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Cheadle
Rural District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer
of
Health.



1948.



To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ending 31st December, 1948. As has been usual for some years the report is somewhat curtailed and although it necessarily contains a certain amount of repetition it deals chiefly with circumstances affecting the health and well-being of the community during the year under review.

There were no serious epidemics of infectious disease during the year but a certain amount of anxiety was caused by three outbreaks of comparatively mild suspected food poisoning. Two of the outbreaks affected school children, and the other some of the employees of a large mill in the district. The outbreaks were reported in detail when they occurred, but briefly, although the exact source of the infection was never discovered, appeared to be due to toxin rather than a bacteriological infection, probably of staphylococcal origin. These outbreaks are more frequent now throughout the country than formerly, no doubt due to the great increase in communal feeding, and can best be prevented by the greatest possible personal cleanliness on the part of everyone having anything to do with the handling, preparation and distribution of food, by the strictest hygiene in the kitchen, by reducing the handling of food to a minimum and by the destruction of flies, rodents and other vermin whose habits contaminate human food.

Housing of the community still presents many problems and although a considerable amount of progress was made with the local authority's house building programme, in all 155 houses were erected by the local authority during the year and 7 by private enterprise, the needs of the district are far from satisfied nor does the present rate of building look like solving this very vexed problem for many years. The Local Authority has decided to have much greater variation in the size of house built by them, a policy that should be very helpful to at least two sections of the community.

The water supply of the district where "piped" by the Local Authority has proved satisfactory during the year, and continued, though slow, progress is being made towards providing a "piped" supply to the more sparsely populated areas.

Vital statistics though markedly varied and contrasting strangely with those of the preceding year may again be regarded as reasonably satisfactory. The Birth-rate has markedly decreased but so has the infantile death rate, while the general death rate is also appreciably less. Deaths from Cancer remain fairly constant but deaths due to Tuberculosis are fewer, as have also been the notifications of this latter disease. On the whole, a reasonably satisfactory year with still a crying need for a greatly extended housing programme.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. M. WILSON.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
CHEADLE, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

August, 1949.

APPENDIX.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres)	60,291
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, Mid 1948	31,980
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) according to Rate Books	8,583
Rateable Value	£104,240
Sums represented by a penny rate	£407 15 7

Extracts from Vital Statistics of Year :

Live Births—Legitimate : Total 512. Male 264, Female 248.	
Live Births—Illegitimate : Total 17. Male 13, Female 4.	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	12.9.
Still Births—Legitimate : Total 13. Male 6, Female 7.	
Still Births—Illegitimate : Total 1. Male 0, Female 1.	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	25.7.
Deaths—Total 291. Male 139, Female 152.	
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	9.1.
Deaths from puerperal causes—From puerperal sepsis,	0.
Other puerperal causes,	1.
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age :	
All infants per 1,000 live births	20
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0.0
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	47
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	2

Public Health Staff :

DAVID McGRUTHER WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
M.O.H. Cheadle Rural District.
M.O. School Clinic and Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.
S.M.I. Cheadle South.

JOHN WILLIAM BURTON, M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E.,
Engineer and Surveyor.

ARCHIBALD PERCY KEEY, M.S.I.A.,
Senior Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.

RONALD COMLEY, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.

KATHLEEN MAUD BEDSON, Clerk, Health Department.

HAROLD POINTON, Architectural Assistant.

PHILIP G. M. COLLINS, Engineering Assistant.

CHARLES BAGOT, Engineering Assistant.

MICHAEL MOSLEY, Engineering Assistant.

WILLIAM HENRY HOBSON, Surveyor's Clerk.

PHYLLIS I. KINDER, Shorthand Typist.

HYLDA J. HOUGH, Shorthand Typist.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING THE CHIEF INDUSTRIES CARRIED OUT IN THE AREA.

The Social conditions of the area have changed but little of late years and practically the whole of the district may be included in the term "Working Class."

The chief industries are farming, brass and copper works at Froghall and Oakamoor, Coal Mining at Dilhorne, Colour Works at Cresswell and Consall, Textiles at Cheadle and Tean, Dairying at Fole, Limestone Quarrying at Cauldon and Stone Quarrying at Hollington, and around Cheadle a considerable number of men are employed at Sandstone and Gravel Quarrying. The Local Authority continues to do all in its power to encourage the establishment of new industries in its area.

The following are approximate numbers employed in the various industries :—

Thomas Bolton and Sons, Oakamoor	...	...	...	516
" " " " Froghall	...	...	...	1,924
Foxfield Colliery, Dilhorne	...	...	...	556
Berry Hill (Engineers) Ltd., Cheadle	...	...	...	40
Silk Mill, Cheadle	...	...	...	322
Tean Mill, Tean	...	...	...	426
Paper Mill, Cheddleton	...	...	...	756
Cheadle Textiles, Cheadle	...	...	...	136
Cauldon Lowe Quarries	...	...	...	180
Blythe Colour Works, Cresswell	...	...	...	249
Co-operative Wholesale Milk Dairy, Fole	...	...	...	235
Bank Yarns Company, Cheadle	...	...	...	24
New Haden Brickworks, Cheadle	...	...	...	35
Hulland Gravel, Nr. Cheadle	...	...	...	50
Hilton Gravel, Nr. Cheadle	...	...	...	35

Factories and Workshops :

There are 131 Factories on the register. The workshops are composed mainly of boot and shoe repairers, bakers and confectioners, milliners, joiners, tailors, wheelwrights, plumbers and decorators, and motor car and cycle agents and repairers.

Water Supplies :

The greater part of the district is adequately supplied with good and wholesome water from water undertakings owned by the local Authority.

Tean, Hollington and Boundary are supplied from springs at Teanford and throughout the year these have yielded an abundant supply.

The wells at Wallmyres have also yielded an abundant supply of good and wholesome water to Werrington, Wetley Rocks and Cheddleton areas.

Cauldon Lowe, Waterhouses and Calton have been adequately supplied from deep wells in the Cauldon area from which the water is pumped to a reservoir at Cauldon Lowe.

Alton is fairly adequately supplied from springs at Ramsor but in view of the probability of a new sewage disposal works being constructed for this village and consequent conversion of many pail and privy closets to a water carriage system it is likely that this source of supply will have to be augmented. This supply could probably be increased at its present source.

At Whiston where water is supplied from springs in that neighbourhood the amount of water has proved to be adequate throughout the year. At Ipstones and Foxt villages the supply of drinking water has not been entirely satisfactory in either quantity or quality throughout the year. The Local Authority is considering an alternative source of supply for these villages.

Kingsley is adequately supplied with good and wholesome water from springs at Shirley Hollow augmented by water from the Whiston and Wallmyres springs. That part of the district adjoining Stoke-on-Trent is supplied with water by the Water Board of that City. The supply has been adequate and wholesome throughout the year.

Cheadle town is supplied with water from a deep well owned by the Cheadle Waterworks Company. The water is of excellent quality but is rather "hard" and consequently more soap is required for the satisfactory washing of clothes, etc., than is permitted at the present time.

In the few remaining villages in the district the supply of water cannot be considered satisfactory. At Oakamoor where there is an abundance of water the method of supplying it from pumps and standpipes is a cause of continuous complaints from that village. A scheme to have a piped supply for the village is being considered.

Dilhorne is supplied from a spring in that neighbourhood. The water is piped to the village and distributed through mains to various standpipes and direct to some of the houses, but frequent complaints are received of a shortage of water probably due to corrosion of the mains which have been in use for many years. Here, too, a new supply is to be installed by the Local Authority.

A new scheme for the supply of good and wholesome water to Waterfall, Cotton and adjoining areas has had the approval of the Ministry of Health and work on this is progressing slowly.

At Dilhorne where the quantity of water supplied to the village has been inadequate for some years, a new scheme is nearing completion whereby a plentiful supply of good and wholesome water will be available.

PIPED WATER SUPPLIES.

PARISH	No. of Dwelling Houses.	No. of Dwelling Houses supplied with water pipes direct	No. of Standpipes	Population supplied direct.	Estimated population having water from Standpipes.
Alton	408	336	1	1,260	4
Blore	40	0			
Caverswall	1,460	1,401		5,253	
Cheadle	2,032	1,981		7,428	
Checkley	674	496		1,860	
Cheddleton	835	622		2,331	
Consall, (Private)	54	16	1	60	14
Cotton	99	26		96	
Dilhorne	162	97	6	363	58
Draycott	210	196	6	735	24
Farley	65	16		60	
Forsbrook	715	695		2,607	
Ipstones	442	294		1,101	
Kingsley	639	558	4	2,100	16
Oakamoor, (Private)	250	200		750	120
Waterhouses	283	174		651	
TOTALS ...	7,369	7,108	18	26,655	236

To arrive at the figures in column 4, the number in column 2 has been multiplied by the density of persons per house. 3.78.

CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER.

	Ipstones and Foxt	Werrington	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon	Kingsley	Tea
Total Solids dried at 212 deg. F.	8.50	20.0	12.50	10	10	19	23.0
Free and Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.0016	Nil	0.0008	Nil
Albuminoid Ammonia	.0040	0.0004	Nil	0.0040	0.0052	0.0060	0.0012
Nitric Nitrogen	0.05	0.50	0.05	0.08	Nil	0.43	0.34
Chlorine	1.3	1.7	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.4	1.70
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80 deg. F.	0.02	0.002	0.001	0.005	0.010	0.005	0.0030
Appearance	Clear	Clear	Clear	Minute Trace Suspended Matter	Trace Suspended Matter	Clear	Clear
Injurious metallic contamination	None	None	None	None	Trace Iron	None	None
p. H. Value	6.6	5.8	6.8	6.3	6.9	6.3	7.2

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION—WATER SAMPLES, 1948.

	Ipstones and Foxt	Werrington	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon	Kingsley	Tea
Plate Count Yeastrel agar 3 days 22 deg. C. aerobically.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2 " 37 " "	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Probable number of coliform MacConkey 2 days at 37 deg. C.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Approximate proportions of faecal and non-faecal coli :							
(a) Faecal coli per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-faecal coli per cent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

EXTRACTS FROM SURVEYOR'S REPORT, 1948.

Cheddleton Water Supply.

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, was 99,482,300 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 272,554 gallons.

Tean Water Supply.

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, was 15,834,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 43,380 gallons.

Hollington Water (Hollington Supply).

The amount of water supplied to the general public from this station from 1st January, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, was 18,752,200 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 51,375 gallons.

Cauldon Low Water Supply.

The amount of water supplied to the general public from this station from 1st January, 1948, to 31st December, 1948, was 12,363,000 gallons, which gives a daily consumption of 33,871 gallons.

Housing.

The number of houses erected and completed during the year was :—

By Local Authority	...	...	...	155
By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	7

Development of Post War Council Housing Estates.

Streetworks and sewer works were in progress during the year on the following sites :—

Wetley Rocks Site.

The streetworks and sewers for this site accommodating 14 houses have been finally completed.

Kingsley Holt Site.

The streetworks and sewers for this site accommodating 38 houses have been finally completed.

Tean Site.

The streetworks and sewers for this site accommodating 38 houses have been finally completed.

Blythe Mount Site, Blythe Bridge.

The sewers on this site are completed. The final completion of the streetworks has commenced and this site including 54 houses will shortly be totally complete.

Black Lane Site, Cheadle.

All foul and storm water sewers on this site are completed. The preliminary formation of the streetworks completed for all the site and Churchill Road is tarmaced and totally complete. The whole site will accommodate 118 houses.

Werrington Site.

The sewers and streetworks on this site are commenced. The sewers and preliminary formation to the streets completed. This site will ultimately accommodate 52 houses.

Ipstones Site.

The streetworks and sewers have been commenced on this site. The sewers are completed and the preliminary formation of the street laid. This site will ultimately accommodate 18 houses.

Cresswell Site.

The streetworks and sewers have been commenced on this site. The sewers are completed and the preliminary formation of the street laid. This will ultimately accommodate 42 houses.

Sewer Extensions.

75 lineal yards of 6" stoneware foul sewer has been laid from the existing sewer in Basfordbridge Lane, Cheddleton, to serve two house properties, to abate a nuisance arising from overflowing septic tanks.

Water Extensions.

471 lineal yards of 3" diameter main has been laid in Breach Lane, Teanford, to afford a supply to existing farms.

1046 lineal yards of 3" diameter main has been laid from near Thornbury Hall to Cherry Lane, to afford a supply to the Air Ministry, Woodhead Hall and Lodge, and Parkfields Farm.

Cauldon Low Water Scheme Mains Extension.

Work has commenced and 3610 yards of 4" diameter and 63 yards of 3" diameter water main has been laid on the above scheme. The whole scheme whose total length is approximately $10\frac{3}{4}$ miles will serve farms en route to the hamlets of Cotton, Moneystone, Winkhill, Waterfall and Back o' the Brook.

Dilhorne Water Scheme.

The laying of approximately 6830 yards of 4" diameter and 563 yards of 3" diameter water main is in hand on the above scheme. When completed the main will afford a connecting link between the Council's Cheddleton and Hollington Scheme and will afford a piped water supply to 26 farms, 91 houses and 1 colliery, the latter requiring water for pithead baths now under construction.

DETAILS SUBMITTED BY YOUR SANITARY INSPECTORS.

Public Health Act, 1936.

Repairs to dwelling houses carried out following the service of notices under this Act is still not an easy matter to see through to completion. Gone are the days when a notice of fourteen days duration is considered reasonable for the completion of the work as it often takes weeks to get a licence for the work and materials.

Although lack of the necessary materials and labour contribute to a large extent to the delay, other factors enter into it.

The owner is loath to spend money on repairs knowing full well that owing to the high cost of these repairs he will never see his money back in rent. He consequently puts off the day whilst the repairs become more extensive.

Regarding the rent of dwelling houses, I am convinced that they are not sufficiently high to compensate owners for the cost of repairs. I consider that as wages and commodities have increased in price to 75% or more, an Act should be passed to allow landlords of the poorer type of property to increase the rent as the basic rent of most of the cottages is no more than it was in 1939.

Public Health Act, 1936—Section 47.

Conversions from earth closets to W.C.'s are still being carried out under the above Section of the Act and as previously a grant not exceeding 50% of the cost of the conversion is usually given. This cost should eventually work itself out by a reduction of the number of earth closets in the district and a consequent improvement in health.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Samples of ice cream continue to be taken for analysis by the County Bacteriologist.

Meat Inspection.

During the year the Slaughterhouse at Cheddleton which was used for the slaughter of animals for the Cheddleton Mental Hospital has been closed by the Ministry of Food.

Housing Act, 1936.

A very considerable portion of your Inspectors' time is spent in dealing with applications for the tenancies of houses built by the Council. The number of applications does not appear to diminish as more Council houses are erected.

Number of new houses let during the year	...	...	...	164
Number of persons rehoused	...	...	...	699
Average number of persons housed per dwelling	...	...	...	4.25

Housing Act, 1936—Section II.

During the year it was found necessary to take action in three cases under the Housing Act, 1936, Section II, and notice of time and place was served on the owners of the three properties. In one case an undertaking was accepted that works be carried out to render the premises fit for human habitation and in two cases the premises were demolished.

Rural Housing Survey.

Extra staff was appointed for the purpose of making inspection under this survey. The progress made was very satisfactory.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Farms and Dairies have been visited regularly and many improvements have been effected.

Registration of Cowsheds and Dairies.

Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors of milk	...	...	1,034
Cowkeepers who carry on Wholesale Trade	...	...	844
Cowkeepers who carry on Retail Trade	...	...	190
Retail Roundsmen only	...	...	17
New Registrations during the year	...	...	47
Factory Dairy—Processes carried on—pasteurising, sterilizing, condensed milk, canning, bottling and brine cooling	...	...	1
Number of Inspections—Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	313
Number of Informal Notices	...	...	18
Cowsheds and Dairies cleansed	...	...	40
Lighting and Ventilation improved	...	...	7
New concrete standings and channels	...	...	7
New Cowsheds and Dairies erected	...	...	43
Extensions to Cowsheds	...	...	1
Cowsheds entirely reconstructed internally	...	...	3

Infectious Disease.

Number of cases	...	...	...	...	23
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	26
Number of disinfections	...	...	...	...	22

Factories and Workshops.

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	131
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	62
Number of Notices	...	...	...	...	6

Bakehouses.

Number on Register	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Inspections	...	...	...	...	16
Number of Notices	...	...	...	...	2

Slaughterhouses.

Number of Premises in use (Self Suppliers Pig Scheme)	...	...	...	...	6
Number of Visits	...	...	...	...	23

Offensive Trades.

These consist of Knackers Yard, Bone Calciner, Gut Scraper.

Number on Register ...	3
Number of Inspections ...	12

Petroleum Acts.

Petrol Licences issued ...	77
Carbide Licences issued ...	1
Number of Inspections ...	1

Shops Acts.

Number of Inspections ...	213
Number of Notices ...	4

Scavenging.

Number of Visits ...	49
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Rodent Control.

Number of Visits ...	771
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The Council agreed to again embark upon a scheme put forward during the year by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Advisory Department whereby they receive a reimbursement of 50% of the cost of treatment of sewers, tips and other Local Authority works and provided charges are made where business premises are treated and provided the Local Authority maintain an organisation adequate to the requirements for effective control.

The position of staffing has therefore been reviewed and a Rodent Operative appointed who is able to deal with all aspects of the work including entering into contracts with business interests.

Contracts entered into during the year amount to	£59	7	0
No. of treatments carried out on such contracts	...	41	
No. of treatments carried out on Local Authority's properties		114	
No. of treatments carried out on private premises	...	31	

DETAILS OF MISCELLANEOUS FOOD SURRENDERED.

25 lbs. Peaches.	10 1lb. tins Baked Beans.
25 lbs. Prunes.	1 2lb. tin Carrots.
3 1½lb. Swaffham Cherries.	4 lb. Soup.
11 2½lb. tins Peaches.	3 lb. Casserole Stewing Steak.
1 lb. Crushed Pineapple.	1 tin Pilchards.
3 2lb. tins Plums.	1 tin Crayfish.
4 2½lb. tins Plums.	2½lbs. Butter.
6 1b. Golden Plums.	21 lbs. Bacon.
4 2lb. Orange Juice.	76¼ lbs. Cheese.
7 1lb. tins Evaporated Milk.	20 lbs. Lamb.
10 2lb. tins Garden Peas.	42 lbs. Pork.
2 2½lb. tins Peas.	182 lbs. Hind Quarter Beef.
18 tins Processed Peas.	2 small Weetabix.
5 2lb. tins Benedict Peas.	

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT.

Description of Visits.	Inspections and observations made.	Notices Served		Notices Complied with
		Informal	Statutory	
To Cowsheds and Dairies ...	313	18		18
Scavenging ...	49	23		
Bakehouses ...	16	2		2
Shops Acts ...	213	4		4
Water Supplies ...	214	5	1	6
Water Samples ...	81			
Infectious Diseases ...	26			
Slaughterhouses ...	23			
Offensive Trades ...	12			
Factories and Workshops	62	6		6
Petroleum Acts ...	1			
Schools ...	3			
Housing Applications ...	1,121			
Housing Survey ...	1,345			
Rodent Control ...	771			
Rivers Pollution Prevent- ion Acts ...	42			
Food Premises ...	158	4		4
Food Inspection ...	39			
Drainage ...	205	20		20
Conversions ...	206	10		10
Disinfections ...	22			
Milk Samples ...	6			
Ice Cream Premises ...	72	14		14
Ice Cream Samples ..	29			
Building Licences ...	40			
Keeping of Animals ...	4	2		2
Connections to Sewer ...	12	6		6
Licensed Premises ...	2			
Complaints & Nuisances	526	134	11	70
Interviews and other visits ...	460			
	6,073	248	12	162

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health
(including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	131	60	4	
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.		2	2	
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).				
TOTAL ...	131	62	6	

2. Cases in which defects were found.

PARTICULARS.	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
Want of Cleanliness (S1) ...				
Overcrowding (S2) ...				
Unreasonable Temperature (S3)				
Inadequate Ventilation (S4)				
Ineffective drainage of floors				
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)				
(a) insufficient	1	1		
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1		
(c) not separate for sexes				
Other offences not including offences relating to out-work. ...				
TOTAL ...	2	2		

THE RURAL DISTRICT

From 28th December, 11

Ages, etc., (N.K.—age unknown)	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified,				
Civilians (all ages) ...	17	10	60	65
Non-civilians (all ages) ...				
Final numbers after correction				
Civilians—				
0... ..			5	5
1... ..			22	17
3... ..	2	1	14	14
5... ..	9	1	19	21
10... ..	1	7		4
15... ..	3			2
25 and over. ...	2	1		2
Age unknown. ...				
Total civilians	17	10	60	65
Non-civilians—				
15... ..				
25 and over (or N.K.) ...				
Total Non-civilians				
Ages, etc., (N.K.—age unknown)	Ac. Pneumonia.		Dysentery.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified,				
Civilians (all ages) ...	24	17		
Non-civilians (all ages) ...				
Final numbers after correction				
Civilians—				
0... ..	2	5		
5... ..	7	4		
15... ..	5	5		
45... ..	8	2		
65 and over. ...	2	1		
Age unknown. ...				
Total civilians.	24	17		
Non-civilians—				
15... ..				
45 and over. ...				
Total Non-civilians				
Ages, etc., (N.K.—age unknown)	Erysipelas.		Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified,				
Civilians (all ages) ...	5	5	1	
Non-civilians (all ages) ...				
Final numbers after correction				
Civilians—				
0... ..			1	
5... ..				
15... ..	2			
45... ..		4		
65 and over. ...	3	1		
Age unknown. ...				
Total civilians.	5	5	1	
Non-civilians—				
15 (or N.K.) ...				
45 and over. ...				
Total Non-civilians				

COUNCIL OF CHEADLE

To 25th December, 1948.

Ac. poliomyelitis		Ac. polioencephalitis.		Measles (excluding rubella)		Diphtheria.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
				124	116		1
				3	6		
				24	35		
				38	28		
				50	42		
				5	2		
				3	2		1
				1	1		
				124	116		1
Smallpox.		Ac. encephalitis lethargica.		Enteric or Typhoid Fever.		Paratyphoid fevers.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
						1	
						1	
						1	
Other notifiable diseases.				Originally notified.		Final numbers after correction.	
Civilians—				M.	F.	M.	F.
Erythral pyrexia					2		
Ophthalmia neonatorum							
Malaria (contracted in England and Wales)							
Non-Civilians—							
Erythral pyrexia							
Malaria (contracted in England and Wales)							

SCHOOLS—CHEADLE DISTRICT, 1948.

All the schools in the District are situated in a reasonably quiet and open environment and are adequately, some perhaps too adequately, ventilated. Natural lighting is on the whole fairly satisfactory, but the same cannot be said of the artificial lighting which in a few is so inadequate that the children are sent home when daylight fades. Certain improvements in heating arrangements have been made in some of the schools, but there are a few in which this is still insufficient. Tean Council School, which was mentioned specifically in my previous report, has had additional heating by means of oil stoves, but will not be satisfactory till some form of central heating is installed. There does not yet appear to be any adequate means of Fire Fighting in the schools so that there does seem to be an unnecessary risk being taken in this direction.

Hygiene.

A few complaints have been received of lack of cleanliness in some schools. This is largely contributed to the poor surfaces of playgrounds, by the lack of internal decoration and to a small extent by carelessness on the part of caretakers and inadequate supply of soap.

Hot meals are now provided in 25 of the schools and in addition an appreciable number of children from three of the Cheadle Schools have hot dinners at Cheadle Senior School. Altogether, the average number of children having hot meals at school was 1,580, approximately 49% of the school population, and of this number 151 had free meals. No complaints have been received relating to the supply of milk to the schools, but it is rather remarkable that although this excellent nutriment is provided free, only 2,600, approximately 75% of the children, partake of it. There is only one small school where milk is not provided, probably because it is situated in the midst of a farming area.

During the year there were two small outbreaks of suspected food poisoning—they were fully reported on at the time, but briefly were characterised by sudden onset, considerable intestinal disturbances with pain and sickness, and short duration. The symptoms pointed a toxin rather than a bacterial infection and no specific organism was detected by bacteriological examination. In this connection it may again be pointed out that a greater measure of hygienic practice on the part of the school children is very desirable and improved facilities for "washing up," particularly where there are "two sittings" necessary.

Generally, the health of the school children has continued to be remarkably good and the number of children attending the school clinic has again fallen. Of the major ailments, bronchial catarrh, various types of "sore throats" and of intestinal disturbances were most common. Of minor ailments, septic sores, warts, minor injuries and common "colds" were most prevalent. On the whole the children are kept

reasonably clean, there are a few families that require constant persuasion in this direction, but this is the exception rather than the rule, and only one family required treatment, constant treatment, for head vermin. Three cases of Ringworm were treated at the clinic during the year, all of "cattle type," and seven cases of scabies, the latter affection was treated with Benxyl Benzoate Emulsion, two applications as a rule proving sufficient to affect a cure.

There was a continued prevalence of infectious disease and the following are the number reported to be affected by Head Teachers.

Measles	...	...	...	72
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	29
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	81
Mumps	...	...	...	776
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	7
Pneumonia	...	...	...	44

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Twenty-one primary immunisations of school children were performed at the school clinic and 124 school children had reinforcement doses. These figures are respectively less than for the preceding year.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Dr. D. M. Wilson.

- (a) No. of Injections given ... 2
- (b) Material used ... A.P.T.

Area.	No. of consents received.	No. immunised.	No. receiving reinforcement doses.	Approx percentage of School pop. Immunised.
Cheadle ...	21	21	124	84.0

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

The number of live births, stillbirths and deaths are those registered (but excluding re-registration) during the Calendar Year (i.e. 1st January—31st December inclusive) adjusted for inward and outward transfers. Non-civilian deaths are excluded. Estimates of the numbers and distributions of the non-civilian population are not available and the birth rate can only be based on the civilian population of 1948 as used for death rates. Non-civilians are as defined in previous reports.

Births :—The total number of live births registered during the year was 529—155 fewer than during the preceding year, and included 277 males and 252 females, giving an annual live birth rate of 12.9 and a total live and still birth rate of 16.9. The number of still births registered was 14, including 6 males and 8 females, and gives a still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births of 25.7. Only one of the still births was illegitimate.

Deaths :—The total number of deaths registered during the year was 291, including 139 males and 152 females, giving a death rate for the year of 7.2.

The chief causes of death were again heart and other circulatory diseases, cancer, respiratory diseases and violence. The number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age was 11, giving an infantile mortality rate of 20 which is 10 lower than England and Wales as a whole and 7 lower for this area. The chief causes of deaths of infants were premature birth, congenital malformations and birth injuries and affections of the respiratory organs.

*Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality
and Case rates for certain Infectious diseases in the year 1948.*

Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000— 50,000 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.	Cheadle Rural District.
Births—					
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—					
Live Births ...	17.9*	20.0	19.2	20.1	16.54
Still Births ...	0.42*	0.52	0.43	0.39	0.44
Deaths—					
All Causes ...	10.8*	11.6	10.7	11.6	9.1
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Tuberculosis ...	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63	0.44
Influenza ...	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.00
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio- encephalitis ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia ...	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54	0.16
Notifications—(corrected).					
Typhoid Fever ...	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03
Scarlet Fever ...	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37	0.84
Whooping Cough ...	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13	3.91
Diphtheria ...	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10	0.03
Erysipelas ...	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22	0.31
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17	7.50
Pneumonia ...	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57	1.28
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.00
Acute Polioencephalitis ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Deaths—					
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—					
All causes under 1 year of age.	34†	39	32	31	20
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4	3.74
Notifications—(corrected).					
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births :—					
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia ...	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34‡	3.68

*Rates per 1,000 total Population,

†Per 1,000 related births.

‡In London Puerperal Fever alone was 0.61.

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales.

				Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15—44.
140 Abortion with Sepsis	...			0.11	9
141 Abortion without Sepsis	...			0.05	4
147 Puerperal Infections	...			0.13	
142—146, 148—150 Other Maternal causes	...	...	...	0.73	

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

There are four maternity and child welfare centres in the Cheadle District, one at Cheadle, one at Werrington, one at Cheddleton and one at Blythe Bridge. These are staffed by the County Authority who have arranged for a doctor, nurses, etc., to be in attendance one day per week. Much good work is being done at these centres which are becoming ever more popular, and it is the intention of the County Authority to extend this very important branch of preventive medicine where conditions permit.

There is an ever increasing demand for institutional treatment for maternity cases but owing to shortage of beds cases have to be "selected." The local authority has long advocated the provision of a maternity home for their area and it is stated that the Hospital Board has taken over a large mansion near Tean for this purpose.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN CHEADLE R.D.C., 1948.

	Male.	Female.
All Causes ...	139	152
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0	0
2. Measles ...	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever ...	0	0
4. Whooping Cough ...	0	1
5. Diphtheria ...	0	0
6. Influenza ...	0	0
7. Encephalitis lethargica ...	0	0
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	0	0
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	7	6
10. Other Tuberculous diseases ...	1	0
11. Syphilis ...	1	1
12. Cancer, malignant disease ...	19	28
13. Diabetes ...	0	2
14. Cerebral haemorrhage, etc. ...	18	19
15. Heart disease ...	43	43
16. Other circulatory diseases ...	8	7
17. Bronchitis ...	6	9
18. Pneumonia (all forms) ...	3	2
19. Other respiratory diseases ...	2	0
20. Peptic Ulcer ...	1	0
21. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ...	1	1
22. Appendicitis ...	1	0
23. Other Digestive diseases ...	3	5
24. Acute and chronic nephritis ...	3	2
25. Puerperal sepsis ...	0	0
26. Other puerperal causes ...	0	1
27. Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc. ...	5	3
28. Suicide ...	0	2
29. Other Violence ...	3	0
30. Road Traffic accidents ...	0	2
31. Other defined causes ...	14	18
Special causes (included in No. 30 above)		
Small-pox ...	0	0
Poliomyelitis ...	0	0
Polioencephalitis ...	0	0
Deaths of infants under 1 year		
Total ...	5	6
Legitimate ...	5	6
Illegitimate ...	0	0
Live Births—Total		
Legitimate ...	277	252
Illegitimate ...	264	248
	13	4
Still Births—Total		
Legitimate ...	6	8
Illegitimate ...	6	7
	0	1
Population (Resident) ...	...	31,980

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age Periods				NEW CASES 19.				DEATHS 8.			
				Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	...	...	...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	...	...	...	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1
15	...	...	...	2	2	0	2	0	1	0	0
25	...	...	...	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	...	...	...	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0
45	...	...	...	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0
65 and upwards	...	...	...	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
TOTALS	...	...	...	6	7	1	5	3	4	0	1

Notification of Tuberculosis is satisfactorily carried out in this district.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The total number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 446 and included Scarlet Fever, 27 ; Whooping Cough, 125 ; Measles, 250 ; Pneumonia, 41 ; Cerebro Spinal Fever, 1 ; Paratyphoid, 1.

All the cases of scarlet fever were sporadic and were of comparatively mild type. The majority were treated in the local isolation hospital and made uneventful recoveries.

Measles and Whooping Cough were prevalent during the greater part of the year. Many of the children affected by whooping cough appeared to receive very marked benefit from prophylactic doses of anti whooping cough serum which although it did not always prevent them contracting the disease appreciably lessened the severity of the symptoms.

Throughout the year there was one case of Diphtheria notified. This was a young adult who made an uneventful recovery. The immunisation campaign against this disease continues.

One case of paratyphoid fever was notified. This was a young boy of school age who had been "camping" with a few companions near Cheadle. Diligent search for the source of infection was unproductive. The boy made a satisfactory recovery and none of his companions were affected.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48. Born in Year	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939—1943	10 to 14 1934—1938	Total under 15
Number Immunised	8	132	203	249	305	1,916	2,078	4,891
Estimated mid-year child pop. 1948	CHILDREN UNDER FIVE 2,840					CHILDREN 5 TO 14 4,603		

There were fewer cases of Tuberculosis notified than in the preceding year and fewer deaths were attributed to that disease. Many factors have a part in predisposing to this disease and not least are insanitary and overcrowded housing conditions. For this reason alone it is very desirable that the local authority should press on with the erection of new houses as quickly as circumstances permit.

The incidence of Venereal Disease has not increased in this area and no new cases have been brought to my notice. Posters giving guidance about the facilities for treatment, etc., are still being displayed.

The County Authority provide facilities for chemical examination of milk, water, foods, etc., and for the bacteriological examination of sputum, excreta, blood, milk, water and foods, etc., the Public Health Laboratory at Stafford is now responsible.

No provision is made for disinfection or disinfestation of clothing, bedding, etc., by superheated steam nor is any provision made for bodily disinfection.

Premises are disinfected by means of formalin spraying or fumigation. Houses on the local authority's estates are visited periodically by the authority's officials but none has been found in need of disinfestation.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

It has not been found necessary to take action under the above Regulations, nor has any action been taken under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62 and Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Prevention of Blindness.

The County Authority has made provision for both home and hospital treatment of infants suffering from diseases of the eyes.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.						
Notified	Treated at Home	In Hospital	Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—







