MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1938

URBAN DISTRICT OF BOWDON

Section A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The Area of the Urban District of Bowdon is 1090 acres. The Registrar General's estimate of the population is 3,153, an increase of 7 as compared with last year.

The Number of Inhabited Houses at the end of 1938 according to the Rate Book was 999, an increase of 37.

The Rateable Value of the District is £40,563, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £157.

The Social Conditions are good. The District is almost entirely residential. No industries are carried on and the population is but slightly affected by unemployment.

VITAL STATISTICS.	Total	Male	Female
Live Births (Legitimate)	21	11	10
(Illegitimate)	-	-	-
Still Births	4	4	-
	25	15	10

Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population = 7.93

Still Births Rate per 1000 total (live & still births) = 16.0

Deaths Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population = 11.1

+ Corrected by C.F. = 9.88

These figures show some change from the previous year. The birth rate has decreased, and the death rate has also decreased, but is still higher than the birth rate. The Still Birth Rate is unfortunately too high.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Puerperal Sepsis. Nil. Rate per 1000 total births Nil
Other Puerperal Causes " "" " " Nil

+ C.F. = .89

Death Rate of Infants under One year.

All infants per 1000 live births	0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	0
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.	0

Remarkably there is no infantile mortality

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0
" " Cancer	7

There has been no excessive mortality from any cause, and there has been no outstanding cause of sickness or invalidity.

Section B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

1. (i) The Medical Officer of Health is a part time Officer.

The Sanitary Inspector, who also acts as Surveyor to the Council is a whole time official. This position is filled by Mr. A. E. Shimmings, who holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and S.I.E.J. Board and the Meat Inspector's Certificate (R.S.I.).

(ii) (a) Laboratory Facilities. Materials are sent to the Public Health Institute, Manchester.

(b) Ambulance Facilities. The Hale & Bowdon Joint Ambulance is available and this arrangement has proved satisfactory.

(c) Nursing-in-Home. There is a district nurse whose services are available where necessary.

(d) Clinics & Treatment Centres. None is provided by the Council, nor has the need for them arisen. The Cheshire County Council provide an Infant Clinic in Bowdon Vale.

(e) Hospitals. Altrincham General Hospital (100 beds) is available for general and gynecological cases. Obstretrical cases may be sent to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester. Use is also made of the Manchester Hospitals for general cases. St. Anne's Home, Dunham Massey, is a hospital with 50 beds for diseases of the Ear, Nose and Throat and some medical cases are also admitted. There is an arrangement with Manchester for the reception of cases of Smallpox should the need arise.

Section C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) Water is supplied by the Manchester Corporation. Both quality and quantity have been satisfactory throughout the year.

(ii) Drainage & Sewerage. No extension has been made during the year and none is required.

2. Rivers & Streams. The Council is aware of an expert opinion on the condition of the Sewage works.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1938
URBAN DISTRICT OF BOWDON

To The Chairman and Members of the
Sanitary Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report on the sanitary administration of the district for the year 1938.

In circular 1728 the Ministry of Health instructed that the report be drawn up on the lines indicated therein, and in Section C. which deals with the Sanitary Circumstances of the area, this has been carried out as far as possible.

SECTION C.
Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. (i) Water.

Water supplied from the Manchester Corporation Waterworks Department mains has been laid on to all premises in the district with the following exceptions. Five premises in the Bow Lane area are supplied by means of a stand pipe, the water having to be carried to the houses, (Water supplied by the Manchester Corporation) and two farms supplied from wells.
A constant supply of good quality has been maintained.
No bacteriological analysis of the water from the mains has been made during the year.

(ii) Drainage and Sewerage.

No extension has been made during the year and none is required.

2. Rivers and Streams.

No pollution of the streams in the area has been reported and no action has been taken.
The inspection of the Bollin and the Birkin brook, is in the hands of the River Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee which has now been incorporated in "The Lancashire Rivers Board."

2. (i) Closet Accommodation.

There are 14 privies and 2 pail closets in the rural portion of the district. All closets on the conservancy system have already been converted to the water carriage system where this has been possible.

(ii) Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse is carried out weekly where ashbins have been provided. In the very few cases where ashpits remain, the collection is every four weeks. The collection is carried out by means of the Albion Lorry and takes approximately three days. The staff consists of one lorry driver and four men. When not employed on the above work these men are employed on any other work as may be necessary. The work of refuse

collection is increasing each year, owing to new houses being built, houses being turned into flats, a greater use of cardboardboxes, cartons, tinned foods etc., and a decrease in the amount of refuse being burnt in the domestic fires. Approximately 75% of the refuse is composed of paper, cardboard, tins and other bulky articles, very little cinders or ash is found.
A certain amount of work is entailed in visiting premises where defective ashbins are reported by the men. A letter is sent to the owners of the premises requesting them to provide a new ashbin under the provisions of Section 75 of the Public Health Act 1936. If this notice is not complied with the Council have power to provide the ashbin and recover the cost from the owner, but it has never been necessary to take this action.
As the lorry will become fully depreciated this year, I suggest that provision should be made to accumulate a fund for the purchase of another vehicle at some future date.

(iii) Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Inspections of house drainage.	37
" " watercourses and ditches	7
" " cowsheds	11
" " dairies	10
" " milkshops	8
" " workplaces	4
" " overground bakehouses	6
" " underground "	2
" " places where food is sold or produced	25
Infectious disease inspections & revisits	14
Miscellaneous inspections	36

(iv) Shops and Offices.

Particulars of action re ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences.
No action has been necessary.

(v) Camping Sites.

(1) Number of camping sites.	Nil.
(2) Number of " " for which licences have been issued.	Nil.
(3) Estimated number of campers.	Nil.

(vi) Smoke Abatement.

There has been no smoke nuisance in the area and no action has been necessary.

(vii) Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are none within the Urban District of Bowdon.

(viii) Eradication of bed-bugs.

		infested	disinfested
(1) Number of	(a) Council houses	Nil	Nil
	(b) other houses	2	2

(2) Method employed to free the premises. Spraying with Sharratts Vermicide (Lethane).

(3) Methods employed for ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council houses. None.

(4) Work of disinfestation carried out by the Local Authority.

(5) Measures taken by way of supervision or education of tenants to prevent infestation or reinfestation after cleansing. No action has been necessary.

(4) Schools.

The sanitary conditions and water supply of the schools in the area have been satisfactory.

SECTION D.
HOUSING

(1) (1 a. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 23

b. Number of inspections made for the purpose 27

(2 a. Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (1) above,) which were inspected and recorded under the H ousing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932. 26

b. Number of inspections made for the purpose. 30

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. Nil.

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Nil.

(2) Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices. Nil.

(3) Action under Statutory Powers during the year:

(a) Proceedings under sections 9,10 and 16 Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices Nil.

(a) By owners Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 22

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners Nil.

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished. Nil.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936.

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil.

(4) Housing Act 1936 . Part IV. Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. 4.

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein. 4.

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.

Permitted	Actual
4.	6.
6.	6½
6.	6½
6½	7

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year. Nil.

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. 1.

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases. 6.

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the Abatement of Overcrowding. Nil.

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which it is considered desirable to report. Nil.

IMPROVEMENTS.

Housing:-

Damp walls waterproofed	2.
Eaves, gutters repaired	7.
" " cleaned	5.
Brickwork repaired or repointed	4.
Rainwater pipes repaired	3.
Chimney stacks repaired	2.
Flashings renewed.	2.
Fireplaces repaired or renewed.	2.
Flues " " "	2.
Sinks repaired " " "	4.
Washboilers " " "	1.
Wash-houses "	1.
Waste pipes "	1.
Water service "	1.
Window sash cords repaired or renewed	5.
Windows made to open	2.
Wood floors repaired	1.
Quarry " "	1.
Wall plaster repaired	2.
Skirting boards repaired	1.
Rooms cleansed.	1.
Yard surfaces repaired.	2.
Hand rails.	1.

Drainage and Conveniences.

Drainage system repaired or renewed.	3.
Choked drains cleared	1.
Soil pipes repaired	2.
Cistern repaired or renewed	3.
Buildings repaired	2.
Water closet seats repaired	4.
Water closet pans renewed.	2.

SECTION E.

Inspection & Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply :-

There are six retailers and seven producers in the area. All the premises are subjected to inspections.

Number of premises registered as dairies	6.
" " persons " " cowkeepers	7.
" " persons " as purveyors of milk	31.

Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936-38.

Supplementary licences issued during the year.

Pasteurised	1.
Grade A.	2.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

There are no slaughter houses or knackers yards in the area.
Farmers occasionally slaughter a few pigs. I am always notified of intended slaughtering and I inspect the carcases.
There is one butchers shop in the area. The animals are killed at the Altrincham Public Slaughter house. All the meat sold is of very good quality.

(c) Adulteration etc.

No adulteration has been reported and no action has been necessary.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

When necessary this is carried out by the Manchester Public Health Laboratory.

(e) Nutrition.

No special work or instruction has been considered necessary.

(f) Shellfish (Molluscan)

There are no shellfish beds or layings in the district. No shell fish are marketed in the area.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

A. E. Shimmings.

Sanitary Inspector.

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, & CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES

There were no cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia.

Hospital accommodation for infectious diseases is provided by the Altrincham Isolation Hospital. This has proved ample and is used for most of such cases. Measles, Whooping Cough and Scarlet Fever are normally nursed at home, but where considered advisable they can be admitted to Altrincham Isolation Hospital.

Ten cases of notifiable infectious disease, apart from tuberculosis, were notified during the year.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	4	3	-
Diptheria	9(1 carrier)	9	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerpal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pnuemonia	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Meningitis	1	1	-

Other Diseases

(a) Cancer.

There were 7 deaths from cancer during the year. No particular trade was affected. The localisation of these cases was as follows:-

1 Cancer of the Liver
2 Cancer of the Lungs
1 " " " Kidneys
1 " " " Prostate
2 " " " Alimentary Tract

The Holt Radium Institute, Manchester, is available for the treatment of Bowdon cases.

(b) Blindness.

Manchester Eye Hospital can be resorted to for treatment. No preventive action has been necessary.

(c) Tuberculosis.

No action has been necessary with regard to persons suffering from tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

W. N. W. KENNEDY, M.D., M.R.C.P.Ed.,D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health,

BOWDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.