

[Report 1943] / Medical Officer of Health, Burnley R.D.C.

Contributors

Burnley (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1943

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BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year ended 31st December, 1943.

Also the Report of Mr. FRANK HEWITT,
Surveyor to the Council.

Gentlemen,

We beg to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the Rural District of Burnley for the year 1943.

The health of the District was generally satisfactory.

The outbreak of measles which occurred in the later months of 1942 continued with increased severity during the first three months of 1943 when 166 cases were notified out of a total of 173 for the year. Scarlet Fever, on the other hand, was less prevalent and the number of cases was little more than half that of the previous year. Diphtheria cases, too, were very few. It is interesting to note that none of the 4 patients had had immunisation treatment.

The vital statistics reveal that both the birth-rate and death-rate were higher than in 1942, as was also the maternal death-rate and the infantile mortality rate. Figures shewing the increases are given in the table on page 6.

Of the individual causes of death the largest increases, compared with the previous year's figures, occurred in influenza 9 (0), bronchitis 21 (14), pneumonia 10 (4), nephritis 8 (4), diarrhoea (under 2 years) 3 (0), not classified 44 (19).

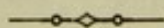
The number of deaths from cancer declined from 34 in 1942 to 29, and pulmonary tuberculosis from 9 to one.

The supervision of the sanitary condition of the District was well-maintained and farm inspection received a good deal of attention.

We are indebted to Mr. A. Johnson, Sanitary Inspector, for his help throughout the year and for his compilation of the statistics and much preparation work in this Report.

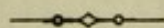
Burnley Rural District Council

YEAR 1943.



Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. B. HODGKINS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR WM. ALDERSON.



COUNCILLORS :

Altham	- - -	Herbert Jessop, Pasture Gate, Altham.
Barley	- - -	William James Martin, Hoarstones Cote, Fence.
Blacko	- - -	Irvin Walton, " Hillcrest " Gisburn Road, Blacko.
Briercliffe	- -	James E. Leaver, Rose Cottage, Cockden, Briercliffe.
Cliviger	- - -	William Alderson, c.c., 1, Longfield Terrace, Cliviger.
Dunnockshaw	-	John E. Riley, 4, Prospect Terrace, Dunnock- shaw.
Foulridge	- -	W. I. Berry, " Burnside," Foulridge.
Goldshaw Booth		William Starkie, Craven Lea, Fence, nr. Burnley.
Habergham Eaves		C. Longbottom, Small Hazels Farm, Habergham Eaves.
Hapton	- - -	Edward Dinsdale, " Hambleside," Burnley Road, Hapton.
Higham	- - -	James Stuttard, J.P., Whitehill, Read.
Ightenhill	- -	Frederick Crossley, J.P., Stockbridge House, Padiham.
Old Laund Booth		Francis Holgate, " Lyndene " Fence.
Read	- - - -	David Creears, " Castlebank," Straits Lane, Read.

COUNCILLORS.—CONTINUED.

Reedley Hallows	Richard Tootell, 22, Reedley Grove, Reedley.
Roughlee Booth	Joseph B. Hodgkins, C.A., "Sherwood," Fence.
Sabden - - -	F. Birtwell, 97, Whalley Road, Sabden.
Simonstone and Northtown	Frank F. Hitchen, "Beaconsholme," Simon- stone. (died 4th May, 1944).
Worsthorne-with- Hurstwood	Alfred Henry Pickles, J.P., "Bryn Hey," Worsthorne.

 OFFICIALS :—

Clerk—H. E. PURTON.

Medical Officers of Health—D. C. LAMONT, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
(Temporary). (M.O.H., BURNLEY).

G. J. ROBERTS, M.D., B.Sc., D.P.H.,
(M.O.H., NELSON).

Engineer and Surveyor—F. HEWITT, F.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors—A. JOHNSON (Chief), M.S.I.A.
S. GRIMSHAW.

Council Offices—"OAKLEIGH," REEDLEY, NEAR BURNLEY.

(A) STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

II.

The chief occupations of the people in normal times are cotton weaving, coal mining and dairy farming.

There was practically no unemployment in the District during the year. Social conditions, on the whole, were fairly satisfactory.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Live Births :— Legitimate	215	110	105
Illegitimate	10	4	6
(Birth-rate per 1,000 of the population - 13·6)			

Still Births :— Legitimate	5	1	4
Illegitimate	1	1	—
(Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 26·0).			

DEATHS.

Total.	Male.	Female.
255	119	136

(Death-rate per 1,000 of the population - 15·4).

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

	Deaths	Death-rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births.
From puerperal sepsis	None	None.
Other maternal causes	2	8·6

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	12	9	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Death-rate of all Infants per 1,000 live births — 53·0.

Death-rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 leg. live births—56·0.

Death-rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illeg. live births—nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	25
„ „ Measles (all ages)	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	3

	PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION.				MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE.		Rate of Deaths under One Year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of resp'tory system	Death-rate from cancer	Per 1,000 Live births	Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) births	
Mean of five years—							
1938-1942 ...	10·9	12·9	0·36	1·66	2·08	2·03	40
Year—							
1942	11·5	13·3	0·53	2·02	Nil.	Nil.	20
1943	13·6	15·4	0·06	1·51	8·88	8·65	53
Increase or decrease in 1943 on—							
Five years' average,							
1938-1942 ...	+2·7	+2·5	—0·30	—0·15	+6·80	+6·62	+13
Previous year	+2·1	+2·1	—0·47	—0·51	+8·88	+8·65	+33

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male.	Female.
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers....	—	1
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	—	—
4. Whooping cough	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	—	1
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	1
8. Syphilitic diseases	—	—
9. Influenza	6	3
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—
12. Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—
13. Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus (males); also cancer of uterus (F)...	1	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
15. Cancer of breast	—	4
16. Cancer of all other sites	9	6
17. Diabetes	1	3
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	8	26
19. Heart Disease	29	33
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	2	5
21. Bronchitis	9	12
22. Pneumonia	5	5
23. Other respiratory diseases....	1	—
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	1
25. Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age	3	—
26. Appendicitis	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases	4	5
28. Nephritis	4	4
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	2
31. Premature birth	—	—
32. Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease	3	—
33. Suicide	2	—
34. Road traffic accidents	1	—
35. Other violent causes	—	3
36. All other causes	25	19
	<hr/> 119	<hr/> 136

The total number of deaths was 30 more than in the previous year, but was 23 less than the average for the previous 10 years.

**(B) GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
THE AREA.**

No changes or developments from those given in the report for the year 1938.

(C)—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

No important changes or developments took place during the year.

The supplies are constant and there was no shortage in any part of the district.

Samples were taken from four private supplies and one public supply of our own, as follows :—

<u>Township.</u>	Result of Examination.	
	<u>Chemical.</u>	<u>Bacteriological.</u>
PUBLIC. Briercliffe	—	Satisfactory.
PRIVATE. Mereclough	—	Satisfactory.
Overtown (2)	—	do.
Read (Read Hall)	—	do.

Little or no progress was made in the Council's negotiations to secure a supply of water from Nelson Corporation for the higher part of Blacko. About 30 houses in this part of the village have a piped supply from a privately-owned source which former the owner wishes to discontinue. Nelson Corporation are the water undertakers for the lower part of the village.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No special action has been taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams in the area. The chief source of pollution is from villages not yet sewered.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no important extensions of sewerage nor was any special work carried out in connection with sewage disposal.

Several sewerage schemes are needed for various parts of the district, but these, of necessity, will have to be postponed until after the war.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following statement shews the number of closet conversions carried out during the year and the previous 5 years :—

	1943	1938—1942
Waste water closets to fresh water closets	4	32
Privies to fresh water closets	—	6
Pail closets to fresh water closets	—	32
Privies to pail closets	4	10

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

There was no extension or improvement during the year in the arrangements for public cleansing.

Salvage work continued throughout the year but the results were not quite as satisfactory as in the previous year. Waste paper collections fell from 146 tons to 117 tons and metal from 42 to 28 tons. The receipts were £88 lower than in 1942.

The amount of waste material collected and sold during the year was :—

Waste Paper....	117 tons.
Metal (Ferrous and Non-ferrous) and tins	28 tons.
Bottles, Jars and Broken Glass	11 tons.
Rubber	2½ tons.
Bones....	2 tons.
Rags, etc.	4 tons.

The Sale of this material realised £918.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The several townships in the District have been regularly inspected.

One hundred and six complaints were received. These were immediately investigated and dealt with.

Number of visits to premises	450
Number of defects or nuisances found	229
Number of notices issued—(a) Preliminary	87
(b) Statutory	5

MATTERS DEALT WITH :—

Defective dustbins renewed	98
Defective sanitary pails renewed	73
Blocked drains opened	16
Blocked waste-water closets opened	5
Drains repaired	14
Septic tanks cleansed and repaired	7
Defective closet tippers repaired	3
Blocked eaves, gutter and rain-water pipes opened	2
Defective closet buildings	4
Overflowing liquid manure tanks....	2
Accumulation of rubbish	1
Burst water pipes	2
Defective rainwater pipes... ..	1
Insanitary privies abolished	4
Insanitary waste water closets abolished....	4
New drains laid	1
New kitchen sink provided	1
Def. sink waste pipes repaired	2
Inspection chambers provided	3
Water storage tank built	1
Dirty houses cleaned	2
Total nuisances abated	246

SHOPS.

No action was taken during the year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to temperature and ventilation of shops and to sanitary conveniences, nor under the Public Health Act, 1936.

CAMPING SITES.

- (a) Number of sites in the District which were used for camping purposes during 1943.... One
- (b) Number of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by the local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936 None
- (c) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the district at one time during the summer season 60

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No special action was taken with regard to smoke abatement.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

No changes or developments during the year.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

At the several inspections made the sanitary conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

No action was taken with regard to tents, vans, sheds, etc. in the district. There are no local byelaws dealing with these or similar structures.

SCHOOLS.

Conditions reported in previous reports are unchanged and no school closure took place on account of infectious disease.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

No houses were dealt with during the year.

(D) HOUSING.

The housing conditions, generally, are fairly satisfactory and have not been affected to any appreciable extent by the changed conditions of war-time.

(a) STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the Year :— None.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	39
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	20
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation...	—

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	39
2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	35
3. Action under statutory powers during the year :—	
(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	4
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—

The repairs effected to houses during the year were of a general character and included such items as :—pointing of walls ; repairs to roofs and chimneys ; fire-ranges repaired ; defective window frames, floors, plaster, doors, etc. repaired.

Considerable difficulty was again experienced in getting repairs done on account of shortage of labour and materials.

(E) INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Particulars as to the number of dairy farms in the district have been given in previous reports.

The number of inspections made during 1943 ...	446
Notices issued re defects and dirty condition ...	59

Improvements effected :—

Farm House Farm, ... ALTHAM.	(1) New dairy provided.
Hard Farm, ... ALTHAM.	(1) Dairy floor repaired.
Far Bank Farm, ... BARLEY.	(1) Rear walls of 2 cowsheds cement-rendered.
Bend Hill Farm, ... BRIERCLIFFE.	(1) Cowshed floor improved.
Lea Green Farm, ... BRIERCLIFFE.	(1) Dairy floor concreted ; walls cement-rendered & ceiling raised.
Proctor Cote Farm, ... BRIERCLIFFE.	(1) Cowshed floor repaired.
Pighole Farm ... BRIERCLIFFE.	(1) Walls of dairy cement-rendered and floor repaired.
Yeomans Farm, ... BRIERCLIFFE.	(1) Cowshed re-modelled.
Bulls Head Farm, ... CLIVIGER.	(1) Standings in cowshed repaired.
Jack Hey Farm, ... CLIVIGER.	(1) Dairy floor concreted.
Hr. Fencegate Farm, FENCE.	(1) New dairy provided.
Cocker Hill Farm, ... FOULRIDGE.	(1) Cowshed standings repaired, shortened and raised.
Earl Hall Farm, ... FOULRIDGE.	(1) Dairy floor concreted and walls Cement-rendered.

Lower Houses Farm, GOLDSHAW BOOTH.	(1) New dairy provided.
Height Farm, ... HIGHAM.	(1) New dairy provided.
Pendle Hall Farm, ... HIGHAM.	(1) Cowshed floor concreted and rear wall cement-rendered. (2) New shippon provided to hold 14 cows. (3) New dairy provided.
New Laund Farm, ... OLD LAUND BOOTH.	(1) New dairy provided (Accredited standard).
Old Laund Farm, ... OLD LAUND BOOTH.	(1) Cowshed floor concreted, rear walls cement-rendered, extra ventilators provided.
Cobcar Nook Farm, ... READ.	(1) New dairy provided.
Dimpenley Head Farm, ROUGHLEE.	(1) Cowshed floor concreted.
Old Hall Farm, ... ROUGHLEE.	(1) Floor of 2 cowsheds relaid. (2) Cowshed ceiling raised and rear walls cement-rendered.
Dawson Fold Farm, ... SABDEN.	(1) New dairy provided.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOOD.

Under the Government's war-time scheme of meat control the private slaughterhouses in the district have not been used since the beginning of the year ; all slaughtering for this area is at present being done at the abattoir in Burnley.

The butchers' shops have, however, been inspected and were found clean and well-maintained. No meat was condemned during the year.

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and deal with adulteration of food, etc.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF FOOD.

Examinations are carried out at the Burnley Municipal Laboratory. No food was sent for examination during the year.

(e) NUTRITION.

No special action was taken.

(f) SHELL-FISH (MOLLUSCAN).

There are no shell-fish beds or layings in the District.

**(F) PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.**

GENERAL.

The total number of cases of infectious diseases notified was considerably higher than that reported in 1942, due principally to a large increase in the cases of measles. Scarlet Fever, however, was less prevalent and the number of cases of other notifiable infectious diseases showed no important change.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Smallpox....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	19	27	15	47	71	40
Diphtheria	10	11	6	11	1	4
Enteric fever (including paratyphoid)	—	—	—	3	—	—
Measles	{ not noti- }		147	146	73	173
Whooping cough	{ fiable }		44	37	22	27
Acute pneumonia	7	17	22	16	11	10
Puerperal pyrexia	3	3	1	—	4	2
Cerebro-spinal fever	—	—	1	4	2	1
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—	—	3
Erysipelas	2	6	8	6	8	1
Ophthalmia Neon	6	2	—	1	4	5

Scarlet Fever :—The cases were fairly well distributed over the whole district, notifications being received from 14 different parishes. The figures shown in brackets are the numbers for the previous year.

Townships from which notifications were received :—

Altham	2 (3)	Higham	1 (3)
Barley	0 (0)	Ightenhill	0 (0)
Blacko	1 (2)	Northtown	0 (3)
Briercliffe	1 (5)	Old Laund Booth	0 (2)
Cliviger	4 (12)	Read	3 (5)
Dunnockshaw	1 (0)	Reedley	0 (3)
Foulridge	1 (3)	Roughlee	1 (0)
Goldshaw Booth	0 (1)	Sabden	3 (5)
Habergham Eaves.....	3 (3)	Simonstone	1 (2)
Hapton	14 (14)	Worsthorne	4 (5)

Seasonal Prevalence.

January	5 (10)	July	2 (5)
February.....	5 (7)	August	2 (5)
March	3 (11)	September	4 (10)
April	1 (10)	October	5 (3)
May	2 (3)	November	0 (3)
June	4 (3)	December.....	7 (1)

Twenty-one patients were removed to the Infectious Disease Hospital, 52·3% of the number notified.

There were no deaths.

Diphtheria :—Four cases were notified, as compared with one case in the previous year.

All four cases were removed to the Infectious Disease Hospital. One patient had a particularly long stay of 20 weeks in hospital and the others were in for periods of 11, 7 and 6 weeks respectively.

None of the patients had been immunised.

There were no deaths.

There was no connection between any of the four cases which occurred in the widely separated parishes of Altham, Cliviger, Habergham Eaves and Read, and in the months of May, August, September and October.

Pneumonia :—This calls for little comment. There were only 10 cases notified, one less than in 1942. The average for the previous 5 years was 14.6. There were, however, 10 deaths which is 6 more than in 1942. The ages at which death occurred were :—One under 1 year of age, 2 between 50 and 60 years of age, and 7 over 60 years.

Measles :—The number of cases was the highest recorded since the disease became notifiable in 1940. Of the 173 cases reported 166 occurred in the first three months of the year. The disease was prevalent throughout the whole of the district as the following table shows :—

TOWNSHIPS AFFECTED.

Altham	0	Higham	4
Barley	0	Ightenhill	4
Blacko	25	Old Laund Booth	14
Briercliffe	10	Read	1
Cliviger	21	Reedley Hallows	8
Dunnockshaw	1	Roughlee	7
Foulridge	29	Sabden	0
Goldshaw Booth	4	Simonstone.....	7
Hapton	17	Worsthorne	15
Habergham Eaves.....	6		

SEASONAL PREVALENCE.

January	44	April	6
February.....	77	May	1
March	45		

One case was admitted to the Infectious Disease Hospital.

There were no deaths.

Other Infectious Diseases :—None of the other infectious diseases calls for any special comment.

Disinfection :—53 houses were disinfected during the year. Fumigation or spraying with formalin is the usual method employed. Where necessary, bedding, etc. is removed for steam disinfection at the Burnley Corporation Cleansing Station.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Specimens sent to the Public Laboratory, Burnley, from the district during the year were :—

	Total	Negative	Positive
Swabs (Diph).	19	17	2
Sputum (T.B.)	13	12	1
Faeces (Dysentery)	4	—	—
„ (Organisms)	4	—	—

Diphtheria Immunisation.

It is not possible to say exactly how many children have now been immunised. According to the records over 50% of school children and pre-school children have been immunised under the Council's scheme, and many others will have received treatment privately by their own doctor and at schools and clinics in neighbouring districts.

Number of children immunised during the year :—

School children 177

Pre-school children 291

Prophylactic used - A.P.T.

No post-Schick tests were undertaken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR, 1943.

The following analysis of cases of infectious diseases notified, and deaths therefrom, under the various age groups, will perhaps be of interest.

Notifiable Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.											Hospital.		Total Deaths.		
	Total cases at all ages	Years.										Total cases removed to Hospital.	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to District			
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45				45-65	65 & over
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever	40	1	1	—	2	18	10	2	5	—	1	—	—	21	—	—
Diphtheria	4	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1*	—
Enteric fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(primary & influenzal)	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	6	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2†	—	—
Dysentery	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles ...	173	6	13	18	33	79	17	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
neonatorum ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	27	1	4	4	6	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	266	9	19	22	42	110	28	4	9	3	9	2	29	1	11	

*Deaths in hospital—1 Broncho-Pneumonia.

†One a suspected case of C.S.F.

Cancer :—The number of deaths from cancer was 25, nine less than in the previous year.

The average number of deaths for the decennial period 1933-1942 was 26.6.

Localisation of the disease :—

FEMALES :—Uterus 1 ; Stomach and Duodenum 2 ; Colon 1 ; Breast 4 ; Liver 1 ; Ovaries 1 ; Rectum 1 ; Other 1.

MALES :—Stomach and Duodenum 3 ; Prostate 1 ; Colon 2 ; Lung 2 ; Bladder 3 ; Tongue 1 ; Pancreas 1.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS AT VARIOUS AGE PERIODS.

	15-20	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	Over 75
Males ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	4	2
Females	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	2	1	3	—

DEATHS DURING PAST 10 YEARS.

	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943
Males ...	7	9	10	17	14	15	12	16	16	13
Females	15	15	18	11	15	12	16	10	18	12
Total ...	22	24	28	28	29	27	28	26	34	25

DEATH RATE FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Cancer Deaths.	Total number of Deaths (all causes).	Rate per 100 deaths.
1934	22	212	10.4
1935	24	240	10.0
1936	28	223	12.5
1937	28	241	11.6
1938	29	182	15.9
1939	27	242	11.2
1940	28	232	12.1
1941	26	248	10.5
1942	34	225	15.1
1943	25	255	9.8

TUBERCULOSIS.

Number of primary notifications received from medical practitioners on Form 'A'	Total.	Non-Pulmonary.	
		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
...	13	10	3
Un-notified cases (obtained from Death Returns)	—	—	—
Total	13	10	3

Localisation of the Disease :—

	M.	F.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	7	10
Glands of Neck ...	—	2	2
Meningitis ...	—	1	1
	3	10	13

Occupation of Patients :—

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary
Loom Overlooker ...	1	—
Bank Clerk ...	—	1
Household Duties ...	3	—
Weavers ...	3	—
Children ...	—	2
Cotton Beamer ...	1	—
Ex-Service man ...	1	—
Munition Worker ...	1	—
	10	3

The following table shews the age periods of new cases and of deaths in the area :—

Age. Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1—5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25—35	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3	7	—	3	—	2	—	1
Totals	10		3		2		1	

TABLE.

Comparative Statement of Cases Notified during past 10 years.

Year.	PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total.
1934	9	13	4	4	30
1935	4	6	2	5	17
1936	7	7	1	3	18
1937	4	8	2	3	17
1938	1	7	4	6	18
1939	5	4	1	4	14
1940	5	5	5	2	17
1941	7	4	6	5	22
1942	3	11	1	0	15
1943	3	7	—	3	13

The notification of the disease by medical practitioners is very satisfactorily carried out and no case of wilful neglect or refusal to notify has occurred.

The 3 deaths were all notified cases.

There does not appear to be any evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation.

Six patients were sent to various sanatoria for treatment, and 4 non-pulmonary cases were reported by the County Tuberculosis Officer to have recovered from the disease.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relate to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade; or under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

D. C. LAMONT.

G. J. ROBERTS.

Joint Medical Officers of Health.

BURNLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Surveyor's Report, 1943.

In compliance with the directions of the Ministry of Health no reference is made herein to activities in connection with war-time industrial, military, or other developments and the Report this year is again in the form of a Summary.

Water Supply.

Full particulars of the Council's waterworks were given in the 1938 report.

The sums paid by the Council for water supplied in bulk by outside authorities were :—Burnley Corporation (Briercliffe) £8; Nelson Corporation (Old Laund Booth) £268, (Higham) £129, (Barley) £5; Padiham U.D.C. (Altham) £106, (Read) £54. Total £570.

For the pumping of water from Thursden to Herd House reservoir for the supply of Briercliffe, £175 was paid to Burnley Corporation in respect of 37,906 units of electricity.

The quantities of water purchased from adjoining authorities were :—

Burnley Corporation	(Twist - Briercliffe)	664,000 gallons.
Nelson Corporation	(Higham)	2,516,000 „
„ „	(Old Laund Booth)	5,350,000 „
„ „	(Barley)	208,000 „
Padiham U.D.C.	(Altham East)	2,113,000 „
„ „	(Read)	1,090,000 „

After making allowance for trade supplies, farms, etc., the domestic consumption averaged :—Altham East 12.4, Barley 9.2 Briercliffe (Thursden Supply) 21.3, Briercliffe (Twist Supply) 15.0, Cliviger 14.7, Foulridge 19.5, Hapton 24.9, Higham 13.0, Old Laund Booth 15.5, Read (Cobcar Nook) 17.2, (Haugh Head) 18.9, Worsthorne 15.0 gallons per head per day.

These figures include water used for flushing and that lost by leakages.

The prevention of avoidable waste received constant attention.

A NEW MAIN $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. diameter, 50 yds. in length was laid along Sabden Fold road to replace the old 1 in. galvanised iron pipes which had become choked up.

Branch mains (60 yards of 2 in. and 31 yards of $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. asbestos-cement tubes) were laid to bungalows in Burnley Road, Hapton.

Mains at Read, Cliviger, Briercliffe and Hapton were repaired.

All the bulk meters were read systematically. No water was taken through the meter installed by Colne Corporation to measure any water required in Foulridge.

Bulk Meters are still required at :—Sabden (2), Goldshaw Booth (Newchurch) as well as at Cliviger borehole and on the Thursden pumping main. The bulk meter at Cliviger was refitted with a new under-carriage.

The number of Service Meters installed to December 31st :—Altham 15, Briercliffe 23, Cliviger 6, Foulridge 13, Hapton 14, Higham 12, Goldshaw Booth 1, Old Laund Booth 11, Read 5, Sabden 4, Worsthorpe 1. Total 104.

Of the above the following are privately owned :—Altham 5, Briercliffe 11, Cliviger 1, Foulridge 3, Hapton 2, Higham 1. Total 23.

Replacements during the year :—Altham 3, Briercliffe 2, Hapton 2, Read 2. Total 9.

No actual shortage occurred at any of the Council's water-works during the year but it was deemed wise occasionally to augment the supply to Cobcar Nook reservoir at Read by water purchased from Padiham.

The flow of water from the borehole at Cliviger averaged 15,000 gallons per day.

A private main supplying houses at Mereclough, Cliviger, was cleared of incrustation and Worsthorpe Estate approached with a view to the acquisition by the Council of the springs.

The yield of the spring at Thursden again proved quite adequate for supplying the township of Briercliffe and pumping from the borehole at Herd House was only resorted to occasionally to maintain the plant in order. For the past 17 years it has proved unnecessary to take water from Sweet Well.

Statistics showing with regard to each parish the number of houses (1) On Public Main Supplies ; (2) On Privately owned Piped Supplies ; and (3) Without Piped Supplies ; were given in previous reports of the Medical Officer of Health.

Sewerage.

Sewerage schemes are required at Cliviger, Briercliffe (Lane Bottom area), Dunnockshaw, Ightenhill, Goldshaw Booth (Newchurch and Spenbrook), Hapton (Valley Gardens), Simonstone (The Clough and Blackburn Road areas), Habergham Eaves (Mosley Road), Roughlee, Barley, Reedley Hallows (Ainsdale Avenue and Quaker Bridge), and Worsthorne (Hurstwood).

Sewage Disposal.

At **Worsthorne** an additional septic tank and sludge drying beds would greatly facilitate the efficient working of these purification works. 876 Units of electricity were purchased from Burnley Corporation in 1943 for actuating the sludge pump at a cost of £6.

The antiquated method of sludging at **Sabden** outfall works was mitigated somewhat by the adaptation of the sludge pump and the installation of a small petrol engine.

A considerable amount of land and river water gets into the sewers and somewhat extensive works are required to obviate this.

At **Foulridge** a storm water overflow is required and improvements in connection with the treatment of sludge and storm water.

At **Altham** the small outfall works at Hawthorn Bank require remodelling.

Ightenhill. The abolition of the large septic tank and filter bed at Park Lane at the substitution of an outfall drain to connect to Burnley Corporation's sewer is now overdue.

Similar remarks apply to the Clough area of Simonstone.

Blacko. The measuring apparatus recorded 7,339,435 gallons flow to Barrowford sewer (exclusive of 8 houses at Stone Edge View, Blacko) during the year ended March 31st, 1944.

Old Laund Booth. The flow to Barrowford outfall works measured 4,323,060 gallons including the sewage from 8 houses in the Barrowford Urban District.

A Conference of all local authorities in Lancashire was held in May to discuss the growing menace of individual cesspools and septic tanks.

Payments to adjoining authorities for taking sewage etc. from the Rural District amounted to £1,933 and were as follows :—Accrington and Church Joint Outfall Sewerage Board :—(Whinney Hill, Altham) £98; Accrington Corporation :—(Oak Bank, Altham) £3; Church Urban District Council :—(Payment for enlarged sewer) £19; Barrowford Urban District Council (Blacko) £75 plus £8 for 8 houses at Stone Edge View, (Old Laund Booth) £44 and £1 for 2 houses in Wheatley Carr Booth; Padiham Urban District Council :—(Higham) £103; Burnley Corporation :—(Altham Pit Head Baths) £8, (Briercliffe 690 houses) £569, (Habergham Eaves 190 houses) £157, (Hapton 467 houses) £385, (Ightenhill 6 houses) £5, (Read 249 houses) £205, (Reedley Hallows 165 houses) £136, (Simonstone 137 houses) £113, Brierfield Urban District Council :—£5 (Reedley Hall).

Burnley Rural District Council received £5 for taking sewage from 8 houses in Pollard Row, Barrowford.

Negotiations with Burnley Corporation with regard to their charges for treating sewage from houses in the Rural District were renewed.

Building.

The number of plans submitted to the Council was 35 of which 30 were passed and 5 rejected.

No new houses were erected during the year.

Government restrictions imposing a limit of expenditure have brought nearly all civil building to a stop.

Canteens were constructed at Moorfield and Calder Collieries Altham, and others are in progress.

The Council made structural alterations to a building at Briercliffe to enable it to be used as a British Restaurant.

Considerable extensions to Western Electric Co.'s Works at Foulridge were carried out.

Town and Regional Planning.

North East Lancashire Town Planning Committee : Region No. 2.

(Rural Districts of Burnley and part of Skipton; Urban Districts of Padiham, Barrowford, Trawden, Barnoldswick, Earby and Brierfield; Boroughs of Colne and Nelson; County Borough of Burnley).

Following is the report of the work done during the year ended March 31st, 1944 by the Committee.

Mr. R. Grime, of Birkenhead, was appointed Town Planning Officer in place of Mr. P. L. Hughes and took up his duties on April 1st, 1943.

The conceptions of Town and Country Planning have now considerably altered and it is certain that changes will be required in the Draft Scheme which was adopted by the Committee in November, 1938.

The built-up areas will now require to be considered from the point of view of re-planning in accordance with the latest practice. The Minister of Town and Country Planning has stated that legislation will be shortly be forthcoming giving local authorities power to acquire compulsorily, such areas as may be required for the purpose of re-planning and re-construction at prices related to pre-war values.

The Government have also accepted the principle of a positive policy for the maintenance of a healthy and well balanced agriculture, and to this end, they would seek to avoid the diversion of productive agricultural land to other purposes where there was land of lesser worth which could reasonably be used instead. This statement of policy may affect rural parts of the Regional area.

The Technical Sub-Committee of the North and Mid-Lancashire Town and Country Planning Advisory Committee has now been formed, and will consider a number of matters affecting the planning and co-ordination of the various Regions whose Joint Committees are members of the Advisory Committee. One of the matters which is already receiving the attention of this Sub-Committee is the subject of communications.

During 1943-44, some progress was made in the collection of information which will be required in the preparation of the amended Regional Planning Scheme. Progress is of necessity slow due to the lack of experienced staff.

During the year 311 applications were received for permission to develop under the General Interim Development Order, of these, 145 were granted unconditionally, 132 conditionally, and 34 refused. One appeal was made against Burnley Rural District Council's refusal to sanction a fish-frying business at Pike Hill, Worsthorne, and after a public inquiry had been held by Mr. A. R. Dent, an Inspector from the Ministry the appeal was dismissed.

Under the Restriction of Ribbon Development Act, 1935, 14 applications were made all of which were agreed to.

The Minister has granted an extension of the time specified in the Regulations for the preparation and adoption of the Final Scheme to the 31st October, 1944.

The expenditure of the Committee during the year is estimated to be £1,742.

Bridges and Culverts.

One new footbridge at Happy Valley, Roughlee, was reconstructed in concrete, also repairs to several footbridges including more extensive repair of the footbridge at Lower Fennymoor Foot, Briercliffe.

Minor repairs were effected to several culverts.

Surface Water Sewers.

A new 15ins. Surface Water Drain 80 yards in length was laid at the junction of Hurstwood Lane and Salterford Lane, Wors-thorne.

The number of road gullies requiring emptying in the district is now very large.

On the Classified Roads drainage work was done by the County Council.

Private Streets.

A considerable amount of private street improvement work is required, notably in Altham, Briercliffe, Cliviger, Dunnockshaw, Foulridge, Habergham Eaves, Hapton, Higham, Reedley Hallows, Sabden and Worsthorne.

Highways.

Work on highways, both Classified and Unclassified, was perforce curtailed considerably owing to the necessity for economy and the shortage of labour.

Plans were prepared for widening at the bottom of Harper's Lane, Old Laund Booth to obviate accidents but the work was not proceeded with.

The ford over the stream at Catlow Bottoms, Briercliffe was improved and concreted.

Resurfacing. Re-sheeting was done by the Council's men at Stump Hall Road, Higham.

The (private) road across Hapton Common leading to Castle Clough Works was surfaced in tarmacadam by a Government firm.

The County Council also carried out a reduced programme on the Classified Roads.

Retaining Walls. Repairs were effected to several retaining walls alongside roads. Further slips occurring on the embankment at Barley New Road.

Tarspraying. The dearth of casual labour, the difficulty of obtaining plant and materials and the unsuitable weather greatly retarded the progress of this work. Only 12 miles (about 87,900 sq. yds.) of road were sprayed with hot tar or bitumen or cold emulsion at the much increased cost of 7.78d. per superficial yard. Field footpaths at Read were treated with tar with good results.

The County Council also carried out surface tarring on the Classified Roads in the Burnley Rural area at a cost of £600.

The **Expenditure** of the Rural District Council on public highways during the financial year 1943-44 was :—

Ordinary Maintenance	....	....	....	6,704
Snow Cutting	....	....	....	5
Tarspraying	....	....	....	3,272
Special Maintenance	....	....	....	565
Public Footpaths and Footbridge	....	....	....	60
				<hr/>
				£10,606
				<hr/>

The expenditure of the County Council on the following Classified Roads in the Rural District during the same period was : Whalley-Padiham, £1,073 ; Burnley-Bacup, £1,504 ; Burnley-Todmorden, £1,287 ; Colne-Skipton, £432 ; Burnley-Colne, £300 ; Nelson-Gisburn, £1,148 ; Accrington-Burnley, £867 ; Blackburn-Burnley, £694 ; Burnley-Manchester, £864 ; Newchurch (Cliviger) £142 ; Padiham-Barrowford, £700 ; Brierfield, £445 ; Total £9,456.

Increases in the price of road materials and in the men's wages had, of course, considerable effect on the cost of works.

Reflecting lenses demarking centre lines etc., were fixed in many roads in the district by the County Council and Rural District Council.

Air Raid Precautions and Civil Defence.

Matters dealt with under this heading were numerous but, many being of a secret nature, cannot at present be even summarised, suffice it to say that work under this head imposed considerable work upon the Surveyor's staff.

Many maps were prepared for the Air Raid Wardens, National Fire Service, Police, Parish Councils, Central Control, etc.

Plans for Fire Escapes from Hostels etc., were also prepared and work carried out.

The Council used their powers to requisition property for various purposes and the requisite Schedules of Condition were prepared by the Surveyor's staff.

Direction Posts, Village names plates etc., were all re-erected towards the middle of the year.

The Department was frequently in negotiation with the Ministry of Home Security, Ministry of Works and Buildings, the Home Office, Ministry of Health, the Police Force, Military and Home Guard, County Council, Regional Commissioners, Ministry of Transport and others.

Miscellaneous.

The work of taking down and removing all unnecessary Iron Railings and gates in the rural district was carried out during the year.

The only staff change was the resignation of Mr. S. Dennis to take up another appointment. No one was appointed in his place.

The war was still going on at the end of the year and work in connection therewith taking up a great deal of the time of the staff but it is hoped to find time during the coming year, if reduced staff will permit, for some of the preliminary work in connection with schemes of housing, sewerage, water supply etc., to be put in hand after the war.

At Briercliffe a Restaurant was provided and managed by the Council for use of the public.

Opencast Coal working was carried out somewhat extensively in several parts of the rural district and the appropriate Ministry has been requested to reinstate all lands and roads affected and to leave the countryside neat and tidy.

FRANK HEWITT

Engineer and Surveyor.

