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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURNLEY



REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

ON THE

Public Health and Sanitary Administration

FOR THE YEAR

1955

D. C. LAMONT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.
Principal School Medical Officer.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE

1955-56

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN E. BROOKS, J.P.)

- * Councillor J. Cassidy (Chairman)
 - * Miss Councillor E. Utley (Vice-Chairman)
 - * Alderman P. Henry
 - Councillor J.W. Clitheroe
 - Councillor L.K. Crossley
 - * Mrs. Councillor A. Heap, M.B.E.
 - * Councillor J.H. Sutcliffe
 - Councillor J.F. Wharf
 - Councillor J. Wilson
-
- * Members of the Standing Sub-Committee, the Mental Health Sub-Committee and Care and After-Care Sub-Committee.
-

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BURNLEY.

August, 1956

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my twenty-fifth report on the health of the Borough.

The population in 1955 was estimated to be 82,870. After a slight increase in the post-war years, the population has declined since 1950, being reduced by 2050 in the last five years. The present population is only 78% of that in the year 1921, there being a reduction of 22,430 in thirty-four years.

The number of births and the birth rate show very slight increases over the 1954 figures, the rate being the same as that for the whole country. The number of deaths has increased by 112 over that of the previous year and consequently the death rate is appreciably higher. The Burnley death rate is 15.07, compared with 11.7 for England and Wales.

Ten fewer infants died during their first twelve months of life than in the previous year and, therefore, the infant mortality, which is 22.86 is considerably lower than that of 1954 and is the lowest recorded in the Borough. It is the first occasion in which the Burnley infant death rate has been lower than that of the whole country.

It is also pleasing to find that the neo-natal mortality - that is the deaths of infants within four weeks of birth per 1,000 infants born alive - is only 12.7, and not only is this the lowest recorded in the Borough, but it is also for the first time lower than the rate for the whole country.

In this report I draw attention to the marked increase in cancer of the lungs, which is found especially in men. These deaths are now three times as numerous as they were twenty years ago, despite the considerable fall in the population during that time. Deaths from suicide continue to be high, and no explanation can be given for the suicide rate of Burnley being double that of the whole of England and Wales.

During 1955, the Borough had no severe epidemic of any infectious disease. Measles was prevalent in the early part of the year, but few cases of other infectious diseases were notified. Fortunately, only six cases of poliomyelitis occurred, four of which had paralysis.

The numbers of children being immunised against diphtheria have not increased in recent years, despite the efforts of the Health Department Staff to encourage parents to accept this effective safeguard against one of the most dangerous of infectious ailments. The absence of diphtheria from the Borough during the last six years has undoubtedly lulled parents into a false sense of security and a lack of appreciation of the serious effects of an epidemic, should it occur as the result of an insufficient proportion of the child population being protected. The response to the more recent schemes of vaccination against whooping cough and tuberculosis, details of which are given in the report, is so far satisfactory.

The fall in the death rate of tuberculosis in recent years has been considerable, but the incidence of new infections has not diminished correspondingly and much has yet to be done in the field of prevention of tuberculosis.

It is gratifying to find from the statistics of the hospital treatment clinics that as a consequence of the more rapid curative effects of modern therapy, comparatively few new cases of venereal disease now occur.

The continued shortage of health visitors has put a heavy burden on the depleted staff, and although domiciliary supervision of children between two and five years of age had to be curtailed, the infant welfare clinics were fully manned and the attendances of infants were satisfactory.

The tendency for more expectant mothers to enter the Maternity Hospital for their confinements continues and now little more than a third of the expectant mothers have their babies at home. The Senior Dental Officer, in his report, refers to the comparatively small number of expectant mothers whom he examined who were found to have sound teeth, 75% being in need of treatment.

There is an ever-growing demand for the services of the Domestic Helps, particularly from elderly and infirm persons, and in very many cases only the minimum assistance for one or two half days each week could be given. The "Meals on Wheels" Scheme, which is financed by the Burnley District Sick Poor Fund, provided 8780 mid-day meals to elderly and infirm persons who were unable to prepare suitable meals for themselves.

The care of elderly infirm persons living in their own homes, who have no relatives to help them, is an ever-present problem, but the co-operation existing between the health and welfare services of the Local Authority and the hospital service, which is now under the control of an Assistant Physician in Geriatrics, has been effective in ensuring that their needs are to a great extent provided for.

An increased volume of work was undertaken by the staff of the Home Nursing Service, despite a shortage throughout the year of four in the establishment of sixteen nurses. This was achieved only by unremitting hard work, ungrudgingly performed in all weathers by a loyal nursing staff.

In addition to the statutory duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and Mental Deficiency Acts, the mental health staff have been increasingly concerned with the preventive aspects of mental health, and their association with the work of the hospital psychiatric clinic has enabled them to help many persons who were on the verge of a mental breakdown. They now undertake psychiatric social work for hospital outpatients, and in the follow-up of both outpatients and those discharged from mental hospitals, they are able frequently to observe early signs of breakdown and in co-operation with medical practitioners are able to make arrangements for further specialist advice or treatment. The difficulties of arranging for urgent admissions to mental hospitals, which have a continuing shortage of beds, have to some extent been lessened by a greater use of the beds in the mental wards of the General Hospital. Consequent on the general demand for accommodation in hospitals for mental defectives, which have large waiting lists, several low-grade defectives have to be cared for at home under conditions which over-burden their relatives.

The increased mileage travelled by ambulances is a reflection of the greater numbers of persons dealt with in hospitals, both in Burnley and larger centres, such as Manchester, and in my report I have referred to the desirability of installing a two-way radio telecommunication system, which would help to reduce the number of journeys and mileage of these vehicles.

A commencement was made at the end of 1955 to deal with properties included in the Slum Clearance Programme by the representation of one hundred and sixty-eight houses in Pickup Croft Area and twenty-eight houses in three other small Areas.

Attention was specially directed to raising the standards of hygiene in food premises and many improvements were effected in anticipation of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, and the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1956, which came into force on the 1st January, 1956.

I wish to express my appreciation of the encouragement given by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee. The staff of the Department have worked conscientiously throughout the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

D. Clouston
Medical Officer of Health

SECTION I

STAFF AT 31st DECEMBER, 1955

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer	)	D.C. LAMONT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health		L.J. COLLINS, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer, School Health Service and Care of Mothers and Children, etc.	)	E.P. WHITAKER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Part-time Medical Officer, Tuberculosis After-Care	)	G. GEMMILL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Part-time Ophthalmic Surgeons	)	K. BROWN, M.C., M.B., Ch.B., D.O.M.S. D.O. (Oxon). T.E. SHANNON, M.B., D.O.M.S.
Part-time Paediatrician		W.M.L. TURNER, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.L.O.
Part-time Medical Officer Ante Natal Clinic	)	MRS. A. REED, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
Veterinary Officer and Chief Meat Inspector	)	J.K. SHAW, M.R.C.V.S.
Principal School Dental Officer		J. FILLING, L.D.S.
Dental Officer		K. JACKSON, L.D.S.
Part-time Dental Officer		J. JACKSON, L.D.S.
Borough Analyst		H. DEDICOAT, F.R.I.C.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Inspector under Food and Drugs Act	)	F. SHUTTLEWORTH, Cert. R.S.H. Cert. R.S.H. (Meat and Foods)
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector		J.W. ORMEROD, Cert. R.S.H. Cert. R.S.H. (Meat and Foods)

Sanitary Inspectors	) P. NEWBOLD, Cert. R.S.H.) Cert. R.S.H. (Meat and Foods)) W.R. TAYLOR, Cert. R.S.H.) P. MOTTRAM, Cert. R.S.H.) J. EDDLESTON, Cert. R.S.H.) Cert. R.S.H. (Meat and Other Foods)) B. TAYLOR, Cert. R.S.H.
Meat and Food Inspectors	) J. PATON, Cert. Meat and Other Foods) R.S.A. (Scotland)) Food Hygiene Cert. R.S.H.) W.CATHCART, Cert. Meat and Other Foods) R.S.A. (Scotland)) Food Hygiene Certificate, R.S.H.
Pupil Sanitary Inspectors - 2	Disinfectors - 3
Rodent Operatives - 3	
Superintendent Nursing Officer and Supervisor of Midwives	) MISS E.S. FRANKS, S.R.N., S.C.M.) M.T.D., H.V. Cert.
Health Visitors (Care of Mothers and Children, Tuberculosis and School Health Service).	) MRS. E. ROWAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.) MRS. M. SIMPSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.) H.V. Cert.) MISS M.M. COWGILL, S.R.N., R.S.C.N.,) S.C.M., H.V. Cert.) MISS F. ANFORTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) H.V. Cert.) MRS. E. BOOTH, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) H.V. Cert.) MRS. M.N. DANN, S.R.N., S.C.M.) H.V. Cert.) MRS. F. LISTER, S.R.N.) MRS. M.E. McKELVEY, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) H.V. Cert.) MISS M. O'BRIEN, S.R.N., S.C.M.) R.F.N., H.V. Cert.) MISS L. WHITTAKER, S.R.N., C.M.B.,) (Part 1) H.V. Cert.) MISS I. WILSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) H.V. Cert.) MRS. D. WOODHEAD, S.R.N.) MISS M. EDMONDSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.) H.V. Cert. T.A. Cert.
	Student Health Visitors (Two vacancies)

Municipal Midwives	)	MRS. A. BINKS, S.R.N., S.C.M.
	)	MISS S. CRYER, S.C.M.
	)	MISS E. LAYFIELD, S.C.M.
	)	MISS M. SIMPSON, S.C.M.
	)	MRS. E. SPENCER, S.R.N., S.C.M.
	)	MISS H. STANDEN, S.C.M.
	)	MRS. E. ANDERTON, S.R.N., S.C.M.
	)	MISS N. WILLIAMS, S.R.N., S.C.M.
	)	MISS E. GIBSON, S.C.M.
	)	MRS. M.A. FILON, S.C.M.
Educational Psychologist		MR. F.G. MAHONEY, B.A., (Hons.Psych).
Senior Orthoptist		MISS S. SUTCLIFFE, D.B.O.
Orthoptist		MISS J.R. PLOWRIGHT, D.B.O.
Physiotherapist (Part-time)		MRS. P. BLACK, M.C.S.P.
Speech Therapist		MISS J. MURRAY, L.C.S.T.
Superintendent District Nursing Service	)	MISS M. FIRTH, S.R.N., C.M.B., Cert (Part 1,) Q.I.D.N.S., H.V.Cert.
Assistant Superintendent		MRS. D.F. PICKLES, S.R.N., Q.I.D.N.S.
District Nurses - Whole-time.	)	MRS. A. DALY, S.E.A.N.
	)	MRS. A. HOWARTH, S.E.A.N.
	)	MISS C. MITCHELL, S.E.A.N.
	)	MRS. D. NEWTON, S.R.N., S.C.M. Q.I.D.N.S.
	)	MRS. E.A. PROCTOR, S.E.A.N.
	)	MRS. A. REID, S.R.N., Q.I.D.N.S.
	)	MRS. E. HEYES, S.R.N.
	)	MR. S. SHAW, S.E.A.N.
District Nurses - Part-time.	)	5 State Registered Nurses and
	)	5 State Enrolled Assistant Nurses.
Day Nurseries:		
Bank Hall		MATRON - MISS L. WALLIS, S.R.N., S.C.M.
		Nursing Staff - 15.
Hargher Clough		MATRON - MRS. H. McCUTCHEON, N.N.C.
		Nursing Staff - 6.

Mental Health Officers:	)	A. PILLING
Authorised Officers	)	R. FELL, B.E.M. S.R.N., R.M.N. R.M.P.A.
Female Social Worker		MISS A. BURKE, R.M.N., R.M.P.A.
Occupation Centre:		
Supervisor		MRS. D. MARSDEN, T.C. Teacher
Assistant Supervisors	)	MRS. M. ASHWORTH, R.M.P.A.
	)	MRS. B. FOREST
Domestic Help Service:		
Organiser		MRS. J. BALDWIN
		Domestic Helps - 45 whole-time, 8 part-time.
Ambulance Officer		W. MILLS
		Driver-Attendants - 20.
Clerical Staff:		
Chief Clerk		H.V. HARTLEY, A.C.C.S., Cert.R.S.H.
	)	H. SIMPSON
	)	W.R. HINDLE
	)	W. BALDWIN
	)	R. BLAKELEY
	)	R.G. BARRY
	)	K. ANDERTON
Clerks, Public Health Service	)	MISS M. BARTLE
	)	MRS. W. NEVE
	)	MISS M. HODGKINSON
	)	MRS. M. ARCHIBALD
	)	MISS F. McGAHEY
	)	MISS E. O'HORO
	)	MRS. M. ROBINSON
	)	S. JACKSON, S.E.A.N.
	)	MISS S. WILLS
Clerks, School Health Service	)	MISS M. MOORE
	)	MISS P. CATLOW
	)	MISS K. CHADDERTON
Clerk Dental Attendants	)	MISS H. TAYLOR
	)	MISS D. DENT

SECTION II

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREASUMMARY OF STATISTICS1. GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in Statute Acres	4,686 acres
Area fully developed, or in course of development ...	3,327 acres
Population, Census 1951	84,950
Registrar General's Estimate of Population middle of 1955	82,870
Density of Population, i.e. Number of Persons per Acre built upon	25.2
* Number of houses in Borough, December 1955	29,635
Number of New Houses erected in 1955	161
Rateable Value (April 1956/57)	£830,277
Sum represented by a Penny Rate Paid in 1956/57 ...	£3,280
* This figure includes houses temporarily uninhabited and houses which have been the subject of Closing Orders, but are not demolished.	

2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

(Registrar General's Return)

	M.	F.	1955 Total	1954 Total
Live Births: Legitimate ...	542	585	1127	1106
Illegitimate ..	32	22	54	70
	<u>574</u>	<u>607</u>	<u>1181</u>	<u>1176</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population			14.25	14.15
Adjusted for A.C. Factor (1.05)			14.96	14.85
Stillbirths: Legitimate ...	25	15	40	30
Illegitimate	1	1	2	2
	<u>26</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>32</u>
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births			34.34	26.49

	1955 Total	1954 Total
Number of Deaths (Males 652, Females 663) ...	1315	1203
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	15.86	14.48
Adjusted for A.C. Factor (0.95)	15.07	13.75
Maternal Mortality		
	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births
		1955 1954
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	2	1.63 0.00
Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	27	37
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:		
All infants per 1,000 live births	22.86	31.46
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate livebirths	23.07	30.74
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate livebirths	18.51	42.85
Death Rates per 1,000 population from:		
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.09	0.17
All forms of Tuberculosis	0.11	0.19
Respiratory diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	2.11	2.19
Influenza	0.17	0.12
Cancer	2.30	2.04
Notifiable Infectious Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	-	0.02
Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of Children under 2 years of age, per 1,000 births	-	0.84
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-	-
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	1
Deaths from Meningococcal Infections	-	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea under two years of age	-	1

VITAL STATISTICSLive Births

One thousand four hundred and ninety-four live births (739 males, and 755 females) were registered in Burnley during 1955. After correction for 12 inward and 325 outward transferable births, a net total of 1181 births, or an increase of 5 on the total for 1954 is obtained.

The live birth rate was 14.25 as compared with 14.15 in 1954. In order, however, to compare the local rate with the rate for England and Wales, it must be adjusted, by a comparability factor, to make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that of England and Wales as a whole. The adjusted birth rate of Burnley for 1955 is 14.96. The Burnley rate is equal to the rate for England and Wales, and the 160 County Boroughs and Great Towns.

The number of illegitimate live births was 16 less than in the previous year, the percentage of illegitimate births being 4.5 as compared with 5.9 in 1954.

Stillbirths

During the year there were 42 stillbirths, giving a rate of 34.34 per 1,000 total (live and still) births, as compared with 26.49 in 1954.

Deaths

One thousand six hundred and ninety-nine civilian deaths were registered in Burnley during the year. Of this number 426 deaths of non-residents, chiefly occurring in Public Institutions, have been excluded, leaving 1273 deaths of residents. To this number has been added 42 deaths of Burnley people who have died in other districts.

After these corrections a net total of 1315 deaths is obtained (males 652, females 663), giving a crude death rate of 15.86 per thousand of population, as compared with 14.48 for 1954 and 15.20, the average for the previous ten years. The adjusted death rate for Burnley is 15.07, and is considerably higher than the death rate for England and Wales, which is 11.7 and also higher than that of the 160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, which is 11.6.

There were 28 deaths of children under 5 years of age, representing 2.1% of the total deaths; of these 27 were children under 1 year of age. Five deaths were of children between 5 and 15 years of age; 75 deaths were of persons aged 15 to 45 years; 305 between 45 and 65 years; and 902 or 68.6% of the total deaths were aged 65 years and upwards.

91.7% of the deaths were persons over 45 years of age.

Percentage of deaths in year groups according
to age

Ages	1921 %	1931 %	1941 %	1951 %	1954 %	1955 %
Under 1 year ...	19	8	6	2.8	3.7	2.0
1 - 5 years ...	7	4	2	0.9	0.5	0.1
5 - 15 years ...	3	2	1	0.8	0.4	0.4
15 - 45 years ..	15	15	10	5.3	4.2	5.8
45 - 65 years ..	26	31	30	25.9	26.1	23.1
65 years and over	30	40	51	64.3	65.1	68.6

Trend of Population

The Registrar General's Estimate of population at the middle of 1955 is 82,870; 220 less than that of 1954. The population figure at the 1951 Census was 84,950.

I have frequently referred in previous reports to the decline in the population of Burnley which continued fairly steadily during the last thirty-five years, except for a temporary increase after the war. Thereafter, for a period of three years (1948 - 1950) it remained almost stationary. During the last four years the annual reduction has been smaller, but the population today is only 79% of what it was thirty-five years ago. The low birth rate and considerable emigration of young people leaves a relatively high proportion of elderly people in the Borough.

The table given above shows that now over two-thirds of the deaths occur in people over sixty-five years of age, whereas thirty-five years ago they were less than one third. It also shows the very marked reduction in the percentage of deaths in the younger age groups compared with thirty-five years ago.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal
Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases
in the year 1955

(Provisional figures, supplied by the Registrar-General with the exception
of those relating to Burnley)

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns includ- ing London	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Populat- ions 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Adminis- trative County	Burnley
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population				
BIRTHS -					
Live	15.0	14.9	14.9	15.1	14.96(c)
Still)	0.35	0.35	0.35	0.31	0.51
	23.1(a)	23.2(a)	23.3(a)	20.2(a)	34.34(a)
DEATHS -					
All Causes	11.7	11.6	11.6	11.5	15.07(c)
Malignant Neoplasm of)					
Lungs and Bronchus)	0.39	0.45	0.37	0.57	0.48
Tuberculosis.. ...	0.15	0.17	0.13	0.17	0.11
Whooping Cough ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Influenza	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.17
Coronary Disease ...	1.59	1.60	1.60	1.57	2.07
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioence- phalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.49	0.53	0.45	0.63	0.53
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under one year of age	24.9(b)	25.1	25.2	23.2	22.86

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

(b) Per 1,000 related Live Births

(c) Adjusted by Registrar-General's A.C.F. figure.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1955 AND THE
PREVIOUS TEN YEARS

Year	R.G.'s Population estimated to middle of each year.	Live Births			Total Deaths Registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate	Non-Residents registered in the District	Residents not registered in the District	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Crude Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number	Crude Rate.
1945	79,080	1,293	1,218	15.40	1,416	17.90	250	71	77	63.22	1,237	15.64
1946	82,680	1,654	1,591	19.24	1,456	17.63	315	67	71	44.63	1,208	14.61
1947	83,650	1,831	1,831	21.89	1,588	18.98	293	63	90	49.15	1,358	16.23
1948	84,560	1,528	1,467	17.35	1,469	17.37	327	62	73	49.76	1,204	14.24
1949	84,590	1,488	1,384	16.36	1,616	19.10	355	52	59	42.63	1,313	15.52
1950	84,920	1,568	1,347	15.86	1,690	19.90	442	62	66	49.00	1,310	15.43
1951	84,280	1,510	1,254	14.88	1,813	21.51	446	83	41	32.69	1,450	17.20
1952	83,860	1,482	1,182	14.09	1,515	18.06	392	72	37	31.30	1,195	14.25
1953	83,290	1,478	1,200	14.41	1,513	18.16	364	54	33	27.50	1,203	14.44
1954	83,090	1,475	1,176	14.15	1,561	18.76	407	49	37	31.16	1,203	14.48
Average 10 years	83,400	1,531	1,365	16.36	1,564	18.73	359	63	58	42.10	1,268	15.20
1955	82,870	1,494	1,181	14.25	1,699	20.50	426	42	27	22.86	1,315	15.86

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF VITAL STATISTICS

YEAR 1955

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate		Death Rate from Phthisis	Death Rate from other Tub. Diseases	Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total Live and Still Births).		
			Year 1955	Average 5 years 1950-54			Maternal causes excluding abortion	Due to abortion	Total Maternal Mortality
England and Wales	15.0	11.7	24.9	28.0	0.13	0.02	0.54	0.10	0.64
160 Great Towns	14.9	11.6	25.1	31.8	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅
Birkenhead ...	16.67	13.38	27.91	34.8	0.16	0.01	-	-	-
BURNLEY	14.96	15.07	22.86	34.39	0.09	0.02	0.82	0.82	1.63
Bury	14.40	14.40	37.0	31.0	0.19	0.02	-	-	-
Halifax	14.29	15.73	21.69	31.41	0.15	0.01	-	0.70	0.70
Liverpool.....	19.6	11.9	30.0	35.0	0.24	0.02	0.51	0.06	0.57
Manchester ...	16.91	12.68	28.37	33.49	0.19	0.02	0.50	0.25	0.75
Oldham	14.61	15.16	30.7	32.0	0.13	0.07	-	-	-
Preston	15.60	13.42	29.00	32.0	0.16	-	1.07	-	1.07
Rochdale	14.3	14.2	16.6	39.0	0.10	0.01	0.77	-	0.77
Salford	15.95	12.30	30.0	34.89	0.22	0.02	0.71	-	0.71
St. Helens ...	16.04	11.04	32.87	39.87	0.21	0.04	3.25	0.54	3.79
Stockport	14.61	13.79	33.47	34.58	0.13	0.01	0.47	-	0.47
Wallasey	15.90	12.28	25.40	28.21	0.20	0.03	1.24	-	1.24
Wigan	13.79	11.06	33.3	38.4	0.12	0.01	-	-	-

∅ Not available

Showing Birth Rates, Mortality Rates from all causes, from Tuberculosis of the Lungs, Respiratory Diseases and Malignant Diseases, together with Infantile Mortality and Infantile Diarrhoea Death Rates per 1,000 Births.

Year	Popula- tion	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Mortality Rates per 1,000 Population from			Infantile Diarrhoea Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Live Births	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 related Live Births, England and Wales
				Pul- monary Tuber- culosis	Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	Malignant Diseases			
1882 - 1886	-	38.9	23.2	2.31	5.15	0.24	34.9	212	142
1887 - 1891	-	35.9	22.2	1.64	6.21	0.30	27.9	217	145
1892 - 1896	-	35.1	21.9	2.06	5.27	0.44	29.9	202	151
1897 - 1901	95,038	30.7	20.7	1.83	3.86	0.59	52.8	225	157
1902 - 1906	99,979	27.6	18.8	1.46	3.73	0.70	51.2	202	134
1907 - 1911	104,605	26.3	17.4	1.17	3.56	0.73	43.2	178	116
1912 - 1916	106,071	21.1	16.5	0.93	3.66	0.90	29.9	159	102
1917 - 1921	99,454	18.0	15.6	0.85	3.35	1.16	11.7	127	89
1922 - 1926	103,040	16.9	14.3	0.79	3.00	1.22	6.1	108	73
1927 - 1931	99,910	14.11	14.1	0.75	1.84	1.54	8.1	91.0	67
1932 - 1936	94,380	11.95	14.0	0.65	1.25	1.60	4.5	72.3	61
1937 - 1941	86,192	12.09	15.72	0.65	1.30	1.77	2.51	71.2	55
1942 - 1946	79,910	16.49	15.51	0.59	1.44	1.99	2.96	53.37	46
1947 - 1951	84,400	17.27	15.72	0.40	1.71	2.03	3.87	44.65	33
1952	83,860	14.09	14.25	0.27	1.63	2.06	3.38	31.30	28
1953	83,290	14.41	14.44	0.14	1.94	1.89	0.83	27.50	27
1954	83,090	14.15	14.48	0.17	2.19	2.04	0.84	31.46	25
1955	82,870	14.25	15.86	0.09	2.11	2.30	0.00	22.86	25

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LISTCLASSIFICATION OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN
THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURNLEY DURING 1955

Causes of Death	Sex	0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	All ages
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	4
	F	-	-	-	1	-	1	2	-	4
2. Tuberculosis, other	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
3. Syphilitic Disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
4. Diphtheria	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8. Measles	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	5
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	-	-	-	-	-	4	8	3	15
	F	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	6	18
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	-	-	-	-	1	21	11	2	35
	F	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	F	-	-	-	-	2	5	2	4	13
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	-	-	-	-	3	2	2	3	10
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	M	-	-	-	-	5	19	16	16	56
	F	-	-	-	-	3	16	12	8	39
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	M	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	4
	F	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	4
16. Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	5
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	-	-	-	1	1	13	23	42	80
	F	-	-	-	-	7	21	39	58	125
18. Coronary disease, angina	M	-	-	-	-	3	38	45	21	107
	F	-	-	-	-	1	10	30	24	65

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN THE COUNTY

BOROUGH OF BURNLEY

(CONTINUED)

Causes of Death	Sex	0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-	All Ages
19. Hypertension with heart disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	8	17
	F	-	-	-	-	-	2	8	9	19
20. Other Heart Disease ...	M	-	-	-	-	1	13	21	53	88
	F	-	-	-	-	1	14	40	66	121
21. Other circulatory disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	16	28
	F	-	-	-	-	-	4	6	17	27
22. Influenza	M	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	3	7
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	3	7
23. Pneumonia	M	5	-	-	-	2	9	6	6	28
	F	4	-	-	1	-	4	1	6	16
24. Bronchitis	M	-	-	-	-	2	21	15	20	58
	F	-	-	-	-	2	7	11	20	40
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	M	-	-	-	-	-	5	6	-	11
	F	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	8
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	4
	F	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	1	5
	F	-	-	-	1	2	4	1	5	13
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	F	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
31. Congenital malformations	M	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	4	-	1	1	-	10	13	33	62
	F	8	1	1	2	8	13	13	33	79
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	M	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	5
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	5
34. All other accidents	M	1	-	-	2	1	3	1	4	12
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	11	14
35. Suicide	M	-	-	-	-	4	6	2	-	12
	F	-	-	-	-	3	3	3	1	10
36. Homicide and operations of war	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL (all causes)	M	11	-	4	7	25	179	191	235	652
	F	16	1	1	5	38	126	195	281	663

Causes of Death

The table shown on Page 23 shows the chief causes of death.

Diseases of the heart were again the causes of the highest number of deaths, 31.7% of the deaths being attributed to cardiac lesions. Intra-cranial vascular lesions took second place, with deaths from cancer in third place.

Deaths from cancer have shown an increase of twenty-two over that of the previous year. The trend of deaths from all forms of cancer is shown on the accompanying chart, which also shows the deaths from cancer of the respiratory system (lungs, bronchus and larynx). A very considerable and fairly steady increase of cancer of the respiratory system has occurred during the last ten years. Lung cancer deaths are now almost three times as numerous as they were twenty years ago.

All forms of cancer accounted for 106 deaths of men and 85 deaths of women. The highest number of cancer deaths occurred in the age-group 45 to 64 years. Of the deaths from cancer of the respiratory system, 35 occurred in men and 5 in women.

Deaths from tuberculosis again show a decrease, and are now less than 0.8% of all deaths. Deaths from accidents and other violent causes show a considerable increase.

Deaths from accidents and other forms of violence have shown a slight decrease in the last four years compared with the years 1946 to 1951, despite the increased hazards from road traffic.

Deaths from suicide are still high and the death rate per 1,000 of the population from suicide in Burnley is more than double that for the whole of England and Wales.

Generally more men than women commit suicide. In the last ten years 108 men met their deaths in this manner, as compared with 78 women; 89 (or 82%) of the men being over 45 years of age, as compared with 59 (or 75%) of the women.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is the commonest cause of suicidal deaths. During the last ten years, 70 men and 55 women adopted this method, the majority of both sexes being over 45 years of age; 16 men and 9 women drowned themselves; 10 men and 1 woman hanged themselves; poisoning by swallowing drugs, corrosives, etc., caused the deaths of 8 men and 8 women.

	No. of Deaths.	Percentage of Total Deaths.
Heart Diseases	417	31.7
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions (Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc) ...	205	15.5
Cancer	191	14.5
Respiratory Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)	175	13.3
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	55	4.1
Accidents, Violence, etc.	36	2.7
Nephritis	18	1.3
Influenza	14	1.1
All forms of Tuberculosis	10	0.7
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	6	0.4

Deaths in Institutions

Eight hundred and eighty-nine deaths occurred in the Burnley Hospitals during the year. Those shown in the following list as having died in the Maternity Hospital are mainly deaths of newly-born infants.

	Deaths of Burnley Residents	Deaths of Non- Residents	Total
General Hospital ...	326	247	573
Victoria Hospital ..	153	125	278
Bank Hall Maternity Hospital	14	12	26
Marsden Hospital ...	4	8	12
Total ...	497	392	889

Diarrhoea and Enteritis

During the year no deaths occurred from diarrhoea and enteritis in children under two years of age.

Cancer

Cancer deaths as a percentage of total deaths.

Average for years 1936 - 40 ...	...	11.2%
" " " 1941 - 45 ...	...	12.4%
" " " 1946 - 50 ...	...	13.0%
" " " 1951 - 55 ...	...	13.8%

The deaths from Cancer during the last twenty years:

Year	No. of Deaths from Cancer	% of total Deaths	Year	No. of Deaths from Cancer	% of total Deaths
1936	152	11.7	1946	169	13.9
1937	145	10.4	1947	160	11.8
1938	151	12.1	1948	153	12.7
1939	142	10.6	1949	176	13.4
1940	164	11.4	1950	173	13.2
1941	156	11.7	1951	193	13.3
1942	160	13.0	1952	173	14.5
1943	176	13.5	1953	158	13.1
1944	132	10.9	1954	169	14.0
1945	160	12.9	1955	191	14.5

SuicideRate per 1,000 of Population

Year	Burnley				England and Wales
	No. of Suicides			Rate	Rate
	Male	Female	Total		
1946	5	6	11	0.13	0.09
1947	2	10	12	0.14	0.10
1948	14	7	21	0.25	0.11
1949	9	11	20	0.23	0.11
1950	17	5	22	0.26	0.10
1951	11	3	14	0.16	0.10
1952	9	7	16	0.19	0.09
1953	14	9	23	0.27	0.10
1954	15	10	25	0.30	0.11
1955	12	10	22	0.26	0.11

Infant Mortality

Forty-two deaths of infants under one year were registered during 1955. After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, a net total of 27 deaths is obtained, or 10 less than the net infant deaths registered in 1954.

Live Births		Infantile Deaths		Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births		
Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Both Sexes
574	607	11	16	19.2	26.4	22.86

Death Rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births 23.07

Death Rate amongst illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births 18.51

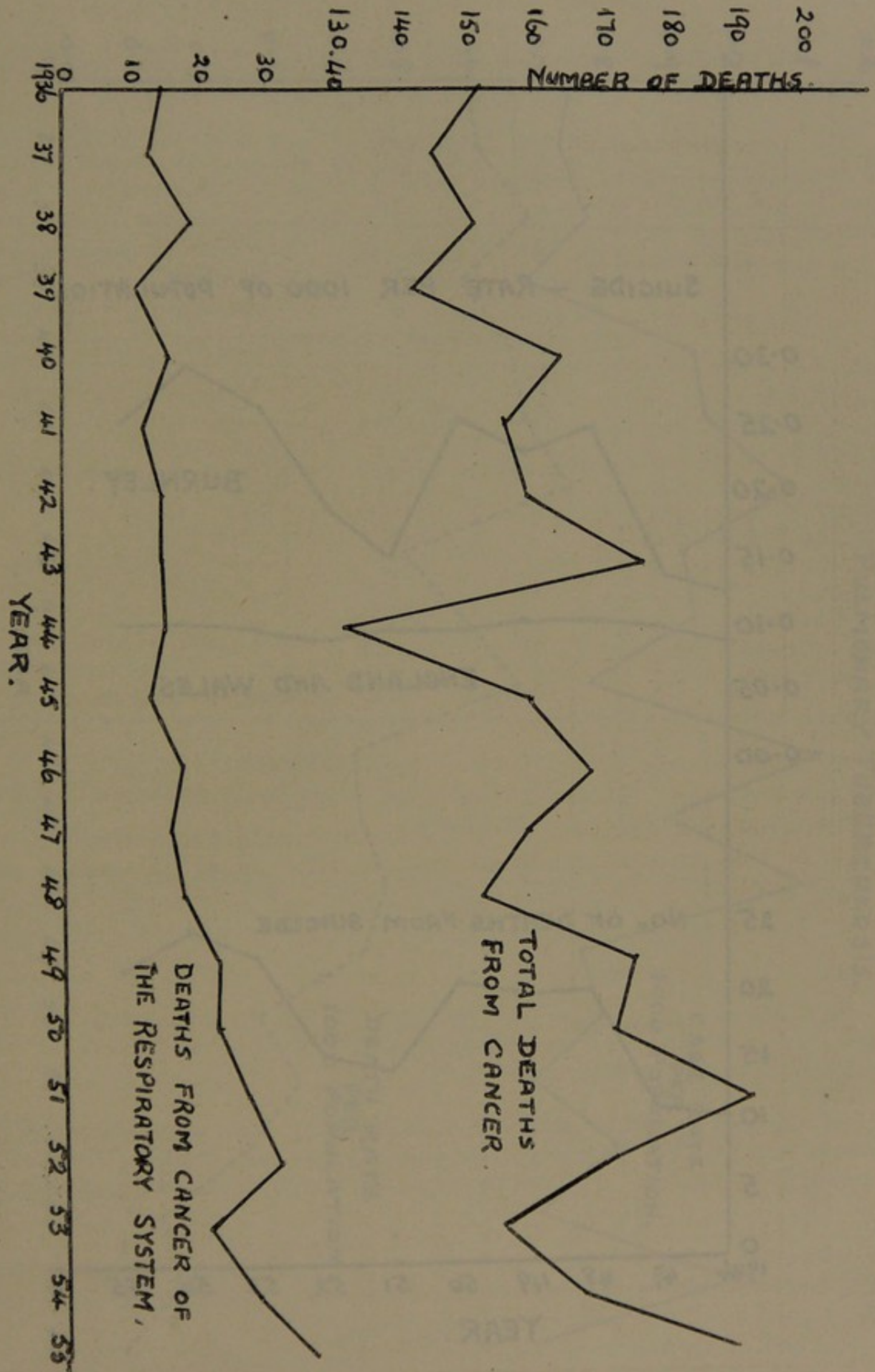
The infant mortality rate (22.86) is the lowest ever recorded in Burnley, and this is the first occasion on which it has been lower than the rate for the whole of England and Wales, which is 24.9.

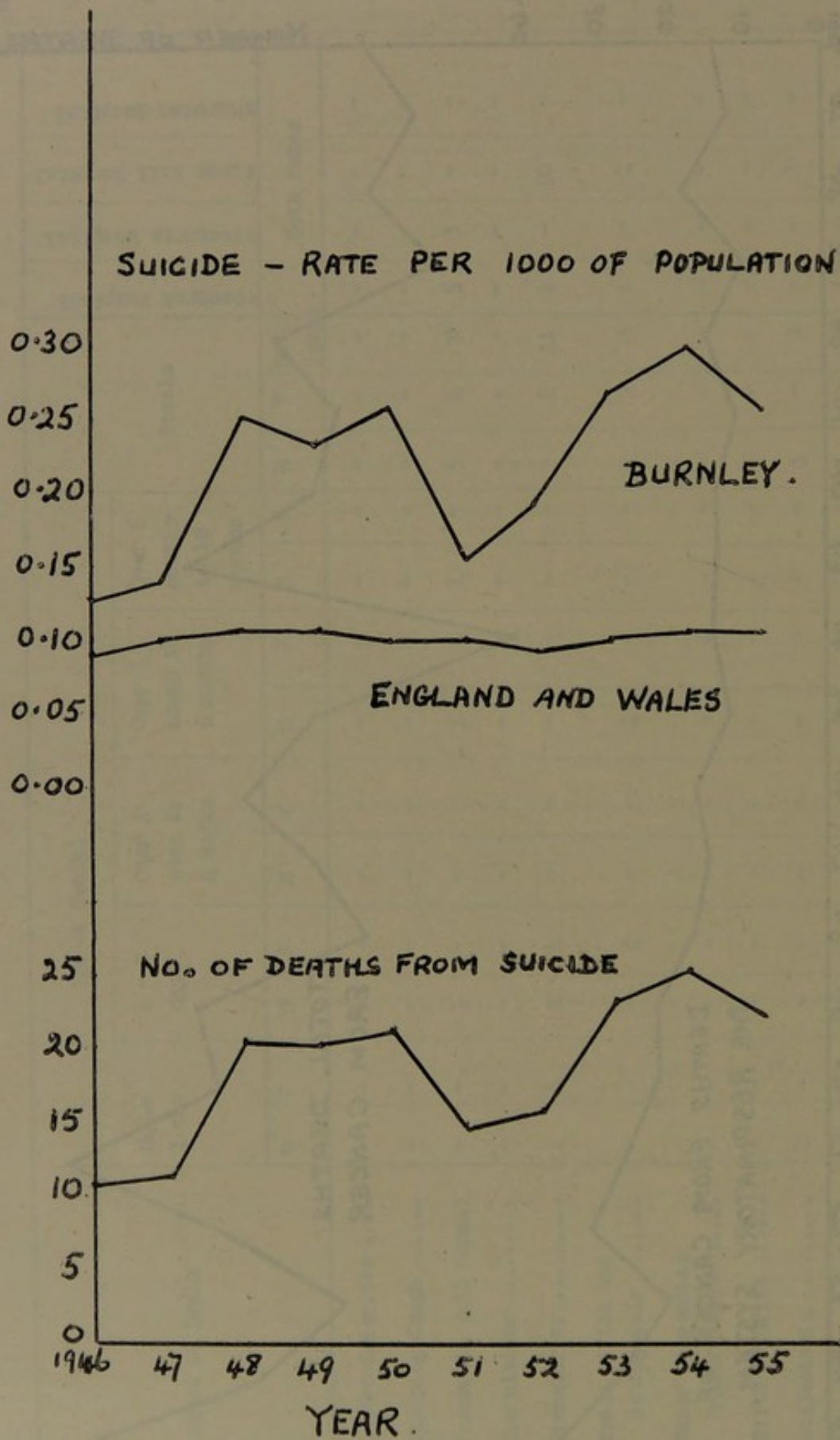
Fifteen deaths occurred of infants within four weeks of birth, giving a NEO-NATAL MORTALITY of 12.7 per 1,000 live births. This neo-natal mortality is also the lowest ever recorded in the Borough, and is also lower than the rate for the whole of England and Wales, which is 17.3.

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1955
NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES UNDER ONE YEAR

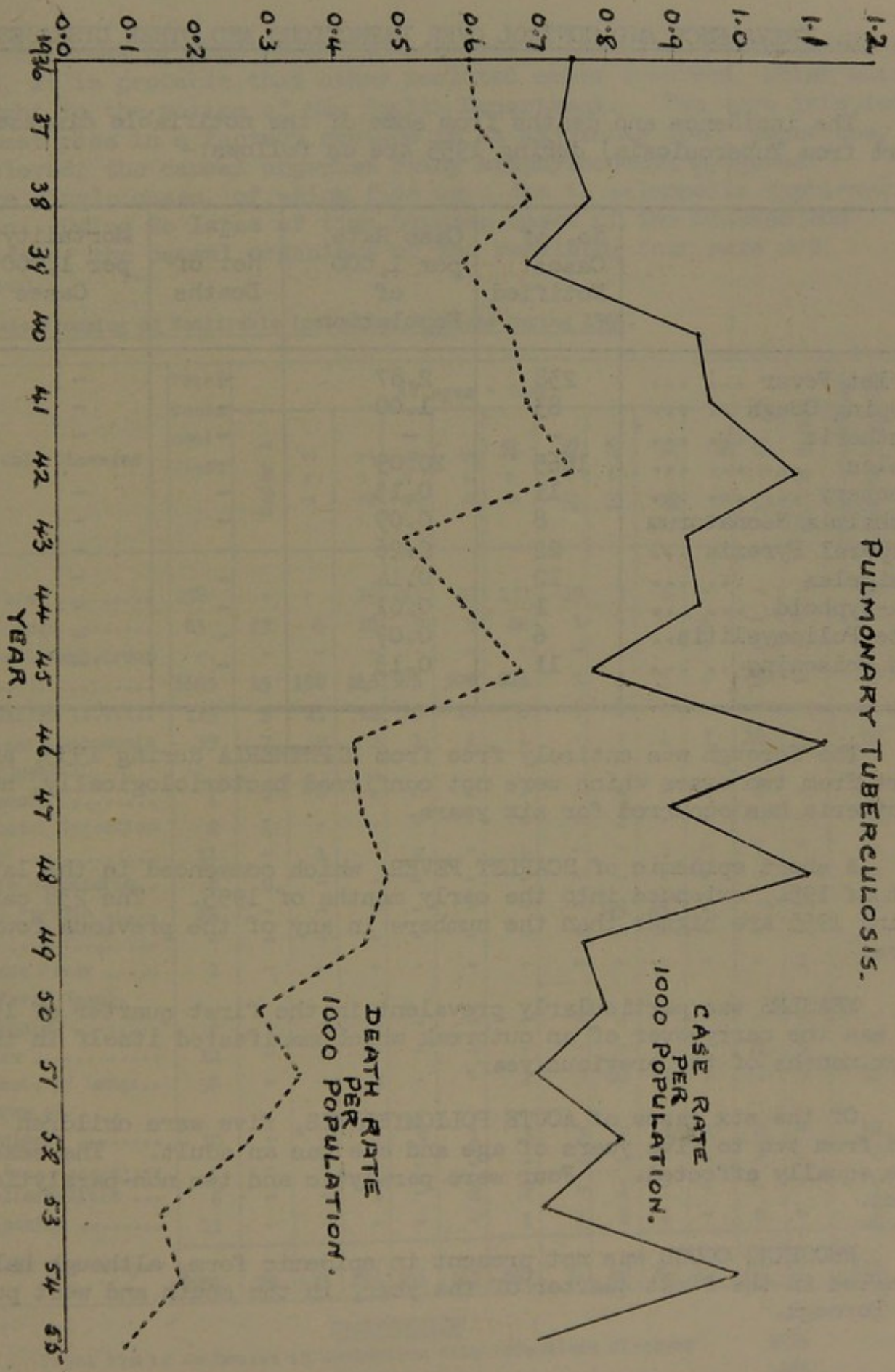
Cause of Death	Age at Death.										Totals				*Marsden Hospital		
	Under 1 day		1 - 7 days		Over 1 week to 4 weeks		Over 1 month to 6 months		Over 6 months to 12 months		M	F	Both Sexes	*General Hospital		*Victoria Hospital	*Bank Hall Hospital
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F							
											Both Sexes						
Gastro-Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	-	1	-	3	4	1	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	
Convulsions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Prematurity	1	4	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	3	8	11	1	-	-	-	
Spina Bifida and Meningocele	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	1	-	-	1	
Other Congenital Malformations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Birth Injuries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	
All other causes	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	1	-	-	1	
Totals all causes ...	2	4	3	6	5	5	1	1	1	11	16	27	8	3	12	1	

* Denotes that the figures shown in these columns are also included in the age groups.





PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.



SECTION III

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The incidence and deaths from some of the notifiable diseases (apart from Tuberculosis) during 1955 are as follows:-

	No. of Cases Notified	Case Rate per 1,000 of Population	No. of Deaths	Mortality per 1,000 Cases
Scarlet Fever	238	2.87	-	-
Whooping Cough	83	1.00	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Measles	1665	20.09	-	-
Dysentery	11	0.13	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	8	0.09	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	22	0.26	-	-
Erysipelas	12	0.14	-	-
Para-typhoid	1	0.01	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis..	6	0.07	-	-
Food Poisoning	11	0.13	-	-

The Borough was entirely free from DIPHTHERIA during 1955, and apart from two cases which were not confirmed bacteriologically, no diphtheria has occurred for six years.

A short epidemic of SCARLET FEVER, which commenced in the latter part of 1954, extended into the early months of 1955. The 238 cases during 1955 are higher than the numbers in any of the previous four years.

MEASLES was particularly prevalent in the first quarter of 1955 and was the carry-over of an outbreak which manifested itself in the later months of the previous year.

Of the six cases of ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS, five were children aged from two to five years of age and one was an adult. The sexes were equally affected. Four were paralytic and two non-paralytic cases.

WHOOPING COUGH was not present in epidemic form, although half the cases occurred in the first quarter of the year, in the south and west parts of the Borough.

Apart from tuberculosis, other infectious diseases were few in number.

No outbreak of FOOD POISONING occurred. Although eleven cases were notified, it is probable that other isolated cases occurred, which were not brought to the notice of the Health Department. Two were infected by eating meat pies in a factory canteen in an adjoining town, where they were employed, the causal organism being staphylococcus pyogenes. Nine were single cases, of which five were due to salmonella typhi-murium infection. Owing to lapse of time between onset of the disease and notification, the causal organisms of the remaining four were not identified.

Age Grouping of Notifiable Infectious Diseases during 1955.

Notifiable Diseases	Total cases notified.	At ages - Year											Total cases removed to Hospital	
		Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 25	25 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65		65 and over
Scarlet Fever	238	-	-	14	25	36	137	19	3	4	-	-	-	18
Whooping Cough	83	13	6	18	9	9	26	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria & Membr.Croup	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1665	45	150	243	303	300	614	6	1	2	-	1	-	7
German Measles	115	5	13	14	13	13	55	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	39	7	2	2	1	2	4	-	1	1	3	10	6	18
Acute Influenzal														
Pneumonia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Dysentery	11	-	1	-	2	-	4	-	-	3	-	1	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum..	8	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	2	-	-	21
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Enteric Fever (excl. Para-Typhoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	12	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	5	-
Tuberculosis of Lungs..	58	-	-	2	-	-	1	3	20	8	7	12	5	15
Other forms of														
Tuberculosis	19	-	-	1	3	1	3	3	2	3	1	2	-	12
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	6	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	5
Food Poisoning	11	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	6	-	5
Totals	2291	79	173	295	356	363	847	34	42	34	14	37	17	112

DISINFECTION

Total visits to houses in connection with infectious diseases	1574
Total number of premises disinfected	189
Total articles of bedding etc., disinfected	1288
Library books disinfected	528
Cleansing baths given to verminous persons (35 persons)...	35

Vaccination against Smallpox

The considerable decline in the number of infants being vaccinated, which occurred during the years immediately following the repeal of the Vaccination Acts in 1948, appears now to be arrested and an improvement has taken place in the last year or two, so that in 1955 about 34% of infants were vaccinated in the first year of life. This, although equal to the percentage being vaccinated before the repeal of the Vaccination Acts, is still small. Every encouragement is given to mothers at infant welfare centres to have their infants protected against smallpox, but objection appears to be voiced mainly by fathers, many of whom were no doubt vaccinated for the first time when undergoing military service and consequently suffered some discomfort. It is difficult to convince these fathers that infant vaccination causes little discomfort to the child.

Return showing number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations during 1955

	Primary Vaccinations					Re-Vaccinations				
	Ages at Date of Vaccination					Ages at Date of Re-Vacctn.				
	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15 and over	Total	Under 1	1-4	5-14	15 and over	Total
Local Health Authority Clinics	319	8	9	9	345	-	-	1	19	20
Medical Practitioners	86	15	7	32	140	-	3	8	37	48
TOTALS	405	23	16	41	485	-	3	9	56	68

Immunisation against Diphtheria

The extent to which the child population of the Borough is protected against diphtheria continues to be unsatisfactory, despite the facilities which are readily available free of charge for this protection to be given. Of the 1176 children born in 1954, only 626 (or 53%) were immunised against diphtheria by the end of 1955. The number of children under 15 years of age who received primary immunisation in 1955 was 828, which is 130 less than in the previous year. It is important that re-inforcing or "booster" injections should be given to those already immunised a few years previously, in order to maintain full immunity; 493 children received these re-inforcing injections.

In order to estimate the effective immunity against diphtheria of the child population, the numbers still immune following primary injections in recent years and those whose immunity has been maintained by re-inforcing injections are only taken into consideration. Thus, although at some time in their lives 50.8% of the children under five years of age and 74.3% of those aged 5 to 14 were given injections, the effective immunity index is only 34.2%.

The following are the percentages of children who had a satisfactory degree of immunity at 31st December, 1955:-

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Immunity Index</u>
Under 1 year	13.8%
1 - 4 years inclusive	59.7%
5 - 14 years inclusive	26.1%
<hr/>	
Total under 15 years	34.2%

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

The scheme for protective inoculation against whooping cough was approved by the Ministry of Health in May, 1954. During 1955, 718 children were given primary vaccinations and 38, who were vaccinated earlier in life, were given re-inforcing injections. Since the official inauguration of the scheme, 1530 primary whooping cough vaccinations and 74 re-inforcing injections were given. The accompanying table shows the numbers vaccinated at the local authority clinics and by general medical practitioners. The majority of these inoculations were given in combination with inoculations against diphtheria.

Return showing number of Immunisations and Re-inforcements
during 1955

	L.A. Clinics	Medical Pract- itioners	Total
<u>Diphtheria Immunisation only:</u>			
Primary			
Under 1 ...	3	29	32
1 - 4 ...	23	28	51
5 - 14 ...	45	6	51
Booster			
1 - 4 ...	44	21	65
5 - 14 ...	299	90	389
15 and over	1	-	1
<u>Combined Injection - Diphtheria and Whooping Cough:</u>			
Primary			
Under 1 ...	433	85	518
1 - 4 ...	96	74	170
5 - 14 ...	1	5	6
Booster			
1 - 4 ...	6	4	10
5 - 14 ...	3	25	28
<u>Whooping Cough only:</u>			
Primary			
Under 1 ...	-	-	-
1 - 4 ...	18	5	23
5 - 14 ...	-	1	1
Total immunised against Diphtheria	954	367	1321
Total immunised against whooping cough	557	199	756

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION - Children Immunised

Year of Immunisation

Year Born	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	Totals
1955															155	155
1954														128	498	626
1953												56	564	65	30	685
1952											75	504	82	21	15	691
1951											58	618	78	21	15	790
1950									33	611	150	38	21	17	870	
1949								67	607	92	62	25	25	8	886	
1948							83	730	92	14	41	22	22	7	1011	
1947							19	929	155	23	14	29	10	6	1204	
1946							1	667	54	18	14	17	7	2	1014	
1945								450	161	47	23	6	2	12	725	
1944								443	245	47	5	3	9	11	837	
1943								411	189	98	2	2	21	3	849	
1942		1	260	127	98	91	25	28	4	2	2	1	16	8	663	
1941		317	202	44	60	54	13	9	5	2	4	1	4	0	715	

Total immunised aged under 5 years on 31st December 1955 = 2,947

Total immunised aged 5 - 9 years on 31st December 1955 = 4,985

Total immunised aged 10 - 14 years on 31st December 1955 = 3,789

SECTION IV

TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of primary notifications during 1955 was 77. The localisation of disease, ages and sexes were:-

Age Periods:	New Cases															Totals	
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-		
Respiratory	M	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	2	4	2	3	4	4	3	1	27
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5	9	6	4	2	2	1	-	31
Non-Respiratory	M	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	3	1	2	-	-	-	11
	F	-	-	-	2	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	8

In addition to the primary notifications, one case was discovered after death through the Local Registrar's Death Returns, and twenty were transferred from other areas. The total new cases were, therefore, 98, of which 75 were respiratory and 23 non-respiratory. This is 11 less than the number notified in 1954.

Sixteen of the new respiratory cases were contacts living with other members of their families who were already suffering from tuberculosis.

The number of Burnley patients on the Notification Register at the end of 1955 were: Respiratory 402; Non-Respiratory 85 - Total 487.

A review of the register, undertaken in co-operation with the chest physicians, enabled the total number to be reduced from 526 to 487. The increase in notifications of non-respiratory tuberculosis from eight in 1954 to nineteen in 1955 is probably not due to an actual increase in infections, but to better notification effected by co-operation with the chest physicians and the paediatrician.

The trend in the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis during the last twenty years and the decrease in the death rate are shown in the accompanying chart. Whereas no reduction in the case rate has occurred and in fact some increase took place during the war and post war years, the decrease in the death rate has been marked in recent years. These trends are similar to those of the whole country. Although there is no diminution in the numbers who contract pulmonary tuberculosis, Modern therapy is to a great extent effecting recovery and enabling sufferers to live an active life. Emphasis requires to be laid on steps to prevent tuberculosis.

Deaths

The following table gives particulars of the site and age distribution of those who died.

Age Periods:	Deaths															Totals
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-	
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	4
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	4
Tuberculosis of Nervous System M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of Nervous System F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis of Other Systems M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Tuberculosis of Other Systems F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Diseases other than Tuberculosis M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	-	7
Diseases other than Tuberculosis F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	4

Of the eight persons who died from respiratory tuberculosis during 1955, four died within twelve months after notification and four lived for more than three years after notification.

The average age at death of persons suffering from respiratory tuberculosis was 54 years. The death rate from respiratory tuberculosis per 1,000 living was 0.09 and from non-respiratory tuberculosis 0.02.

After-Care and Prevention

Visits by Health Visitors -

To homes of patients, under Tuberculosis Regulations ...	79
To homes of patients, for After-Care purposes ...	1379
Extra nourishment (Milk) supplied (pints) ...	21130
Paper Handkerchiefs issued ...	7700
Bottles of Disinfectant supplied ...	87

B.C.G. Vaccination

Vaccination of school children aged thirteen years against tuberculosis, which was commenced in August, 1954, enabled 421 children to be given inoculations in that year. In 1955, the corresponding age group was offered vaccination and of 491 children who were tested, 391 were vaccinated. Details of these and of the review of the 1954 group are given in my report as Principal School Medical Officer which is bound with this report.

In addition, vaccination of infants born to tuberculous mothers, and of close contacts of tuberculous persons, which was performed by the chest physicians as part of the service for prevention of illness under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, resulted in 76 children under 15 years of age and six persons over that age being vaccinated. The total given B.C.G. vaccination in 1955 was 473.

Of the 82 contacts vaccinated in the year under review, 36 were children of tuberculous parents, 30 were brothers or sisters of patients, and the remainder lived in close contact with near relatives or friends.

RETURN FOR 1955

Age	CONTACTS								13 year old group of School Children	Total
	Under 1 year	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15 and over		
No. vaccinated	27	3	7	4	2	24	9	6	391	473

Since the commencement of B.C.G. vaccination in the Borough in 1950, one thousand one hundred and fifty-one persons, apart from hospital nurses, have been vaccinated.

VENEREAL DISEASES

The following information is obtained from the statistical return for 1955 supplied by the consulting Venerologist for the Venereal Diseases Clinic at Victoria Hospital.

The total number of patients under treatment or observation at the Venereal Diseases Centre during 1955 was 436 (Syphilis 199; Gonorrhoea 143; Other conditions 194), the total attendances which were made being 2603. At the beginning of the year, 232 patients were under treatment; one who was removed from the register in a previous year because of having failed to continue attendances for treatment, returned for treatment during the year; 203 patients attended for the first time (including 7 who were known to have received treatment at other centres or in the services).

Of the new patients, 50 (or 25%) were diagnosed as suffering from syphilis (28 cases) and gonorrhoea (22 cases).

Ninety-seven of the new cases were Burnley residents, of whom 20 suffered from syphilis, 11 from gonorrhoea and 66 from other conditions. It is of interest to note that only one Burnley case of primary syphilis was diagnosed, the others being mostly persons with syphilis in its later nervous, cardiovascular, or latent stages. Three were children showing evidence of congenital syphilis.

Statement showing the services rendered at the Treatment Centre during 1955, according to areas in which patients resided

No. of new cases ...	Burnley	Lancs. County	West Riding County	Others	Total
Syphilis	20	8	-	-	28
Gonorrhoea	11	10	1	-	22
Conditions other than Venereal	66	69	8	3	146
TOTALS	97	87	9	3	196

SECTION VI

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

No alteration has been made in the number or siting of the Infant Welfare Centres. Two are held on Monday and Friday afternoons in an annexe of the Maternity Hospital; three on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons in church halls in Colne Road, Hammerton Street, and Florence Street; two on Monday and Thursday afternoons in the Gannow Clinic premises.

All the treatment and specialist clinics for school children, e.g. minor ailments, eye, ear, nose and throat, orthopaedic and physiotherapy and orthoptic treatment continue to be available for children referred from infant welfare centres.

Fifteen children referred from the infant welfare centres made 85 attendances at the School Clinic for treatment of minor ailments. Particulars of those who attended the specialist clinics are given in my report as Principal School Medical Officer, which is printed with this report. Forty-two pre-school children, making 429 attendances, were referred from the infant welfare centres and nurseries for artificial sunlight treatment.

The infants born during 1955 who attended infant welfare centres are equivalent to 58.7% of the live births notified during the year.

80.5% of the attendances at the infant welfare clinics were made by children in the first year of life. The total attendances were 14,804 which are 200 more than in the previous year.

The health visitors made 13,332 routine infant visits, of which 5473 were to children under one year of age and 7859 to children between the ages of one and five years. In addition, they made 215 ante-natal visits and 1528 visits to cases of infectious disease, etc.

Shortage of health visitors continues to limit the effectiveness of the work of domiciliary supervision and care of young children. Although the establishment of health visitors was increased to fourteen in 1952, at no time since then has more than twelve been available, except for a brief period in 1953, when thirteen were on the staff. As four are employed wholly in the School Health Service and one on tuberculosis after care, only eight instead of ten are available for work in connection with care of mothers and young children, including infant welfare centre duties, after care of illness generally and the supervision of aged and infirm persons. Consequently, domiciliary supervision of toddlers is not being undertaken as fully as desirable. Although the establishment includes two student health visitors, it has not been possible to obtain any during 1955.

Dried Milk and Vitamin Supplement for Children and Expectant Mothers

The arrangements which were made for the Local Health Authority to take over responsibility for the sale and distribution of welfare foods, which until June, 1954 was the direct responsibility of the Ministry of Food, were described in last year's report. The scheme has worked smoothly and efficiently.

A comparison of the amounts of dried milk sold during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1956 with that sold during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1955 shows a reduction of 1054 tins. This is considered to be due in the main to an earlier change over in the feeding of infants from dried milk to wet milk, and to a moderate increase in the number of mothers who breast feed their babies. The use of proprietary brands of dried milk is responsible to only a small extent.

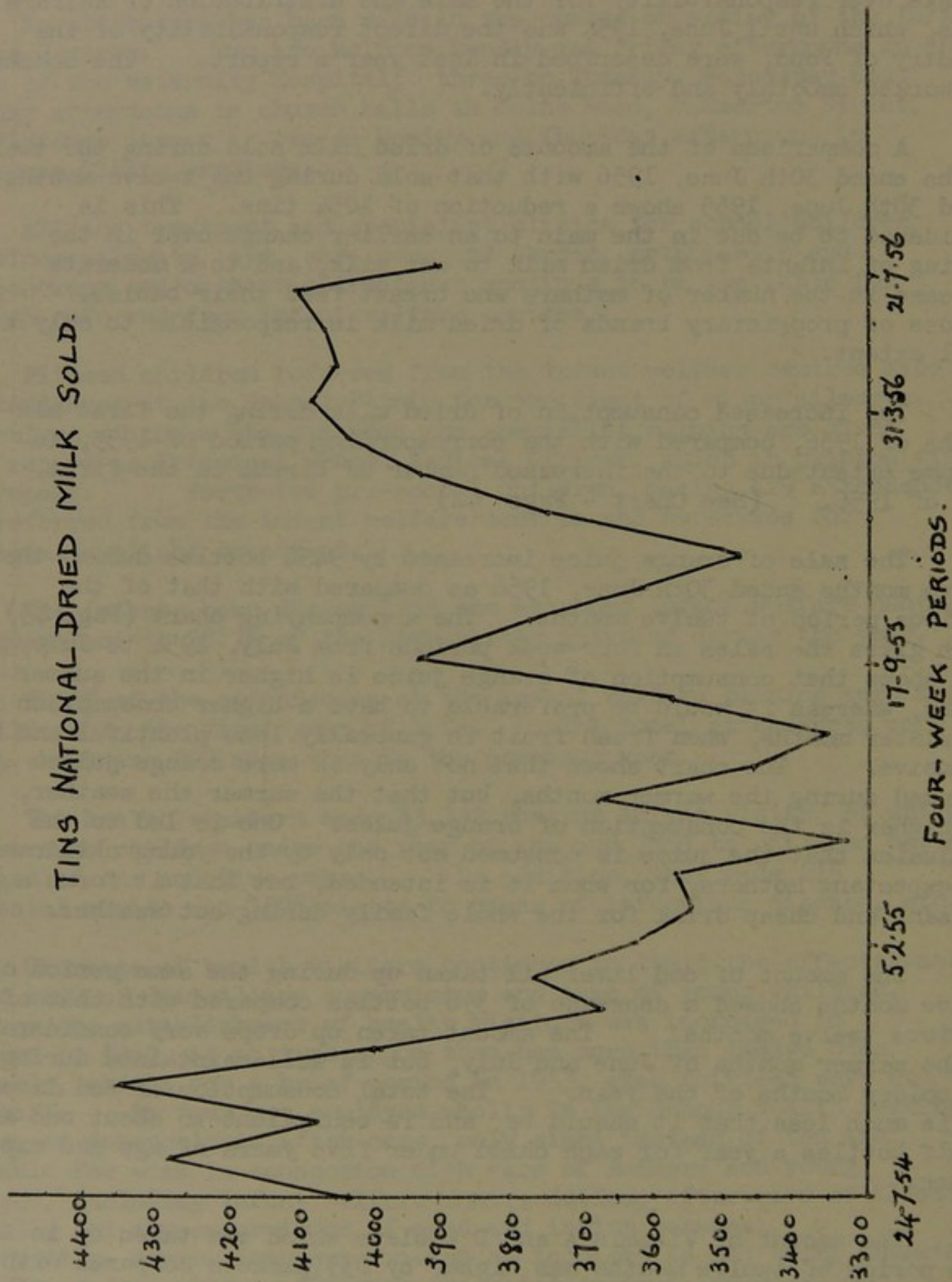
The increased consumption of dried milk during the first six months of 1956, compared with the corresponding period of 1955, is to some extent due to the increased number of births in the first half of 1956. (See Chart - Page 42)

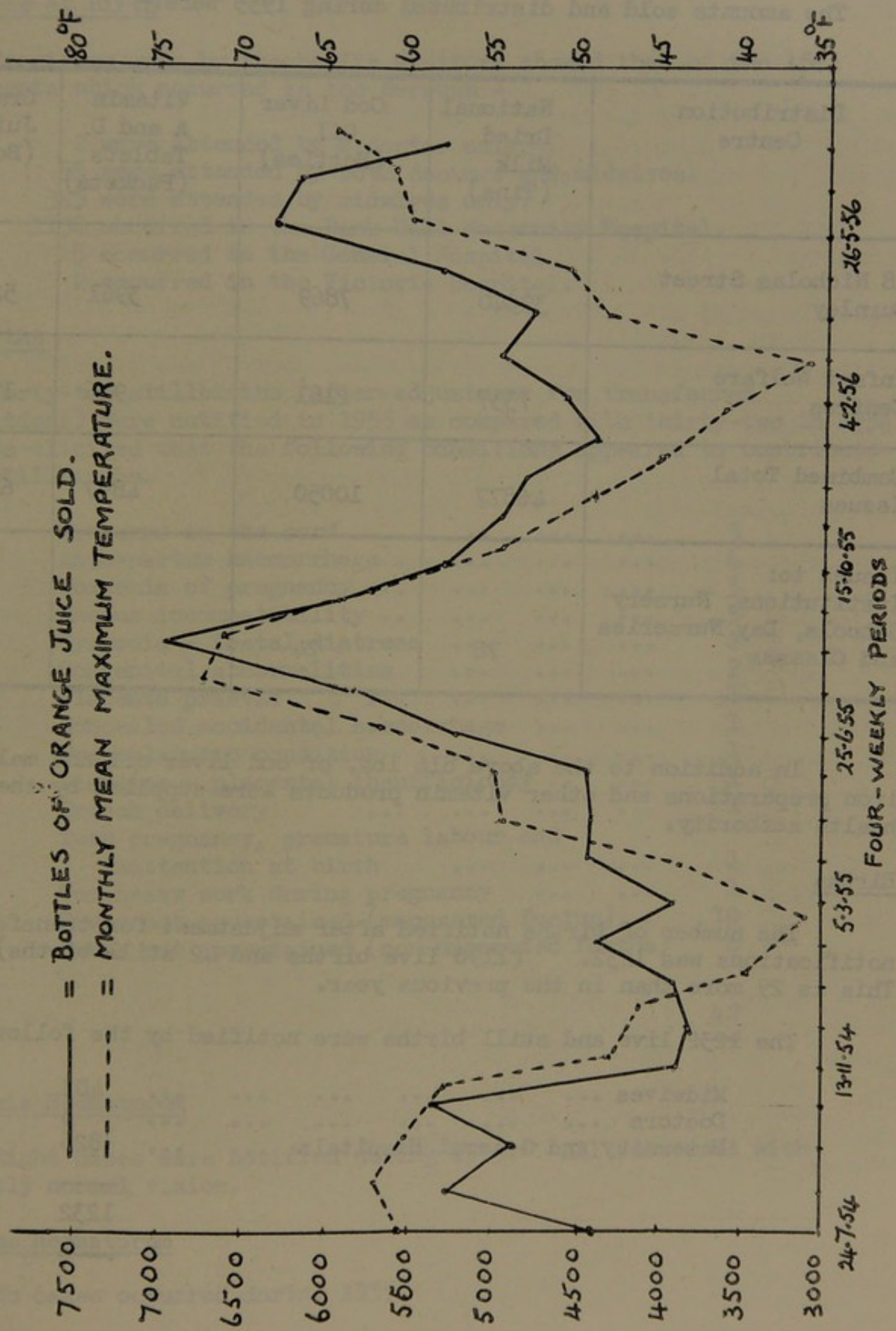
The sale of orange juice increased by 9494 bottles during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1956 as compared with that of the previous period of twelve months. The accompanying chart (Page 43) which gives the sales in four-week periods from July, 1954 to July, 1956 shows that consumption of orange juice is higher in the summer months, whereas it would be preferable to have a higher consumption in the winter months, when fresh fruit is generally less plentiful and more expensive. The chart shows that not only is more orange juice consumed during the warmer months, but that the warmer the weather, the higher is the consumption of orange juice. One is led to the conclusion that the juice is consumed not only by the young children and expectant mothers, for whom it is intended, but that it forms a pleasant and cheap drink for the whole family during hot weather.

The amount of cod liver oil taken up during the same period of twelve months showed a decrease of 398 bottles compared with that of the previous twelve months. The amount taken up drops very considerably in the warmer months of June and July, but is well-maintained during the colder months of the year. The total consumption of cod liver oil is much less than it should be, and is equivalent to about one and a half bottles a year for each child under five years of age and expectant mother.

The amount of Vitamin A and D tablets which was taken up in the same period of twelve months was higher by 835 packets compared with that of the previous twelve months, although the number of expectant mothers was practically the same.

TINS NATIONAL DRIED MILK SOLD.





The amounts sold and distributed during 1955 were:-

Distribution Centre	National Dried Milk (Tins)	Cod Liver Oil (Bottles)	Vitamin A and D Tablets (Packets)	Orange Juice (Bottles)
18 Nicholas Street Burnley	39540	7869	3961	52052
Infant Welfare Centres	7337	2181	936	12678
Combined Total Issues	46877	10050	4897	64730
Issues to: Institutions, Nursery Schools, Day Nurseries and Classes	78	24	-	336

In addition to the above 816 lbs. of cod liver oil and malt and iron preparations and other vitamin products were supplied by the local health authority.

Births

The number of births notified after adjustment for transferred notifications was 1232. (1190 live births and 42 still births). This is 29 more than in the previous year.

The 1232 live and still births were notified by the following:-

Midwives	...	...	...	...	...	403
Doctors	...	...	...	...	...	3
Maternity and General Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	826
						<hr/>
						1232
						<hr/>

Attendance at Birth

Enquiries made by the health visitors showed that of the 1547 confinements which occurred in the Borough -

- 2 were attended by a doctor only.
- 55 were attended by both doctors and midwives.
- 345 were attended by midwives only.
- 1138 occurred in the Bank Hall Maternity Hospital.
- 5 occurred in the General Hospital.
- 2 occurred in the Victoria Hospital.

Stillbirths

Forty-two stillbirths (after adjustment for transferred notifications) were notified in 1955 as compared with thirty-two in 1954. Enquiries elicited that the following conditions appeared to contribute to the stillbirths.

Pressure on the cord	...	...	...	5
Ante-partum haemorrhage	o	...	...	4
Toxaemia of pregnancy	...	...	...	3
Rhesus incompatibility	..	...	...	3
Dystocia - foetal distress	...	...	...	2
Congenital abnormalities	...	...	...	2
Placenta praevia	...	...	...	1
Concealed accidental haemorrhage	...	...	...	1
Pre-eclamptic condition	...	...	...	1
Diabetes - placental insufficiency	o	...	...	1
Breech delivery	...	...	...	1
Twin pregnancy, premature labour and inattention at birth	...	...	...	1
Too heavy work during pregnancy	...	...	...	1
Cause not ascertained (macerated foetus)	...	...	...	10
Cause not ascertained (non-macerated foetus)				6
				42

Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Eight cases were notified during 1955. All recovered with apparently normal vision.

Pemphigus Neonatorum

No cases occurred during 1955.

Care of Premature Infants

Ninety-five Burnley babies, representing 8.0% of the total born alive during the year, weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs or less at birth. These were followed up by the health visitors, immediately after the midwife ceased to attend or after discharge from hospital, and thereafter at frequent intervals.

Of these 95 premature infants, 19 were born at home and 76 in hospital. The 19 infants born prematurely at home represents 4% of the total domiciliary confinements in the Borough, whilst 76 born in hospital are equivalent to 9.6% of the Burnley infants born in hospitals. This higher rate in hospital births is due to the fact that expectant mothers in whom difficulties or complications are present or anticipated are advised to enter hospital for their confinements. Of the 19 infants born at home, 9 were transferred to hospital for special care and 5 of these survived beyond 28 days. The 10 who were nursed at home all survived beyond 28 days. Of the 76 born in hospital, 67 survived beyond 28 days.

The equipment maintained to provide for the needs of babies born prematurely at home was loaned to households where suitable provision was not available.

Although no special unit is available at any local hospital for the reception of babies born prematurely in their own homes, no difficulty has been experienced in having infants and their mothers admitted to Bank Hall Maternity Hospital when necessary.

Care of Illegitimate Children

The Committee of Management of Bankfield House of Help continues to undertake, through their social worker, after-care of unmarried mothers and illegitimate children, on behalf of the Local Authority. Fifteen new cases were investigated. In 8 instances satisfactory arrangements were made for the babies to be kept by their mothers and the other 7 were helped in regard to adoption of their babies. Three mothers were advised and assisted in connection with affiliation orders. Six of the fifteen mothers were married women.

Four unmarried expectant mothers were sent to moral welfare homes by the Local Authority, arrangements being made through the House of Help.

Maternal Mortality

Three Burnley women died in consequence of pregnancy or childbirth. One developed peritonitis following Caesarean Section; another died of subarachnoid haemorrhage following Caesarean Section; the third, who had toxæmia, died of cerebral haemorrhage during pregnancy.

Puerperal Pyrexia

Twenty-two cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified during the year. Of these, twenty were notified from Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, one from the General Hospital and one was a domiciliary confinement. There is reason to believe that many cases are not notified.

Day Nurseries

No alteration has been made in the accommodation provided in the two day nurseries administered by the Local Health Authority. The average attendances throughout the year were 47 at Bank Hall Nursery (54 places) and 21 at Hargher Clough Nursery (26 places). In Bank Hall Nursery the majority of children were under three years of age, and in Hargher Clough Nursery under two years of age. Children between three and five years of age are accommodated in the Education Authority's ten nursery schools and six nursery classes. The total number on the rolls of these schools and classes at the end of the year was 627.

Regular medical supervision of all nursery children is undertaken.

Bank Hall Nursery, in conjunction with the Education Committee's nursery schools, continues to be a training nursery for students studying for examinations of the Nursery Nurse Examination Board.

Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948

In Burnley there are no privately administered nurseries or nurseries established by employers for children of their employees. There are 2 registered child minders, caring for 5 children.

PARTICULARS OF WORK AT THE INFANT WELFARE CENTRES DURING THE YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:—

CENTRE	No. of Sessions	No. of First Attendances of Children under 1 year of age	No. of Children who attended born in			Total No. of Children who attended	No. of Attendances of children who were			Total No. of Attendances	Average Attendance per Session	No. of Doctor's Consultations	
			1955	1954	1950-53		under 1 year	1 - 2 years	2 - 5 years			under 1 year	1 - 5 years
GANNOW	101	191	175	149	140	464	3579	398	585	4562	45	937	233
COLNE ROAD	51	104	101	87	115	303	1938	332	244	2514	49	552	171
MT. PLEASANT	52	145	130	92	82	304	1681	238	177	2096	40	487	139
FLORENCE STREET ...	50	116	105	82	88	275	1557	200	197	1954	39	498	131
BANK HALL	100	215	188	165	103	456	3156	230	292	3678	37	850	159
TOTALS	354	771	699	575	528	1802*	11911	1398	1495	14804	42	3324	833

Details of Work of Health Visitors during 1955.MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Visits to newly born infants	1129			
Re-visits 1st year	4,344			
2nd year	2,141			
3rd year	1,933			
4th year	1,774			
5th year	2,011	...	...	13,332

Visits in connection with:-

Infectious diseases, vaccination etc....	...	...	...	1,528
Still-births and infant deaths	...	...	...	49
Burns and scalds	...	...	...	-
After-Care - Care of the Aged	...	...	...	473
Other after-care and convalescent cases				86
Enquiries re Nursery children	...	...	...	229
Midwives supervision	...	...	...	75
Ante-Natal cases (48 visits re admission to Maternity				
Hospital	...	...	...	215
Lying-in patients discharged early from Maternity				
Hospital	...	...	...	295
Others (including accidents in the home)	...	...	...	610
Ineffective visits	...	...	...	1,498
Number of sessions at Infant Welfare Centres	...	...		354
Number of attendances at the Centres by Health Visitors				993
Number of attendances at the Nursery schools or Classes				
by Health Visitors	...	...	...	87
Number of Sessions attended at the Chest Clinic				
(Day, 116; Evening, 47)..	...	...	...	163

Visits to Tuberculosis cases :-

Notifications under Tuberculosis				
Regulations	...	...	...	98
For After-Care purposes	...	...	...	1,563
			...	1,661
Patients attendances at Chest Clinic	...	...	...	3,646

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

Number of days on which the School Clinic was open	...			302
Number of attendances at Clinic	...	...	...	31,204
Number of follow-up visits paid to School Children	...			9,273
Special visits to Schools for Cleanliness Inspection	..			153
Number of examinations made at Cleanliness Inspection..				46,393

SECTION VII

MIDWIFERY SERVICEMidwives' Act

Thirty-three midwives notified their intention to practice midwifery during 1955.

They were employed as follows:-

In the Maternity Hospital	20
As whole-time domiciliary Municipal Midwives	10
In private Practice as Maternity Nurses	3

Domiciliary Midwifery

The Local Health Authority has an establishment of ten midwives for domiciliary midwifery.

The three midwives who practice as private maternity nurses, generally resided in the homes of their patients for about four weeks after the confinement.

Seventy-five visits were paid by the Supervisor to the midwives during the year. The Supervisor also interviewed midwives at the Health Office weekly. No midwife was suspended from practice.

A total of 1547 confinements occurred in the Borough, including women which came into the town from other areas for their confinements. Of these, 1145 took place in hospitals, 398 were attended by the whole-time midwives employed by the authority on domiciliary midwifery (345 as midwives and 53 as maternity nurses); 4 by doctors and maternity nurses in private practice.

Of the confinements of women resident in Burnley 816 took place in hospitals and 402 at home. In previous reports I have drawn attention to the steady decrease in the number of confinements taking place in patients' own homes. Although the annual number of births showed a decline between the years 1947 and 1952, there was no appreciable reduction in the number of patients being delivered in Bank Hall Maternity Hospital, and the proportion of hospital births has in recent years shown a considerable increase. Whereas in 1948, domiciliary confinements were 58% of the total, they decreased to 33% in 1955. I have referred previously to the ample provision of Maternity Home and Hospital beds for the area covered by the Burnley and District group of hospitals, which is sufficient not only for those expectant mothers who require to be admitted for

clinical or social reasons, but also for many normal cases which could be confined satisfactorily in their own homes.

The accompanying chart (Page 53) shows the trend of hospital and domiciliary confinements during the last ten years.

During the year, 437 maternity outfits were provided free of charge to expectant mothers who required them for their confinements in their own homes.

Medical Aid Summoned by Midwives

Forty-three records of sending for medical aid under Rule E.12 of the Central Midwives' Board were received from the midwives in respect of domiciliary cases. Of these 34 were on account of complications or difficult conditions of the mothers and 9 of conditions in the new born infants.

Nursing Homes

Only one Nursing Home is registered in the Borough. This home, which was opened in 1954, and which has accommodation for nine patients in three rooms, accepts only medical and chronic sick patients. It has no facilities for the treatment of surgical or maternity cases.

Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Care

At present all general practitioners with one exception, who have accepted service under Part IV of the National Health Service Act have been included in the list of general practitioner obstetricians.

Practically all Burnley expectant mothers received ante-natal supervision either through the local health authority or hospital services.

ANTE NATAL CLINIC

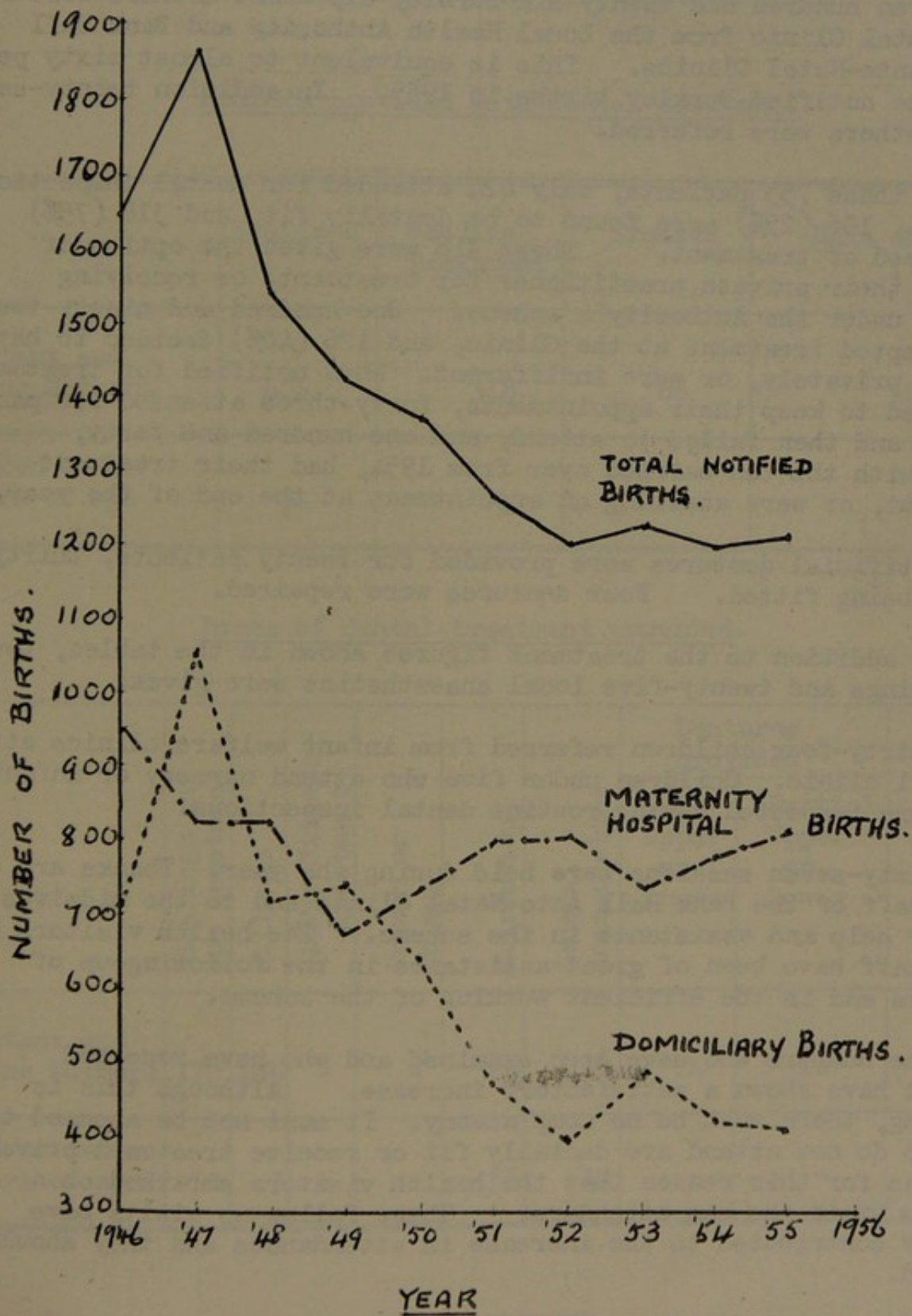
No. of Sessions held per month		No. of women in Attendance		Total No. of Attendances during the year	
Medical Officers Sessions	Midwives' Sessions	No. of women who attended during the year	No. of New Cases	Medical Officer's Sessions	Midwives' Sessions.
8	4	588	462	1478	686

Attendances at Clinic for investigation of Rh. factor and Wassermann reaction of the blood of expectant mothers

No. of Sessions held per month	No. of attendances				
	Mothers		Fathers	Babies	Total
	Primary	Subsequent			
3	334	142	35	15	526

Only eight women attended the clinic specifically for a post-natal examination by the Clinic Medical Officer, but all women are visited for post-natal purposes by the midwives and practically all are given a post-natal examination by their own general practitioners.

Figures supplied by the staff of Bank Hall Maternity Hospital Clinic show that 1078 first attendances and 9007 subsequent attendances were made there by women for ante-natal examinations and 816 for post-natal examinations. These figures, however, include women from the whole of the area covered by the Burnley group of hospitals. Separate figures for Burnley residents are not available.



SECTION VIII

DENTAL SERVICEReport of Senior Dental Officer

Seven hundred and twenty-six Burnley expectant mothers were referred to the Dental Clinic from the Local Health Authority and Bank Hall Hospital Ante-Natal Clinics. This is equivalent to almost sixty per cent of the notified Burnley births in 1955. In addition twenty-seven nursing mothers were referred.

Of these 753 patients, only 424 attended for dental inspection. Of the 424, 106 (25%) were found to be dentally fit, and 318 (75%) were in need of treatment. These 318 were given the option of attending their private practitioner for treatment, or receiving treatment under the Authority's scheme. One hundred and ninety-two (60%) accepted treatment at the Clinic, and 126 (40%) decided to have treatment privately, or were indifferent. When notified for treatment, nine failed to keep their appointments, forty-three attended for part treatment and then failed to attend, and one hundred and forty, together with the ten carried over from 1954, had their treatment carried out, or were awaiting an appointment at the end of the year.

Artificial dentures were provided for twenty patients, thirty dentures being fitted. Four dentures were repaired.

In addition to the treatment figures shown in the tables, twenty-six dressings and twenty-five local anaesthetics were given:

Thirty-four children referred from infant welfare clinics attended the dental clinic. Children under five who attend nursery or infant schools are inspected during routine dental inspections.

Sixty-seven sessions were held during the year. Thanks are due to the staff of the Bank Hall Ante-Natal Clinic and to the midwives for their help and assistance in the scheme. The health visitors and clinic staff have been of great assistance in the following-up of defaulters and in the efficient working of the scheme.

The numbers who have been examined and who have received treatment have shown a satisfactory increase. Although this is gratifying, there must be no complacency. It must not be assumed that all those who do not attend are dentally fit or receive treatment privately, and it was for this reason that the health visitors embarked on a scheme to visit the non-attenders. These follow-up visits have obviously contributed to the increase in attendances and they should be continued.

Expectant mothers are now showing more awareness of the need for dental health and are making requests for inspection and treatment at other than the usual routine inspections. This attitude on the part of the patients will certainly encourage the staff to still greater effort to provide a capable and efficient service.

Numbers provided with dental treatment.

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made dentally fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	424	318	166	123
Children under 5 years of age	34	24	24	24

Forms of dental treatment provided.

	Scalings and Gum treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures provided		Radiographs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	170	185	-	-	386	98	14	16	3
Children under 5 years of age	2	3	-	-	55	19	-	-	-

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

Six hundred and ten households were assisted during the year. Of the persons assisted, 91% were chronic sick, aged and infirm; 4% were persons suffering from other illnesses, 3% were maternity cases, and 2% were tuberculous persons.

The demand for assistance from the Domestic Help Service continues to increase and it is still not possible to meet all the requests for help with the staff employed, which at the end of 1955, averaged 45 whole-time and 8 part-time Helps. As in previous years, assistance was required mainly by elderly persons, who by reason of senility, infirmity or chronic ill-health were unable to undertake their own housework, or shopping. Every endeavour was made to arrange for close relatives to voluntarily assist these elderly people, but in most cases the relatives were either working or had responsibilities in their own homes, or lived at some distance. Many of these elderly persons had no close relatives and until assisted by the Domestic Help Service were dependent on occasional help from neighbours.

The proposal to provide resident helps or wardens on those housing estates on which there are considerable numbers of elderly persons living in flats or bungalows, to which I referred in my report for 1954, has not yet been put into operation.

A commencement was made during 1955 to provide night attendants where there was found to be occasional need for the care of elderly people during the night, pending their admission to hospital or until more permanent arrangements could be made for their care. A necessity also arises occasionally to provide a night attendant for one or two nights each week to relieve relatives. Difficulty is experienced in recruiting suitable women for this occasional night work.

The Domestic Help Organiser supervises the Helps, investigates the needs and circumstances of applicants for assistance and recruits the personnel.

The total cost of the Service for the year ended 31st March 1956, (excluding grant) was £15,508. Of this amount, £15,231 was in respect of wages of the staff. Income from charges made for the service was £1,031. The net expenditure (excluding grant) was, therefore, £14,477.

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st						
December, 1955	...	...	...	...	Whole-time	45
					Part-time	8

Extent of Domestic Help given:-

Type of Cases	Remg. 1st Jan.	New Cases	Total cases attended		Cases Completed		Cases remaining on books at 31/12/55	
			No.	Percent age.	No.	Percent age	No.	Percentage
Maternity	1	17	18	2.9	18	10.2	-	-
Tuberculosis	9	3	12	2.0	6	3.4	6	1.4
Illness of housewife	12	13	25	4.1	7	4.0	18	4.1
Chronic sick	78	56	134	22.0	42	23.9	92	21.2
Aged & Infirm	250	171	421	69.0	103	58.5	318	73.3
	350	260	610	100.0	176	100.0	434	100.0

Periods for which Help was provided:-

Period	Less than 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 12 months	1 - 2 years	2 - 5 years	Over 5 years.
No.	55	62	57	119	129	137	51
Percentage	9.0	10.2	9.3	19.5	21.1	22.5	8.4

Night Attendance

No. of part-time Attendants ...	...	...	...	...	3
Cases assisted during 1955 ...	...	...	...	...	11

Periods for which attendance was given:-

No. of nights	1	2	11	14	17	Indefinite *
No. of cases	5	2	1	1	1	1

* This case was still receiving assistance at the end of the year.

No. of visits by the Organiser to homes of patients in connection with the service, etc. 1035

"Meals on Wheels" Service

The "Meals on Wheels" service is provided from the funds of the Burnley District Sick Poor Fund and the local health authority makes a contribution towards the cost of the service.

The administration of the meals scheme is undertaken by the staff of the Public Health Department on behalf of the trustees of the Fund.

Practically all the recipients were elderly persons, who because of enfeeblement, were unable to prepare mid-day meals for themselves and had no relatives available to do so for them.

Two course mid-day meals are provided on five days each week. The recipients receive dinners on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of one week and Tuesday and Thursday of the alternate week. The meals are supplied by the Education Committee's School Meals Service. They are transported in a motor vehicle fitted with a hot oven, and each recipients' meal is delivered in an individual two-compartment container. The local W.V.S. assist in the distribution of the meals. Each meal costs at present 1/4d. and the recipients are expected to pay 9d. for it.

During 1955 between thirty and forty meals were supplied daily. A total of 8780 meals were provided at a cost of £555. 1s. 10d. The income received from the recipients was £328. 4s. 9d.

SECTION X

HOME NURSING SERVICE

The year's work of the Home Nursing Service has been full and strenuous. One thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight patients were given nursing attention, and as the statistics which are appended show, many required to be visited for lengthy periods. The number of patients nursed and the total nursing visits made were the highest in any year since the local health authority took over the service in 1948. One hundred and sixty-seven more patients received nursing attention than in the previous year, and the 48,220 nursing visits were an increase of 4618 over the number in 1954. This was effected despite the continued shortage of nursing staff. It is considered that, in addition to the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, the service should employ sixteen general trained nurses, preferably also Queen's Institute trained. Frequent changes of nursing staff and dependence on part-time nurses, some of whom were only state-enrolled assistant nurses, made administration of the service and continuity in the care of the patients very difficult. At the end of the year, in addition to the Superintendent and her Assistant, the whole-time staff consisted of only three general trained nurses, two of whom were also "Queen's" trained, and five state-enrolled assistant nurses. The part-time staff was five general trained nurses and three state-enrolled assistant nurses. The total nursing staff was, therefore, equivalent to twelve whole-time, there being a shortage of four nurses. One of the whole-time nurses was a man, who was not given a particular district, but nursed male patients in any part of the town where the services of a male nurse was particularly desirable.

The load of work undertaken by the Home Nurses represent an average of over 4,000 nursings for a whole-time nurse. This immense amount of work has been undertaken ungrudgingly by the nurses and no praise can be too high for their willing co-operation to meet the needs of the sick. This they have done in all weather, depending generally on the local 'bus service and travelling many miles on foot through streets off the main 'bus routes. In very severe weather, and occasionally on Sundays, and when the shortage of staff was specially acute, it was necessary to provide taxis to enable the volume of work to be completed.

In order to relieve the trained nursing staff, a bath-attendant was employed, to attend to patients whose only needs were to have their beds made and be given bed-baths.

A good deal of the work of the nurses was taken up by the administration of drugs by injection, such as insulin, streptomycin and penicillin on the instructions of the family doctor. Fifty-four per cent of the patients were over 65 years of age and of these many were chronic sick cases or were suffering from incurable diseases.

The Local Health Authority is affiliated to the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

SUMMARY

Number of patients remaining on the Books, December 31st, 1954	346
Number of new patients during 1955	1522
Total number of patients nursed	1868
Total number of patients discharged or died	1492
Number of patients remaining on the Books, December 31st, 1955	376
Number of nursing visits made during the year	48,220

METHOD OF DISCHARGE

Number of patients convalescent	874
Number of patients died	324
Number of patients removed to Hospital	215
Number of Patients removed from the Books for other causes	79

	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications.	Others	Totals	Patients who were over 65 years of age	Children under 5 years of age	Patients who had more than 24 visits during the year.
Number of cases attended	1123	329	7	91	11	7	1868	1014	57	445
Number of visits paid	35924	8986	94	3039	143	34	48220	31761	521	35872

The classification of the new cases includes:-

	<u>Cases</u>		<u>Cases</u>
Infective and parasitic diseases	14	Complications of pregnancy and the puerperium	11
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	68	Diseases of the skin and cellular tissue	67
Neoplasms	101	Diseases of the bones and joints	21
Allergic, endocrine, metabolic and nutritional diseases ..	41	Diseases of early infancy	3
Diseases of the blood and blood forming organs	48	Senility and other conditions of old people	100
Mental, Psychoneurotic disorders	1	Accidents, poisonings and violence	46
Diseases of Nervous System and Sense Organs	25	Gynaecological diseases (other than Genito-Urinary)	19
Diseases of Circulatory System	228	Enema (prior to X-ray examinations)	123
Diseases of Respiratory System (other than Pneumonia and Tuberculosis)	171	Enema (constipation, obstruction, etc).....	120
Pneumonia	54	Various post-operative conditions	63
Diseases of Digestive System	2	Cerebral Cases (not included above)	134
Diseases of the Genito-Urinary System	13	Congenital malformations	1
Ear, Nose and Throat Conditions	48		

The 1522 New Cases were referred by:-

Doctors	1309
Victoria Hospital	108
General Hospital	5
Manchester Royal Infirmary ..	4
Public Health Department	59
Applications by relatives	35
Salford Royal Infirmary	1
Lancashire County Council	1

1522

SECTION XI

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARECare of the Aged and Sick and Infirm

The problem of single elderly persons or aged couples living in their own homes, with little or no help from relatives is ever present and of considerable degree in Burnley, owing to the high proportion of elderly people in the community. Several agencies, both statutory and voluntary, are now concerned with their welfare. The health visitors endeavour to visit and help those whom the Department knows to require frequent supervision and they co-operate with the Assistant Physician in Geriatrics, who has charge of all chronic sick hospital beds and who also makes domiciliary visits to determine priority of hospital admission of those chronic sick and infirm persons who are on the hospital admission waiting list. Co-operation between the various local authority officers and other statutory and voluntary bodies is good. The Assistant Physician in Geriatrics frequently confers with the health visitors and mental health workers, and very satisfactory liaison exists between the Health Department staff and the welfare officers of the Social Services Department. The recent appointment by the Hospital Management Committee of two welfare officers, in addition to the one hospital almoner, enables a closer link to be effected between the local authority staffs and the hospital for the supervision and after-care of patients discharged from hospital. A Committee of lady members of the Burnley Council of Social Service continues to visit elderly people, with the purpose of relieving their loneliness and bringing more interest into their lives. The Churches Visiting Scheme, which is administered by a Committee of clergymen and church members representing all denominations, was inaugurated in May, 1955. The Town Clerk, Officers of the Social Services Department, the Medical Officer of Health and the Manager of the local office of the Ministry of National Assistance are advisory members. This Committee has, after some preliminary organisation, now commenced to undertake useful work. The town is divided into Church of England and Roman Catholic parishes and Free Church areas, with an organiser (voluntary worker) for each denomination. The organisers recruit visitors of their own denominations and acts as liaison officer between the voluntary visitors and the staff of the Social Services Department. The Social Service Officers forward to the organisers the names and addresses of elderly persons, and each voluntary visitor is supplied with details of all the statutory agencies from whom help may be sought. This list includes the various services available through the Public Health and Social Services Departments, the Executive Council, the local hospitals, the Housing Department, Ministry of National Assistance etc. By November, 1955, 291 elderly persons were on the list to be visited by these voluntary workers.

Practical help to some needy elderly people by the provision of sheets, blankets, invalid foods, etc., was possible by a grant from the Burnley Sick Poor Fund (which supplies "Meals on Wheels") and from a small fund associated with the Home Nursing Service. Old but serviceable bedsteads and mattresses, which had been replaced by new ones in the local hospitals, were also made available for needy households. The selection of persons to whom these articles have been issued was at the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health.

Care and After-Care of Tuberculous Persons and Contacts

The routine after-care of tuberculous patients discharged from hospital treatment, the domiciliary supervision of those being treated at home or awaiting admission to hospital and the general supervision of contacts is undertaken by one whole-time health visitor. This health visitor attends all chest clinic sessions and accompanies the chest physicians on their domiciliary visits. The health visitor is thus cognisant of the domiciliary treatment which has been advised, and, in co-operation with general practitioners, ensures that patients adhere to it. She actively follows up cases which have failed to keep clinic appointments.

The examination at the chest clinic of persons who have been in close contact with tuberculous patients at their places of work is of considerable importance and this has usually been achieved without divulging confidential information by visits to the homes of these contacts or to the place of work and by the co-operation of general practitioners, some of whom are part-time medical officers to local factories.

Co-operation between the chest physicians, the local health authority staff and the Disablement Rehabilitation Officer of the Ministry of Labour and National Service continues to facilitate the return to their former employment or the obtaining of other more suitable employment of those judged fit to resume work.

The assistance given by the Home Nursing and Domestic Help Services to tuberculous patients is referred to elsewhere in this report.

The Housing Committee continues to give special consideration to recommendations from the chest physicians and the Medical Officer of Health in the allocation of Council houses to families, members of which are tuberculous and where over-crowding or other conditions are detrimental to the health of the patient or his family.

As part of the after-care responsibilities of the local health authority, B.C.G. Vaccination of contacts is undertaken by the chest physicians. This is dealt with elsewhere in this report.

The prevention of tuberculosis by B.C.G. vaccination of the thirteen-year old group of school children is dealt with in my report as Principal School Medical Officer.

Sputum bottles, paper handkerchiefs and nursing requisites are provided when necessary.

One tuberculous person was being maintained by the authority in Papworth Village Settlement, where he was undergoing industrial training, and five patients were sent for short periods of convalescence to one of the Homes approved by the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

No general survey by a Miniature Radiography Unit was undertaken during 1955, but 456 members of the local authority's staff, who are employed in nursery schools, day nurseries and children's homes, health visitors etc., were X-rayed when a Unit made a short visit for this particular purpose to the area of an adjoining local authority.

Epilepsy

At the end of 1955, twenty epileptic children of school age were known to the School Health Service. Fourteen of these suffer from major epilepsy and six from minor epilepsy. Nine of the major and the six suffering from minor epilepsy were able to attend ordinary day schools and are kept under frequent supervision. Four were in residential special schools and one was awaiting admission to a special school. Another boy, who is also blind, was transferred during the year from a residential school attached to a colony for epileptics to the colony, but was subsequently withdrawn from the colony by his parents against medical advice. Six children under five years of age are under supervision by the Child Welfare Service, three being cases of major and three of minor epilepsy.

The register of handicapped persons maintained by the Welfare Department, which is not comprehensive, contains the names of seventeen adult epileptics, of whom fourteen are in Colonies or Homes and three reside in their own homes.

It is not known how many epileptics are on the Disablement Register of the local office of the Ministry of Labour and National Service. It is understood that difficulty is experienced by the Juvenile Employment Section of the Ministry in finding suitable employment for several adolescent epileptics. It would appear that a scheme for part-time sheltered or home employment on suitable "out work" for industrial firms would be of benefit not only to some epileptics but to other handicapped persons.

Cerebral Palsy

No reliable information is available of the number of persons in the Borough who suffer from cerebral palsy. Only two cases are on the register of the Welfare Authority, one of whom resides in an old peoples hostel. Two male adults are also mental defectives and under the supervision of the Mental Health Service. One of these is employed in the local Remploy factory, the other is a low grade unemployable defective.

At the end of 1955, six spastic children of school age were able to attend ordinary or special day schools in the Borough, four were in residential special schools and one was receiving tuition at home. One of those attending an ordinary school was awaiting admission to a residential school. One child under five years of age was under supervision by the Child Welfare Service.

Chronic Carriers of Infection

A register is kept of persons known to be chronic carriers of infection. They are usually persons discharged from hospital while still excreting the infective organisms. Supervision is maintained to ensure that they do not engage in employment involving the handling of foodstuffs, and specimens of faeces for laboratory examination are obtained from them periodically. By the end of 1955 seven carriers were removed from the register, leaving only one person who was a carrier of B. Paratyphoid B.

Convalescent Treatment.

Thirty-nine persons received convalescent treatment during the year.

Name of Convalescent Home	Patients				Total	Total patient weeks
	Adults		Children			
	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Manchester and Salford District Provident & Family Welfare Society's Convalescent Home, "West Hill" Southport.....	6	12	-	-	18	39
Blackburn & District Home, St. Annes-on-Sea.....	1	10	-	-	11	22
Convalescent Home of Our Lady of Lourdes, Boarbank Hall, Grange-over-Sands.....	-	2	1	-	3	6
Bolton & District Hospital Saturday Council Convalescent Home, Blackpool.....	2	-	-	-	2	3
Convalescent Home for Tuberculous Persons, Broadstairs	1	4	-	-	5	12
TOTAL	10	28	1	-	39	82

In addition, 151 children selected through the School Health Service, each received two weeks' convalescence in the Thursby Convalescent Home, St. Annes-on-Sea.

Provision of Nursing Equipment

Nursing requisites are loaned to patients being nursed at home. Equipment available includes invalid chairs, crutches, air-beds, air-rings, bed pans, mattresses, blankets, bed cradles, etc. These articles are issued from the District Nurses' Home and a charge of 3d. or 6d. a week is made according to the type of article loaned.

NURSING REQUISITES LOANED DURING 1955

Mackintosh Sheets	158	Air Beds	15
Bed Pans	215	Feeding Cups	8
Air Rings	102	Weighing Scales (pairs).....	1
Urinals	70	Bed Tables	2
Wheel Chairs	39	Bed Blocks (set)	4
Back Rests	87	Sputum Cups	1
Leg Rests	5	Bed Cradles	12
Crutches (pairs)	11	Commode	2
Walk Aid	4	Sand Bags.....	2
		TOTAL	738

Twenty blankets, twenty pairs of flannelette sheets and forty pillow cases were supplied on long loan to needy elderly persons, from funds made available by the Burnley Sick Poor Charity (which also provides the funds for the "Meals on Wheels" Scheme).

Health Education

No special campaign of health education was undertaken during 1955 but talks to small groups of persons in various organisations were again given by members of the staff. Displays of material provided by the Central Council for Health Education were arranged. Pamphlets were distributed at clinics. Film strips were used to illustrate talks, especially those given by health visitors to mothers attending infant welfare centres.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

It was not necessary to proceed under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act 1948, as amended by the Act of 1951, for the compulsory removal to hospital or other place of persons suffering from chronic disease, or aged and infirm, who were not receiving proper care and attention. Several such persons were persuaded to accept suitable accommodation.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Part III

Welfare of the Blind, Deaf or Dumb and other Permanently Handicapped Persons:- The Social Services Committee is responsible for carrying out the powers and duties of the Council with respect to residential accommodation for the aged and infirm and welfare services for blind, deaf or dumb and other handicapped persons under Part III and IV of the Act (except Section 41) and the Regulations made thereunder.

"Moorfields", which is that portion of the Burnley General Hospital which provides accommodation for non-sick persons under Part III of the National Assistance Act, has accommodation for 253 adults. This has been fully occupied during the year. "Healey Grange", which has accommodation for thirty women, has been fully occupied during the year. A hostel for women in Palatine Square, which is administered by the Burnley Council of Social Service with a grant from the Welfare Authority, has accommodation for sixteen women. The Welfare Authority has acquired two large houses, which are at present being adapted and enlarged, and which will be known as "Whiteacres" and "Gorse Hill". It is expected that "Whiteacres" will be opened early in 1957. "Whiteacres" will be for men and "Gorse Hill" for both sexes.

Deaf Persons

The Social Services Committee and the North and East Lancashire Association for the Welfare of the Deaf co-operate to ensure adequate welfare arrangements for the deaf and dumb of the Borough. A Social Centre for the deaf is provided by the Association. The Authority makes a contribution to the Association, based on the number of deaf persons in the Borough.

Thirty-eight adult males and thirty-two adult females were on the register of handicapped persons maintained by the Welfare Authority. None of these was in a hostel or institution.

Nine deaf and four partially deaf children of school age were in residential special schools at the end of 1955. One deaf child and one partially deaf, under five years of age, were under supervision by the Child Welfare Service.

Blind Persons

The Register of the Blind contains the following:-

Number on Register at 1st January, 1955	245
Number of new cases during 1955	22
Re-certified	-
Transfer from other Authorities	3
Deaths during 1955	28
De-certified	10
Removals from Register during 1955	3
Number on Register at 31st December, 1955	229

The 229 persons on the Register of the Blind on 31st December, 1955 consisted of 86 men, 141 women and two children.

On the Register of Partially Sighted Persons there were 12 men, 48 women and three children.

The Authority's Workshop for the Blind, employs the following blind persons:-

		Burnley		Lancs. County		Total
		Men	Women	Men	Women	
Basketry) Dept.)	Workers ...	8	-	7	-	15
	Trainees ...	1	-	-	-	1
Knitting) Dept.)	Workers ...	-	6	-	3	9
	Trainees ...	-	1	-	-	1
TOTALS		9	7	7	3	26

Twenty-six persons were examined by the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon during 1955, for the first time, in order to ascertain if they were suitable for inclusion in the Register of Blind Persons. The ages of the thirteen men averaged 71 years and of the thirteen women 70 years.

Of the eight persons recommended for surgical treatment, two refused operation mainly because of their advanced ages.

EXAMINATIONS FOR ADMISSION TO REGISTER OF BLIND PERSONS AND TO REGISTER
OF PARTIALLY SIGHTED PERSONS DURING 1955

No. of Cases Examined	Recommendations in para. (7) of Form B.D.8.	Causes of Disability				Total Causes	No. of cases which on follow-up action have received treatment.
		Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Other		
3	(a) No treatment	1	-	-	3	4	-
8	(b) Medical treatment	5	5	-	3	13	9
8	(c) Surgical treatment	6	5	-	2	13	5
7	(d) Optical treatment	4	3	-	2	9	6

Two partially sighted children were in a residential special school. A blind boy was awaiting admission to a special school. A blind girl was receiving home tuition. A blind girl, now sixteen years of age, is undergoing further education and training in the Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead. One partially sighted child, under five years of age, is under supervision by the Child Welfare Service.

SECTION XII

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The administration of the Mental Health Service is directly under the control of the Medical Officer of Health, and three Duly Authorised Officers (two male and one female), who are also mental health workers, are employed for statutory duties under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and for purposes of prevention and after-care of cases of mental illness and the supervision and care of mental defectives.

These officers work in close liaison with the Consultant Psychiatrist and Psychiatric Registrar of the local hospitals, and attend the out-patients psychiatric clinic, where their knowledge of and reports on the home circumstances and social background of the patients are of assistance to the psychiatrist. Prior to patients' appointments with the Psychiatrist, the authorised officers visit them in their own homes and obtain a short case history for the information of the Consultant Psychiatrist. The Consultant Psychiatrist also requests the Authority's mental health officers to follow-up and provide after-care for both in-patients and out-patients after their discharge from hospital treatment. Informal meetings of the psychiatric medical and nursing staff and the mental health officers have been held from time to time. Liaison with general medical practitioners is good, and has resulted in many patients being admitted to hospital as voluntary patients.

The problem of aged persons suffering from senile deterioration and dementia continues. The authorised officers make many visits to such cases and whilst beds are not available in Mental Hospitals for them, every possible help is given by the officers in co-operation with the Home Help Service, Health Visitors, Home Nursing Service and Social Welfare Department.

The Geriatrician of the local general hospital co-operates fully, and admits to the Chronic Sick Wards when possible, those patients in need of constant care and attention.

Particular attention continues to be given to the after-care of patients discharged from mental hospitals. It is important that contact should be made immediately after the patients' return home. As these patients have usually been known to the mental health workers prior to their admission to hospital, visits are in most instances welcomed and the confidence of both the patients and their relatives is readily gained. The mental health workers have been very successful in assisting in the rehabilitation of patients and in their re-establishment in employment, as well as introducing them to appropriate statutory and voluntary agencies.

The following examples illustrate the work done in after-care and rehabilitation.

- CASE A - A patient who was not in fact the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, having travelled extensively from place to place, was admitted to the Psychiatric Observation Ward. After treatment it was discovered that he was a skilled engineer and a mental health officer personally accompanied him for interview with the staff of the personnel department of a large engineering works. This patient was eventually absorbed into the industry.
- CASE B - A patient who had been in a major mental hospital for sixteen years was awaiting discharge and anxious to commence work. In close liaison with the officers of the Ministry of Labour, a part-time simple repetitive job was found for him. During the past few months, the employer has been so satisfied with the progress of this patient that he has been given promotion and engaged on a full time basis.
- CASE C - A man with a poor social integration and of immoral habits was admitted to the Psychiatric Ward after attempted suicide. Following treatment, arrangements were made by one of the mental health officers for him to leave his sordid surroundings for clean and comfortable accommodation which was found for him. Work with good remuneration was also obtained for him. Arrangements were made for the National Assistance Board to grant him a casual payment pending receipt of his first week's wage. Although every effort was made on his behalf, he eventually returned to his poor and immoral way of life.
- CASE D - One of our patients who had attended the out-patient Clinic became extremely nervous and apprehensive regarding his recent promotion to mill engineer. He found it impossible to cope with the added responsibility and he was admitted to the Psychiatric Observation Ward. After treatment, he was found a simple job alongside other people, with no responsibility, and his social problems and psychiatric symptoms quickly disappeared.
- CASE E - A man who had worked his whole lifetime on the railway became involved in a Union dispute, with subsequent strike action. This caused considerable emotional and social upset, so much so that he retired prematurely and had a mental breakdown. After treatment, he improved greatly and early occupation was indicated. He was eventually found work outdoors as a gardener, work which he thoroughly enjoys.

CASE F - A widow with a long history of suicide attempts and social unrest, was eventually certified. The mental health officer from whom she had sought help from time to time, was requested by this unfortunate woman to keep in touch with her adolescent son. With the help of the Children's Department and the boy's headmaster, together with the Ministry of Labour, arrangements were made for the lad to start a new life in the Services.

The supervision of mental defectives involves frequent domiciliary visits both to households where the care of low grade cases, such as imbeciles and idiots, prove a heavy burden on housewives and where other defectives are occasionally difficult to control. In this latter type, the visits of the mental health workers have a steadying influence. Routine supervision is maintained over those who are on licence from hospitals and periodic reports on such cases are sent to hospitals. Help is readily given in finding employment for those defectives suitable to take up gainful occupation. A large measure of success has been met with in this direction; for example:-

1. With the help of the Ministry of Labour, two defectives leaving the Occupation Centre were placed in jobs at the Remploy factory.
2. A female defective was found employment with a local firm of launderers.
3. A male defective lost his job at a foundry, but the employers were eventually persuaded to take him back. He is now working well.
4. Continued efforts resulted in a male defective being found employment with a local Billposting Company. He is happy and working well at a simple job.
5. A male defective in need of work was eventually found work in an old established brickworks. He is happy and content and works well.

Gannow Occupation Centre for mental defectives has accommodation for 40 persons. The majority of those in attendance are children or young persons. At the 31st December, 1955, 41 were in attendance, 21 being Burnley residents and 20 from the adjoining Lancashire County districts. The staff consists of a superintendent and two assistants.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946
MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1938

	Under age 16		Over 16	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. <u>Particulars of cases reported during 1955</u>				
(a) Cases at 31.12.55 ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with"				
Number in which action taken on reports by -				
1. Local Education Authorities on children -				
(i) While at school or liable to attend school	4	2	-	-
(ii) On leaving special schools ..	-	-	-	1
(iii) On leaving ordinary schools .	-	-	-	-
2. Police or by Courts	-	1	-	-
3. Other sources... ..	-	-	1	3
(b) Cases reported who were found to be defective but not regarded as "subject to be dealt with" on any ground ...				
	2	3	3	1
(c) Cases reported who were not regarded as defectives, or in which action was incomplete at 31.12.55 and are thus excluded from (a) or (b)				
	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	6	4	5

2. Disposal of cases reported during 1955

(a) Of the cases ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" (i.e. at 1(a)), number				
(i) Placed under Statutory Supervision	4	2	-	4
(ii) Placed under Guardianship	-	-	-	-
(iii) Taken to "Places of Safety"	-	-	-	-
(iv) Admitted to Hospitals	-	1	1	-
(b) Of the cases not ascertained to be defectives "subject to be dealt with" (i.e. at 1(b)), number				
(i) Placed under Voluntary Supervision	2	3	3	1
(ii) Action unnecessary	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	6	4	5

				Under age 16		Over 16	
				M.	F.	M.	F.
3. <u>Number of mental defectives for whom care was arranged by the local health authority under Circular 5/52 during 1955 and admitted to</u>							
(a) National Health Service hospitals				-	2	-	-
(b) Elsewhere				-	-	-	-
TOTAL				-	2	-	-
4. <u>Total cases on Authority's Registers at 31.12.55</u>							
(i) Under Statutory Supervision				9	10	21	24
(ii) Under Guardianship				-	-	-	-
(iii) In "Places of Safety"				-	-	-	-
(iv) In hospitals				3	3	65	53
(v) Under Voluntary Supervision				2	3	24	16
TOTAL				14	16	110	93
5. <u>Number of defectives under Guardianship on 31.12.55 who were dealt with under the provisions of Section 8 or 9, Mental Deficiency Act, 1913 (included in 4 (ii))</u>				-	-	-	-
6. <u>Classification of defectives in the Community on 31.12.55 (according to need at that date)</u>							
(a) Cases included in 4 (i) to (iii) in need of hospital care and reported accordingly to the hospital authority							
1. In urgent need of hospital care:-							
(i) "Cot and Chair" cases				-	1	-	-
(ii) ambulant low grade cases				-	1	-	1
(iii) medium grade cases				-	-	-	1
(iv) high grade cases				-	-	-	-
Total urgent cases				-	2	-	2
2. Not in urgent need of hospital care:-							
(i) "Cot and Chair" cases				-	-	-	-
(ii) ambulant low grade cases				-	-	1	2
(iii) medium grade cases				-	-	-	-
(iv) high grade cases				-	-	-	-
Total non-urgent cases				-	-	1	2
TOTAL				-	2	1	4

	Under age 16		Over 16	
	M.	F.	M.	F.

(b) Of the cases included in items 4(i), (ii) and (v) number considered suitable for :-

(i) Occupation Centre	...	...	...	7	8	3	4
(ii) Industrial Centre	...	...	...	-	-	4	8
(iii) Home Training	...	...	...	-	-	-	-
TOTAL				7	8	7	12

(c) Of the cases included in 6 (b), number receiving training on 31.12.55 :-

(i) In Occupation Centre	...	...	7	7	3	4
(ii) In Industrial Centre	...	...	-	-	-	-
(iii) At home	...	...	-	-	-	-
TOTAL				7	7	3	4

No. of Reports sent to Mental Deficiency Hospitals ... 101

No. of visits made to patients' homes etc. ... 909

	Burnley cases	County cases	Total cases
<u>Occupation Centre</u>			
No. of persons on Register, 1st January, 1955	20	17	37
No. of new admissions ..	3	5	8
No. of discharges ...	2	2	4
No. remaining on Register, 31st December, 1955	21	20	41
Average attendances during the year	16	17	33

Administration of Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts during the year 1955.

	Other Auth's	Burnley	Total
1. No. of admissions to Mental Hospitals			
(a) under Lunacy Act	93	109	202
(b) under Mental Treatment Act ...	58	60	118
2. No. of discharges from Mental Hospitals			
(a) under Lunacy Act	55	78	133
(b) under Mental Treatment Act ...	52	69	121
3. No. of patients died	6	22	28
4. Total number of Burnley patients in Mental Hospitals at 31st December, 1955			229
5. No. of reports sent to Mental Hospitals			129
6. No. of visits made to hospitals, patients' homes, etc ..			1478

SECTION XIII

AMBULANCE SERVICE

During 1955, the ambulances made 7,067 journeys, carried 20,368 patients and covered 108,380 miles.

The increases in patients carried and total mileage covered in the last six years are shown by the following figures:-

Year	Journeys	Patients Carried	Total Mileage
1950	not available	14,908	98,433
1951	6,447	17,112	97,845
1952	7,186	18,825	107,998
1953	7,860	20,889	111,355
1954	6,916	21,734	106,619
1955	7,067	20,368	108,380

Although the number of patients carried has shown a decrease of 1,366, the mileage covered is higher by over 1,700 miles. The "miles per patient carried" provides a better indication of efficiency in the organisation of the service to save unnecessary mileage. During the last six years this figure has varied from 4.4 miles in 1954 to 6.6 miles in 1950. In 1955, the figure was 5.5 miles. With the present organisation of the service it is unlikely that the miles per patient carried can be reduced, but the provision of a system of two-way radio telecommunication would undoubtedly help in this connection. Ambulance services throughout the country are increasingly installing a radio system of communication between their central ambulance stations and vehicles on journeys. By this means vehicles returning empty can be diverted to transport emergency or accident cases without incurring the delay in returning to the station and thereafter immediately setting out again, and it avoids the necessity of having more vehicles on the roads than would be necessary if those already on journeys could be diverted by radio message. During peak periods of demand for ambulances, the station is frequently left with only one vehicle available for emergencies, such as street accidents. Diversion by radio message of vehicles already in the vicinity or waiting at hospitals would reduce delay in responding to emergency calls and avoid the station being completely denuded of vehicles. It would also be possible to divert an ambulance on a more distant journey, for example going to or returning from Manchester, Salford, Liverpool or the mental hospitals, to another hospital to pick up a returning patient. The police motor patrols and fire service are equipped with radio telecommunication. It is of equal, if not more importance, that the ambulance service should be similarly equipped. Although the

equipment is expensive to install, it has been found that where two-way radio communication has been introduced into ambulance services, it has generally resulted either in an actual saving in cost or increased efficiency.

A satisfactory reciprocal working arrangement with the ambulance service of No. 6 Division of Lancashire County frequently avoids duplication of long distance journeys.

Co-operation with general practitioners and the local hospitals is generally good and there is now little evidence of any abuse of the service. Notices are displayed in the out-patients departments and elsewhere in local hospitals to inform patients against the unnecessary use of ambulances and why unavoidable delay may occasionally occur in returning them to their homes.

There is no lessening of the demand for the conveyance of patients to hospitals in the Manchester and Liverpool areas, but these journeys are more particularly in respect of patients requiring specialist opinion not available locally, such as from neuro-surgical and genito-urinary units.

At the end of 1955, the fleet consisted of six ambulances and three smaller dual-purpose vehicles, capable of carrying eight sitting cases or four sitting cases and one stretcher case. These smaller vehicles, being more economical, are used largely for the conveyance of out-patients of hospital clinics.

The staff remains at one ambulance officer and twenty driver/attendants.

AMBULANCE STATISTICS FOR 1955

Abortive and Service Journeys	Gas and Air, Oxygen, Blood etc., Journeys	Accident or Emergency		Others		Totals		Mileage		
		Journeys	Patients Carried	Journeys	Patients Carried	Journeys	Patients Carried	Amb.	Car.	Total
435	670	1315	1374	4647	18994	7067	20368	70697	37683	108380

SECTION XIV

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAWater Supply

No changes were made during 1955 in the sources of supply, methods of treatment or distribution of water.

The consumption of water during the year was 1,408,427,282 gallons - approximately 172 million gallons more than in the previous year.

The rainfall, as measured at four different points on the gathering grounds, showed an average of 37.22 inches in the year. The lowest amount measured was 36.15 inches and the highest 38.40 inches. Although the rainfall of 1955 was very much less than that of several previous years, there was no appreciable shortage of water and it was not necessary to require curtailment of the use of water.

Forty-two samples of water were submitted to chemical and thirty eight to bacteriological analyses. These were mainly samples taken from house taps at different parts of the town and represented supplies from the mixed supply of Heckenhurst reservoir and the direct supplies from Cant Clough and Swinden reservoirs. Throughout the greater part of the year, all samples were of excellent chemical quality and free from bacilli coli. For a brief period in the last quarter of the year, slight turbidity and the presence of a few bacilli coli in the water from a collecting reservoir was due to the low level of water.

Public Baths

The three public baths contain both slipper baths and swimming baths. Thirty samples of swimming baths' water were examined bacteriologically and chemically during the year. Efficient chlorination maintained the baths waters at a high standard of chemical and bacteriological purity; in only one sample were a few bacilli coli found.

Public Cleansing

Collection and disposal of refuse. No alterations have been made during 1955.

Amount of Refuse dealt with during the year ended 31st December, 1955

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.
Refuse collected	23,013	0	0
<hr/>			
Disposal of Refuse:-			
(a) By Salvage	3,842	0	0
(b) By Combustion	3,043	0	0
(c) Screened dust, clinker, etc. tipped	12,546	0	0
(d) By controlled tipping (Refuse)..	3,582	0	0
	<hr/>		
	23,013	0	0
	<hr/>		
(e) Clinker tipped resulting from (b)	779	0	0

Receptacles for Refuse in use during 1955

No. of Premises

30,386

No. of Dustbins

31,179

General Sanitary Inspection

Four thousand, nine hundred and ninety eight complaints were received and dealt with.

	No.
Visits to Factories with Mechanical Power ...	236
" " Factories without Mechanical Power ...	9
" " Bakeries... ..	495
" " Chip, Fish and Tripe Shops ..	179
" " Milk and Grocers' Shops ...	158
" " Ice Cream Manufactories and Shops .	244
" " Fruiterers' and Fishmongers' premises ...	41
" " Butchers, Blood Boilers and Food Preparers	60
" " Cafes, Canteens and Restaurants ...	416
" " Marine Store and Offensive Trades .	15
" " Stable Manure Pits	41
" " Premises where animals are kept ...	65
" " Common Lodging Houses .	51
" " Canal Boats	1
" " Back-to-Back and Single Dwellings	219
" " Tents, Vans etc.	38
" " Houses Let in Lodgings	139
" " Other Dwellings	11,010
" " Reported Dirty Dwellings	69
" " Old Property re Alterations .	53
" " Premises where Nuisances exist ...	9,259
" " Alleged Overcrowded Houses ..	3
" " Colliery Tips	299
Drains Tested	253
No. of Legal Notices Served	654
No. of Preliminary Notices sent out to abate Nuisance	1,936
No. of Verbal Notices given	270
No. of Defects reported to Borough Surveyor .	104
No. of Defects Reported to Cleansing Department ...	382
No. of Defects Reported to Highways Department ...	1,472
Interviews with Owners, Agents, etc., re Property .	785
Interviews with Firemen	139
Inspection re Rats and Mice Infestations	265
Visits to School Premises	15
" " Theatres and Cinemas ..	38
" " Public Institutions	4
" " Under Shops Act	153
Defects found and dealt with	3,165
Defects remedied during the year	2,752
Defects of various kinds on the books of the Department at the end of the year	1,398

Legal Notices served during the Year

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 -

Section 39 - Unsatisfactory Drainage	145
Section 45 - Closets requiring repair	36
Section 75 - Defective Dustbins... ..	79
Section 93 - General Nuisances (other defects of property)	187
Section 44 - Closets requiring reconstruction	1

BURNLEY CORPORATION ACT, 1925 -

Section 53 - Defective Drains	206
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SMOKE ABATEMENT

During the year two hundred and eight observations of one half hour duration were taken of factory chimneys, and the results notified to the firms concerned.

Thirteen letters were sent in accordance with the Council's resolution which is to the effect that the Town Clerk shall communicate with those firms whose chimneys emit an amount of "moderate" smoke in excess of six minutes, or "black" smoke for more than one, but less than two minutes.

Results of Observations.

	Black	Moderate	Light or none.
Total smoke in minutes	3	270.5	5966.5
Average smoke in minutes . ...	.01	1.24	28.75

The Smoke Abatement Advisory Committee for Burnley and District, formed in 1949, undertook further publicity for smoke abatement by means of lectures dealing with abatement of smoke from house chimneys, and by means of the press, etc.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYELAWS OR
REGULATIONS.

Common Lodging Houses

At the end of the year six houses were registered, the total accommodation being two hundred and thirty two males. Fifty one visits were made and three defects found.

Houses Let in Lodgings

Fourteen houses in Burnley were registered as Houses Let in Lodgings, which are divided in separate tenements, as follows:-

Tenements.	Occupants.
One-roomed ... 72	ADULTS - Males 86
Two-roomed ... 14	Females 64
Three-roomed .. 18	Infants under one year 6
Four-roomed ... 9	Children, aged 1 to 10 years . 28
<hr/> 113 <hr/>	<hr/> 184 <hr/>
Visits paid 139	
Defects found 32	
Defects remedied 57	
Verbal and Informal Notices 18	

Offensive Trades

The following is a list of the Offensive Trades carried on in Burnley:-

Gut Scraper 1	
Marine Stores 3	
Tripe Boilers 1	
Fellmonger 1	
Tallow Melter 1	
Inspections ... 15	Defects found ... 5 Verbal Notices ... 5

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

This Act, which became operative on the 1st November, 1951, requires the licensing of premises where rag flock is manufactured and the registration of premises where filling materials are used in the production of upholstered articles.

There is one manufacturer of rag flock in the Borough and twelve premises where filling materials are used in the upholstery trade. These have all been licensed and registered.

During the year four samples of flock were taken, all of which were satisfactory.

Stable Middens

No. of Middens ... 24. Inspections ... 41.

No. of times manure pits sprayed to destroy larvae of
flies 95.

General Inspection of Working Class Dwellings

Two hundred and nineteen visits were paid to back-to-back and single houses, fifty one to houses let in lodgings and eleven thousand and ten to other dwellings.

Dirty houses

Forty seven houses were suspected of being dirty, and eighteen were found to be so on inspection. Warnings were given on each occasion and it was not necessary to take legal action.

Sanitary Accommodation

The total number and types of closets in the Borough at the end of 1955 are as follows:-

Clean Water Closets	20,719
Waste Water Closets	15,205
Latrines (78) with Closets	343
Privies 	123

In only seven dwellinghouses (apart from farms) having clean water closets, do the closets drain to cesspools.

During the financial year assistance was given in connection with 76 conversions of waste-water closets.

The total number of closets not on the water-carriage system is 123 of which 116 are pails and 7 tanks. The Cleansing Department is responsible for the emptying of 90 of these.

Shops Act, 1950 (Section 38)

No. of Combined Shops and Dwellinghouses in the Borough	1538
No. of Shops only	738
Total inspections of shops	682
Inspections specifically for purposes of Section 38	153

Offices

The present establishment of Sanitary Inspectors is not such as to enable many inspections of offices to be undertaken in addition to the other duties of the Inspectors.

Camping Sites

There are no seasonal camping sites within the Borough and no caravans are used as dwellings.

Inspection of Bakeries

During the routine inspection of premises in which food is prepared 495 visits were made to bakehouses. The standard of cleanliness of these was found to be generally satisfactory.

DETAILS OF INSPECTION AND DEFECTS FOUND:-

Number on Register	147
Number of Inspections made	495
Verbal Notices	35
Informal (written) Notices	-
Number of Defects	43

Fish and Chip Shops

No. of fish frying businesses at 31st December, 1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	71
No. of Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	179
Defects found	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Verbal Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	11

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Three rodent operatives work under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is the official responsible for the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The occupiers of premises are legally responsible for clearing their buildings of rats, but the rat catchers carry out the treatment on request, no charge being made for private dwellings, and actual time and cost of materials are charged in the case of business premises.

Applications for assistance received	...	...	...	419
Visits paid by Rodent Operatives to dwellinghouses	...	...	...	2615
Visits paid by Rodent Operatives to business premises	...	...	...	3131
Visits paid by Rodent Operatives to Local Authority premises	...	...	...	743
Special Inspections by Sanitary Inspectors	...	...	...	265

During the year the sewers received two maintenance treatments for destruction of rats. Two thousand six hundred and thirty five manholes were baited and of these 508 showed pre-bait takes, 401 of which were complete and 107 partial takes.

Co-operation has continued to be forthcoming from the officers of the Ministry, who have expressed their satisfaction at the manner in which the work has been carried out. The cost of the sewer treatments during the year was approximately three hundred and ninety three pounds, of which half is recoverable from the Ministry and half from the Sewers Department.

Sanitary Conditions of Schools

All the schools in the Borough are supplied with water from the town's mains.

The Sanitary Inspectors made fifteen visits to schools, mainly to inspect the sanitary conveniences.

It was not necessary to close any school in the Borough on account of Infectious Disease during 1955.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

INSPECTIONS for the purpose of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)
during 1955.

Premises	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Occupiers prosecuted.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	241	504	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	527	236	18	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	768	740	19	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	24	20	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	-	1	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	4	2	-	3	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	47	39	-	29	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences (not incl. offences relating to outwork)	9	4	-	-	-
TOTAL	85	66	-	33	-

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111) - Nil.

SECTION XV

HOUSINGTypes of Dwellinghouse in the Borough at the end of 1955:-

Houses with through ventilation '... ..	27,367
Combined houses and shops	1,538
Houses without through ventilation:-	
(a) Back-to-back houses	602
(b) Single houses	117
(c) Single-roomed dwellings	5
(d) Cellar dwellings	6
Vans and Sheds... ..	-
Total	29,635

Houses Inspected and Recorded

The total houses recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations up to the end of 1955 was	15,283
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Houses without through ventilation -

Total number of back-to-back houses, single houses, single roomed dwellings and cellar dwellings	730
Total number of back-to-back and single houses closed or demolished during 1955 ..	12
Number of houses which were included in confirmed Orders under the pre-war programme but not yet demolished	3

Slum Clearance Programme

A survey, which was completed in 1954, indicated that approximately 1,323 houses will have to be included in clearance schemes and in addition 36 dealt with as individual unfit houses.

Completion of this programme would efface all the back-to-back houses within the Borough.

It is not proposed to deal with any houses by way of "deferred demolition" under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Towards the end of 1955, a commencement was made to deal with areas included in the Slum Clearance Programme, and in November official representations under Section 25(1) of the Housing Act, 1936 were submitted to the Housing Committee in respect of three areas described as Pickup Croft Areas Nos. 1, 2 and 3, comprising respectively three, one hundred and forty and twenty five premises to be dealt with.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

(Action taken under the Public Health and Housing Acts).

I. Inspections

- | | | |
|-----|---|------|
| (1) | Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 1458 |
| (2) | Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... | 25 |
| (3) | Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 1433 |

II. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ...	1242
--	------

III. Action under the Statutory Powers during the year:-

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

- | | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (1) | Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... | Nil |
| (2) | Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| (a) | By Owners | Nil |
| (b) | By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	216
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -	
(a) By Owners	180
(b) By Local Authority, in default of owners	36

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made.. ..	7
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	14
Number of persons displaced (under C(2)).	34
(3) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which under-takings were accepted not to re-let for human habitation	Nil
(4) Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners, and still in force.	Nil
Number of persons displaced (under C(4)).	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

E. Proceedings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 as amended by Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	41
Number of persons displaced (under E(1))	111
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were revoked and Demolition Orders made	Nil

F. Proceedings under Housing Act, 1949.

(1) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1)	Nil
(2) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	Nil

Eradication of Bugs

Thirty-three houses (one of which was a Council house) were disinfected by insecticides. It was not necessary to disinfect by hydrocyanide gas the furniture etc., of any family prior to removal to a Council house.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1955

Number of houses erected during the year:-

By Corporation	151
By private enterprise	10
With State assistance under the Housing Acts	-
Total number erected	<u>161</u>

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOODReport by Veterinary Officer on Meat InspectionPUBLIC ABATTOIR

During 1955 discussions took place between representatives of the Council and the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation Limited, who are the largest users of the abattoir, regarding modernisation of these premises and the possibility of the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation acting as agents for the Authority for slaughtering of livestock. A preliminary survey revealed that the capital cost of alterations to modernise the abattoir buildings and convert them to line slaughtering would be almost equal to the cost of erecting entirely new buildings. If new buildings are eventually considered to be essential, they should be erected on a new site, with direct rail access, and away from the centre of the town. Consideration of this matter was deferred pending the publication of the final report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Slaughterhouses.

As a temporary measure the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation carried out some minor alterations to the abattoir which allow for the slaughtering of cattle in one large slaughter-room, the dressed carcasses being removed immediately after slaughter to a separate cooling and hanging room. This new arrangement is more hygienic and avoids the congestion which previously existed.

The final report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Slaughterhouses was issued during the latter part of the year. It suggests that Burnley is the most suitable centre for the siting of an area abattoir for No.110 Area, which could serve an area of East Lancashire, with a population of approximately 350,000. Until the legislation envisaged by the report is introduced, further steps cannot be taken either to modernise or replace the existing out-dated slaughterhouse.

Twenty nine thousand two hundred and fifty-eight head of live-stock were dealt with at the abattoir during the year 1955. This was about twenty five per cent less than the through-put in 1954, the last year of centralised slaughtering by the Ministry of Food. This reduction was due partly to the unsettled state of the meat trade generally, coupled with the high prices prevailing for choice live-stock following the withdrawal of restrictions, and partly to the re-opening of several private slaughterhouses in the surrounding area, all of which had been closed for over fifteen years.

Systematic post-mortem inspection of all live-stock at the time of slaughter is carried out by the whole-time meat inspectors, under the supervision of the Veterinary Officer. This is the most satisfactory system of meat inspection and is that recommended in the 1951 Report of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Meat Inspection. After inspection all

carcasses are stamped on each fore and hind quarter so that there is never any doubt as to whether a particular carcass has been inspected or not. This stamping is appreciated by the retail trade and regarded as a guarantee to them that the meat is healthy and free from any disease.

The gradual increase in the number of tuberculin free herds, consequent on the bovine tuberculosis eradication scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture, is again reflected in the lower incidence of this disease found on post-mortem examinations of cattle. The incidence of tuberculosis again fell slightly in all classes of animals, the average incidence being reduced from 2.41 per cent in 1954 to 1.83 per cent in 1955. For the same reason, tuberculosis in calves examined in the abattoir has shown a marked decline, only one case being found in 1955. Subsequent veterinary examination of the herd failed to reveal the infected dam.

The incidence of *cysticercus bovis*, a parasitic infection of man, the intermediate stage of which is found in the muscles of cattle, also shows a decline during the year under review, when only twelve instances of infection were encountered, all of which were confirmed microscopically. This is an incidence of 0.26 per cent for the year as against 0.45 per cent for 1954. All these infected carcasses are subjected to freezing for not less than fourteen days, to ensure that any viable cyst is rendered harmless. In each case where *cysticercus* infection is encountered, enquiries are initiated regarding the origin of the infected animal. The incidence is greater in imported Irish cattle than in home-fed stock, but some of the home-fed cattle found to be infected may have been imported originally as stores.

The slaughtering of horses for human consumption at the abattoir ceased over twelve months ago.

Particulars of animals slaughtered at the Burnley Abattoir during 1955 and the extent of diseased conditions found on post-mortem, are shown on the following page.

	No. of animals slaughtered and examined	TYPES OF DISEASED CONDITIONS									
		Tuberculosis			Diseases other than Tuberculosis			Cysticercosis			
		Whole carcasses condemned	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Percentage of animals inspected.	Whole carcasses condemned	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Percentage of animals inspected	Total carcasses infected	Carcases of which some part was condemned	Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Carcases generalised and totally condemned
Horses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cattle excluding Cows	3,744	9	252	6.94	1	1535	41.03	11	11	11	-
Cows	879	18	204	25.26	1	473	53.92	1	1	1	-
Calves	87	1	-	1.15	7	3	11.49	-	-	-	-
Sheep and Lambs	21,251	-	-	-	26	1,541	7.37	-	-	-	-
Pigs	3,297	11	41	1.61	10	100	3.34	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	29,258	39	497	1.83	45	3,652	12.63	12	12	12	-

1955 was the first full year during which slaughtering of livestock for food was free from control. It is noticeable that there was a considerable increase in the number of cattle, excluding cows, slaughtered. Twelve hundred and eleven fewer cows were slaughtered than in the preceding year, although there is still a considerable demand for this type of animal by some meat traders. These traders obtain their supplies from slaughterhouses beyond the Borough. Poor quality cow carcasses have been found from time to time on retail premises and in the absence of accompanying viscera it is difficult to form a definite opinion on the condition of the animals at the time of slaughter. The absence of any stamp or other means of identification makes it impossible to ensure that these carcasses have been inspected after slaughter. It is desirable that any future regional slaughterhouse scheme should also

incorporate a system of regional meat inspection, with every carcass bearing a stamp identifying its place of production and the inspecting officer.

Consequent on fewer cows being slaughtered during the year, the amount of meat found unfit for human consumption was reduced. The amount rejected during 1955, was:-

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
On account of tuberculosis ...	11	2	1	15
On account of other conditions	14	6	0	13
<hr/>				
TOTAL	25	8	2	0
<hr/>				

All diseased meat is coloured with "Acid Green" dye before leaving the abattoir, and is collected by a reputable firm of meat and bone meal manufacturers, by whom it is sterilised under adequate supervision.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Sections 8 to 14

During the course of visits paid to food premises, other than the Abattoir, the following food-stuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

	lbs.
Meat (Home killed, imported and cooked)	13,403
Sausages	12
Tinned Meats	2,226
Tinned fish	65
Tinned milk	240
Fresh Fruit	2,380
Tinned and Bottled Fruits	2,947
Dried fruits	30
Tinned Soups and Vegetables	675
Fish (Fresh and Cured)... ..	902
Fresh Vegetables	306
Cereals and confectionery	24
Liquid Eggs (frozen)	288
Rice	70
Custard Powder	116
Sauces	56
Cheese	48
Butter and Lard	8
Jams and Syrup	12
Coffee, etc.	3

Total weight: 10 tons, 12 cwt. 2 qrs. 11 lbs.

This amount is more than three times that of the previous year, and is no doubt partly due to the clearance of old war-time stocks.

One consignment, comprising 74 carcasses of pork, and weighing 9,053 lbs., was despatched by road transport from Smithfield Market, London to a Burnley firm during July, when the weather was very warm. On arrival, general decomposition rendered the whole consignment unfit for sale.

Public Health Condensed Milk Regulations, 1923/1948.

Extensive enquiries were made in respect of improper re-labelling and exposure for sale to the public of a stock of tinned milk, previously held in store by the Ministry of Food. Legal proceedings were pending at the end of the year.

Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924

Forty-six verbal warnings were given in respect of infringements of the Regulations, all being in connection with the production or distribution of meat.

Proceedings were successfully instituted against the owners of two vehicles in which meat was being carried contrary to the Regulations.

A carcass of a pig, which had died, was dressed, ostensibly for food purposes, without notification of the sudden death of the pig or of the owner's intention to deal with the carcass as an emergency slaughter. Proceedings could not be taken on technical grounds, but enquiries revealed unrecorded movements of livestock from the same premises and proceedings were successfully instituted for these offences.

Diseases of Animals Act, 1950 (Duties of Local Authority)

Number of inspections carried out	63
Number of infringements found	38
Number of notices	36
Proceedings instituted	2

Sheep Scab Order, 1938 No special action under this Order was required during the year.

Swine Fever Order, 1938 Three suspected outbreaks were investigated during the year. In two cases the disease was found to be swine erysipelas, a non-scheduled disease. In the third case, the remaining apparently healthy stock were slaughtered before a definite diagnosis could be established.

Anthrax Order, 1938 No instance of anthrax in an animal occurred during the year. Two suspected animals, one a bullock and the other a pig, were not confirmed after laboratory investigation.

Foot and Mouth Disease Orders 1938/1954 No incidence of this disease occurred to require restriction of movement of stock within the Borough.

Fowl Pest Order, 1938 One outbreak of this disease was confirmed, all stock on the premises being cremated. Two other suspected outbreaks were not confirmed.

Tuberculosis Orders, 1938/1946 The Veterinary Officer, acting for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food carried out an investigation at a farm in an adjoining rural area, as a result of which one animal was slaughtered under the provisions of these Orders. He also performed four post-mortem examinations on animals sent to the abattoir by the Ministry's Officers, for slaughter. As a large number of dairy farms in the surrounding rural areas are now attested, the incidence of tuberculosis in dairy herds is considerably reduced.

MILK SUPPLY

Incidence of Bovine Tuberculosis. It is gratifying to find that the public are becoming increasingly milk conscious and consequently the demand for "safe" milk, that is tuberculin tested, pasteurised or sterilised milk, is almost universal. Undesignated raw milk is now only about one per cent of the total milk retailed in the Borough. During the year, three of the seven small producer-retailers distributing raw undesignated milk gave up their rounds and one of the remaining four is now changing his herd to attested.

Only one sample of undesignated milk was found on biological examination to be infected with tubercle bacilli. Steps were at once taken to ensure heat treatment of this supply, in accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949. The producer concerned subsequently ceased to distribute milk.

One hundred and fifty four samples were submitted to biological examination during the year. Thirteen of these were from supplies of undesignated milk being retailed to the public, and one was found to be positive. Biological examination of a further 82 samples of undesignated milk which were delivered to a pasteurisation plant showed two to be positive. Fifty-nine samples of tuberculin tested milk failed to reveal any tuberculous infection.

All milk supplied to children in schools and day nurseries is pasteurised.

Examination of Milk for Cleanliness

The following statistics given below show the numbers of samples of the various types of milk which were submitted to tests for bacteriological cleanliness. The percentages of unsatisfactory samples of farm bottled tuberculin tested and undesignated milks are higher than in 1954, due probably to failure of producers to take the necessary steps to safeguard milk during two periods of very warm weather in the summer months.

Pasteurised milk distributed in the Borough is derived from four pasteurising plants, only one of which is within the Borough.

Milk from all sources is now distributed exclusively in sealed bottles.

Details of Samples are as follows:-

Types of Milk	Total samples taken	Unsatisfactory	
		No.	Percentage
Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled)	208	26	12.5
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	21	1	4.8
Pasteurised	33	1	3.0
Sterilised	10	-	-
Undesignated'	24	6	25.0
TOTAL	296	34	11.5

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

No. of distributors registered for sale of milk ...	433
No. of premises and vehicles inspected	319
No. of infringements found	31

Only seven of these distributors deliver milk to consumers; the remainder occupy shop premises from which they retail milk, mainly sterilised, in sealed bottles, as received by them.

Nineteen producer-retailers deliver milk in the Borough.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Dealers' and Supplementary Licences for
Tuberculin Tested Milk 19

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk)
Regulations, 1949

Pasteurisers' Licences 1
Dealers' Licences for Pasteurised Milk.. ... 17
Dealers' Licences for Sterilised Milk... .. 414

Pet Animals Act, 1951

This Act regulates the sale of pet animals, and prohibits any person from carrying on such business except under the authority of a licence granted by the Local Authority. Eight licences were renewed and four new licences were granted during the year. The holders of licences are required to maintain a high standard to ensure the welfare of the animals which pass through their hands. The premises are inspected from time to time by the Veterinary Officer.

Further legislation to prohibit the boarding of animals, particularly dogs and cats, except on premises licensed by local authorities would be, in my opinion, in the interests of animal welfare and public health. At the present time, proceedings can be taken only against the proprietors of such premises after cruelty is revealed, and no powers exist, apart from Section 92 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to prohibit a householder boarding an excessive number of domestic animals in his house, as now occurs during the periods of local holidays.

Ice Cream

Bacteriological Examination

Forty-eight samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, and the following results were returned:-

Grade ...	Methylene Blue Test (Provisional Grades)			
	1	2	3	4
No. of Samples in each Grade	22	9	9	8

On each occasion in which the methylene blue test showed that a sufficiently good bacteriological standard had not been attained by firms manufacturing ice cream locally, investigation was made and advice given at the place of manufacture. Firms manufacturing outside Burnley were informed of unsatisfactory laboratory reports and notification was also sent to the local authorities in whose areas the ice cream was manufactured, so that similar investigations could be made. In all instances in which samples were reported to be of grades 3 or 4, further samples were taken, after the necessary investigations were made, to ensure that improvement in the standard had been effected.

There are four local firms manufacturing ice cream and all use the Hot Mix Method.

Food Premises

(1) The Types of Food Premises in the Borough are:-

Bakeries	147
Grocers	391
Greengrocers	51
Butchers and Meat Traders	120
Fishmongers	22
Cooked Meat Manufacturers	47
Fish and Chip Shops	71
Canteens	53
Cafes and Restaurants	109
Manufacturers of Ice Cream	4
Retailers of Ice Cream (including the 4 manufacturers)	239
	<hr/>
TOTAL	1254

(2) Number of Food Premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (included in (1) above.

Butchers manufacturing sausages and/or potted meat	91
Cooked Meat manufacturers	10
Shopkeepers who also prepare small quantities of cooked meats	37
Retailers and Manufacturers of ice cream..	239
	<hr/>
TOTAL	377

(3) Number of inspections of Registered Food Premises

Meat and other Cooked Foods	839
Ice Cream	244
	<hr/>
TOTAL	1083
	<hr/>

Food Hygiene

Further advances were made during 1955 to raise the standards of hygiene of food premises. The survey of all types of food preparing premises, e.g. places where cooked and preserved meats are made, canteens, restaurants and hotel kitchens, was continued, but progress was to some extent slowed down during part of the year because of shortage of staff. Nevertheless many improvements were effected in anticipation of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955. Consequently most of the butchers' shops, which manufacture sausages, etc., and other cooked meat premises had already provided separate sinks and wash hand basins prior to the Regulations coming into operation. Efforts are now being directed to grocery and similar food shops particularly the smaller ones, many of which do not yet conform to the requirements of the Regulations.

Much requires to be done to ensure that the foodshops and stalls in the Market Hall and Open Market, which are under the ownership of the Local Authority, meet the requirements of the Regulations, and this is now being considered by the Town Hall, Baths and Markets Committee.

Analysis of Samples of Foods and Drugs taken during 1955.

Nature of Sample	FORMAL		INFORMAL		TOTAL	
	Genuine	Adult- erated.	Genuine	Adult- erated.	Genuine	Adult- erated.
Alcoholic Beverage	-	-	1	-	1	-
Apples	-	-	-	2	-	2
Butter	-	-	4	2	4	2
Buttered Teacake	2	-	-	-	2	-
Cheese Straws	-	-	1	-	1	-
Chickelettes	-	-	1	-	1	-
Chicken Fillets	-	-	1	-	1	-
Cockles	-	-	2	-	2	-
Coffee	-	-	1	-	1	-
Cough Mixtures and Medicines	-	-	-	18	-	18
Crab Meat	-	-	1	-	1	-
Dried Milk	-	-	1	-	1	-
Evaporated Milk	-	-	2	-	2	-
Fish Cake	-	-	1	-	1	-
Fish Fryers Fat	-	-	1	-	1	-
Ground Almonds	-	-	3	-	3	-
Honey Spread	-	-	1	-	1	-
Ice Cream	-	-	19	2	19	2
Iced Lolly	-	-	6	-	6	-
Kippers	-	-	1	-	1	-
Lard	-	-	3	-	3	-
Lemon Curd	-	-	1	-	1	-
Lemon Juice	-	-	1	-	1	-
Margarine	-	-	2	-	2	-
Milk	67	10	149	12	216	22
Minerals and Cordials	-	-	19	1	19	1
Mixed Spice	-	-	3	-	3	-
Mussels	-	-	1	-	1	-
Orange Curd	-	-	1	-	1	-
Pudding Mixture	-	-	1	-	1	-
Puff Pastry	-	-	1	-	1	-
Raspberry Flavour	-	-	2	-	2	-
Rum Butter Spread	-	-	-	1	-	1
Salmon Paste	-	-	2	-	2	-
Salmon (tinned)	-	-	1	-	1	-
Sausage (Beef)	-	-	14	1	14	1
Sausage (Pork)	2	1	10	5	12	6
Shrimps (Potted)	-	-	2	1	2	1
Steak and Kidney Pie	1	-	1	1	2	1
Table Jellies	-	-	2	-	2	-
Tea	-	-	1	-	1	-
Toffees and Sweets	-	-	12	3	12	3
Tonic Vegetable Concentrate..	-	-	1	-	1	-
Tuna Fish (tinned)	-	-	1	-	1	-
Wheat Embryo	-	-	1	-	1	-
Whey Cream	-	-	1	-	1	-
Whisky and Other Spirits	8	-	1	-	9	-
White Pepper	-	-	1	-	1	-
	80	11	282	49	362	60

Particulars of FORMAL Samples Adulterated or Below Standard

<u>Samples</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Milk (2 samples)	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples taken and found to be genuine.
Milk	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples taken and found to be genuine.
Milk	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples taken and found to be genuine.
Pork Sausage	Slight deficiency of meat content.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples taken and found to be genuine.
Milk (6 samples)	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples taken and found to be genuine.

Particulars of INFORMAL Samples Adulterated or Below Standard

<u>Samples</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Butter Toffee (3 samples)	Slight deficiency in butter content.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples taken and found to be genuine.
Rum Butter Spread	Faulty labelling.	Manufacturer agreed to alter name and composition.
Milk (3 samples)	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Milk	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Milk	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned.
Sausages (Pork)	Deficient of meat content.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.

Particulars of INFORMAL Samples Adulterated or Below Standard -
continued.

<u>Samples</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Apples (Imported) (2 Samples)	Excessive Arsenic content.	Ministry of Agriculture and Food notified.
Steak and Kidney Pie	Excessive Zinc content.	Formal sample taken.
Potted Shrimps	Faulty labelling.	Manufacturer warned.
Cough Mixtures and Medicines (18 samples)	Unsatisfactory labels and deterioration of contents (old stocks)	Vendor voluntarily surrendered all of his stock.
Milk	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Lime Squash	Faulty labelling.	Manufacturer amended the label.
Ice Cream	Excessive Copper content.	Manufacturer warned.
Whey Butter (2 samples)	Excess of water.	Manufacturer warned.
Ice Cream	Slight deficiency of solids.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Milk	Slight deficiency of fat.	Producer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Milk (2 samples)	Slight deficiency of fat.	Formal samples taken.
Sausage (Pork)	Deficient of meat content.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Sausage (Pork)	Deficient of meat content.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.

Particulars of INFORMAL Samples Adulterated or Below Standard -
continued.

<u>Samples</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Sausage (Pork)	Deficient of meat content.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.
Milk (4 samples)	Deficient of solids.	Formal sample taken.
Sausage (Beef)	Deficient of meat.	Manufacturer warned. Further samples found to be genuine.

POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS, 1955

No. Case.	Act, Byelaw or Regulation under which proceedings were taken.	Offence.	Result
1.	Public Health Act, 1936 Section 238	Appeal by Keeper of Common Lodging House against refusal to renew his registration.	Appeal dismissed.
2.	Public Health Act, 1936 Section 154(1)	Giving balloons in exchange for rags.	Fined £3, and £2.2.0d. costs.
3.	Public Health Act, 1936 Sections 91 to 94.	Non-compliance with statutory notice to abate nuisance.	Nuisance abated before case dealt with. Case, therefore, withdrawn on payment of costs.
4.	Public Health Meat Regulations, Section 21.	Using an unclean vehicle for the delivery of meat.	Proved. Fined £2.0.0d.
5.	Clean Food Byelaws, Section 5.	Using unclean wrappers for food.	Not proved.
6.	Clean Food Byelaws, Section 4.	Wearing unclean clothing when distributing food.	Proved. Fined £3.0.0d.
7.	Public Health Meat Regulations, Section 21.	Causing meat to be conveyed in an unclean vehicle.	Proved. Fined £10.0.0d. and £3.3.0. costs.
8.	Clean Food Byelaws, Section 5.	Using unclean wrappers for food.	Not proved.
9.	Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.	Not using humane killer to slaughter sheep.	Proved. Fined £10.0.0d. and £1.1.0d. costs.
10.	Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.	Not using humane killer to slaughter sheep.	Proved. Fined £10.0.0d. and £1.1.0d. costs.
11.	Public Health Meat Regulations, Section 21.	Causing meat to be conveyed in an unclean vehicle.	Proved. Fined £20.0.0d. and £1.11.6d. costs.
12.	Clean Food Byelaws, Section 5.	Using unclean wrappers for food.	Proved. Fined £2.0.0d.
13.	Clean Food Byelaws, Section 5.	Causing unclean wrappers to be used for food.	Proved. Fined £5.0.0d.
14.	Clean Food Byelaws, Section 4.	Failing to prevent contamination of food.	Proved. Fined £2.0.0d.
15. & 16.	Movement of Animals Records Order, 1925. (2 prosecutions)	Failing to record movement of animals.	Proved. Fined £2.0.0d. and £1.1.0d. costs in each case.

SECTION XVII

MISCELLANEOUS.Medical Examinations

Particulars of medical examinations carried out during 1955:-

PURPOSE	No. of Exams.
Retirement	15
Workmen's Compensation Act	18
Fitness for employment (Superannuation) ...	314
Road Traffic Act	239
Fitness to Work	23
School Meals Service	23
Accidents	9
Others	56
TOTAL ...	697

Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution

The following are average monthly figures of pollution of the atmosphere at three sites in the Borough.

Detail	Site of Gauge		
	Gannow I.W.C.	Bank Hall Hospital	Marsden Hospital
	Tons per Sq.mile	Tons per Sq.Mile	Tons per Sq. Mile
Total undissolved matter	11.08	14.28	4.94
Total dissolved matter..	7.62	6.87	5.51
Total deposit	18.70	21.15	10.45
Sulphate as SO_4 "	2.71	2.82	1.97
Chlorine as Cl'	1.80	1.26	1.37

The Weather of 1955 compared with 1954.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT QUEEN'S PARK

	Bright Sunshine			Rainfall			Temperatures				No. of days of Ground Frost	Mean Relative Humidity
	Total Amount in Hrs.	No. of days of sun.	Highest amount in 24 hrs.	Total Fall in ins.	No. of days of rain.	Highest amount in 24 hrs.	Mean in Shade	Mean Range	Mean Earth 1 Foot	Mean Earth 4 Feet		
Average 40 Years	1074.1	269	15.3 hrs. on 7/6/21 & 29/6/21	42.31	210	2.420 ins. (9/10/41)	47.2°	12.4°	47.7°	48.8°	112	82.2%
1954	873.4	246	12.9 hrs. (3 June)	55.73	221	2.413 ins. (20 Jan)	46.6°	11.5°	47.9°	48.3°	105	82.6%
1955	1309.9	254	14.4 hrs (31 May)	31.76	184	0.866 ins. (18 Oct)	46.8°	13.5°	48.1°	48.5°	135	80.1%

NOTE: * Readings taken up to and including 21.12.1955 on which date the thermometer was broken.

MEAN METEOROLOGICAL READINGS, RECORDED AT QUEEN'S PARK, 1955.

LAT.: 53° 47' 30N

LONG.: 2° 14' 30W.

Barometer Cistern 458 feet above Mean Sea Level.

1955	Mean Air Pressure at Mean Sea Level		THERMOMETERS										RAINFALL				BRIGHT SUNSHINE				DIRECTION OF WIND AT 9 A.M. G.M.T.										
			IN SCREEN					Mean Min. on Grass	IN GROUND		Mean Relative Humidity	No. of Days	Total Fall	Most in a day		No. of days of Sun	Total Amount	Daily Mean	Most in a day		NO. OF DAYS OF:										
			Mean Max.	Mean Min.	Mean Temp.	Absolute Extremes of Temperature				Mean 1 ft.				Mean 4 ft.	Hrs.				Day of Month	Hrs.	Day of Month	N.	NE.	E.	SE.	S.	SW.	W.	NW.	Calm	
						Highest	Date		Lowest																						Date
Hrs.	Inches																														
Jan ...	1009.3	29.806	39.8°	30.7°	35.2°	50°	10/1 16°	14/1 15°	26.0°	38.5°	43.0°	87.6%	20	60.1	15.4	15/1	9	6.8	0.22	2.1	11/1	-	3	7	4	9	3	2	2	1	
Feb ...	1006.2	29.716	37.2°	26.8°	32.0°	47°	7/2 13°	21/2 17°	19.2°	37.2°	41.1°	87.6%	15	51.9	8.5	7/2	18	38.7	1.38	6.2	26/2	5	2	8	4	1	1	5	2	-	
March..	1019.3	30.100	43.5°	29.7°	36.6°	53°	25/3 23°	9/3 18°	22.0°	36.1°	39.0°	74.7%	15	57.8	15.5	23/3	26	131.2	4.23	10.2	30/3	3	9	4	2	2	1	4	5	1	
April...	1022.0	30.180	54.2°	39.7°	46.9°	65°	20/4 29°	2/4 14°	32.5°	44.3°	42.5°	79.2%	17	61.2	16.0	9/4	23	139.4	4.64	12.0	25/4	-	2	5	3	3	4	11	2	-	
May....	1012.8	29.910	54.4°	40.3°	47.3°	70°	30/5 29°	11/5 11°	33.0°	48.0°	46.2°	74.6%	21	59.0	16.3	12/5	28	185.3	5.97	14.4	31/5	1	3	5	2	-	7	10	3	-	
June...	1016.0	30.003	61.7°	47.0°	54.3°	72°	6/6 31°	10/6 10°	40.6°	53.4°	49.6°	77.8%	16	70.6	17.3	7/6	21	141.2	4.70	13.3	1/6	1	3	6	4	1	2	7	5	1	
July ..	1021.4	30.163	72.3°	52.1°	62.2°	84°	13/7 41°	1/7 1°	44.9°	62.1°	55.4°	68.7%	4	23.8	11.2	2/7	31	273.1	8.81	13.9	25/7	1	3	6	4	1	3	6	5	2	
August.	1020.4	30.133	71.4°	53.5°	62.4°	79°	23/8 39°	8/8 24°	45.4°	62.8°	58.9°	74.2%	8	21.2	6.9	17/8	28	191.9	6.19	11.6	5/8	1	5	1	6	4	4	2	5	3	
Sept...	1015.2	29.980	62.2°	49.2°	55.7°	73°	7/9 43°	19/9 10°	40.3°	57.7°	57.8°	80.2%	19	78.3	14.8	8/9	27	116.5	3.88	10.1	7/9	1	-	-	2	5	6	12	4	-	
Oct....	1015.0	29.973	53.8°	39.8°	46.8°	65°	9/10 23°	31/10 11°	31.5°	50.9°	54.0°	81.9%	15	75.0	22.0	18/10	24	66.9	2.15	6.3	3/10	3	1	-	1	-	8	14	2	2	
Nov.....	1020.0	30.123	48.3°	38.4°	43.3°	59°	4/11 24°	17/11 1°	30.5°	44.8°	48.9°	86.3%	13	62.8	14.8	9/11	14	16.6	0.55	3.3	1/11	-	3	5	5	5	4	5	-	3	
Dec....	1007.1	29.740	44.7°	34.4°	39.5°	56°	27/12 13°	22/12 1°	31.5°	41.5°	45.6°	88.6%	21	145.1	18.8	8/12	5	2.3	0.07	1.2	30/12	-	1	5	4	2	8	8	1	2	
Whole Year...	1015.4	29.986	53.6°	40.1°	46.8°	84°	13/7 13°	22/12 1°	33.3°	48.1°	48.5°	80.1%	184	806.8	22.0	18/10	254	1309.9	3.56	14.4	31/5	16	35	52	41	33	51	86	36	15	

NUMBER OF DAYS OF:

SNOW OR SLEET	SNOW LYING (at obs. hour)	HAIL	THUNDER HEARD	FOG (at obs. hour)	GROUND FROST	GALE
37	30	3	2	26	135 *	-

* Readings taken up to and including 21.12.55 on which date thermometer was broken.

No.	Name of Farm	County	State	Area		Value	Per cent of Total	Remarks
				Acres	Sq. Miles			
				Total	Improved			
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COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURNLEY



Local Education Authority

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT 1955

D. C. LAMONT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Principal School Medical Officer.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BURLEY



Local Education Authority

MEDICAL OFFICER'S
REPORT
1955

D. C. LAMONT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Principal School Medical Officer

1955

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THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

For the Municipal Year 1955-56

is constituted as follows:-

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Mr. Alderman E. Brooks, J.P.)

- x Mrs. Alderman Battle, J.P. (Vice-Chairman)
- x Miss Alderman Proctor
- x Alderman Hale, J.P. (Chairman)
- x Hollinrake
- x Taylor
- x Mrs. Councillor Heap, M.B.E.
- x Miss Councillor Utley
- x Councillor Blackston
- x Bridge
- x A.W. Brown
- x Doherty
- x Halsall, J.P.
- x Holgate
- x Lord
- x Mercer
- x Mills
- x Mullen
- x Wharf
- x Willis

The Rt. Rev. the Bishop Suffragan of Burnley

- x The Rev. J. Keaton
- The Rev. L.W. Morgan, B.A.
- Miss D.N. Chew, B.A., J.P.
- x Members of the Special Schools and Services Sub-Committee.

Public Health Department,
Burnley.

20th June, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Education Committee.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on the work accomplished by the School Health Service during the year 1955. This is the twenty-fifth report which I have placed before you and the forty-eighth in the series.

Much of the work of the School Health Service is unspectacular and taken for granted by parents. Few realise the progress which has been made in the improvement of general physique of children, the prevention of crippling conditions, the abolition of diseases such as rickets and diphtheria, etc., in the forty-eight years since medical supervision of school children was commenced in the Borough. Of major importance are the saving of sight by early recognition of errors of refraction and specialist examination of all children whose vision is not normal, the provision of spectacles and orthoptic treatment of squint, the correction of stammer and other defects of articulation by speech therapy, and the early ascertainment of educational subnormality, maladjustment and the guidance given to "problem" children and their parents.

The reduction of defects requiring treatment from 37% to 11% of the children examined is an indication of the improvement in the general physical standard during the last quarter of a century.

Infectious diseases caused no serious concern, as no infection reached epidemic proportions. Only two cases of acute poliomyelitis were reported in children of school age; both were of the non-paralytic type and both made satisfactory recoveries. Diphtheria has been absent from the Borough for six years. It seems impossible, despite propaganda to this end, to obtain a sufficiently high rate of immunisation against this disease. Although in recent years, approximately 74% of school-age children and 50% of the under-fives have at some time been given immunising injections, a satisfactory standard of immunisation by primary injections of the very young and reinforcing injections at or before entrance to school, has not been reached, and only 34% of the child population are effectively protected against diphtheria.

This report shows that the response to the offer of vaccination against tuberculosis in the last two years was very satisfactory, and 810 pupils have now been vaccinated in their thirteenth year.

Of the 419 vaccinated in 1954, 396 showed evidence of adequate protection a year later.

The Senior Dental Surgeon, in his report, again makes a plea for more co-operation of parents in our efforts to prevent dental caries and improve oral hygiene.

In my first report as your School Medical Officer twenty-five years ago, I stated that twelve schools had un-hygienic trough-type conveniences, which could not be too strongly condemned, and in subsequent years I reiterated my dissatisfaction with them. At last these have all gone and have been replaced by modern conveniences.

I wish to express my appreciation of the interest shown by the members of the Special Schools and Services Sub-Committee in the work of the School Health Service and my thanks to the Director of Education, his staff and head teachers for the help which they have at all times willingly given.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

D.C. LAMONT.

Principal School Medical Officer.

GENERAL INFORMATIONSCHOOLS

In December, 1955, the total number of pupils enrolled in the Schools was 340 more than in December, 1954.

At the end of 1955, the numbers of children on the rolls were as follows:-

Nurseries, 627 ; Infants' Departments, 3440 ; Junior Departments 5283 ; Modern Secondary and Technical High Schools, 3162 ; Academic Secondary Schools, 987 ; Special Schools, 185 ; Total = 13684 ; The numbers in the Schools are :-

PRIMARY SCHOOLS.	No. on Roll at 31st December, 1955		
	Nursery Classes	Infants Dept.	Junior Dept.
Barden	-	169	247
Burnley Wood	-	136	-
Lionel Street	-	198	541
Stoneyholme	27	218	322
Rosegrove	-	113	57
Hargher Clough	-	-	500
Habergham	-	82	-
Heasandford	-	223	408
Coal Clough	30	182	-
Todmorden Road	52	344	507
Whittlefield	22	108	-
Rosehill	-	147	299
Healey Wood	-	66	113
Lowerhouse	-	-	339
St. Peter's	-	66	143
Pickup Croft	26	59	-
Holy Trinity	-	126	227
St. Stephen's	-	169	316
St. Andrew's	-	102	189
Wood Top	-	55	77
Lane Head	-	65	107
Back Lane	-	53	94
Myrtle Bank.. . . .	-	177	-
St. Mary's R.C.	30	206	-
St. Thomas's R.C. . . .	-	56	113
St. Mary Magdalene's R.C. -	-	138	258
St. John's R.C.	-	118	311
St. Augustine's R.C. . . .	-	64	115

NURSERY SCHOOLS	No. on Roll
Accrington Road Nursery School	79
Habergham Nursery School	36
Rockwood Nursery School	41
Rosehill Nursery School	40
Myrtle Bank Nursery School ..	40
Lionel Street Nursery School	40
Elm Street Nursery School	39
Howard Street Nursery School	42
Rosegrove Nursery School	40
Barden Lane Nursery School ..	43

MODERN SECONDARY SCHOOLS	No. on Roll
Barden Boys' Modern Secondary	469
Burnley Wood Girls' Modern Secondary ...	455
Rosegrove Boys' Modern Secondary ..	519
Coal Clough Girls' Modern Secondary ...	512
St. Mary's R.C. Boys Modern Secondary ...	237
St. Hilda's R.C. Girls Modern Secondary .	270

TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOLS	No. on Roll
Heasandford Girls' Technical High School	339
Towneley Boys' Technical High School ...	361

ACADEMIC HIGH SCHOOLS	No. on Roll
Grammar School for Boys	507
High School for Girls	480

SPECIAL SCHOOLS	No. on Roll
Coal Clough Special School for Educationally Sub-normal children	63
Open Air School	122

SCHOOL CLINIC

All Clinics of the School Medical Service, with the exception of the centre for bathing of verminous children and those suffering from scabies are centralised in the Elizabeth Street premises.

The total number of attendances of school and pre-school children at the various clinics was 31,204, an increase of 2,472 on the number for the previous year.

The School Clinic was open on 302 days.

CLINICS

Medical inspection in schools - approximately ten sessions each week.

General ailments - daily.

Dental inspection in schools - two to three sessions each week.

Dental treatment - daily.

Minor ailment treatment - daily.

Immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough and vaccination against smallpox - one session each week.

Orthoptic treatment - approximately eleven sessions each week.

Physiotherapy, etc. - daily.

Artificial sunlight - two sessions each week.

Child Guidance - daily.

Speech therapy - daily.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis - sessions as required.

SPECIALIST CLINICS

Ophthalmic - three sessions each week.

Orthopaedic - two sessions each month.

Paediatric - one session each month.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer:-

D. C. LAMONT, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers:-

L.J. Collins, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H.

E.P. Whitaker, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Principal Dental Officer:-

J.A. Pilling, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officer:-

K. Jackson, L.D.S.

J. Jackson, L.D.S. (Part-time Dental Officer - two sessions weekly)

Ophthalmic Specialists (part-time):-

K.R. Brown, M.B., D.O.M.S., D.O.,

T.E. Shannon, M.B., D.O.M.S.

Paediatrician (part-time)

W.M.L. Turner, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.L.O.

Four Health Visitor-School Nurses; one Physiotherapist (part-time); one Educational Psychologist; One Psychiatric Social Worker (part-time); two Orthoptists; one Speech Therapist; four Clerks; two Dental Clerk-Attendants.

REPORT

CO-ORDINATION WITH OTHER HEALTH SERVICES

The specialist clinics for eye and orthopaedic defects and paediatrics are held in the school clinic premises. The specialists employed by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board in the Burnley hospitals are also the officers who attend these clinics. No charge is made by the Regional Hospital Board to the Education Authority for the services of the Orthopaedic Surgeon and Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist. The Ophthalmic Surgeons and Paediatrician are paid on a sessional basis by the Authority.

To meet the convenience of the Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, children are referred to him at the out-patient clinic in Victoria Hospital in lieu of special sessions previously held in the School Clinic premises. Ear, nose and throat and eye cases continue to be admitted to hospital without any appreciable delay.

The two orthoptists devote approximately half their time treating Burnley children, and the remainder in the treatment of children in the clinics of the adjoining Division of Lancashire. In order to link more closely orthoptic treatment given at the School Clinic with hospital treatment of eye defects, it has been arranged that, in 1956, each orthoptist will devote one session weekly to the treatment of patients in the Eye Department of Victoria Hospital. This will ensure continuity of orthoptic treatment and enable pupils to continue treatment, if necessary, after leaving school. If time permits, treatment will also be given to adult patients.

The School Health Service is closely co-ordinated with the services for the care of young children, vaccination and immunisation and prevention of illness and after-care administered in accordance with Sections 22, 26 and 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The two medical officers who undertake the clinical duties in connection with medical inspection and clinic treatment of school children are also employed in the service for the care of infants and young children, and conduct infant welfare, immunisation and vaccination clinics. All the clinics and forms of treatment, including specialist clinics, are equally available for children attending schools and nurseries and for children referred from infant welfare centres.

Child Guidance duties are undertaken by the whole-time Educational Psychologist, with the assistance of a part-time Psychiatric Social Worker, who is employed for an average of four sessions each week. It is still not possible to obtain the services of a child psychiatrist.

Throughout 1955, physiotherapy was provided by a part-time physiotherapist, who was employed for five to six sessions each week. A whole-time physiotherapist commenced duties in March, 1956.

The Thursby Convalescent Home, Lytham St. Annes, which is administered by a voluntary Committee, received 149 Burnley school children for periods of two to three weeks of convalescence between April and October. The selection of children is the responsibility of the School Medical Officers.

Information regarding the suitability of school leavers for different forms of employment is passed from the School Health Department to the Juvenile Employment Bureau of the Ministry of Labour.

School Hygiene and Sanitary Accommodation

The replacement of the trough-type conveniences in St. Stephen's Infants School by modern flush type urinals and water-closets was completed in 1955. The conveniences of all schools in the Borough are now modernised and hygienically satisfactory. Frequent inspections by the sanitary inspectors have ensured that they are maintained in a clean condition.

MEDICAL INSPECTIONS IN SCHOOLS

The total number of pupils inspected in the Schools was 3,944 which is 28.8% of the total on the rolls. In addition, inspections for special purposes or re-inspections of pupils suffering from defects or diseases amounted to 7,864 so that altogether 11,808 examinations were made.

The following table gives details of the ages of the children submitted to routine inspection:-

AGES	ENTRANTS									SECOND AGE GROUP					THIRD AGE GROUP						Other Periodic Inspect- ions.	
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total	10	11	12	13	Total	14	15	16	17	18	19		Total
BOYS	51	71	143	300	57	36	30	28	716	480	64	44	24	612	325	9	57	3	3	-	397	227
GIRLS	43	54	142	326	71	42	38	27	743	452	55	50	37	594	385	30	31	3	5	1	455	200
TOTALS	94	125	285	626	128	78	68	55	1459	932	119	94	61	1206	710	39	88	6	8	1	852	427

	Boys	Girls	Total
Total Routine Inspections ...	1952	1992	3944
Other Inspections:-			
No. of Special Inspections and Re-inspections :-	Special inspections	Re-inspections	Total
At Schools ...	147	6054	6201
At School Clinic	1109	554	1663
	<u>1256</u>	<u>6608</u>	<u>7864</u>

Visits of Medical Officer.

The number of visits paid to the Schools were:-

For Routine Medical Inspection :	306
For "Following-up" Defects :	43

The 427 other periodic inspections shown above are in respect of children who were first inspected as "entrants" in the nursery classes and are now between six and eight years of age. These additional inspections were made to bridge the gap of six or seven years before they are due to be inspected in the second age group when they reach the age of 10 years.

In addition to 43 special visits to schools for the following-up of defects, the Medical Officers saw, at the completion of the routine inspections in each school, children who required supervision on account of defects found at a previous inspection.

The Nursery Schools and Nursery Classes. The ten nursery schools have 440 young children on the roll and the nursery classes in six other schools have 187 making a total of 627 children under five years of age who receive nursery care. Frequent visits for supervision of these young children were made during the year, and 343 were given a full routine medical examination.

REVIEW OF THE FACTS DISCLOSED BY MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The statistical tables will be found in the appendices.

The statistics of routine inspections show that of 3,944 pupils inspected in the various age groups, 413 were found to require treatment, apart from dental attention. In the entrant group the percentage of children with defects requiring treatment was 11.3%, as compared with 13.9% in 1954. In the second age group, the incidence was similar to that in the previous year, but in the third age group the percentage with defects requiring treatment fell to 6% as compared with 9% in 1954. Of the total children inspected routinely, 10.5% required

treatment, as compared with 12.2% in 1954 and 13.1% in 1953.

The percentage of children with defects requiring treatment has shown a steady decrease during the last thirty years. The following quinquennial averages indicate the improvement which has taken place.

	Average percentage of children found to have defects requiring treatment.
1951 - 55	11.16
1946 - 50	12.4
1941 - 45	14.9
1936 - 40	25.1
1930 - 35	29.9
1926 - 30	37.8

Of the 413 found to require treatment, 99 had vision defects, mainly errors of refraction. This is 2.5% of the total inspected. In 1954, 2.6% were found to have defective vision. 243 children were examined by the eye specialist for the first time and 464 who had been under supervision in previous years were re-examined. 214 children were prescribed spectacles for the first time and 329 who had previously worn spectacles and whose vision showed changes were supplied with prescriptions for new spectacles through the authority's eye clinic. In addition, 122 children were prescribed spectacles otherwise than through the School Health Service. The children in the youngest age group had fewer vision defects than the older pupils. Eighty-seven pupils were found to squint, and in 56 the divergence was considered to be sufficiently great as to necessitate reference to the specialist.

At both routine and special inspections 842 children were noted in whom nose and throat defects were present to a greater or lesser extent. The majority of these had enlarged or unhealthy conditions of tonsils and evidence of adenoids. Only 131 required to be referred to the specialist for further opinion or treatment.

Diseases of the heart and circulation showed a slightly smaller incidence to that of the previous year, being present in 1.0% of those inspected. This compares favourably with the average incidence of 2.0% during the decennium 1945 - 1954. Most of the heart conditions were functional; cases of severe organic disease following rheumatic fever or acute infections are now relatively rare.

Vermin Infestation. The health visitors made 153 surveys in schools, for general cleanliness and to detect vermin infestation. 46,393 inspections were made of individual pupils. 669 instances of infestation in respect of 566 pupils were found. The usual home visits were made and mothers were advised on appropriate measures to cleanse children's hair and prevent re-infestation.

This is not a serious problem in schools today, the instances of infestation being only 1.4% of the children inspected by the health visitors. Generally the infestation is limited to some nits in the hair of girls, and the presence of lice is extremely rare. Where infestation is found, it is almost invariably families who are otherwise unsatisfactory, the children being generally neglected, mothers thriftless and homes dirty.

Clothing and Footgear. Again during 1955, as in previous years, careful inspection was made by the Medical Officers of the clothing and footgear of children to see if present-day conditions were causing children to be badly or insufficiently clad. An analysis of the findings in respect of 3,944 children shows that only four had defective clothing and three had defective footwear.

	Clothing.		Footgear	
	No. of children.	%	No. of children.	%
Children classified as very good ...	3682	93.4	3703	93.9
Children classified as good... ..	258	6.5	238	6.0
Children classified as defective ...	4	0.1	3	0.1
Children classified as very defective	-	-	-	-

THE PHYSIQUE OF THE SCHOOL CHILD (as judged by weight and height)

In my report for 1954, I commented on the tendency for heights and weights of school children to show a slight decrease in recent years. The 1955 figures show little appreciable difference in the average heights and weights of the children in the five, ten and fourteen year age groups, as compared with the 1954 figures, but the weights of the three-year old group during the years 1952 to 1955 are considerably lower than those for the years 1950 and 1951. As the numbers of nursery children who were weighed and measured were comparatively small, it would be unwise to make any firm deductions from the figures, but the fact that children now entering nursery schools at three years of age are of less weight than those who entered five years ago cannot be viewed with complacency.

Over a long period of years prior to the last quinquennium there was a fairly steady improvement in the heights and weights of children at all ages, but this appears to have been halted during the last five or six years, apart from the older girls showing some increase in weight. Why this should be so is not clear, and one is tempted to question whether children now receive such a well balanced and nutritive diet as they were compelled, by the rationing system, to have during the war and the immediate post-war years.

AVERAGE HEIGHT AND WEIGHT OF PUPILS

	Aged 3 years		Aged 5 years		Aged 10 years		Aged 14 years	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Number inspected	71	54	300	326	480	452	325	385
Average height in inches.	37.9	37.9	42.6	42.8	53.8	53.3	61.4	60.6
Average weight in pounds.	35.3	34.4	43.2	41.5	70.5	70.1	103.7	107.4

General Nutritional Condition. The nutritional condition of children at all ages continues to be very satisfactory, and evidence of malnutrition is now very rare. Of 3,944 pupils, whose nutritional condition was noted, only 10 were considered to be in poor nutritional condition and eight of these were in the youngest age group. Among the third age group of pupils aged 14 years and over, none was found to be in a poor state of nutrition. Of all the pupils classified for this purpose 66.8% were considered to be in "good" condition, 32.9% in "fair" condition and 0.3% "poor". The comparative figures for 1954 were 63.2% "good" 36.6% "fair" and 0.1% "poor".

THE INSPECTION CLINIC

During the year 1,109 children attended the Inspection Clinic the total attendances being 1,663. 1,626 of the attendances were in respect of defects which did not require the exclusion of the children from Schools. Certificates of exclusion from school for varying periods were granted in respect of the remaining 37 attendances.

It is worthy of note that only one case of ringworm and sixty-four of impetigo required to be treated at the clinic, and that during routine inspection of 3,944 children in schools, none was found to suffer from ringworm or scabies and only three cases of impetigo were found.

The following is a summary of the defects found in school children attending the inspection clinic:-

	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation
Ringworm	1	-
Scabies	-	1
Impetigo	44	-
Other Skin Diseases	71	3
Eye Defects	281	68
Ear Defects	68	15
Nose and Throat Defects	82	24
Speech Defects	15	11
Cervical Gland Enlargement	9	2
Heart and Circulation Defects	2	1
Lung Diseases	21	10
Development Defects	1	2
Orthopaedic Defects	36	9
Nervous System Defects	20	3
Psychological Conditions	15	2
Other Conditions	291	6
	957	157
Total		

Miscellaneous Examinations. In addition to the above, the following examinations were made at the Clinic:-

For fitness for admission to Orthopaedic Hospitals	6
For fitness to go to Camp School	523
For fitness for Convalescent and Holiday Homes	246
Prior to admission to Residential Schools and Approved Schools	21
Children to be boarded out (Children's Department)	29
For fitness for employment on leaving School	61
Reports for Juvenile Court	24
Miscellaneous Inspections by nurses	247
For suitability for employment out of school hours	124

FOLLOWING UP

Pupils with defects were followed up by the school nurses as in former years, to ensure that treatment was received where necessary and in order to give advice and guidance to parents and teachers regarding pupils who required supervision.

The following shows the amount of work done.

No. of visits by the Medical Officers to schools:-

For inspection (i.e. to follow up children with defects) .. 43

Follow up visits by the Nurses for

Defective Vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	5248
Nose and Throat Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Other Defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	3925
							<u>9273</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Review of the action taken to detect and prevent the spread of Infectious Disease

Infectious diseases were not unduly prevalent during 1955, and very few cases were admitted to hospital.

One hundred and fifty six cases of scarlet fever occurred in children of compulsory school age, the majority occurring in the first quarter of the year.

Of the 1665 cases of measles, 620 were in children aged 5 to 14 years, and 1041 in children under five years of age. Of the 155 cases of german measles, 56 were in children aged 5 to 14 years and 58 in children aged under five years. Most of the cases of measles and german measles occurred in the early months of the year.

Only 27 cases of whooping cough occurred in children of school age, as compared with 55 in children under five years of age.

Only four cases of pneumonia in school children were notified.

Of 17 cases of tuberculosis in children under fifteen years of age, ten were in the 5 to 14 years age group and seven under five years of age. Of the ten cases in children of compulsory school age, six were early cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, four of whom were contacts of other members of their households. Of the four non-pulmonary cases, three were gland infections and one bone disease. Of the seven children under five years of age, two had pulmonary infections and were contacts of tuberculous parents, four had infection of glands and one of bone.

Diphtheria has been absent from the Borough for six years, apart from two doubtful cases which were not confirmed on bacteriological investigation. The decrease in the incidence of this disease is shown by the following annual numbers of cases (at all ages):-

1944 - 66	1948 - 16	1952 - 1
1945 - 183	1949 - 9	1953 - 0
1946 - 71	1950 - 1	1954 - 0
1947 - 33	1951 - 0	1955 - 0

The notifiable diseases among children of compulsory school age (5 - 14 years) notified to the Medical Officer of Health were as follows:-

Disease	No. of notifications	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	156	-
Whooping Cough	27	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Measles and German Measles	676	-
Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	4	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-
Dysentery	4	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis	4	-
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	-
Food Poisoning	2	-

Immunisation against Diphtheria. In 1955, the number of children immunised against diphtheria under the Local Health Authority's arrangements, both in the central clinic and by general practitioners, was 828. It is estimated that at 31st December, 1955, the child population of the Borough consisted of 5,800 children under five years of age and 11,800 between five and fifteen years. Of these only 50.8% of the under fives and 74.3% of the five to fifteen years age group have been immunised against diphtheria. These percentages do not, however, show a true immunity index, because many of the children have not received "booster" injections and immunity is reduced with passage of time.

Age groups of children with a satisfactory degree of immunity are:-

Under 1 year	13.8%
1 - 4 years, inclusive	59.7%
5 - 14 years, inclusive	26.1%
Total under 15 years	34.2%

The numbers dealt with during 1955 were:-

Immunisation completed.	Primary			Total	No. of Re-inforcement Injections. (all ages)	Total immunised.
	Under 5 years	5 - 14 years	Adults			
At L.A. Clinic	555	46	-	601	353	954
By Medical Practitioners	216	11	-	227	141	368
TOTAL	771	57	-	828	494	1322

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

The Scheme for B.C.G. vaccination to protect juveniles against tuberculosis, which was inaugurated in 1954, following sanction from the Ministries of Health and Education, was continued in 1955. This scheme enables vaccination to be offered to children towards the end of the year preceding their fourteenth birthday, and enables those protected against tuberculosis to be followed up for at least a further year before they leave school.

In 1955, the number of parents who consented to the vaccination of their children was less than in the previous year, the acceptances being 57% of the children in the appropriate age group, as compared with 67% in 1954.

The following statistics give details of the numbers vaccinated during 1955, and a review of those who were vaccinated in the previous year.

Vaccination was offered to 859 pupils of whom 491 (57.2%) accepted it. Of these, 392 (79.8%) were found to be suitable and were protected. Particulars are as follows:-

No. of Pupils in 13 year age group (1955)	Boys	Girls	Total
(a) To whom B.C.G. vaccination was offered ...	415	444	859
(b) No. of above (a) who accepted	240	251	491
(c) No. of (b) who were found to be :-			
(i) Mantoux negative	192	200	392 *
(ii) Mantoux positive	44	55	99
(d) No. of (c) (i) who were given B.C.G. vaccination ..	192	199	391 +
(e) No. of (d) whose Mantoux test was positive after B.C.G. vaccination	182	186	368
(f) No. who required a further B.C.G. vaccination as not rendered Mantoux positive after 1st vaccination	9	11	20

- * Includes one girl whose parents revoked consent for vaccination.
- + Includes one boy and two girls who had left town before post-vaccinal test was due.

Total attendances at B.C.G. Clinic in respect of
the above cases 1878

Children vaccinated with B.C.G. in 1954

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
No. of pupils whose Mantoux test was positive after B.C.G. Vaccination during 1954	210	209	419
No. of the above pupils whose Mantoux test was still positive during 1955	199	197	396
No. of pupils whose Mantoux test was Negative and required a further B.C.G. Vaccination ...	2	4	6
No. of pupils who left town before annual test was due	2	4	6
No. of pupils who failed to attend for testing after two or three notifications and visits by School Nurses, or whose parents withdrew consent for the annual test.	7	4	11
Total attendances at B.C.G. Clinic in respect of the above cases 1003			
Total attendances at B.C.G. Clinic in respect of all cases... 2881			

MEDICAL TREATMENT

No alteration was made in 1955 in the arrangements for the treatment of school children, apart from the reference of ear, nose and throat cases to the Victoria Hospital E.N.T. Clinic, which is referred to on Page 20. The staffing by hospital consultant staff of the ophthalmic, paediatric and orthopaedic clinics held in the Authority's premises ensures good co-operation with the local hospitals, when operative treatment is required. Co-operation with general medical practitioners continues to be satisfactory and interchange of information and clinical reports between the school medical officers and general practitioners and hospital medical staffs is well maintained. The interest and co-operation of the Consultant Paediatrician has been most valuable.

The 31,204 attendances for all purposes at the Clinic are 2,472 more than in 1954.

Total Clinic Attendances (Pre-School and School Children)

	Minor Ailments	Ophthalmic	Dental	Inspection	Paediatric	Orthopaedic	Orthoptic	Speech Defects	Child Guidance	Sunlight	B.C.G. Vaccination	Miscellaneous	Educational Guidance	Total
School Children	5009	2568	5707	1663	56	3356	2933	2869	154	677	2881	1281	341	29495
Pre-School Children	85	185	34	81	9	498	311	72	-	429	-	5	-	1709

Minor Ailments - Attendances for treatment.

School Children

Diseases	No. of Cases under treatment 1/1/55	Number of new cases	Total No. of cases dealt with	No. of attendances
SKIN:-				
Ringworm: Scalp	-	-	-	-
Body	-	1	1	7
Scabies	-	-	-	-
Impetigo	9	55	64	483
Other skin diseases	9	58	67	572
EYE:-				
Blepharitis	1	3	4	13
Conjunctivitis	-	3	3	8
Iritis	-	-	-	-
Keratitis	-	-	-	-
Corneal Ulcer	-	-	-	-
Other Eye Conditions	1	35	36	200
EAR:-				
Otitis Media	-	1	1	2
Other Ear Diseases	22	40	62	638
MISCELLANEOUS, e.g. Minor Injuries				
Bruises, Sores etc.	17	294	311	3086
	59	490	549	5009

Although the number of children who required to attend the clinic for minor ailment treatment was slightly higher than in the previous year, it represents only 4% of the total number on the Schools' Rolls, as compared with 13% on the year 1930.

Pre-School Children at the School Clinic. The following cases were referred from the Infant Welfare Centres for treatment at the Minor Ailment Clinic.

SKIN:-					No. of Cases.	No. of Attendances
Ringworm:	Head	...	...	...	-	-
	Body	...	...	...	-	-
Scabies	...	...	...	...	-	-
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	4	32
Other Skin conditions	...	...	...	...	3	14
EYE:-						
Blepharitis	..	...	...	...	-	-
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	-	-
Other Eye Conditions	...	...	...	...	1	5
EAR:-						
Otitis Media	...	...	...	...	1	4
Other Ear Conditions	...	...	...	...	3	15
MISCELLANEOUS, e.g.						
Minor Injuries, Bruises, Sores etc.					3	15
					—	—
	Total	.	...	...	15	85
					—	—

Ear, Nose and Throat Defects. Children requiring tonsil and adenoid operations are generally admitted to a ward for this purpose in the Grove House Annexe of Reedyford Hospital, but occasionally older children are operated on in the General Hospital. They enter the hospital on the day prior to, and are retained for at least forty-eight hours after the operation. Children requiring operative procedures for other ear, nose and throat conditions are dealt with in the special department of the General Hospital. Throughout the year the specialist made 72 examinations of children referred to him by the School Medical Officers and performed 19 operations. In addition 46 children had tonsils and adenoids removed by arrangements otherwise than through the School Health Service. At the end of the year eleven pupils were awaiting admission to hospital for operations.

Eye Diseases and Visual DefectsOPHTHALMIC CLINIC

Sessions held	85
No. of children examined for errors of refraction etc.:-	
New cases	243
Re-examinations	464
No. of children for whom spectacles were prescribed:-	
New cases	214
Re-examinations	329
Attendances for approval of spectacles ..	782
Attendances for atropine drops	868
Total attendances	2568
Cases of strabismus operated upon in hospital .	25

ERRORS OF REFRACTION

Classification of patients dealt with in 1955.

<u>Defect</u>	<u>New</u>	<u>Old</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hypermetropia	24	43	67
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	65	124	189
Myopia	36	25	61
Myopic Astigmatism	20	45	65
Mixed Astigmatism	19	29	48
Anisometropia	-	2	2
Nystagmus	-	-	-
STRABISMUS	-	1	1
plus Hypermetropia	17	55	72
" Hypermetropic Astigmatism .	23	120	143
" Myopic Astigmatism ..	-	3	3
" Mixed Astigmatism	2	2	4
" Myopia	1	-	1
Not yet classified	12	3	15
Found to have normal vision .	24	9	33
Totals	243	461	704

ORTHOPTIC TREATMENT

The following table shows the number of children who attended for examination and treatment by the Orthoptist. All cases requiring orthoptic treatment are selected by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

NO. OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN:-	School Children	Pre-School Children	Total
(a) Received Treatment	103	1	104
(b) Under Supervision	710	97	807
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	813	98	911
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
ATTENDANCES:-			
(a) For Orthoptic Examination ..	185	11	196
(b) For Treatment... ..	970	4	974
(c) For Inspection and Supervision	1778	296	2074
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2933	311	3244
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
RESULTS OF TREATMENT :-			
(a) Discharged - cured	28	-	28
(b) Discharged - improved	35	-	35
(c) Treatment suspended	19	1	20
(d) Ceased to attend	2	-	2
(e) Under treatment at end of year	19	1	20
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	103	2	105
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
CHILDREN REFERRED FOR OPERATIVE TREATMENT	32	3	35
CHILDREN RECEIVED OPERATIVE TREATMENT ...	25	2	27
No. of sessions devoted to treatment or supervision			458

The following notes are submitted by the Senior Orthoptist.

A detailed account of the function of the orthoptic department was included in the annual report for 1954, and as this does not materially alter from year to year it is not proposed to comment on it again this year.

At the beginning of 1955, a second orthoptist was appointed for the area served by the joint orthoptic scheme for Burnley and adjacent districts of the Lancashire County Council, as a result of which, the equivalent of one full-time orthoptist was available for the children of Burnley.

All cases referred to the Orthoptic Department were able to be dealt with immediately and valuable help was also given in a supervisory capacity when, in the early part of the year, the ophthalmic department was without the services of a second ophthalmologist.

It is interesting to note that the number of pre-school children who attended the department greatly increased during 1955, when 98 children made 311 attendances as against 42 children and 77 attendances in 1954. I do not consider that this signifies a marked increase in the number of children suffering from defects of binocular vision, but rather that treatment is being sought earlier than hitherto and the importance of early treatment is becoming more widely recognised.

Attendance continues to be reasonably good, although there is still a tendency for children of school age to fail to keep their appointments during school holidays.

The treatment of defective vision and squint is a lengthy process, requiring in many cases frequent visits to the clinic, but everything is done to ensure that each visit is essential and instructions are given to the parents regarding any treatment which can be carried out at home.

I should like to thank the general practitioners for their continued co-operation in prescribing occlusion plaster so that it can be obtained through the National Health Service. Not only does this enable the parent to apply the occlusions at home, but the parents feel that their private medical practitioner is taking an interest in the child's ocular condition.

THE PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC

The Assistant Orthopaedic Surgeon held 20 Consultant Clinic Sessions in the School Clinic premises. As practically all cases requiring orthopaedic treatment or hospital care are now dealt with in the Orthopaedic Clinic of Victoria Hospital, the children attending the clinic in the Elizabeth Street premises are mostly those who require physiotherapy and exercises. The types of cases dealt with are summarised below.

	School Children	Pre-School Children
New cases examined	21	18
Old cases examined	107	21
Attendances of old cases	160	61

CLASSIFICATION OF DEFECTS:-

Infantile Paralysis	11	-
Spastic paralysis	9	-
Deformities of feet -		
(a) talipes	8	-
(b) other	37	10
Other deformities of lower limb .	16	21
Spina Bifida	2	-
Other deformities of spinal column	8	2
Torticollis	4	1
Schlatter's disease	1	-
Dislocation of hip joint	5	1
Arthritic diseases	3	-
Tuberculous bone and joint disease	2	-
Traumatic and Postural conditions	9	1
Other conditions	13	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	128	39
	<hr/>	<hr/>

38 school children and 20 pre-school children were supplied with splints, plaster cases or other surgical appliances.

Three cases were receiving hospital treatment on 1st January 1955; eight were admitted to hospital during the year; eight were discharged from hospital during the year, leaving three in hospital at the end of the year. The average duration of stay in hospital of those discharged was 108 days.

At the end of the year, 120 children remained on the register (91 school children; 29 pre-school children).

Sessions held by Physiotherapist -

(a) for physiotherapy, exercises, etc.	228
(b) for artificial sunlight treatment	92

In addition to the treatment of patients on the Clinic Register, the physiotherapist gave remedial exercises, massage, breathing exercises, etc., to children with minor deformities and postural defects and post operative tonsil and adenoid cases referred to her by the School Medical Officers.

The following children were referred by the school medical officers directly to the physiotherapist for treatment.

	School Children.	Pre-School Children.
No. of patients	190	31
Treatments: For remedial exercises ...	1082	223
For breathing exercises ...	1718	162
For corrective treatment .	243	87
	<u>3043</u>	<u>472</u>

ARTIFICIAL SUNLIGHT -

	School Children.	Pre-School Children.	Total
No. of patients	54	42	96
No. of attendances	677	429	1106

The total attendances at the clinic were 3854

Report on the work of the School Dental Department

By Mr. J. A. Pilling, L.D.S.

In the year under review there have been no changes in the staff, which remains at two full time dental officers, and one part time dental officer devoting two sessions per week as anaesthetist.

All schools were inspected at least once during the year. The schedules of inspections are becoming increasingly difficult due to school holidays, examinations, school outings, etc., but with the co-operation of the heads of schools, it has been possible to fit them all in. The facilities for inspection at some schools are not by any means what they ought to be; the new schools with their properly appointed inspection rooms are a welcome improvement.

There has been no improvement generally in the oral health of the school population. This is not surprising in view of the lack of dental cleanliness and the prevalence of sweet eating, lollipop sucking, and the consumption in large quantities of sugar confectionery. If chewing on a large scale must be indulged in, it would be better to substitute chewing gum in place of the more harmful farinaceous products, or better still fruit. A step in the right direction would be for parents to see that children have a really clean mouth on retiring to bed.

Regular tooth cleaning which is so necessary to a healthy mouth is sadly neglected. Too many children state quite frankly that they have no toothbrush. Would it be an advantage to have on sale at the clinic a reasonably priced toothbrush, or would this measure interfere with the livelihood of toothbrush retailers? Certainly the place for educational talks and propaganda, if these are of any value, is in the dental surgery. It is a pity, yet none the less true, that nobody likes what is good for him.

There has been a greater demand for orthodontic treatment. It would be a happy thought that this might be because of successful treatment, but not all dental practitioners undertake this treatment, and the burden falls on the school dental service. It is work that calls for the greatest co-operation between patient and dentist, and not always with the hoped for success. All cases of irregularity are not amenable to orthodontic treatment. The services of a consultant orthodontist and refresher courses for the staff, in current orthodontic ideas and treatment would prove of benefit.

The progress of investigations elsewhere in the fluoridation of water supplies is being watched with interest. Results so far have suggested that it will prove to be of great benefit.

Twelve crowns have been fitted during the year. This number would have been far greater had it not been for the introduction of the new

plastic filling materials, which allows for highly successful restorations which otherwise would have necessitated crowning. It has proved a boon in cases of fractured incisor teeth. In cases where teeth have been lost through necessity or neglect, twenty six partial dentures have been provided.

The services of the X-ray Department of the Victoria Hospital have again been utilised in the diagnosis and treatment of cases, and the helpful co-operation of the radiologist and his staff is gratefully acknowledged.

The number attending for emergency treatment has again increased. Time at the end of treatment sessions is allowed for these 'casual' attendances, but it is now always possible for treatment to be given immediately. It is most annoying, when immediate emergency treatment is demanded to find that the treatment proffered previously has been consistently refused. There are far too many instances of this and they do not help in the smooth running of the service.

A pleasing feature of the year has been the requests from an increasing number of parents for a twice or thrice yearly inspection in addition to the routine school inspection. This is encouraging and it is hoped that more will follow this example.

Thanks are given to the dental attendants, the heads of schools and all who have contributed, in any measure, to the provision of an efficient school dental service.

Number inspected in Schools			Not Requiring Treatment		Number with Defects Requiring Treatment.	
Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
5377	5886	11263	3136	3563	2241	2323

Number found, at school inspection, to require treatment	4564
Number of casual attenders who required treatment	1568
Total	<u>6132</u>
Number treated	3447
Attendances by pupils for treatment	5707
Parents indifferent and no treatment received, or treatment received privately, or left school or town	1962

Dental Treatment given:-

Fillings			Extractions			Adminis- trations of General Anaes- thetics for Ex- tract- ions.	Other Operations		
Temp- orary Teeth	Perm- anent Teeth	Total Fillings	Temp- orary Teeth	Perm- anent Teeth	Total Extrac- tions		Temp- orary Teeth	Perm- anent Teeth	Total other Oper- ations
45	1191	1236	5304	1451	6755	2700	14	1330	1344

No. of orthodontic cases under treatment on 1/1/55	...	...	13
No. of orthodontic cases commenced during the year	...	...	34
No. of orthodontic appliances provided (38 patients)	...	...	39
No. of repairs or alterations to appliances	...	...	2
No. of cases undergoing orthodontic treatment on 31/12/55	....	...	14
No. of other appliances provided - Crowns	...	...	12
Inlay	...	...	-
No. of partial dentures provided (26 patients)	...	...	26
Repairs to partial dentures	..	...	4
No. of patients whose treatment was completed or discontinued	...	...	33

School Camp. The permanent Camp School at Hest Bank, near Morecambe was opened on April 7th and closed on 7th October. 247 boys and 264 girls were sent to camp for a fortnight. This entailed the medical examinations of 523 children.

Convalescent Home. The Thursby Convalescent Home at Lytham-St. Annes was open for the reception of children from 12th April to 4th October. 90 boys and 59 girls from Burnley were selected and sent to the Home for periods of two weeks.

PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILKMeals Provided:-

	During year ended 31/3/56.	During year ended 31/3/55.
Breakfasts (approx) ...	195,500	207,000
Dinners	1,164,500	1,121,600
Teas	309,000	327,100
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,669,000	1,655,700
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The highest number of children fed in any one week was 25,513 and the lowest 23,022, the average, excluding holidays, being 23,292.

Milk. In December, 1955, 10,855 children (8,104 Primary and Nursery, 2,586 Secondary, and 165 Special), received milk. Thus about 79% of the school children were receiving milk at the end of the year.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Education in Circular 1443, for the selection of children requiring supplementary nourishment, periodical nutrition surveys were continued.

Cod Liver Oil. Two hundred and forty five children received cod liver oil and malt preparations (total 476 lbs.) and vitamin preparations.

School Baths. The Education Committee arrange for the attendance of classes of children at the Public Swimming Baths, usually during school hours. 74,444 attendances were made at the three swimming baths, compared with 68,907 last year.

School Journeys. No alterations have been made in the arrangements in operation to enable children to travel free on public vehicles to the Special Schools and the School Clinic.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS SCHOOL WELFARE OFFICERS AND VOLUNTARY BODIES.

Previous reports have given in detail the organisations, both statutory and voluntary, whose co-operation is essential for the smooth running of the School Health Service. This co-operation is now so well established that no difficulties arise. Interchange of information is given between the hospital staffs, general practitioners and school medical officers. Health visitors attend, in rotation, the hospital children's wards and paediatric out-patient clinics. The almoners and secretaries of the hospitals, the school welfare officers, the N.S.P.C.C. inspector, the youth employment officer of the Ministry of Labour, the area manager of the National Assistance Board, the Superintendent of the House of Help (Moral Welfare Home for Girls), the secretary of the Council of Social Service, and the W.V.S. organiser have all been very helpful in their several ways. Despite the heavy demands on the services of head teachers, they have been at all times most willing to assist and I take this opportunity of thanking them for the additional help which they have given in the organisation of the schemes for vaccination against tuberculosis and poliomyelitis.

It is to be regretted that, judging by their attendance when medical inspection takes place, so few parents take an interest in the physical condition of their children. Although about two-thirds of the parents are present when the youngest group of children are inspected

few come to the schools for the subsequent medical overhauls. It is of some importance that the school doctors should be able to discuss with mothers the physical condition of older children, particularly when defects are found. Yet while 852 children aged 13 years and over were inspected, among whom 53 were found with conditions which required treatment, only 13 parents were present at the time of the medical examination.

The numbers of parents who were present when children were being submitted to routine inspection were :-

With the Entrants	959 or 65.7%
With the Second Age Groups	350 or 29.0%
With the Third Age Groups	13 or 1.5%

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The statistical table on the following page gives the numbers of handicapped children and the types of schools in which they were being educated, on 31st January, 1956.

Educationally Sub-normal and Maladjusted Pupils. At the end of the year, 64 educationally subnormal pupils were receiving education in special schools, 63 were in attendance as day pupils at Coal Clough Special School, the other one being in a residential school. Eighteen educationally sub-normal pupils who required special education were ascertained during 1955 and 13 were transferred to special schools.

Nine children left the Day Special School for Educationally Subnormal Pupils during 1955. Of these, 2 returned to primary or secondary schools, 5 reached school-leaving age and commenced work, and 2 were reported to the Local Authority for Mental Deficiency.

Six children were reported to the Local Health Authority during the calendar year, under Section 57(3) and one under Section 57(5) of the Education Act.

On 31st December, 1955, there were 30 mentally defective children under 16 years of age as follows:-

	Boys	Girls	Total
Under Statutory Supervision ...	9	10	19
Under Voluntary Supervision ...	2	3	5
In Hospitals	3	3	6
	<u>14</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>30</u>

Eight boys and seven girls were in attendance at the Local Health Authority's Occupation Centre for ineducable defectives, at the end of 1955.

Wennington Hall Residential Special School for Boys which is controlled jointly by Blackpool, Bury, Barrow-in-Furness and Burnley Education Authorities was opened in October, 1954. Three maladjusted boys were newly placed there and at the end of the year, five Burnley boys were on the School's Register.

Handicapped Pupils requiring Education at Special Schools (other than
Hospital Schools) or Boarding in Boarding Homes

During the Calendar Year ended 31st December, 1955, Handicapped Pupils who:-	(1) Blind. (2) Partially Sighted.		(3) Deaf (4) Part- ially Deaf.		(5) Delicate (6) Physic- ally Handi- capped.		(7) Educat- ionally sub- normal. (8) Mal- adjusted.		(9) Epi- leptic.	Total 1 - 9
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
A. Were newly placed in Special Schools or Boarding Homes	-	-	-	-	38	1	13	3	3	58
B. Were newly assessed as needing special educational treatment at Special Schools or in Boarding Homes.	1	-	-	-	38	3	18	7	2	69
On or about 31st January, 1956 how many handicapped pupils from the Authority's area:-										
C. (i) were on the registers of special schools as										
(a) day pupils	-	-	-	-	119	-	64	-	-	183
(b) boarding pupils	1	2	9	4	1	6	1	6	4	34
(ii) were on the registers of indep- endent schools under arrangements made by the Authority.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
(iii) were boarded in Homes and not already included under (i) or (ii)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL C.	1	2	9	4	120	6	65	7	4	218

During the Calendar Year ended 31st December, 1955 Handicapped Pupils who:-	(1) Blind		(3) Deaf		(5) Delicate		(7) Educat- ionally sub- normal		(9) Epi- leptics	Total.
	(2) Partially Sighted	(4) Part- ially Deaf	(6) Physic- ally Handi- capped	(8) Mal- adjusted						
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	
D. were being educated under arrangements made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944.										
(i) in hospitals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(ii) in other groups (e.g. units for spastics)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(iii) at home	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
E. were requiring places in special schools -										
(i) total (a) day	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
(b) board- ing	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	-	8
State how many pupils are included in the totals above -										
(ii) who had not reached the age of 5:-										
(a) awaiting day places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) awaiting boarding places	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
(iii) who had reached the age of 5 but whose parents had not consented to their admission to a special school:-										
(a) awaiting day places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(b) awaiting boarding places	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

DEAF CHILDREN In December 1955 the number of deaf and partially deaf children being educated in residential special schools were:-

	<u>Deaf</u>	<u>Partially Deaf</u>
Lawns House Residential School for the Deaf, Leeds	1	-
Royal Cross School for the Deaf, Preston ...	2	3
Thomasson Memorial School for the Deaf, Bolton	-	1
St. John's Institution for the Deaf, Boston Spa	2	-
Royal Residential School for the Deaf, Manchester	4	-

During the year the parents of a deaf boy, who was already placed in Lawns House Residential School for the Deaf, came to reside in Burnley and he was still in the school at the end of the year.

During the year one partially deaf boy was discharged from the Mary Hare Residential Special Grammar School for the Deaf to take up employment with a local firm of printers.

BLIND CHILDREN In December, 1955 the number of blind and partially sighted children being educated in residential special schools were:-

	<u>Blind</u>	<u>Partially Sighted.</u>
Preston Residential Special School for Partially Sighted Children, Preston	-	2

One child was discharged from Condover Residential Special School for the Blind after attaining 16 years of age and was admitted to the Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead, in January, 1956, for further education and training.

A blind boy who was ascertained as requiring education in a Residential Special School for Blind Pupils was awaiting admission, at the end of the year.

A blind girl, who is also educationally sub-normal, was receiving home tuition at the end of the year.

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN In December, 1955 the number of epileptic children being educated in residential special schools were:-

Residential Special School of the Maghull Home for Epileptics, Liverpool	3
Soss Moss Residential Special School for Epileptics, Chelford	1

During the year one boy was admitted to Soss Moss Residential Special School for Epileptics, one boy was admitted to the Residential Special School for Epileptics of the Maghull Homes, Liverpool and one boy was admitted to the Langho Colony for Epileptics, Blackburn. This latter boy did not settle and was withdrawn before the end of the year but a placement in Chalfont Residential Special School for Epileptic Pupils was imminent in the new year.

One epileptic boy was transferred from the Residential Special School of the Maghull Homes to the adult section on attaining the age of 16 during the year.

DIABETIC PUPILS. No diabetic children of either school or pre-school age are known to the staff of the School Health or Child Welfare Services, but one Burnley child of school age has been under treatment for diabetes in Victoria Hospital.

CHILD GUIDANCE The Educational Psychologist submits the following report:-

During the year ended 31st December, 1955 one hundred and ninety-five children made a total of 495 visits to the Clinic. The majority of children were again referred by head teachers, either directly or through the school medical officers, but there is now a tendency for referrals to be made by a wide range of other services.

The cases can be classified in three broad groups:-

1. Nervous habit and behaviour disorders ... 48 cases, made 154 attendances.

This group included cases of anxiety, excessive timidity, enuresis, fainting, sleep-walking, nightmares, stealing, lying, aggressiveness, extreme excitability, temper tantrums, etc.

2. General educational difficulties ... 81 cases, made 275 attendances.

This group consisted of children who were generally extremely backward in school. It included a large proportion of dull children. Of these, some were found to be ineducable, and others to require special school education. Some needed education in special 'opportunity' or 'backward' classes, while others with modified treatment, could remain in their own schools. A few attended the Clinic for remedial teaching.

3. Children unable to read ... 66 cases, made 66 attendances.

This group consisted of the majority of the children whose names were put forward by head teachers as being extremely retarded in reading.

They belonged largely to one age group - the 9 plus. After tests of intelligence and attainment, 52 were selected to attend the Reading Centre at Stoneyholme School.

In connection with the cases set out in groups 1 and 2 above, one hundred and six visits were made to schools.

No psychiatrist has been available, and it has not been possible to operate as a fully staffed Child Guidance Clinic. However, during the course of the year the services of a Psychiatric Social Worker were available for approximately 180 sessions. This made possible an extension of the work of the Clinic, particularly in cases where a child's difficulties seemed to arise from, or be rooted in, family relationships. It has been possible to see many parents in their homes, and so gain a clearer picture of their problems and difficulties. As a result much more relevant background information has been available and also it was now possible to make contact at the same time with both parent and child.

In the course of her work the psychiatric social worker has been concerned with fifty-six children. She has had one hundred and twenty-seven interviews with parents at the Clinic, and made eight-five home visits. Some school visiting has been necessary, and the psychiatric social worker has maintained close liaison with many other interested services.

The following recommendations were made by the educational psychologist in respect of the cases in groups 1 and 2 above.

To remain in present school	20
To remain in present school and progress to be noted ..	23
To transfer to another school	10
For ordinary school with education as E.S.N. pupils ...	12
For education in a Day Special School as E.S.N. pupils ...	13
Recommended for reporting to the Local Authority as being ineducable	5
Recommended for reporting to the Local Authority as requiring supervision after leaving school	3
For Residential Special School for Maladjusted pupils	4
For Residential Special School for Physically Handicapped pupils	3
For Residential Special School for Epileptic pupils	2
For Residential Special School for E.S.N. pupils	1
Parents advised	15
Parents advised - children's progress to be noted	5
Referred to Psychiatrist at Victoria Hospital, Burnley	2
Reports for various services	5
Retained in Infants School for an extra year	1
Employment arranged	1
For remedial teaching	4
Total	<u>129</u>

TREATMENT OF SPEECH DEFECTS

During the year the school medical officers referred 66 new cases to the speech therapist. In addition to the children already receiving treatment and to the 36 cases awaiting treatment at the end of 1954, 21 of the 66 cases referred this year were accepted for treatment, thus leaving 45 new cases waiting to commence treatment.

During the twelve months under review, 162 school children were given treatment for speech defects. Of this number 82 were dyslalics, 66 stammerers, two were cases of delayed speech development, seven had cleft palate and five were voice disorders.

By the end of the year 48 patients had been discharged from treatment, 37 as cured and the remaining 11 having left school or the Borough before the completion of treatment. Nine children were under observation only.

Of the 162 cases seen, 111 were boys and 51 girls. One hundred and forty six were in attendance at primary and secondary schools, whilst 16 attended special schools. The children made a total of 2869 attendances for speech therapy. During the year 468 sessions were held, of which eight were devoted to visiting schools to check on progress and confer with the children's teachers. In addition to this, the speech therapist interviewed and advised 105 parents with regard to their children who were referred to the Speech Clinic.

During the past year, 10 pre-school children were under treatment for defective speech. Eight of these children were referred to the speech therapist this year, the remaining two continuing their treatment from the previous year. One pre-school child is waiting to commence treatment and two are under observation only. Five of the ten are cases of delayed speech development, whilst the other five have varying degrees of dyslalia. In this age group there is an even distribution of boys and girls, there being five of each. The 10 children made a total of 72 attendances.

"LIGHT THERAPY" was given to 56 children, the total treatments being 724. With the exception of two children, who were referred to the General Hospital for this treatment, all were treated in the School Clinic.

DELICATE PUPILS Of thirty-eight children who were ascertained for the first time during 1955 and classified as "delicate", one was admitted to a residential special school and the remainder were transferred to the Day Open Air School.

THE DAY OPEN AIR SCHOOL, in which delicate children and others handicapped in various ways are educated, dealt with the following cases during 1955:-

	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Admitted during 1955	16	21	37
Discharged during 1955	16	17	33
Average number of children on roll . . . . .	...	...	120
Average attendance throughout the year ... ..	...	...	96
Average Duration of Stay of those Discharged - 3.5 years			
Average gain in Weight since admission of those discharged ... ..	...	- 26.5 lbs.	
Average Gain in Weight per child during the year ... ..	...	- 7.5 lbs.	

Reasons for Admission:-

Respiratory Diseases	7
General Debility	16
Asthma	4
Non-active Tuberculosis	1
Cardiac Diseases	1
Osteomyelitis	1
Post-Operative Debility	2
Retarded Physical Development	1
Asthenia	2
Nephritis	2

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PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PUPILS

At 31st December, 1955,

two physically handicapped pupils were receiving home tuition; one of these was considered to require education in a residential special school, but the parents were not prepared to give their consent. Two were awaiting placement in residential special schools, which was imminent early in 1956. One pupil was in a boarding school and three in independent residential schools. One pre-school child was assessed as likely to require education in a residential special school.

In addition to these, eighty-five children, who were to varying extents physically handicapped, did not come within the "physically handicapped" category prescribed in The Handicapped Pupils (Certificate) Regulations, 1953, as they could be satisfactorily educated under the normal regime of ordinary schools.

TUBERCULOSIS

All cases of definite or suspected respiratory tuberculosis were referred to the chest physician, who arranged for appropriate treatment or supervision.

MISCELLANEOUS

Medical inspection or treatment of pupils attending the Municipal College and School of Art as part-time students, and Evening Continuation Classes is not undertaken.

No children were submitted to the school medical officer for medical examination regarding fitness to take part in entertainments.

The school medical officers examined 124 children under the Byelaws for regulating the Employment of Children and Street Trading.

I am indebted to the Director of Education for the following information.

Employment of children out of school hours in the sale of milk and newspapers, etc.

<u>Occupations.</u>	<u>Number of Children Employed at 31st December.</u>
Delivery of Newspapers 	241
Delivery of Milk 	5
Carrying or Delivery of Food or Parcels	10
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
	256
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>

Two hundred and thirty-eight certificates were issued during the year and 226 had ceased. No licences were granted in respect of street trading by young persons between the ages of 16 and 18 years. Four licences were suspended or revoked and three were refused.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATIONMEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS. YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY, BURNLEY

Table 1.

Medical Inspection of Pupils attending maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools).

(A) PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups inspected and number of children examined in each.

Entrants	1459
Second Age Group ..	1206
Third Age Group ...	852
Total	<u>3517</u>
Additional Periodic Inspections	<u>427</u>
Grand Total	<u><u>3944</u></u>

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	1256
Number of Re-Inspections	6608
Total	<u>7864</u>

(C) PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual pupils found at periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)

Age Groups Inspected (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II A (3)	Total individual pupils (4)
Entrants	17	153	169
Second Age Group .	51	98	144
Third Age Group ..	22	34	53
Total ...	90	285	366
Additional Periodic Inspections ...	9	39	47
Grand Total ...	99	324	413

TABLE II. (a) Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the year ended 31st December, 1955.

Defect Code No.	Defect of Disease (1)	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		R.T. (2)	U.O. (3)	R.T. (4)	U.O. (5)
4	Skin	51	205	125	13
5	Eyes - (a) Vision ..	99	97	220	58
	(b) Squint ..	30	29	26	2
	(c) Other ...	5	18	54	24
6	Ears - (a) Hearing .	8	27	13	11
	(b) Otitis Media	12	68	1	6
	(c) Other ...	9	18	55	10
7	Nose or Throat ...	45	678	86	33
8	Speech	23	36	19	12
9	Cervical Glands ...	1	60	9	2
10	Heart and Circulation	4	46	2	3
11	Lungs	21	200	23	30
12	Developmental -				
	(a) Hernia ..	3	18	1	1
	(b) Other ...	8	89	-	2
13	Orthopaedic -				
	(a) Posture .	3	28	2	3
	(b) Flat Foot	5	10	3	1
	(c) Other ...	46	153	36	14
14	Nervous System -				
	(a) Epilepsy	1	7	-	1
	(b) Other ...	10	105	22	5
15	Psychological -				
	(a) Development	-	2	1	2
	(b) Stability	13	26	17	1
16	Other	36	36	304	16

NOTE: R.T. = Requiring Treatment.
U.O. = Under Observation but not requiring treatment.

(b) Classification of the general condition of pupils inspected during the year in age groups.

Age Groups Inspected.	Number of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of Col.2	No.	% of Col.2	No.	% of Col.2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ...	1459	979	67.1	472	32.4	8	0.5
Second Age Group ...	1206	779	64.6	425	35.2	2	0.2
Third Age Group ...	852	579	67.9	273	32.1	-	-
Additional Periodic Inspections ...	427	297	69.6	130	30.4	-	-
Total ...	3944	2634	66.8	1300	32.9	10	0.3

TABLE III.Infestation with Vermin.

- (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons 46393
- (ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ... 566
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944) ... 71
- (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944) ... -

TABLE IV

Treatment of Pupils attending Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools (Including Special Schools).

GROUP I. DISEASES OF THE SKIN.

(Excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Ringworm - (i) Scalp	-	-
(ii) Body	1	1
Scabies	-	-
Impetigo	64	2
Other skin diseases	67	34
Total	132	37

GROUP II. EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases dealt with	
	by the Authority	otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	43	5
Errors of refraction (including squint	707	149
Total	750	154
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were -		
(a) Prescribed	543	122
(b) Obtained	529	122

GROUP III. DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment -		
(a) for diseases of the ear	-	-
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	18	46
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	1	-
Received other forms of treatment	2	25
Total	21	71

GROUP IV. ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	15	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patients departments	95	32

GROUP V. CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

	Number of cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics.	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	48	1

GROUP VI. SPEECH THERAPY.

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	162	-

GROUP VII. OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	311	61
(b) Other than (a) above (specify)		
1. Minor Ear Defects	63	15
2. Artificial Light	54	2
Total	428	78

TABLE V

Dental Inspection and treatment carried out by the Authority

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:-					
(a) At Periodic Inspections ... ..	...	...	...	...	11263
(b) As Specials ... ..	...	...	...	...	1568
			Total (1)		12831
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	6132
(3) Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	5574
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	3447
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	5707
(6) Half-days devoted to Periodic Inspection	...	...	...	...	98
Treatment ... ..	...	...	...	...	869
			Total (6)		967
(7) Fillings - Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1191
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	45
			Total (7)		1236
(8) Number of teeth filled -					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1168
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	45
			Total (8)		1213
(9) Extractions -					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1451
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	5304
			Total (9)		6755
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction					2700
(11) Other operations -					
Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	1330
Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	14
			Total (11)		1344

GROUP WITH OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN IN OTHER III YEARS

Number of cases treated		by the Authority	Number of cases to which treatment was given
Other	by the Authority		
(a) Miscellaneous above ailments
(b) Other than (a) above (specify)
(c) I. Minor Ear Infections
(d) S. Artificial Light
Total	

TABLE V

Dental Inspection and Treatment carried out by the Authority

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:-	(a) At Periodic Inspections	...	...
	(b) As Specials	...	...
	Total (1)	...	...
(2) Number found to require treatment	(3) Number offered treatment	(4) Number actually treated	(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment
...
(6) Half-days devoted to Periodic Inspections	(7) Missings - Permanent Teeth	(8) Number of teeth filled - Permanent Teeth	(9) Extractions - Permanent Teeth
...
(10) Missings - Temporary Teeth	(11) Number of teeth filled - Temporary Teeth	(12) Extractions - Temporary Teeth	(13) Other operations
...
Total (1)	Total (2)	Total (3)	Total (4)
...