

County Councillor G. BEARDSWORTH, O.B.E., J.P.

County Councillor T. JONES-OWEN

Ex Officio Members

County Alderman G. ASTBURY, J.P.

County Councillor F. McBIRNIE

Representative Members and Nominating Bodies

J. H. WILLIAMS, Esq.	Bebington Divisional Executive for Education.
Dr. B. CARRUTHERS	County Palatine of Chester Local Medical Committee
A. F. DRAKE, Esq.	County Palatine of Chester Local Dental Committee
J. J. BROWN, ESQ.	Central Wirral Hospital Management Committee
Mrs. A. M. FITZPATRICK	
Mrs. V. LAMB	
A. J. RUSHTON, Esq.	
H. SPEED, Esq.	

DIVISIONAL AND COUNTY STAFF

<i>Divisional Medical Officer and School Medical Officer</i>		F. S. Melville, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee</i>	....	G. Chappell, O.B.E., LL.B.
<i>Assistant County Medical Officers</i>	....	Jessie Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. Alta Ravenscroft, M.B., Ch.B. (To 31.7.59) R. A. Blyth, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
<i>Dental Surgeons</i>	....	J. B. Andrew, B.D.S., R.C.S. (To 30.11.59) Mrs. B. Petrie, L.D.S.
<i>Chief Clerk</i>	....	W. R. Turner
<i>Clerical Staff</i>	....	Mrs. E. Bieniek Mrs. P. W. Jones Miss N. Mackey Miss H. Stanley Mrs. E. Wildridge (To 31.1.59) Mrs. A. V. Rowlands (From 2.2.59) <i>Temporary</i> Mrs. M. V. Moscrop (To 8.8.59) Mrs. D. M. Jacks (From 31.8.59)
<i>Health Visitors</i>	....	Mrs. E. Symes Miss E. Nicholson Miss R. Abraham Miss E. M. Wright Miss B. Shepherd Mrs. M. G. Garratt Mrs. M. F. Cordon Miss D. Stamper
<i>Home Nurses</i>	....	Miss M. G. Griffiths Miss F. Baughan Mrs. M. R. Heatley Mrs. A. Thompson Mrs. F. E. Harrison Mrs. A. Holesak
<i>Midwives</i>	....	Mrs. C. R. Green Mrs. E. A. Kinealy (To 31.8.59) Miss A. K. Morgan (To 17.4.59) Mrs. A. Harwood (From 20.1.59) Mrs. D. Okell (From 6.5.59)
<i>Mental Health Officers</i>	....	E. M. Harborow Mrs. C. Ledsome
<i>Matron, Day Nursery (Bromborough)</i>	....	Mrs. F. G. Davies, S.R.N.
<i>Supervisor, Junior Training Centre (New Ferry)</i>	....	Miss I. J. Young
<i>Ambulance Supervisor</i>	....	E. Jones
<i>Physiotherapist</i>	....	Mrs. S. Summers (To 9.1.59) Mrs. B. Murray (From 14.1.59)
<i>Speech Therapist</i>	....	Miss K. E. Jones, L.C.S.T.

CLINIC SPECIALISTS (PART-TIME)

<i>Chest Physician</i>	....	D. W. C. Tough, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Gynaecologist</i>	....	M. M. Datnow, M.D., F.R.C.S., F.R.C.O.G.
<i>Orthopaedic Surgeon</i>	....	G. A. Wetherell, M.Ch., Orth., F.R.C.S.
<i>Ophthalmic Surgeon</i>	....	P. J. Devlin, M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S.
<i>Paediatrician</i>	....	K. R. Llewellyn, M.R.C.P., D.C.H.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BEBINGTON DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Whilst 1959 has not been quite such a hectic year as 1958 the work of the division has gone on steadily and several innovations and changes have been instituted which have I think improved the services to the people of the Bebington Division.

On the Maternity and Child Welfare side of the work which is the senior partner in the local health authority services and should be mentioned first a very successful feature has been the "Preparation Classes" for the expectant mothers. This type of class is surely the foundation stone of preventative medicine when these potential mothers are in the most receptive frame of mind to accept the need for guidance and education. Whilst they are then in this most receptive state of mind they also get to know and respect the staff of the clinic so that subsequent to the birth of the child they have already established a good and friendly relationship with the health visitor and are more willing to discuss their doubts and difficulties and so the educative process continues.

The toddlers clinics at Eastham and New Ferry have become more securely established on the right lines and a further two have been started at Bromborough and Bebington. These clinics are the logical continuance of the preparation classes and infant welfare clinics and complete the gap between the infant welfare clinics and the school health service. It was during this gap that many mothers in fact had most difficulties as it is in this age group that the growing child becomes independently minded and when wrong handling can have the most disastrous effects on the personality of the child.

It has again been a disappointing year for attendances at the Day Nursery but there is a need for such an establishment for the child where there are difficult home conditions and it is essential that the mother goes out to full time work.

The work of vaccination and immunisation goes on steadily and late in the year it became an established procedure to offer inoculation against tetanus along with diphtheria and whooping cough. Special cards are issued to the parents of children having this so that if they require to attend their doctor or go to hospital for treatment from injuries they will be able to show this card and they will not then require to be given ante-tetanus serum. Every effort is made to impress on parents the importance of this white card but it is not the ideal answer to this problem of how to ensure that such immunised children do not in fact get serum.

During the early part of the year permission was given by the Minister to offer poliomyelitis vaccination to young adults up to the age of 26 years and considerable numbers did have this during the early summer but after the early enthusiasm very few have attended.

The Ambulance Service saw several major changes which have been commented on in the text of the report. Here all that I would say is that after the end of June it was realised what a great help the ambulance

manned by Lever's, (Port Sunlight), had been and to thank again this firm for their help and co-operation through the years.

On the welfare side there have been some very important innovations.

The Minister of Health gave his consent for local health authorities to offer chiropody services to the aged and handicapped and towards the end of the year a chiropody scheme was put into being in the borough.

The second of these innovations was the establishment of a club for the physically handicapped in the autumn. This club running once fortnightly at Bromborough Council Offices had already become well established by the end of the year. Fortunately it was possible to gain the services of an enthusiastic occupational therapist and she with the equally enthusiastic help of a health visitor and several voluntary helpers from the W.V.S., in particular Mrs. Nesbitt who has been a tower of strength, have welded this into a thriving club. Transport to and from this club is a difficulty as almost all the members are unfit to use public transport and it is fitting that the very few volunteers should know how very much their services are appreciated. It is hoped that the club can in the fairly near future become a weekly function but transport will be the greatest difficulty.

The third innovation was the seconding of a health visitor to attend the geriatric after-care clinic at Clatterbridge, described elsewhere in the report. The liaison thus established has already proved invaluable.

Another important step in the improvement of welfare of the aged in the borough during the year was the formation of a Voluntary Old Age Welfare Committee. Whilst this is a voluntary body and not part of the local health authority it has already in its short period of existence done much for the aged in the borough and has been most co-operative with this department.

It had been hoped that by the end of 1960 the Junior Training Centre would have moved to new premises but this is now at the time of writing seen to be impossible so that the staff and children will have to spend another winter in the old and unsatisfactory premises. Very good work is being done there and it can only be said that it is hoped this coming winter will be their last in New Ferry.

In conclusion I would like to thank all the members of the divisional staff, professional and clerical, the County Medical Officer and all his staff, the general practitioners in the area and those members of the staff of Clatterbridge with whom I have had contact, the County Children's Department and County Welfare Department for all the help they have given me during the year and finally but not least to thank the Chairman and members of the Divisional Health Committee for their continued interest and help.

F. S. MELVILLE,

Divisional Medical Officer.

Town Hall,
BEBINGTON.
13th May, 1960.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED AND MANAGED BY THE
DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE TERMS OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL'S DIVISIONAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATION SCHEME, 1948

Section 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children

(i) Day Nursery

The average daily attendance of 19.8 is the lowest ever recorded. There was no particular medical reason for the drop there being no severe epidemics or abnormal number of absences due to sickness.

TABLE I
AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCES

Year	New Ferry	Bromborough
1949	34.5	26.1
1950	32.9	27.7
1951	32.2	25.1
1952	29.5	23.1
1953	Closed	21.3
1954		24.7
1955		21.2
1956		23.5
1957		21.8
1958		23.6
1959		19.8

Table II illustrates that throughout the course of the year almost half the cases were necessitous rather than for the convenience of parents. Again it can only be repeated what has been said in previous years, that there should be a nursery in a borough of this size to meet urgent social needs but because of difficulties in communication and the not too happy positioning of this nursery vis-a-vis the main 'bus routes to and from the centres of industry mothers do not use it as they might if it were better situated.

TABLE II

MONTH	Total children on Register	No. of priority cases	TYPE OF PRIORITY CASE					Illness of father
			Illegitimate child	Separation of Parents	Widow	Mother in Hos-	Illness at home of mother	
January	31	12	2	7	1	1	1	—
February	26	10	2	5	—	1	2	—
March	24	9	2	4	2	—	1	—
April	24	11	3	3	2	—	3	—
May	19	9	3	3	2	—	1	—
June	21	9	3	3	2	—	1	—
July	20	14	4	3	3	3	1	—
August	21	13	5	2	2	2	2	—
September	24	13	5	2	3	2	—	1
October	25	12	5	2	3	—	—	2
November	25	14	6	2	2	2	1	1
December	23	11	4	2	2	2	—	1

Table III shows attendances made during the year:—

TABLE III

					0—2 years	2—5 years	Total
January	....	....	....	....	37	447	484
February	....	....	....	....	18	356	374
March	....	....	....	....	—	267	267
April	....	....	....	....	8	365	373
May	....	....	....	....	35	332	367
June	....	....	....	....	41	360	401
July	....	....	....	....	55	422	477
August	....	....	....	....	23	111	134
September	....	....	....	....	57	461	518
October	....	....	....	....	92	436	528
November	....	....	....	....	103	373	476
December	....	....	....	....	46	402	448
					515	4332	4847
Average daily attendance					2.1	17.7	19.8

(ii) MOTHERS' CLINICS

(a) Ante-Natal and Post-Natal

Combined ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the New Ferry Welfare Centre on Monday and Friday mornings where the mothers are examined by the consultant obstetrician and where advice and education on maternity and infant care is given by the health visitors.

Table IV gives the attendances made during the year:—

TABLE IV

	Sessions	New Cases	Total Attendances
Ante-Natal }	98	8	529
Post-Natal }		10	42

(b) Preparation Class

This clinic, started the previous year, continued to run successfully every Thursday afternoon at New Ferry Welfare Centre. This class has been very well attended. It is run by a Health Visitor and a Physiotherapist. Ideally the midwives should also be in attendance but unfortunately they do not have the time at present to get there.

Talks and demonstrations to these mothers have included the following subjects, objects of Preparation and Relaxation Classes, preparation of the mind, anatomy, mechanism of labour, diet, good nutrition, vitamins, general hygiene, care of breasts, clothing, teeth, feet, varicose veins, exercise, simple ailments, Rh factor, breast feeding, artificial feeding, types of feeding, bottles, teats, equipment, sterilisation, bathing baby, washing nappies and baby clothes, gas and air, suitable clothing for mother and baby.

In my opinion this class is showing very gratifying results. Opinions of doctors vary about the benefits accruing to the mothers at their parturition, although the mothers themselves are almost unanimous in their opinion that it has helped, but there are no doubts in anyone's mind about the value to the mother in the confidence she gains and the increase in good care that she gives to the newly born baby.

Table V gives the attendances made during the year—

TABLE V

	Sessions	New Cases	Total Attendances
Preparation Class	52	90	554

(iii) INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

There is one ad hoc clinic in the borough at New Ferry where an infant welfare clinic is held each Wednesday afternoon. In addition there are weekly infant welfare clinics held in rented premises at the Mayer Hall, Bebington; St. David's Presbyterian Church Hall, Eastham; Bromborough Council Offices; Victoria Hall, Higher Bebington and a fortnightly clinic at the Women's Institute, Thornton Hough.

During the year 8,674 attendances were made as compared to 8,623 in 1958 and 8,423 in 1957.

TABLE VI

Total attendances, new cases and numbers seen by the doctor at infant welfare clinics during 1959:—

	Attendances		New Cases		Number seen by doctor	Sessions
	Under 1 year	1—5 years	Under 1 yr.	1—5 years		
New Ferry	1565	147	127	1	598	51
Eastham	1660	212	123	4	460	48
Hr. Bebington	1336	135	123	9	644	51
Bromborough	1638	286	150	9	771	52
Lr. Bebington	1402	147	109	—	372	50
T. Hough	77	69	14	—	80	23
	7678	996	646	23	2925	275
	8674		669			

(iv) **Toddlers' Clinics**

A routine inspection of children yearly on or about their birthday is invaluable for the early detection of physical defects such as deafness, adenoids, squints, minor orthopaedic defects, feeding and sleeping difficulties, and is also invaluable for imparting such simple health education principles as home safety, nutrition, exercise and the various needs of the child before going to school. Such clinics are held once monthly at New Ferry Welfare Centre and at St. David's Presbyterian Church Hall, Eastham.

New Toddlers' Clinics have been started during late 1959 at Bromborough Council Offices and Mayer Hall, Bebington.

Table VII gives the figures of attendance—

TABLE VII

Clinic	Sessions	Attendances
New Ferry	11	124
Eastham	12	126
Bromborough	2	23
Lr. Bebington	1	12

(v) **Special Clinics and Ancillary Services**

(a) **Orthopaedic Clinic**

The orthopaedic specialist has a consultative clinic fortnightly at New Ferry Welfare Centre. This is a combined clinic for

pre-school children. During 1959 there were twenty sessions when 486 attendances were made by children of all ages, 111 of whom were new cases. Corresponding figures for 1958 were sessions 21, attendances 513, new cases 81.

(b) Physiotherapy

The physiotherapist attends two sessions per week at the New Ferry Welfare Centre for treatment of orthopaedic cases.

TABLE VIII

	1959	1958
Sessions	68	93
New Cases	46	30
Total attendances	300	246

(c) "Sunlight"

Fortunately the services of a physiotherapist have been obtained during the year and regular sessions have again been held.

TABLE IX

	1959	1958
Sessions	44	17
New Cases	60	29
Total attendances	537	241

(d) Ophthalmic Clinic

The ophthalmologist attends New Ferry Welfare Centre monthly to see children under 5 years of age reported to him.

During 1959 he saw 41 new cases and 167 attendances were made as compared with 37 new cases and 145 attendances in 1958.

(e) Ear, Nose and Throat

No ear, nose and throat clinic is held in the local authority premises. Cases are referred directly to Clatterbridge Hospital.

(f) Paediatric

The Paediatrician from Clatterbridge Hospital holds a consultative session on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings of each month to see cases referred by the general practitioners and follow up cases seen originally in the hospital.

TABLE X

	1959	1958
Sessions	23	21
New Cases	29	19
Total attendances	210	151

(vi) Infant Foods

The sale of branded infant foods at child welfare clinics during the year realised £1,760 as compared to £1,533 in 1958.

(vii) Welfare Foods

The arrangements made when these became the responsibility of the Local Health Authority during 1954 continued. New Ferry clinic is the main centre and is open for their sale every day. In addition there is a clerk in attendance at Bromborough Council Offices on a Thursday morning and these foods are sold at all the infant welfare clinics.

During the year 1959 the following Welfare Foods were issued:—

		1959	1958
National Dried Milk	20 oz. tin—2/4d.	15,813	17,316
Cod Liver Oil	6 oz. bottle—free	2,601	2,924
Vitamin A & D Tablets	free	2,706	2,476
Orange Juice	6 oz. bottle—5d.	26,535	25,687

SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY SERVICE

The establishment of midwives for the area remained at four but once again unfortunately there were several changes. The midwives attended 191 cases, eleven more than in 1958, and this works out at an average of 48 each, not a heavy load by any means if they were only having to deal with those cases at which they were in attendance at the delivery. Unfortunately this is not the whole picture. Most women are discharged from the hospital and maternity homes before the fourteenth day, the result of which is that the midwives have the rather uninteresting drudgery of the confinement without its more exciting and interesting aspects and with mothers and babies already committed to routines with which the midwife, rightly or wrongly, may not agree. It would seem to be rather unfortunate that the new mother at a stage when she requires continuity and non-conflicting advice should get in quick succession three or more expert opinions—that of the hospital doctor and midwife, the domiciliary midwife, the general practitioner and the health visitor.

The Preparation Classes mentioned above are helping considerably to bolster the mothers confidence in the difficult first two or three weeks.

Births notified to the borough during the year:—

Domiciliary	.....	191
Heathfield Maternity Home	.....	245
Clatterbridge Hospital	.....	294
Outside the Borough	.....	90
Total	.....	<u>820</u>

SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The establishment of health visitors for the division is eight and during the year this number has been employed.

Routine work in the ante-natal clinics, infant welfare and toddlers' clinics, specialist clinics in ophthalmology, paediatrics, orthopaedics, has continued as before but in addition a health visitor attends the Geriatric follow-up clinic at Clatterbridge each week and regular sessions are held for hearing tests of young children so that it is estimated that apart from time spent on routine office work and office work on the home help service the health visitors spend some 1,300 half days a year in the clinics which leaves about 2,500 health visitor/half days a year on visiting of all kinds. These figures take no account of absence due to sickness so that any sickness of any of the health visitors reduces the time they collectively have available for visiting as the clinics have always got to be manned. Therefore, in something less than 2,500 half days the health visitors have done 14,836 visits (this figure does not include abortive visits where there is no reply) or about six visits per morning or afternoon. This gives an average time of between 20 and 30 minutes per visit. As the vast majority of the visits, for all practical purposes, are educational in character this means a tremendous burden on the health visitors shoulders. Half an hour is little enough time to discuss all the matters a mother brings up about her infant, or gives little time to get relevant information from a garrulous or deaf old person who is glad to see a visitor and loath to let her go.

In my opinion the ratio of one health visitor/school nurse to every 6,400 of the population is far too low, one to 4,000 would not be considered unreasonable and it would seem to me that with the ever increasing problems of the aged and mental health, in addition to all the other facets of the work, there is a reasonable argument for an increase in the health visiting staff.

Table XI illustrates just how widely the net is cast now in the health visitors work whilst by inclination and training the maternity and child welfare service gets pride of place in their work the social care of the whole family comes within their orbit.

TABLE XI

Work done by Health Visitors during 1959

Visits	Primary	....	....	....	....	....	....	819
	Revisits (Infants)	....	....	....	....	....	....	3568
	1—5 years	....	....	....	....	....	....	5949
	School children	....	....	....	....	....	....	436
	Ante-natal	....	....	....	....	....	....	452
	Tuberculosis	....	....	....	....	....	....	593
	Domestic Helps	....	....	....	....	....	....	761
	After-Care, Aged and Handicapped	....	....	....	....	....	....	1243
	Mental Health	....	....	....	....	....	....	110
	Special	....	....	....	....	....	....	404
Attendances at Clinics		....	....	....	....	....	....	501
						Total		14,836

SECTION 25—HOME NURSING SERVICE

At the end of 1959 six home nurses were serving residents in the Division who were considered by general practitioners to be in need of home nursing, and the relevant statistics for the year are shown in conjunction with the 1958 figures, which are given in brackets.

New Cases in 1959	Visits paid in 1959
678 (731)	19,937 (23,782)
Cases referred to hospital	147 (151)
Deaths	69 (98)

This service soldiers on quietly doing very good work which is largely unsung but the patients themselves and their family doctors know the true worth of these nurses. Whilst I have no desire to drag them into the office it seems a pity that they do not have a closer link with the remainder of the divisional set-up as I feel that they would welcome opportunities to discuss their cases with their colleagues in the other branches and at the same time other social problems not directly medical or nursing would come to light and further help could be given to their patients.

SECTION 26—VACCINATION and IMMUNISATION

(i) Vaccination against smallpox

526 children under five years of age were vaccinated during 1959. This in fact is 15 more than in 1958 when the outbreak of smallpox occurred and is an indication that parents realise the importance of this procedure and it is hoped this will long continue.

Although the neighbourhood of a port is likely to be more vulnerable to outbreaks than other areas, in this day of rapid travel no place is immune from the danger of some traveller arriving still in the incubation period of the disease, so that it is important that the whole population should be well vaccinated.

Much exhortation and education is done to encourage parents on this subject. It should be noted that the general practitioners have in fact vaccinated two thirds of the total number done and I would like to put on record my thanks to them for their interest and keenness in this preventative work.

TABLE XII
PRIMARY VACCINATION (Smallpox)

	0—5 years	Over 5 years	Total
General Practitioners	353	28	} 554
Local Authority Clinics	173	—	

(ii) **Diphtheria Immunisation**

Immunisation against diphtheria has continued throughout the year either alone or combined with whooping cough using the Glaxo Combined Diphtheria Pertussis Prophylactic.

640 children under the age of five years were immunised against diphtheria in 1959 as compared to 635 in the previous year. It is not so simple a matter to state this as a percentage as these children are in a much wider age range than those vaccinated against smallpox but it is very satisfactory.

TABLE XIII

Number of children immunised against diphtheria according to year of birth and year of completion of immunisation

	Year of Birth														Total
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	
1946	7														7
1947	289	9													298
1948	72	337	17												426
1949	16	54	220	17											307
1950	7	6	34	171	8										226
1951	26	11	17	64	226	15									359
1952	80	49	19	20	64	236	24								492
1953	9	18	31	14	14	45	251	27							409
1954	7	8	27	30	19	18	71	206	19						405
1955	5	7	12	14	31	10	23	44	176	30					352
1956	5	6	4	18	24	42	27	24	72	281	73				576
1957	202	224	244	195	172	178	92	31	42	83	362	96			1921
1958	16	31	49	33	46	75	76	58	17	14	61	379	95		950
1959		3	24	43	12	14	19	104	61	20	20	57	387	156	920
Total	741	763	698	619	616	633	583	494	387	428	516	532	482	156	7648

TABLE XIV

Number of children immunised against diphtheria either alone or combined with whooping cough or as triple antigen during 1959.

		Under 5 years	5—14 years	Reinforcing doses	
1959	By General Practitioners	395	21	93	647
	At Local Authority Clinics	252	—	68	
1958		635	63		335

The figures in this table are taken from the monthly returns and consequently there is a little overlap at the ends of each year. That is why they do not agree exactly with those of table XIII.

(iii) **Whooping Cough**

Whooping cough immunisation has been continued throughout the year usually combined with diphtheria using the antigen mentioned above.

TABLE XV

Number of children inoculated against whooping cough according to year of birth and year of completion of inoculation

		Year of Birth														
Year of Immunisation		1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	Total
	1946	8														8
	1947	240	12													252
	1948	56	246	19												321
	1949	7	33	136	3											179
	1950	3	1	12	81											97
	1951	3		5	31	74	2									115
	1952	3	4	2	6	42	82	4								143
	1953	1	1	6	6	5	46	122	12							199
	1954	1	1	7	5	8	13	52	108	6						201
	1955	2	1	2	5	8	8	22	32	139	22					241
	1956	1	2	1	6	3	17	16	17	68	263	70				464
	1957	1	1		1	2	9	34	15	36	77	341	95			612
	1958		1	3		3	3	13	23	6	12	56	376	96		592
	1959		1	2		6	10	8	32	41	16	19	55	371	146	707
	Total	326	304	195	144	151	190	271	239	296	390	486	526	467	146	4131

TABLE XVI

Number of children immunised against whooping cough either alone or combined with diphtheria.

		Under 5 years	5—14 years	Reinforcing doses
1959	By General Practitioners	379	19	72
	At Local Authority Clinics	250	—	11
1958		618	12	83

The figures in this table are taken from the monthly returns and consequently there is a little overlap at the ends of each year. That is why they do not agree exactly with those of Table XV.

(iv) **Tetanus**

During the latter part of the year it became part of the immunisation policy to offer inoculation against tetanus in addition to diphtheria and whooping cough. This is in fact given with diphtheria and whooping cough as a triple antigen.

During the year 106 children completed this course of triple antigen. These children are included in the respective figures for diphtheria and whooping cough above.

(v) **Anterior Poliomyelitis**

Table XVII is a record of the work done during the year but gives little indication of the tremendous amount of work which had to be done by the office staff.

9,599 children under sixteen had two injections by the end of 1959 which represents about 80% of the population in that age group.

In addition adults up to the age of 26 years were also offered this vaccination. Special sessions were held at all the large industrial undertakings in the area and an evening session was begun at New Ferry Welfare Centre. This is still held each Wednesday between 5.0 p.m., and 7.0 p.m.

TABLE XVII

No. of persons vaccinated during the year with

CLASS	2nd Injection		3rd Injection	
	At Clinic	By G.P.	At Clinic	By G.P.
Children born in the years 1943 to 1959	1011	1863 2874	4683	2249 6932
Young Persons born in the years 1933 to 1942	895	789 1684	95	223 318
Expectant Mothers	36	163 199	42	77 119

Total number of children (1943/1959) who have received **two** injections—9,599.

Total number of children (1943/1959) who have received **three** injections—6,956.

Total number of young persons (1933/1942) who have received **two** injections—1,738.

Total number of young persons (1933/1942) who have received **three** injections—318.

TABLE XVIII

Number of children vaccinated (three injections) against poliomyelitis according to year of birth and year of completion of vaccination

Year of Vaccination	Year of Birth														Total
	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	
1958	2	1	4	2	2	2	3	3	5	5	5	1			35
1959	459	520	473	435	436	417	428	400	446	443	465	433	157		5512
Total	461	521	477	437	438	419	431	403	451	448	470	434	157		5547

(vi) **B.C.G. Vaccination** (Tuberculosis)

As the number of infectious persons in the country steadily and swiftly decreases due to modern effective treatments and all danger from infected milk has gone because of the rigorous policy of getting all cattle tuberculin tested and the pasteurisation of milk, the number of persons who have never been faced with the infection and who therefore have had no opportunity, fortunately because of its dangers, to obtain an active naturally acquired immunity has increased. This makes it more important than ever that adolescents approaching the dangerous age in-so-far as tuberculosis is concerned should be vaccinated in their early "teens".

This is a time consuming procedure involving at least five or six visits to the schools for each batch of children and the head teachers and staff have been most co-operative.

Table XIX gives details of numbers vaccinated.

TABLE XIX

B.C.G. Vaccination of thirteen year old schoolchildren:—

	1959	1958
1. Estimated population	744	766
2. Number of consents	586	615
% consenting	78.8	80.3
3. Number of children tuberculin tested	558	597
4. Number of children tuberculin positive	70	97
% positive	12.5	16.2
5. Number of children vaccinated with B.C.G.	488	500
6. Percentage vaccinated of population	65.6	65.3

In addition 28 child contacts of cases of tuberculosis were vaccinated by the Chest Physician during the year.

All mothers having their babies in hospital are being encouraged to have them vaccinated early in life and 290 had this done during the year.

SECTION 27—AMBULANCE SERVICE

1959 was an eventful year for this service in Bebington. The new station at Dock Road became operational on 6th June and was officially opened on the 13th July. On the 5th/6th June all staff, vehicles, and equipment were moved to the new station and on the 30th June Lever's, Port Sunlight, ceased to man and organise one vehicle stationed at their factory for the County Council. Then in the late autumn radio-telephony was introduced into the Wirral area of the county.

These changes, particularly the introduction of radio-telephony have radically altered the running of the service and with the control of the vehicles coming from County Hall the day to day running of the service will also be assumed there.

Whilst at Clatterbridge Hospital the ambulance authority provided some of the internal transport but this ceased on the day of the change over. Whilst the accommodation at the Hospital was perhaps not terribly satisfactory there is no doubt it was very convenient as a base both for patients and medical staff and co-operation between the Hospital and Ambulance staff was always good and it is fitting to thank here the Hospital staff and administration for their help during the years since the appointed day in 1948.

A 24 hour a day service continued to operate throughout the year.

The staff at the end of the year was a Supervisor and fifteen driver/attendants and there were three ambulances and three sitting-case cars. No new vehicles were acquired during the year.

During the year the average journey amounted to 13.8 miles and an average of 2.8 persons were carried, as compared to 10.6 miles and 2.1 persons in 1958.

TABLE XX

The following is a statement of the work of the Ambulance Service during 1959:—

		(1) No. of vehicles	(2) Total No. of Journeys	(3) Total patients carried	(4) No. of emergency calls incl. in Col. (3)	(5) Total Mileage
Directly Provided Service	Ambulances	3	3,415	8,200	1,055	39,683
	Sitting-case vehicles	3	3,394	10,674	95	54,637
Totals (1959)		6	6,809	18,874	1,150	94,320
Totals (1958)		6	8,121	17,169	1,102	86,263

The figure of 1,150 shown in Col. (4), includes 222 road accidents, 68 works accidents, 69 home accidents and 25 school accidents.

During the year the practice was continued of arranging in suitable cases for transport by rail.

SECTION 28—PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE and AFTER-CARE

(a) Tuberculosis

Home visits to tuberculosis patients by health visitors were continued throughout the year and close liaison with the Tuberculosis Officer, Dr. D. W. Tough, was maintained. Nursing equipment was loaned to patients in appropriate cases.

The after-care of tuberculosis has been much simplified because modern methods of treatment ensure that with few exceptions the patients are made fit for work again so much more rapidly that they do not become the social problem they did when they were hospitalised over long periods in previous years, and after-care visiting by the health visitors is now largely to see that they are indeed maintaining their progress and reporting to the tuberculosis officer regularly.

Whilst after-care may be diminishing somewhat in volume, care and prevention are becoming even more important. Now that the patients are treated effectively and quickly become sputum negative the early detection of cases and prompt isolation is of the utmost importance in still further reducing the number of cases and it is perhaps unfortunate that too many discovered cases are not notified much sooner than they are.

The following table shows the state of the register at the 31st December, 1959, and other relevant figures for the year.

TABLE XXI
Tuberculosis Register at 31st December, 1959

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	183	151	334
Non-pulmonary	14	28	42
	<u>197</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>376</u>
New cases placed on register	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	13	6	19
Non-pulmonary	1	3	4
	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>23</u>
Cases removed from Register			
Deaths	6	(pulmonary)	
Pronounced cured	9		
Left district	19		
Lost sight of	3		
Colonised at Wrenbury	—		
	<u>37</u>		

Contacts referred for examination	....	....	....	37	
Contacts examined	....	....	....	188	
Child contacts vaccinated with B.C.G.	....	....	....	28	
Chalets in use	....	....	....	1	
Visits paid by Health Visitors	....	....	....	593	
				1959	1958
Cases on Register at 31st December	....	....	....	376	390
No. of cases/1,000 population	....	....	....	7.4	7.7
New Cases*	....	....	....	15	27
New Cases/1,000 population	....	....	....	0.3	0.5
Deaths	....	....	....	6	8
Death rate/1,000 population	....	....	....	0.12	0.16

*These are new cases notified for the first time whilst residing in the borough and this figure does not include transfers.

(b) Sick and Aged After-Care

This section of the work continues to expand and during 1959 two new ventures have begun.

In September a club for physically handicapped was started. This club is held fortnightly on a Wednesday afternoon at Bromborough Council Offices and has been extremely well attended and popular. The number of persons on the club register at 31st December, 1959 was 15 and there was an average attendance of 14.

The main aims and objects of the club are to get those who are severely handicapped to have more social contacts, at the same time to encourage them to do more for themselves and ultimately if possible to give them opportunities of doing useful work and feeling that they are part of the community and making a contribution to the community.

The club is run by a part time occupational therapist whose services we were very fortunate to get and one of the health visitors who has been keenly interested from the beginning.

Another service which was inaugurated during the year was that of chiropody following the Ministry of Health's circular allowing local health authorities to have schemes under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act.

Whilst there has been some retraction from the position some years ago which claimed that very large numbers of the aged were immobile only because of the state of their feet there is no doubt that this service makes life easier to live for many.

TABLE XXII
CHIROPODY SERVICE
1st October to 31st December, 1959

PLACE OF TREATMENT	OVER 65		CATEGORY		EXPECTANT MOTHERS	
	No. of patients	No. of treatments	No. of patients	No. of treatments	No. of patients	No. of treatments
Chiropodist's surgery	4	7	NONE		NONE	
Patient's Home	14	21	5	8	NONE	
Club	NONE		NONE		NONE	

Number of cases in which County Council paid part fees — 2

Number of cases in which County Council paid full fees — 21

Another innovation during the year was the seconding of a health visitor to work at the Geriatric After-Care Clinic at Clatterbridge Hospital which is held each Thursday afternoon.

This clinic is attended by appointment and the intention of it is to keep those patients who have had treatment and recovered sufficiently to return home, under observation. The health visitor obtains up-to-date reports from the district health visitors of the conditions and conveys this to the geriatrician. He discusses with the health visitor subsequent needs of the patient and she then sees that these are conveyed back to the appropriate person for action.

This "geriatric health visitor" has forged a valuable link between the hospital services and the local health authority in the catchment area of the hospital to the mutual benefit of the hospital staff, local health authority staff and most importantly to the patients themselves.

In 1959, 1,243 visits were made by Health Visitors in connection with the welfare of the chronic sick, including aged and infirm.

During the year issues of home nursing equipment on loan totalled 164 and domestic helps were provided in 126 cases.

The voluntary "Meals on Wheels" Service run by the Women's Voluntary Service supplied 6,263 meals to aged and handicapped people during the year.

In 1959 convalescence was obtained for eight persons, one child and seven adults.

During the year financial assistance was granted in two cases to meet the cost of alterations to property occupied by handicapped people to help them overcome their difficulties. In one case a pavement crossing was constructed and in the other a concrete path in order to facilitate the use of mechanically propelled invalid vehicles which had been supplied by the Ministry of Health.

One case received the special washing service during the year. This service is for laundering of bed clothes and underclothes where a patient is incontinent. The special washing is put in waterproof bags and taken to Clatterbridge Hospital for laundering.

(c) **Health Education**

As is indicated previously in the report much health education is carried out at preparation classes for ante-natal mothers, infant welfare and toddlers' clinics and individually by the staff.

Home Safety Committee

The Bebington Voluntary Home Safety Committee continued to work steadily towards educating and informing the public on the dangers and pitfalls in the home and its environment and how to obviate accidents. During the year exhibits were on display at Clatterbridge Hospital and in the various clinics throughout the borough. In addition members of the Committee gave talks and demonstrations to many groups including church organisations, parent-teacher associations, St. John's ambulance members, Townswomen's Guilds and old age pensioners' clubs.

A national drive to prevent accidents from falls was launched in November and locally the committee distributed leaflets through the good offices of the local Boy Scouts' Association, had posters in shops and other prominent positions, slides and films at the local cinemas and other methods of bringing to the public notice the importance of safety in the home.

(d) **Mental Health**

The health visitors and the Mental Health Officers continue to visit the mentally defective. During the year the health visitors made 110 visits in this connection.

There are now two Mental Health Officers to deal with practically the whole of the Wirral with a population of at least 100,000 and very little care and after-care can be done.

(e) **Junior Training Centre**

The Junior Training Centre is held in St. Marks' church hall where there is a general assembly room, two classrooms, a kitchen, toilets and a small staff room. The staff consists of a supervisor, three assistant supervisors and a part-time helper for the dinners. The children and staff get dinner from Grove Street School canteen and these dinners are of a very high standard.

Provision is still being made only for children between the ages of 5—16 years, although one or two docile adolescents over 16 years have been allowed to continue to attend but it is hoped that a new centre may be built with facilities for adult training also.

Handicrafts taught in the Centre include needlework, rug-making, weaving and felt work, and the results achieved during 1959 were most

encouraging. In suitable cases instruction is given in reading and writing.

There were forty-eight children on the register at 31st December, 1959. Their ages ranged from 5—20 years.

The register was made up as follows:—

District	No. of children on register
Bebington	10
Ellesmere Port	16
Heswall	6
Neston	2
Hoylake and West Kirby	10
Irby	2
Willaston	2
	<hr/> 48

SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The demand for domestic help service during 1959 rose sharply and domestic helps were employed for a total of 31,592 hours, which is 7,620 hours more than in 1958.

Health Visitors paid 761 visits to households during the course of the year in connection with applications for the service, and it is very satisfactory to record that no application had to be refused and there was no waiting list.

At the end of the year 37 part-time helps were employed, compared with 27 part-time workers at the end of 1958.

The rise in the demand for this service is largely due to the progressively more complete knowledge of the old and handicapped in the borough. Whilst every endeavour is made to keep the number of hours worked in each needy household to a reasonable amount the more who can be helped in this way and the earlier the help is given the longer are they able to enjoy reasonable lives in their own homes and the less demand there is on hostel and hospital beds. The organisation of this service puts a tremendous burden on the health visitor who does this and she requires to devote a considerable period of her time to this.

Details of cases provided with domestic help service during the year together with comparative figures for 1958 are as follows:—

TABLE XXIII

	1959	1958
Maternity	27 (924 hours)	17
Tuberculosis	2 (1082 hours)	2
Chronic sick, including aged and infirm	126 (27,416 hours)	110
Others	40 (2170 hours)	26
	<hr/> 195	<hr/> 155

The maximum charge to patients for domestic help service is 3/9d. per hour. There is a scale of charges in operation whereby the amount payable is assessed according to the income of the family concerned after deductions are made for rent, rates and personal allowances.

In 63 of the 195 cases provided with help in the year under review the maximum charge was paid.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The following information has been supplied by the Principal School Medical Officer in respect of the School Health Service for the year 1959:—

PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Age Group Inspected	Number of pupils inspected			Physical Condition of pupils inspected		Pupils found to require treatment			No. of pupils having had tonsillectomy		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	For defective vision (excl. squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table E	Total individual pupils	Boys	Girls	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
1955 & later	3	3	6	6	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
1954	156	144	300	286	14	—	83	83	9	11	20
1953	219	194	413	405	8	3	77	80	10	11	21
1952	16	15	31	31	—	—	4	4	3	1	4
1951	5	15	20	20	—	—	2	2	2	1	3
1950	72	69	141	134	7	7	28	35	10	11	21
1949	183	179	362	347	15	13	44	57	17	30	47
1948	105	92	197	190	7	6	38	44	15	20	35
1947	11	7	18	18	—	—	1	1	1	3	4
1946	5	7	12	12	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
1945	220	205	425	418	7	25	74	99	28	27	55
1944 & earlier	253	155	408	404	4	43	45	88	46	29	75
Total	1248	1085	2333	2271	62	97	397	494	143	144	287

Special Inspections and Re-examinations

Number examined	Required treatment	Referred for observation	Number re-examined
894	136	128	894
Number of children inspected for visual acuity			624
Number of parents present at all inspections			1779
Number of children referred for observation only			266

School Clinics

Clinic	Sessions	New Cases	Total attendances	Doctors' Sessions	Cases seen by Doctor
Bromborough	9	24	29	6	16
New Ferry	122	180	720	37	296
	<u>131</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>749</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>312</u>

Children not seen by the Doctor are inspected by the Clinic Nurse.

Specialists Clinics

Clinic	New Cases	Attendances	Glasses recommended
Ophthalmic (New Ferry)	<u>140</u>	<u>1032</u>	<u>415</u>
Speech Therapy (Bebington)	<u>27</u>	<u>719</u>	<u>28</u>

Dental Service

No. Inspected	No. Selected	No. Treated	No. of Teeth extracted	No. of Teeth filled
4,099	2,559	1,702	3,140	4,136

Handicapped Pupils

	New Cases	Re-examinations
Blind	—	—
Partially sighted	—	1
Deaf	1	—
Partially deaf	—	—
Delicate	—	15
Diabetic	—	1
E.S.N.	—	5
Epileptic	—	6
Maladjusted	—	3
Physically handicapped	1	22
Speech defect	—	—
	<u>2</u>	<u>53</u>

DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

TABLE E

Defect or Disease *	Periodic Inspections								Special Inspec's.	
	No. requiring treatment				No. requiring observation				No. req. treat't	No. req. obs'n
	E	L	I	Total	E	L	I	Total		
1. Cleanliness	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	4	—	—
2. Infestation										
(a) head	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) body	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Teeth	2	—	20	22	1	—	1	2	4	—
4. Skin	18	1	49	68	7	—	3	10	14	7
5. Eyes										
(a) vision	3	34	60	97	5	6	42	53	54	27
(b) squint	15	—	5	20	4	—	1	5	2	3
(c) other	2	—	5	7	—	—	1	1	1	2
6. Ears										
(a) hearing	5	—	5	10	8	—	7	15	3	9
(b) otitis media	3	—	1	4	—	—	—	—	1	—
(c) other	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	1
7. Nose and Throat	48	—	16	64	54	1	24	79	19	26
8. Speech	3	—	5	8	4	1	1	6	6	8
9. Lymphatic Glands R.	2	—	—	2	6	—	3	9	—	2
" " L.	2	—	—	2	6	—	3	9	—	2
10. Heart	1	1	3	5	2	—	3	5	4	7
11. Lungs	11	1	8	20	21	2	14	37	2	18
12. Developmental:										
(a) hernia	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
(b) other	2	—	—	2	4	—	4	8	1	2
13. Orthopaedic:										
(a) posture	2	—	49	51	—	2	1	3	8	4
(b) feet	27	2	23	52	14	1	2	17	21	10
(c) other	8	1	25	34	4	1	3	8	4	4
14. Nervous System										
(a) epilepsy	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	2
(b) other	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—
15. Psychological:										
(a) development	—	—	—	—	3	—	9	12	—	8
(b) stability	3	—	6	9	5	—	6	11	—	5
16. Abdomen	3	1	—	4	2	—	1	3	1	—
17. Other	15	—	25	40	2	—	5	7	9	5
	176	41	308	525	157	15	139	311	155	155

* E Entrants
 L Leavers
 I Intermediates and Others

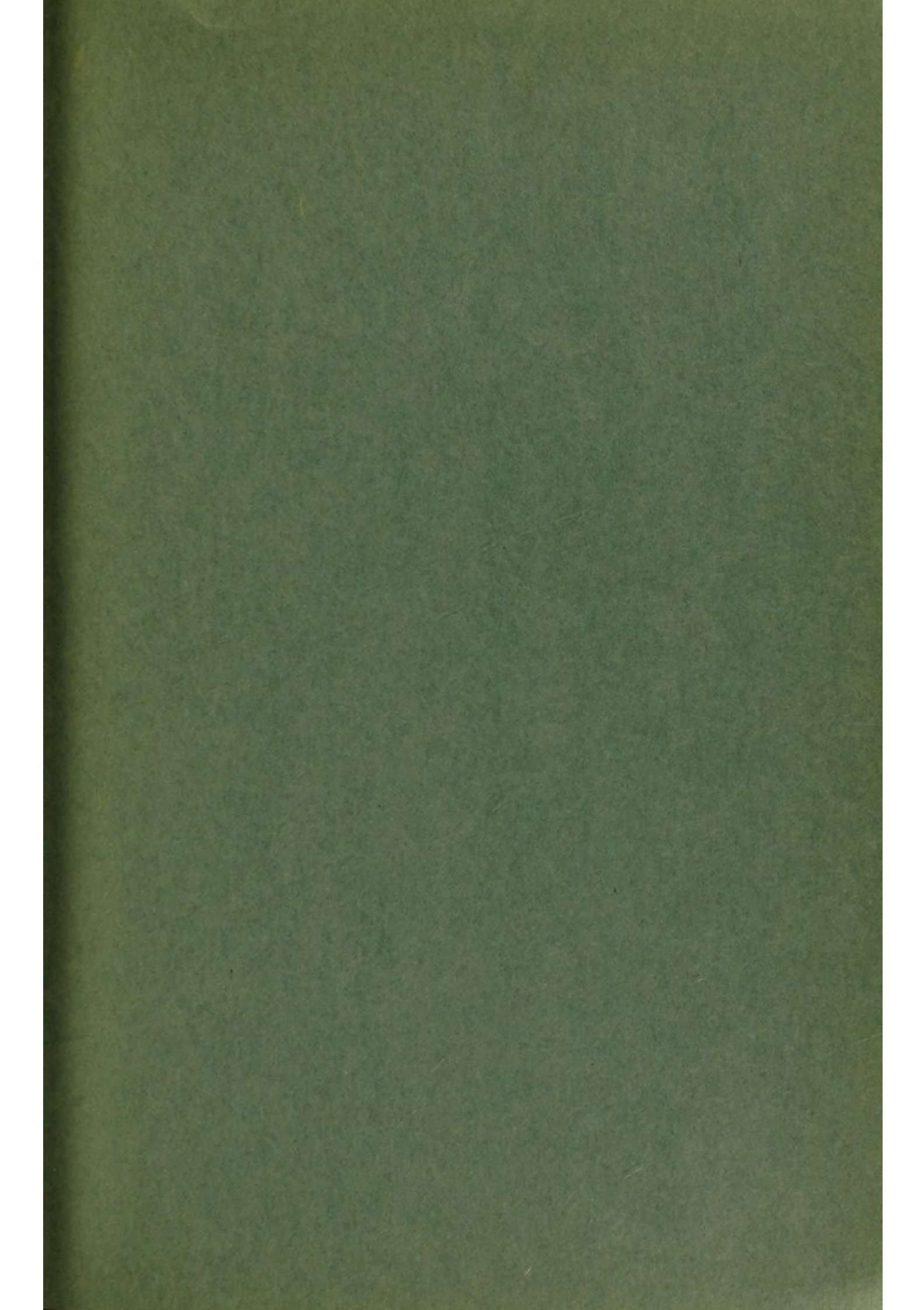
DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

TABLE 2
DEFECTS FOUND IN THE COURSE OF MEDICAL INSPECTION

No. of cases	No. of cases	Defects by System					Defects by System					Defects by System					Defects by System				
		Total	1	2	3	4	Total	1	2	3	4	Total	1	2	3	4	Total	1	2	3	4
1	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
2	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
3	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
4	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
5	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
6	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
7	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
8	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
9	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
10	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
11	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
12	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
13	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
14	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
15	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
16	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
17	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
18	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
19	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
20	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
21	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
22	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
23	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
24	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
25	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
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99	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			
100	1	1	1				1	1				1	1				1	1			

Defects by System

Defects by System



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