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Contributors

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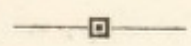
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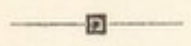
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BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT of Dr. H. J. ROBINSON, Medical Officer of Health, for the Year ending December 31st, 1921.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

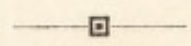
In submitting my Report for the year, it is again my pleasure to state that the general conditions of the District are satisfactory, and that the following Statistics indicate that the health is good, the death rate and infantile mortality rate being by no means abnormal.

The birth rate, you will notice, is low, and is practically the same as in the years prior to the war.

The average duration of life is undoubtedly increasing, and more reach a good age than formerly: 91 out of 264 were over 65 years of age, and nearly one-half of the total deaths were over 60 years.

The chief causes of death were diseases of heart and chest and malignant diseases—cancer, etc.

Of the 25 children under one year, 13 were due to congenital conditions and premature birth, and only 3 from gastric causes, the latter being a most gratifying feature.



NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

I.

The Burnley Rural District, which is situated in North-east Lancashire, is very hilly in character, ranging from 200 to 1,831 feet above sea level, the mean average being about 650 feet.

The District has an area of 41.774 acres, surrounding or adjoining the Urban Districts of Padiham, Burnley, Brierfield, Nelson, Barrowford and Colne.

The subsoil is chiefly clay, and the district is very damp, having an average rainfall of over 40 inches. During the year the following observations were recorded at the Burnley Meteorological Station, 458 feet above sea level, which is situated practically in the centre of the district :—

Rainfall—37.34 inches.

Days on which rain was recorded—210 days.

Prevailing Winds were West and South-West, and accounted for 163 of the wet days. The most rainfall on any one day was on the 27th December, when 1.34 inches were recorded.

Last summer was remarkably dry and fine, and had a less rainfall than the previous year by 5.46 inches.

II.

The population, as shown by the last Census taken on 19th-20th June, 1921, and corrected, is 19,490. During the past eight years the estimated population had fallen consistently from 20,500 in 1914 to 18,234 last year. The following Tables and Statistics are based upon the Registrar's Returns.

The staple industry is cotton-weaving, for which a damp atmosphere is very favourable. Coal-mining and dairy-farming are the other principal occupations of the people.

Generally speaking, the houses in the district are in good condition, being well-built and stone-fronted. The prevailing type consists of a front and back living-room and two bedroom. Many have an additional scullery built out at the rear of the house.

Quite a large number of householders are very thrifty and live in their own houses.

During the year the cotton trade has been practically stagnant, resulting in much unemployment and distress, especially in the more urban parts of the District.

(A)—VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH RATE.—The total number of births registered in the District during the year was 321—males 157, females 164. Of

these 12 (males 6, females 6) were illegitimate. There were 68 fewer births than last year, and equals an annual birth rate for the district for 1921 of 16.4 per thousand of the population. The average for England and Wales is 22.4 per thousand of population.

It will be seen from the following table of birth rates that we are back again to the rate obtaining before the war :—

Year.	Births.				Rate per 1,000 of Population.
1913	347	...	16.92
1914	346	...	16.87
1915	302	...	15.27
1916	312	...	15.25
1917	282	...	14.66
1918	227	...	12.0
1919	234	...	12.43
1920	389	...	21.33
1921	321	...	16.4

DEATH RATE.—The total number of deaths of residents, and those belonging to the district who died elsewhere, as supplied by the Registrar-General, is 264 (males 132, females 132), which equals a death rate of 13.5 per thousand of population as compared with 12.9 of the previous year. The average death rate for the whole of England and Wales for the year 1921 was 12.1 per thousand of the population.

The following tables, as supplied by the Registrar-General, will be of interest as shewing the birth and death rates for the year, and mean of 10 years, 1911-1920, and also the rates for the whole of the country :—

TABLE No. 1.

RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

BURNLEY RURAL.				Birth	Death	Phthisis	Rate of deaths	
				Rate.	Rate.	Death	under 1 year to	
						Rate.	1,000 Births.	
1921	...	...	...	16.4	13.5	0.51	77
1920	...	...	...	21.3	12.9	0.87	66
Mean of 10 Years—								
1911-1920				...	16.3	13.0	0.69	100
Increase or Decrease in								
1921 on—								
Previous year				...	-4.9	+0.6	-0.36	+11
Ten years' average				...	+0.1	+0.5	-0.18	-23

TABLE No. 2.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1921.

	BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULATION.	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.*			
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small Pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 yrs)	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes.	Uncertified Causes.	Causes of Death.	
England and Wales	22.4	12.1	0.02	0.00	0.06	0.03	0.12	0.12	0.23	0.44	15.5	83	25.5	92.5	6.4	1.1	
96 Great Towns including London.....	23.3	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.04	0.13	0.15	0.23	0.40	19.3	87	33.2	92.5	6.8	0.7	
(1911 Census populations exceeding 50,000).																	
148 Smaller Towns	22.7	11.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.03	0.11	0.11	0.26	0.35	15.6	84	17.7	93.5	5.1	1.4	
(1911 Censuses populations 20,000—50,000).																	
London.....	22.3	12.4	0.01	—	0.05	0.06	0.12	0.25	0.23	0.42	21.3	80	49.2	91.6	8.2	0.2	

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year was 25 (legitimate 23, illegitimate 2), males 17, females 8, which equals an infantile mortality of 77 per thousand births, being an increase of 11 over the previous year.

Mean of 10 years, 1911-1920—100.

The causes of death were as given in the following table, which also gives the ages and causes of death in all cases belonging to the district.

TABLE No. 3.
VITAL STATISTICS.
CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING 1921.

Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents, whether occurring within or without the District.

CAUSES OF DEATH (All causes—certified and uncertified.)	ALL AGES.			Under 1 Year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and up- wards
	Total	Male	Fem.								
	Enteric Fever ...	1	—								
Whooping Cough ...	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	3	—	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	4	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	10	6	4	—	—	—	1	4	4	1	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	7	3	4	—	1	—	2	—	3	1	—
Cancer—Malignant Disease ...	26	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	1	16	9
Rheumatic Fever ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diabetes ...	4	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage... ..	25	11	14	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	15
Heart Disease ...	26	15	11	1	—	—	—	1	2	12	10
Arterio-Sclerosis... ..	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Bronchitis ...	22	9	13	4	1	—	—	—	—	5	12
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	20	12	8	3	1	2	1	—	3	7	3
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	5	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	159	82	77	8	4	4	6	6	15	57	59

TABLE No. 3.

VITAL STATISTICS.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING 1921—continued.

Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents, whether occurring within or without the District.

CAUSES OF DEATH (All causes—certified and uncertified.)	ALL AGES.				Under	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and up- wards
	Total	Male	Fem.									
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	159	82	77	8	4	4	6	6	15	15	57	59
Ulcer of Stomach ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	3	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Acute and Chronic Nephritis... ..	11	6	5	1	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	3
Puerperal Sepsis ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ...	13	8	5	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suicide ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Deaths from Violence ...	5	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	1
Other Defined Diseases ...	59	23	36	—	—	1	2	1	9	23	23	23
Causes ill-defined or unknown... ..	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Totals ...	264	132	132	25	4	6	11	7	33	87	87	91

(B)—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.**1. RIVERS AND STREAMS.**

No complaints were received during the year of the pollution of any of the streams, and no action was taken under the Rivers Pollution Prevention Acts. In the rural areas it is inevitable that much of the surface and slop-water should find its way direct into the streams.

Treatment of sewage on a small scale is not always successful, largely on account of the irregularity and unequal discharge of the sewage; still no complaints have been made of the few septic tanks and filters in connection with some of the larger farms and houses.

2. WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for the greater part of the District is good, and is provided by the Council's own waterworks or from those of adjoining public authorities.

The following particulars show the principal water supply to the various townships :—

Township.	Source of Supply.
ALTHAM AND SIMONSTONE.	Principally from Padiham Urban District Council and Accrington District Gas and Water Board.
BARLEY, BLACKO, OLD LAUND BOOTH, WHEATLEY CARR AND REEDLEY HALLOWS.	Principally from Nelson Corporation; remainder from private supplies.
HABERGHAM EAVES, WORSTHORNE AND IGTENHILL.	Principally from Burnley Corporation; remainder from private supplies.
BRIERCLIFFE, CLIVIGER, READ AND FOULRIDGE.	From the Council's own waterworks. Each township has a separate supply.
HUNCOAT.	From Accrington District Gas and Water Board.
SABDEN, HAPTON AND DUNNOCKSHAW.	From waterworks owned privately.
GOLDSHAW BOOTH AND ROUGHLEE BOOTH.	Have no systematic supply.

Township.	Source of Supply.
NORTHTOWN.	Principally from Padiham Urban District Council.
HIGHAM.	From Nelson Corporation.

All the sources of water supply in the district are primarily upland surface water. The supply is constant.

It is inevitable that there should exist in the more rural parts a number of private supplies. From the users of these supplies come the complaints of insufficiency and pollution of the water. Constant supervision is entailed to prevent such pollution. In one instance legal action was threatened to compel the removal of ducks and poultry from the vicinity of one such supply.

The progress with the extension to the Briercliffe water supply from Jockey Springs was unavoidably held up during the year; but this delay will result in a considerable saving on the cost of the scheme when eventually put in hand.

3. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The following Townships have their own sewage disposal works, viz. :—

Township.	Method of Treatment.
Huncoat ...	Open septic tanks and double contact filters.
Sabden ...	Continuous settlement, percolating filters, and irrigation.
Worsthorne ...	Septic tanks, percolating filters, and humus tanks.
Foulridge ...	Septic tanks, percolating filters, and humus tanks.

The following townships are connected to the Burnley Corporation Sewers under agreements between the Burnley Rural District Council and the Burnley Corporation, viz. :—

Briercliffe, Hapton, Read, Reedley Hallows, Simonstone,
and Habergham Eaves.

The Whinney Hill district of the Township of Altham is connected with the Accrington and Church Joint Sewerage Board's Outfall Works at Copy Clough.

Again I wish to draw your attention to the unsatisfactory conditions in the villages of Wheatley Lane, Higham and Cliviger. These villages have no proper sewer, therefore it is impossible to carry out any vital improvements so far as abolishing the present

insanitary system of tank closets and stone drains. Especially in the Wheatley Lane District do complaints arise of the tanks and drains. As long ago as 1913 you had this matter under consideration, when you appointed a Sub-Committee to investigate and report thereon to the Council.

The war was responsible for many schemes of improvements being laid aside, and the high costs during post-war years have retarded the resumption of progressive enterprise. As soon as these villages are sewered, every endeavour will be made to convert these tank closets into clean-water closets.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Townships.	Approximate Population.	System.
Altham, Briercliffe, Hapton, Huncoat, Read, Reedley Hallows, Sabden, Simonstone, Worsthorne.	12,210	Principally waste water closets; several fresh water closets; and at a few isolated houses, pail closets.
Cliviger, Habergham Eaves, Ightenhill.	2,253	Partly water carriage; remainder conservancy.
Barley, Blacko, Dunnockshaw, Goldshaw Booth, Higham, Old Laund Booth, Roughlee, Northtown, and Wheatley Carr.	3,627	Principally on the conservancy system, although there are many houses in these Township; with slop-water closets.
Foulridge	1,400	Principally clean-water closets, though a few tank and pail closets are still in use.

Pail closets are emptied once each week, and, as this work is mostly performed by the Council's own workmen in the greater part of the district, they are generally well attended to, and it is very rare that any complaints are received. During the year we have records that—

- 5 privy closets have been converted into 9 pail closets;
- 1 pail closet has been converted into 2 clean-water closets;
- 3 additional pail closets have been built, and
- 4 additional clean-water closets have been built.

Approximate number of tank closets in the district,	757
Do. do. pail do. do. ...	844
Do. do. waste water do. do. ...	2,580
Do. do. clean-water do. do. ...	674

SCAVENGING.

The following Townships are scavenged by the Council's own vehicles and labour :—Altham, Barley, Briercliffe, Cliviger, Goldshaw Booth, Hapton, Higham, Huncoat, Old Laund Booth, Northtown, Read, Reedley Hallows, Roughlee, Sabden, Simonstone, Worsthorne, and a portion of Habergham Eaves.

Blacko, Foulridge, Ightenhill and portions of Habergham Eaves and Huncoat are scavenged by contract.

Dunnockshaw is the only township where nightsoil and house refuse are removed by the property-owners, and from where many complaints arise. Generally speaking, the work done by the contractors has been fairly satisfactory. It is really difficult to get farmers to tender for this work.

The following summary shows the quantities of house refuse, etc., removed, also how the District is divided up for the purposes of scavenging. These figures only relate to the work done by the Council's own vehicles and labour :—

TOWNSHIP.	Ashpits emptied.	Ash Bins emptied.	Privy Pails emptied.	Privy Tanks emptied.	Loads of Ashes removed.	Loads of Nightsoil removed.	Days worked on Ash-pits and Bins.	Est. weight of ashes per house.
Briercliffe and part of								cwt.
Reedley	3,792	6,943	3,987	527	1,051	688	167	18
Hapton and Huncoat	1,309	9,876	7,309	19	900	303	209	26·8
Altham, Simonstone, Read, and part of Northtown ...	964	7,096	5,429	114	708	249	182	20·6
Sabden and part of Northtown ...	582	4,596	3,519	10	528	180	124	22·5
Old Laund Booth, Barley, Higham, Goldshaw Booth, Roughlee, and part of Reedley ...	596	3,239	10,612	778	520	959	113	16·25
Worsthorne, Cliviger, Habergham Eaves.	1,003	12,368	10,982	363	1,013	618	153	25
Totals ...	8,246	44,118	41,838	1,811	4,720	2,997	...	...

There is no refuse destructor in the District, the refuse being disposed of by filling up disused quarries, ditches, etc., situated as far as possible from dwelling-houses.

During the summer no fewer than four of the tips were on fire for various periods. One was fired by unauthorised persons burning paper, but the others may have been caused by spontaneous combustion. One was put out in less than a week with

water ; another had a small stream diverted on to it and distributed all over by trenching, while a third was smothered by tipping road-side clearings all over the affected part. The last one was away on the moor, and was allowed to burn out. Naturally, while these were on fire a local nuisance was created and complaints were received. Suitable tips are becoming most difficult to secure.

Some progress has been made with the abolition of open ashpits and the substitution of galvanized iron dust-bins, which are emptied fortnightly, and, in many cases, once each week.

Number of ashpits abolished during the year	...	...	7
Number of houses provided with bins	...	...	33
Approximate number of ashpits in the District	...	...	2,393
Approximate number of dust-bins in the District	...	...	1,752

The following statement has been kindly given to me by your Surveyor, Mr. Pritchard :—

SEWERAGE.—During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1921, the Council extended the main sewer in Back Burnley Road, Huncoat, at a cost of £56 10s. 0d., thereby affording a means of disposal for the sewage from the new property built in that district.

Owing to the cost of materials and labour still remaining abnormally high, it has not been possible to proceed with any new schemes.

The Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Foulridge, Huncoat, Sabden and Worsthorne have been maintained in good condition, and have given satisfactory results.

WATER.—The water supply for the township of Read has been considerably improved as a result of searching for an additional supply, which it is hoped will ensure Read having an abundant supply during periods of drought.

The water main at Cliviger has been extended so as to afford a supply to property near Cliviger Mill, and at the same time provide for scouring the mains at that point.

Owing to a fire the pump house at Sweet Well, Briercliffe, was burnt down during last summer, and it has been rebuilt—but this time it has been constructed in stone and other incombustible material, and is now a substantial building.

Generally, the Council's water supplies have been very satisfactory throughout the year, and in no case has the supply failed, even in the driest part of the summer.

HOUSING.—During the year plans for 20 houses were submitted for approval, and certificates of fitness for habitation have been issued in respect of 35 new houses.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

35 written complaints have been received, particulars of which are as follows :—

Accumulations of nightsoil, ashes, etc....	...	6
Contaminated water supply	... ..	1
Damp houses	... ..	5
Dangerous structures	... ..	2
Diversion of drain	... ..	1
Defective water-closets	... ..	9
Do. tippers and brickwork	... ..	4
House in a dirty condition	... ..	1
Nuisance from poultry	... ..	2
Do. do. cesspool...	... ..	1
Do. do. middenstead	... ..	1
Do. do. pigs	... ..	2
		35

The premises to which the above relate were at once visited, and the necessary steps taken to secure the abatement of any nuisance.

Systematic inspections of the District have revealed the following defects which were at once notified to the responsible persons :—

	Defects.	Remedied.
Defective privy pails	25	21
Do. dust bins	36	30
Do. eavesgutter and downspouts.	17	9
Do. drains and cesspools	14	10
Do. tippers...	15	12
Do. clean-water closet	1	1
Do. ranges	7	3
Do. water-closet cisterns...	5	5
Do. water-closet structures	15	7
Do. ashpits and coalplaces	7	7
Do. chimney stacks	2	2
Do. stairs	3	2
Do. floors, plaster, etc.	10	5
Accumulations of nightsoil and ashes	9	9
Blocked closet drains	17	17
^a Insufficient closet accommodation	2	—
Damp houses	15	4

	Defects.	Remedied.
Defective water fittings	3	3
Nuisance from poultry	3	3
Do. do. pigs	2	2
Dwellings overcrowded	2	1
Do. in a filthy condition... ..	1	1
Other defects	9	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	220	161
	<hr/>	<hr/>

*a*It was not found to be possible to extend the present closets where insufficiency exists on account of the refusal of adjacent landowner to sell, and, as no sewer was available, the matter has been left in abeyance.

In connection with the above nuisances, 125 informal notices were served upon owners of premises where defects existed, and 40 were personally interviewed.

Six statutory notices were served, but it was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings against any person during the year for unabated nuisances.

The following figures show the number of visits the Inspector has made to each township during the year :—

Altham	6	Huncoat	25
Barley	3	Ightenhill	4
Blacko	17	Old Laund Booth	19
Briercliffe	51	Simonstone and Read... ..	23
Cliviger	32	Reedley Hallows	7
Dunnockshaw	4	Roughlee	17
Foulridge	21	Sabden	15
Goldshaw Booth	2	Worsthorne	23
Habergham Eaves	7		
Hapton	26		
Higham	13	Total	315

The Council have continued to supply dust bins and sanitary pails at cost price to the mutual advantage of all concerned. With each notification of defective bins or pails an intimation is sent that the Council will supply a suitable galvanised bin or pail at a stated price, and invariably orders are given at once for same to be forwarded. Generally, property-owners are determined to do as little as possible in the way of improvements, still pleading the high costs of materials and labour.

It may be of interest to note that, again, the Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act has been rarely invoked. Under Section 2, application may be made by a tenant to a Court for an order suspending increase of rent on the grounds that the house is not reasonably fit for human habitation. The tenant should first apply to the Sanitary Authority for a certificate as to the condition of the house, and place this before the magistrates. It has been held that this certificate is not final and binding. Your Inspector who is the officer appointed to issue certificates, has made the practice of taking up the matter of repairs direct with the owner rather than issue any certificate. This course has worked most satisfactorily.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

There is little to complain about with regard to nuisances arising from black smoke. No time observations have been taken during the past year of the amount of black smoke per hour, and no complaints were received.

SCHOOLS.

There are 24 Public Elementary Schools (including 9 Council Schools) in the District.

The examination of children is done by the Medical Inspectors of the County Staff periodically. Scholars found to be suffering from eye-defects, dental cavies, scabies, etc., are referred to their private medical practitioner for treatment.

I have made several examinations of school children, and numerous visits have been made to schools where infectious diseases have occurred. Owing to the prevalence of measles and whooping-cough, I found it necessary to recommend the closing of the following schools :—

For Measles—Briercliffe Council School (Infants' Department), from 27th June to the 1st July inclusive.

For Whooping-cough—Church of England School, Fence, from 2nd to the 12th August inclusive, and Foulridge Church of England School from the 21st November to the 2nd December inclusive.

The sanitary conditions of the schools are generally satisfactory, though the Church of England School, Roughlee, is still without an adequate supply of good water. Repeated representations had to be made to the Managers of the Church of England School, Clowbridge, on the irregular attention given to the emptying of the closet pails.

MILK SUPPLY.

237 inspections have been made of the dairies and cowsheds.

The cowsheds in this district are stone buildings generally open to the barn, and have either concrete, flagged, or paved floors; windows, to open at the top; and generally there are ventilators in the roof for the extraction of foul air. The cowsheds are drained into either brick or concrete tanks situated under the middenstead.

The importance of ventilation and airspace is better realised by the farmers as an important factor in the health of the cattle and the sweetness and cleanliness of the shippons. Still, generally speaking, farmers are very conservative and strongly hold to old-fashioned methods. Milk recording and the use of the thermometer are very rare; where the latter is in use I find a temperature of 60 degrees mostly desired. Again, not much improvement has been effected during the year. One up-to-date shippon for six has been built, another shippon remodelled, while to another new drains and a tank have been put in. Speaking generally, the shippons are in a good condition for a rural district. The milk supply of the District has been abundant—as also have been the complaints of the price charged!

The shippons are generally found to be clean, and the lime-washing done at the proper time.

With regard to cleanliness of cattle, more powers are necessary to compel grooming of cattle, especially during the winter months, when the cattle are only turned out for watering. During this period of confinement the hindquarters become very dirty, the result of the animal lying down in its own dung. These "buttons," or particles of filth, may easily be knocked into the milking pail by the swinging of the tail.

The use of such insanitary material as screenings from cotton waste factories to dry up the floor is discouraged where found.

No case of anthrax has occurred in the district during the year.

The following notices were sent out under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order, etc., for—

Omission to limewash	...	...	...	...	5
Defective or dirty floors	...	...	...	...	6
Defective light	...	...	...	...	3
Insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	8
Insufficient airspace	...	...	...	...	1
Nuisance from midden or tank	...	...	...	...	4

The administration of the Foods and Drugs Acts is in the hands of the County Police, to whom I am indebted for the information that 61 samples of milk were taken, of which 6 were found to be unsatisfactory. No other samples of food were taken.

Most of the milk is sent into the County Borough of Burnley, and I am indebted to the Chief Sanitary Inspector for the number of samples taken, viz., 88 samples. Adulterated samples, 1. Legal proceedings were successfully instituted in this case. It will be seen that almost 5 per cent. of these samples are returned as unsatisfactory.

BAKEHOUSES.

Few of the bakehouses have employees outside the proprietors' family, and most of them are connected with small retail shops. Upon inspection, all were found to be clean and well kept.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The workshops were found to be in order. Two notices were received from H. M. Inspector of Factories, relative to certain defects remediable under the Public Health Act. The factories were visited and the complaints received attention.

Factory No. 1—Insufficient sanitary conveniences.

Factory No. 2—Insanitary and dirty closet accommodation.

The first was remedied by the addition of 2 pail closets, and the second was immediately cleansed and disinfected.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

No public abattoir is provided in any of the Townships. There are 42 premises licensed for the slaughtering of cattle, etc., and of these, 21 are in general use.

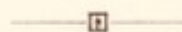
I am sure as a Council you do not lack appreciation of the importance and necessity of every attention being paid to meat inspection: that the supply shall not be of the least questionable character, or of such a standard as to give any financial inducement to butchers to slaughter in your area.

78 visits have been paid to the various slaughter-houses, and on no fewer than 44 occasions slaughtering was not in progress. It will be seen from the number of futile visits made, the great difficulty of adequate supervision of such an important article

of food, for over an area so scattered as the Burnley Rural District repeat visits are rarely practicable on the usual slaughtering days. If the recommendations of the recent Departmental Committee on Meat Inspection are adopted, viz., " Powers should be granted under which due notice would be given of intention to slaughter," then it would be possible to arrange a tour of inspection. Especially is this desirable in all cases of emergency slaughter, for not one such animal was voluntarily submitted for inspection. As far as possible, a careful watch is maintained.

About 17 beasts, 140 sheep, 65 pigs and 2 calves were examined ; 1 calf and 1 sheep were condemned ; 1 carcase of beef was seized and 1 carcase of beef and 1 calf were permitted to be voluntarily surrendered. Legal proceedings were unsuccessfully instituted against a person for having in his possession an unsound carcase of beef. The magistrates, in dismissing the charge, said it was a right and proper case to bring before them, but the defendant must have the benefit of the doubt that it was intended for the food of man.

One licence was granted for the erection and use of premises for a slaughterhouse.



HOUSING.

—

Estimated number of dwelling-houses of all classes ...	5,081
Estimated number of working-class dwelling-houses ...	4,254
Number of new working-class dwelling-houses erected ...	14
Number of dwelling-houses inspected under the Public Health Act and Housing Acts	271
Number of dwelling-houses inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	22
Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil.
Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	15

REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action of the Local Authority...	8
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PROCEEDINGS UNDER SEC. 28, H. T. P. A., 1919.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil.
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit by owners	8
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit by Local Authority... ..	Nil.
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations of owners of intention to close... ..	Nil.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... ..	197
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied by owners	131
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied by Local Authority	Nil.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SEC. 17-18 HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	Nil.
Number of Closing Orders made	Nil.
Number of Closing Orders determined, dwelling-house having been made fit	Nil.
Number of dwelling houses demolished	Nil.

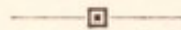
UNHEALTHY AREAS.

Areas represented to Local Authority with a view to improvement schemes under Part I. or Part II. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act	Nil.
Number of houses not complying with the building by-laws erected with consent of Local Authority under Sec. 25 Housing, Town Planning Act, 1919	Nil.
Staff engaged on Housing work, with, briefly, the duties of each Officer—The Inspector of Nuisances, who also acts as Inspector under the Housing Acts, Inspector of Dairies and Cowsheds, Factories and Workshops and Scavenging Superintendent.	

The chief defects found and notified under the Housing Acts include—

Defective floor joists.	Defective plaster.
Do. floors and stairs.	Do. ventilation.
Do. lead-flashings.	Dry rot.
Do. windows and sash	Dampness.
cords.	Insufficient closet accom-
Do. hand-rails.	modation.
Do. kitchen ranges.	

One row of houses at Roughlee has been entirely stripped and re-roofed.



PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifications received during the year were as follows:—

	1920.			1921.		
	Cases.	Deaths.		Cases.	Deaths.	
Scarlet Fever	12	1	...	26	—	...
Typhoid Fever	1	—	...	1	—	...
Diphtheria	17	4	...	13	—	...
Erysipelas	1	—	...	3	—	...
Malaria	1	—	...	—	—	...
Puerperal Fever... ..	3	1	...	—	—	...
Influenzal Pneumonia ...	3	1	...	10	—	...
Encephalitis Lethargica .	—	—	...	1	—	...
Totals	38	7	...	54	—	...

It will be seen there is an increase of 16 cases over last year's total, principally accounted for by 14 more cases of Scarlet Fever. Having regard to the very dry summer we experienced, it is remarkable the increase has not been much greater.

SCARLET FEVER.—These cases were reported from the following Townships:—

Worsthorne	7	Reedley	2
Briercliffe	6	Roughlee	2
Cliviger	3	Simonstone	2
Foulridge	3	Blacko	1

At Worsthorne I found a boy running about who was in the peeling stage, and had also a discharge from the ears. His sister had been removed to the sanatorium some five weeks previously. Undoubtedly he was the source of infection in three other cases.

DIPHTHERIA.—It is gratifying to note a decrease of 4 cases from the previous year's total. They occurred at—

Higham	3	Cliviger	1
Huncoat	2	Blacko	1
Northtown	2	Foulridge	1
Worsthorne	2	Reedley	1

There had been a somewhat severe outbreak at one of the schools in Padiham, and 5 of our cases were contacts. One case was brought from a boarding school at the Christmas vacation, but the others appeared to have no traceable connection with any other case. No throat swabs were examined. I firmly believe in administering a full dose of anti-toxin at an early stage. Anti-toxin is supplied free of charge. Usually the medical practitioners obtain it and forward the account for same to the Council.

TYPHOID FEVER.—This case occurred at Briercliffe, and was an aged person ; it terminated fatally.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.—The first and only case was reported from Huncoat. It was a mild case and at once removed to the Sanatorium. It was duly reported to the Ministry of Health, but nothing satisfactory could be learned as to its origin. All possible steps and precautions were taken in dealing with the case, and no other person was infected. The case made a speedy and complete recovery.

It is gratifying to note the following townships have been free from any of the above infectious diseases :—Barley, Dunnockshaw, Goldshaw Booth, Habergham Eaves, Ightenhill, Old Laund Booth, Read, Wheatley Carr and Sabden.

Immediately upon the receipt of infectious diseases notifications, the houses are visited for the purpose of ascertaining, if possible, the source of infection, and also for giving instructions to prevent the spread of the disease. At the same time disinfectants are left at the houses.

After the recovery of the patient, or, if removed to Sanatorium, immediately after such removal, the infected rooms and bedding are properly disinfected either with formalin vapour or by spraying with formalin. In cases of typhoid fever the beds are usually taken away and burned.

There is no steam disinfecting plant in the District, but arrangements have been made with the Burnley Corporation Health Department for the removal and disinfecting of bedding at their disinfecting station. Rooms fumigated number 31, and 55 visits have been made to houses where infectious diseases existed. 10 cases went to the Sanatorium, of which one died.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of Primary Notifications received from Medical Practitioners, Form A (particulars of which are given under) were 28. Form B, 2. Total, 30 :—

	Males.		Females.		Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .	8	...	6	...	14
Cervical Glands ...	1	...	2	...	3
Peritoneum ...	—	...	2	...	2
Spine ...	—	...	2	...	2
Hip, Knee or Hands ...	2	...	1	...	3
Meninges ...	1	...	1	...	2
Anus ...	—	...	1	...	1
Testicle ...	1	...	—	...	1
Other forms ...	—	...	2	...	2
Total ...	13	...	17	...	30

OCCUPATIONS OF PERSONS NOTIFIED.

Weavers ...	8	Caretaker ...	1
Cardroom workers ...	3	Baker ...	1
Discharged soldiers ...	3	Farmer ...	1
Housewives ...	2	In brickworks ...	1
At school ...	7	Not stated ...	3

Four persons were discharged from Sanatorium, 2 of which were reported as slightly improved.

There were 13 deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis, of which one occurred in a Sanatorium.

When a patient is removed to a Sanatorium the house is properly fumigated when possible to do so.

A copy of each notification is forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health and also to the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for the District. At the same time a notification is forwarded to the Tuberculosis Health Visitor which the County Council now have in our District.

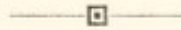
SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

STAFF.

One Inspector of Nuisances has charge of the whole District and devotes the whole of his time to the duties. In addition to carrying out the usual duties, the Council have appointed him Inspector under the Dairies and Cowsheds Order and under the Housing Act, 1909.

HOSPITALS.

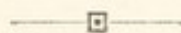
There are two hospitals of which the Council have joint use along with the Burnley Corporation and the Urban Districts of Brierfield and Padiham. These are situate at Kibble Bank in the Borough of Burnley, and at Crown Point, Habergham Eaves in our area. The latter is used for Small Pox cases.



MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Supervising Authority is the County Council, as in schemes for the treatment of Tuberculosis, the Midwives Act and the Notification of Births Act. By this means the unification of home visiting and the supervision of children under 5 years of age by the Health Visitor—also appointed by the County Council—is secured. The Council have taken no action respecting Child Welfare work, neither has any local scheme been prepared in regard to the supply of food or milk, free or at cost, to mothers and infants; though, when any necessitous case came to our knowledge, milk was supplied free. The Nurses under the County Authority did the bulk of this work.

Briercliffe is the only township in which a Voluntary Child Welfare Centre has been established. Again this has had a most successful year owing to the co-operation of the County Medical Officer of Health and the enthusiasm of the local helpers. The School Medical Officer and a Health Visitor—both County Officers for this District—are in attendance at each session, and give the "Health Talks." The average attendance of mothers at this Centre is over 22, which is considered very satisfactory.



OVERCROWDING.

The remarks made last year are true of this, with emphasis placed on the statement that the overcrowding is still less prevalent.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector and a statement from Mr. Pritchard, your Surveyor, are incorporated in this Report, and I have only to express again my thanks to them, and to all my co-officers for their hearty assistance and co-operation, and to the whole Council which has never been lacking in sympathetic and practical interest.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. J. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

July 3rd, 1922.